

THIS WEEK:**A Glimpse of Italy in 1848.****The Carcasses of Cromwell, Ireton and Bradshaw.****"The Lady in the Lobster."***For Table of Contents see opposite page.*

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Notes.**A GLIMPSE OF ITALY IN 1848.**

The letter below is taken from the correspondence of Colonel Evasio Radice, whose career as an Italian patriot may be briefly outlined. He was born at Vercelli in 1794. His early life thus coincided with the Napoleonic "Kingdom of Italy;" and French influence no doubt imbued him with the republican doctrines which he adhered to all his life. He was educated at Milan and at the military School of Modena, where he distinguished himself in mathematics. In due course he entered the Piedmontese Artillery, and was appointed Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Military Academy. In 1817 Prince Charles Albert of Carignano became Grand Master of the Piedmontese Artillery, and made Radice (then Captain) his private secretary. A member of the Secret Society of the Carbonari, or Charcoal burners, Captain Radice became the friend of Santa Rosa, San Marsano, Collegno and others who were working for greater freedom in the Government. The Prince of Carignano himself was in communication with the Liberals, and in this connection Radice's influence over him was regarded as considerable. Radice was sent to Milan (probably as the Prince's secret emissary)

to open communications with the Lombard Liberals of whom Count Gonalonieri and the Belgioioso's were the most prominent. When the crisis came, however, Charles Albert hung back.

The standard of revolt was raised at Alessandria, and troops were collected. The insurgents lacked artillery and Radice having undertaken to obtain it, rode to Genoa and demanded delivery of a park from the Commander. Unwilling to commit himself to either side the Commander refused; but he did nothing to stop Radice, who went to the barracks and issued his own orders to the units stationed there. Soldiers and officers obeyed and the guns were brought to Alessandria in triumph. The revolt was suppressed by the Austrians at the first battle of Novara. Deserted by his men Radice was one of the last to leave the field, but succeeded in making his escape to Barcelona.

After the defeat of the Constitutionalists by the French troops, who had intervened, he joined the Italian exiles in England, and after many privations gained the post of Professor of Italian Language and Literature at Trinity College, Dublin. He married an Irishwoman, Miss Hutton, and had by her a boy and a girl.

By 1848 the Liberal movement had gained sufficient strength to cause revolutions throughout Western Europe, notably in France, where the throne of Louis Philippe was overturned. In Italy the election of Pope Pius IX who had while still a Cardinal sympathised with national and constitutional aspirations, gave the Constitutional movement a great impetus. Matters were therefore ripe when the Paris revolution gave the signal for revolt. Sicily, always restive since the Napoleonic wars, rose and demanded the Constitution granted in the days of the English occupation. The movement spread to the mainland, and before many months were over constitutions had been extorted from all Italian rulers. In Piedmont also the vacillating King Charles Albert took the plunge and Sardinia became a Constitutional monarchy. In the midst of this turmoil came the news that a revolution had broken out in Vienna. The Milanese long weary of an oppressive foreign domination rose in revolt; and after five days' fighting Radetski's soldiery was driven out of the city. The whole of North Italy was in a blaze within the

next few days. Venice proclaimed a Republic and the Dukes of Parma and Modena fled. Charles Albert's chance had come and after his usual vacillations (justified in this instance by the bad state of his army), the Sardinian troops in April crossed the border, the King at their head. Tuscany, the Papal States, Naples, the whole country in fact carried away by enthusiasm sent contingents to join Charles Albert.

It was while the Radice family were travelling through Switzerland in order to leave their son at Hofwyl that the constitutional movement of 1848 came to a head in Piedmont, and Charles Albert granted the free constitution. All the exiles were recalled and Radice, now promoted to Major, was elected a member of the New Cisalpine Parliament by a Turin Electoral College. The letter below was written just after his arrival at Turin, to take his seat in Parliament. During his exile he had become shortsighted, and this defect prevented him from taking part in the campaign. He went as Sardinian chargé d'affaires to Frankfurt, and later to Belgium. The Italian prospects had been bright, for they could have concentrated 90,000 men against Radetzki's 60,000 Austrians, who could expect no reinforcements for the moment owing to the revolution in Vienna, but two causes ruined their chances of success. The campaign was mismanaged and dissensions broke out between the Monarchists and the Republicans. Charles Albert's previous conduct had made him suspect to the extreme Liberals and intrigues against him were set on foot by the Mazzinians while the army was still engaged with the Austrians. Deserted by his allies the unfortunate King rushed to his doom at Novara and Italy's hopes were extinguished for ten years. After Novara Radice (now Colonel) found his republican ideas unwelcome to the Government and resigned in order to resume his Parliamentary activities. As deputy for his native Vercelli he became a supporter of the Radical Brofferio, but he never attempted to translate his republican theories into action, recognising that a monarchy was the best constitution for Sardinia and the form of Government demanded by its people. In 1853 Colonel Radice was obliged to resign his seat owing to ill-health due to the severe calls he had made on himself. He resided at Genoa,

and when that city was visited by cholera in 1854-5, he was one of the foremost organisers to combat the disease. He himself fell ill, though not till after the general danger was practically over. The attack was slight, but his overworked and wasted frame was unable to resist it and after a few days' illness he succumbed on Oct. 27, 1855.

(The letter, as was then the practice, has no envelope, and is sealed with a wafer).

Thomas Hutton, Esq.

116 Summerhill,

Dublin,

Ireland.

Dear Thomas,

This I ought to have sent from Hofwyl *—yet I am pleased to have an occasion for sending you my greetings from Italy. I had an excellent journey from Bern to Turin; the passage over Mont Cenis was grand in the extreme†. It is necessary to cross the Alps in winter in order to appreciate their magnificence. The weather here is bad and cold and wintry. No sign no feeling of Spring, but nobody minds such things. We are all engrossed with the thoughts and the works of war. The King is at the head of the army. The enthusiasm of the Italians is undescrivable. We see no youth in the streets—they desert their homes their business their schools and run to the camp where a good deal of confusion reigns in consequence. The students and the professors went away en masse, and the University was obliged to shut. It was thought that Piedmont had a great army—but it was only on paper. The late Ministers‡ of war, one

* Hofwyl was a school at Bern in Switzerland, where Col. Radice was arranging to send his son.

† The route over the Mont Cenis was probably taken because the direct route over the St. Gothard led through Austrian territory.

‡ Charles Albert.

§ The Minister referred to must have been Villamarina, who held the portfolios for War and Police. He was a member of Charles Albert's reactionary ministry of which Count Solaro della Margherita was chief. Villamarina disliked the Jesuits, whose influence over the Government was great, and was therefore constantly at loggerheads with della Margherita, but this did not prevent him from being hostile to the Liberals, and, therefore, as minister of police, anathema to Radice. His administration of the army was inefficient, but it is doubtful whether he was really guilty of pecculation.

of the greatest scoundrels that ever breathed under heaven, pillaged and pocketed the money devoted to the expenses of the war department. It is fortunate that the Austrians, terror-stricken, are running away. We could not come up with them yet—they disappear like smoke, pillaging, murdering, devastating the country they leave behind. Scarcely a shot has been exchanged. They are strong yet, more than 40,000 troops* and well furnished with cavalry, of which we are in great need, and would be highly serviceable in the plains of Lombardy. The Austrians are now concentrating their forces within Mantua Verona and Peschiera†—a fearful stronghold this space, and the scene of many fights in the Napoleonic times. Our Army is now approaching Mantua which has been inundated by the enemy. The political affairs of Italy look well. The Italians feel and act upon the necessity of being united—and when the barbarians (they are and ought to be called savages) have left our soil we shall proclaim our union and independence. It seems the general wish of the country, that there should be a strong state from the Alps to the Po; under what form of government, I can scarcely say‡. Tuscany with Modena, of which it has taken possession already—Rome—Naples with Sicily—in all four members of the Italian Federation. The General Congress of the Nation to sit in Rome in the Palazzo Venezia§ which belonged to

the [?Austrians: illegible] and becomes now Italian property. You see we have got rid of an Emperor, 2 Dukes and 1 Prince.* We remain still saddled with 2 Kings, 1 Duke and a Pope,† but time will soon do their business, I hope, and the little Italian "Stivale" new polished, and nicely trimmed by the People's scissors may yet become something more than a mere "Geographical expression" and cut a smart figure in the Mediterranean pool. I hope some way or another you are trimming yourselves at home also—and that you and each and all stout and happy. With my best love to the dear Circle, to the Baldoyle and Fairfield friends, believe me, dear Thomas,

Your Affe. brother E. Radice.
Vive la Republique. She has done it all.
Turin, 8 April, 1848.

F. R. RADICE.

IRISH FAMILY HISTORY.

REYNOLDS OF LOUGHSCUR, CO. LEITRIM.

(See ante p. 245).

Extracts from the 'Book of Depositions, 1641,' concerning "Murders and Robberies committed in the Counties of Leitrim, Sligo, and Mayo," in Trinity College Library, Dublin.

LEITRIM.

Folio 3:—Edward Bisham of Bowishall, County Leitrim was robbed of all his means by Charles McGovern, Barony of Tullyhoy,

* The Austrians numbered in all over 60,000. The Piedmontese Army was deficient in cavalry and artillery, though these two arms were the most efficient in the service.

† Mantua, Verona, Peschiera and Legnago were the four fortresses of the famous quadrilateral, a strongly fortified tract of country between the Mincio and the Adige. At the opening of the campaign Charles Albert could have seized Mantua by a *coup de main*, but his advance was slow, and Radetski reinforced the garrison with 9,000 men. Peschiera was taken after a regular siege during the campaign.

‡ This passage illustrates how little progress the idea of unity had made among Italians. A federal State seems to have formed their highest hope. This question of the form of government to be set up proved a fatal bar to Italian success.

§ Palazzo Venezia was the residence at Rome of the Venetian ambassador while the republic was in existence. When Venice came under Austrian domination, the palace became Austrian property until 1919, when it was taken over by the Italian government.

* The Emperor is, of course, Francis Joseph II of Austria, who had just succeeded his father. The Dukes are the Austrian Dukes of Modena and Parma. The prince is probably Florestan, Prince of Monaco, who had been obliged to grant a constitution. His residence in Paris may have led Radice to suppose that he had been deposed.

† The rulers still to be expelled were King Charles Albert of Sardinia, King Ferdinand II of Naples, Pope Pius IX, and Grand Duke Leopold of Tuscany. The King of Naples was compelled to abdicate in 1860, and the Grand Duke of Tuscany voluntarily retired the same year. The Pope's temporal power was abolished in 1870. As regards Sardinia Radice, like most Liberals of his day, was under the illusion that a rising of the unarmed people could accomplish the expulsion of the Austrians. These short-sighted views caused the failure of 1848. So far from being expelled, Charles Albert's son became first King of Italy.