

out in legal form. Here we find the occasion for the first reflection on the prevailing methods of business. Ives was a man little known in the Street, and what was known of him was altogether bad. He had been engaged in an attempt to swindle a number of members of the Stock Exchange by both selling and buying a stock which was really non-existent, although the formality of striking it from the list of securities dealt in on the Exchange had not been complied with. This characterless person found little difficulty, however, in borrowing enormous sums of money on collateral security. It is much easier for lenders to examine collaterals than to inquire into the character of borrowers. The habit of looking to the security and ignoring the person has become ingrained with most of the large lenders of money. Under no other conditions could Ives have carried on his operations at all. That he was an adventurer everybody knew. That he was a rogue anybody might have known by a very little inquiry. Yet his collaterals were good, or seemed to be, and so he got the money which he required to pave the way for the greater operations that he had in view.

Now, we affirm that such a fellow ought not to be able to borrow large sums of money on any kind of collateral whatever, not even on Government bonds. The rule should be posted up in every banking-house and trust company in Wall Street and in every other Street, "Never have any dealings with persons unknown." The rule never to have any dealings with a scoundrel is supposed to be in force in every responsible house, but we fear is not always obeyed if money happens to be easy and the collaterals are undoubted. The other rule should be as rigidly observed. No well managed bank would accept a deposit account from a stranger, although the acceptance of such account puts the bank to no risk except that of forgery, a risk which it runs more or less every day in the ordinary course of business. Still less should loans of money be made to one who, if not an entire stranger, is one grade worse, in that any attempt to find him out would show him to be a knave.

We are glad to see it stated that District Attorney Martine considers it his duty to institute an official inquiry into the performances of Henry S. Ives & Co. We believe that he will find more than sufficient cause for the criminal prosecution of the adventurers composing that firm. The officers of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Company can put him at once in possession of the facts and figures relating to the spiriting away, without the slightest extenuating circumstance, of over two millions of cash and nearly five millions of preferred stock from the treasury of that corporation. Nor is this all. Conclusive evidence may be found that Ives has also helped himself from the Treasury of the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad Company to something like one million and a half in cash and securities, and taken from the Mineral Range Railroad Company about \$450,000 in cash. As in the case of the Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton, he acquired control of those two companies by the purchase of a majority of the stock for the evident purpose of getting possession of the

funds in their respective treasuries. In both of the latter cases, his stealing from the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton furnished the means for the purchases. The Mineral Range Railroad is a small concern, and its control did not cost him much over \$200,000, which he at once got back, and \$250,000 more, by emptying its treasury into the hands of his firm.

The method pursued in the plunder of the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Company was unique. Ives took the stock of the Dayton and Michigan Railroad Company in the treasury of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Company, sold it for a million to Thomas J. Emery of Cincinnati, and with the proceeds bought the majority interest in Terre Haute and Indianapolis stock from W. R. McKeen of Terre Haute, the President of the company, for about \$1,500,000, paying about two-thirds in cash, the balance payable in six months. This purchase was nominally made for account of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Company. Thereupon, McKeen surrendered the Presidency to him. Ives immediately had his firm constituted fiscal agents, and transferred the \$1,400,000 cash on hand to New York for its account. Besides this large amount of cash, the company had on hand several thousand shares of its own stock and some hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of first-class bonds. Ives took both stocks and bonds, pledging them for the loans of his firm. He made some payments subsequently out of the cash for the company, but the books of his firm show an indebtedness of about \$1,500,000 to the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Company. In short, the District Attorney ought to have no difficulty in securing berths for a long term of years for Ives and his aiders and abettors in the State prison, if the courts of this State have jurisdiction of the offence.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

THE June number of *Consular Reports of the United States* embraces a synopsis of the special report of M. Amédée Marteau to the French Government on the industrial progress of Germany during the past ten years. The attention of the French authorities was directed to this subject of investigation by the annoying discovery that German goods have been finding a market in France in increasing quantities from the year 1878 onward, so that whereas French exports to Germany had in the year 1875 exceeded imports from that country by 77,000,000 francs, the balance had turned the other way to the extent of 137,000,000 francs in the year 1881, and each year was showing a remarkable excess of imports. That the former supremacy of French technique had been challenged by Germany was proved by the great increase of the latter's exports of manufactures to other countries than France, the total of such exports having more than doubled in ten years. But when this flood came pouring into France and underselling French houses, and displaying superiority in many of the finer products of industry in which French art had been hitherto unrivalled, it became absolutely necessary to discover

what it all meant. Hence M. Marteau's investigation.

Without going into all the details of the report, which is a fine tribute to the perseverance and unflagging attention to details which characterize the German nation, M. Marteau finds the principal cause of their growing industrial supremacy in the technical schools, which are increasing in number and efficiency from day to day, and of which there are now more than 250 in operation in the country. In these schools young men are taught everything known to human science and art relating to the practical means of earning a livelihood. Mining, metallurgy, textile industries, pottery, porcelain, and glass, and all the intricacies of machines here open their mysteries to the youth of Germany, who not only are raised to the highest possible standard as producers, but, according to M. Marteau, are imbued with a noble ambition to make their knowledge effective. They gain self-confidence and the spirit of enterprise which prompts them to penetrate all parts of the earth to find markets for the sale of their goods. They exile themselves from home. They carry their acquired knowledge to distant countries. They learn foreign languages and study foreign habits. This consummate training is now beginning to bear its fruits. Germany is gaining on her competitors in the world's markets; she is even gaining on them in their own markets; and she will distance them if they do not keep pace with her in technical education—not the haphazard education of the workshop, but the systematized training of the best minds and the most skilful hands, the true masters of their several callings in all the departments of practical industry.

Neither France, nor England, nor the United States is destitute of technical schools. What we draw from M. Marteau's report, therefore, is that Germany's schools are both more numerous and better than those of his own country, probably than those of any other country. England has been making great exertions in this way in recent years, the most notable result being the Guilds of London Institute, founded with the funds of the ancient city companies. She has been pushed forward in the direction of technical training by the rising commercial importance of Germany. What France has found out only recently, England began to feel ten years since, and she then began to bestir herself. She has studied profoundly and systematically the methods of German instruction in the industrial arts, and is now following those methods with such improvements as she deems best suited to her own people. She is making notable progress, too, but she is still behind her Continental rival in many of the branches in which she was wont to excel. The Higher Weaving School of the city of Chemnitz, for example, is without an equal in the world, and to its influence is attributed the gradual supplanting of the industries of Nottingham by those of its Saxon rival. A graduate of this school, the son of an eminent citizen of Boston, was able, within one year after his return home, to command a salary—we will not mention the amount, but it was such as very few lawyers or doctors, and still fewer editors, ever attain. What this young man had acquired that made his services so valuable was, in chief, the ability

ty to take in pieces and put together again any weaving machine for any class of goods of any kind, description, or make in the known world. And this various training can be found, all in one place, only in Germany.

The relative status of the nations of the earth always has been and always will be fixed by their mental and moral acquirements. If Germany has more knowledge than other countries, she will eventually have more trade, more money, and more power. It needs but a slight superiority in any industry to give to the people possessing it the command of all neutral markets. The means of international communication are now so rapid and searching that slight advantages tell in a wonderful way. And when these advantages are joined to an enterprising spirit, when the same intelligence that guides the producer inspires the merchant also, the highest results are attained in the commercial world.

Technical schools, it need scarcely be said, are as various as any other schools, ranging from the primary department, which takes the place of the old and now generally abandoned apprenticeship system, to the Polytechnic or Industrial University, and the special institutions for special trades, like the Higher Weaving School of Chemnitz. How many of all grades taken together have we in the United States? We call attention to M. Marteau's investigation and conclusions for the purpose of moving, if may be, the spirit of emulation among Americans in the pursuit of those practical arts in which we are accustomed to think that we excel by nature. Undoubtedly we are an inventive people, but *superiority* in the art of getting a living comes no more by nature than reading and writing come by nature. It cannot be affirmed that we have given too much of our means and our efforts to what is called liberal education, for Germany excels us there also, and with good profit to herself, in the stand she is enabled to take in literature and science. She is the world's leader in technical education because she was the leader in liberal education beforehand. But it is palpably true that we have given too small a share of our means and our thought, to industrial training, and that we must take up this subject in serious earnest, and on a large scale, if we would not fall behind our compeers in civilization.

AGOSTINO DEPRETIS.

ITALY, July 30.

IN Agostino Depretis the dynasty of Savoy has lost one of its oldest, most devoted, ever constant champions, United Italy one of its earliest and most pertinacious pioneers. A republican never, a unitarian ever, the difficulties of keeping the revolutionary horses harnessed to the monarchical car, to prevent them from taking the bit between their teeth, and to keep the royal charioteer on his seat, were better understood and more courageously confronted, from his youth upwards to his latest hour, by the man just dead, than by any other statesman who has been at the helm during the last thirty years. These difficulties, confronting a man of settled convictions, but of most vacillating nature, accustomed to consult all points of the compass, to examine all means conducive to an end, all roads leading to a goal, and, while quite clean-banded in pecuniary transactions, not at all scrupulous as to political instruments, laughing at consistency, proclaiming

opportuneness as his guide and law, have rendered him one of the best abused men in Italy during the last quarter of the century. While preparing the biography of Dr. Agostino Bertani for the press, I have come across a number of letters from "Agostino" to "Agostino" which will cast no small light on the career of the Minister, and at the same time show how true a friendship between the two patriots endured to the end, although Bertani never hesitated in public and in private to admonish and criticise or challenge to single combat the chief of the majority. Member of the Opposition, captained by Rattazzi in the old subalpine Parliament, Cavour feared Depretis politically, and personally disliked him, opposed his election as Deputy, and protested against his nomination as Governor of Brescia when Lombardy was freed from the Austrians in 1859. Yet it was owing to a motion of Depretis's that the organization of the volunteer corps was rendered compatible with the red-tape system of the Piedmontese army, and Depretis was one of the warmest supporters of Cavour's loan for fifty millions to prepare for the war against Austria:

"If I thought," he said, "that the war was impossible or improbable, I should not support this bill; neither would I vote for the loan if we were only called upon to defend the territory of this state against Austria in the strict sense of the word. But, gentlemen, our Government not only holds aloft the tricolor flag, is not only the head of material forces, it is the moral government of all the Italian populations, it is the moral head of Italy, the guardian of Italian interests and destinies, the centre of Italian hopes. Piedmont has a mission which Italy has recognized and consecrated; united Europe cannot prevent her from accomplishing it; hence, deeming that the Government has done well to propose a loan for the national armament, I vote with the Ministry."

This was in March, 1859. When, in 1860, Cavour and Massimo d'Azeglio had sequestered or deviated from their original destination the muskets purchased by national subscription for arming the volunteers to be led by Garibaldi to the liberation of Sicily and Naples, Depretis hit upon an ingenious device for outwitting Cavour. The Prime Minister had ordered the National Guard of Brescia to be armed with 3,000 muskets destined for Garibaldi. Depretis, the Governor, writes to the General the following unpublished letter:

"April 27, 1860.—Dear and illustrious friend: It is my duty to notify you that the Provincial Council of Brescia has to-day decided to purchase the 3,000 muskets sent by the Committee of the 'million muskets' resident in Milan. Thirty francs for each musket will be paid within three months to you or to any person furnished with your signature. Moreover, 8,000 francs here collected and actually in the Provincial Treasury will be paid to you at once.—With profound esteem, your most devoted, A. DEPRETIS."

And 98,000 francs were paid out of the Provincial Treasury of Brescia for arming the Sicilian volunteers. Cavour, then Minister, found means to secure the resignation of this Governor of the only province which, as a province, had officially supported the then forlorn hope—an offence aggravated by the money having been handed over to Garibaldi's representative, Agostino Bertani, just as the Duce had steamed out of Quarto with his Thousand for Marsala.

When the Bourbons had been defeated and driven out of Palermo, Garibaldi wrote to Bertani his intention to nominate an able administrator during his absence from Palermo. Bertani suggested Depretis. Cavour preferred Valerio, and writes to Count Persano:

"Depretis was a Mazzinian before and after 1848. Not long since he was in correspondence with Mazzini, and always avoids denying 'The Prophet' solemnly and in public. Moreover, apparently austere, and despite a certain manner which would seem to indicate resolution of character, Depretis is undecided and irresolute, and knows ill how to face unpopularity. He has ta-

lent, but is wanting in such political studies as serve to assist a statesman in judging of the opportuneness of acts of an international character. He would be an excellent executor under a decided chief, but will be a very poor director in any great political movement."

Partly right and partly wrong was this verdict. Depretis never sought or attained to popularity, and Cavour's repeated injunctions to Persano and his other agents in Sicily not to place confidence in him were most unjust; for when he considered that Cavour was right in insisting on the immediate annexation of Sicily, he risked the utmost unpopularity that could befall a man in those days, opposing Garibaldi's resolve not to annex the island until the Bourbons should be expelled from the Neapolitan kingdom and he with his volunteers in full march on Rome. Before me lie his original letters to the Dictator, then at the gates of Naples, after his victorious march from Reggio—passionate in their patriotism, pathetic in their entreaty. "Dearest and most illustrious friend," commences that of the 1st of September. "God bless your daring enterprise, and keep you safe on sea and shore." Then he expounds the reasons, which seem to him unanswerable, for immediate annexation to Piedmont. But to Garibaldi and to his "To Rome and Venice" partisans, annexation would cut away the basis of operations, and his answer is characteristic: "Dear Depretis: As for annexation, it seems to me that Bonaparte may wait a few more days yet; meanwhile, do you get rid of half-a-dozen intriguers, and begin with the two . . . [noted annexationist agents of Cavour]."

The fiercest opponent of annexation was Crispi, Home Minister under Depretis in Palermo. His letters reached Garibaldi by the same steamer, containing stringent arguments against annexation, supported by the assertion that the Sicilians only cared for the expulsion of the Bourbons and for the liberation of the whole of Italy; that the annexationist cry was fictitious, raised only to stop the Dictator's liberating career; and that he himself felt it his duty to resign. Letter upon letter followed from both. Garibaldi summoned his pro-dictator and Minister to Naples, which he had just entered as victor; listened to their respective arguments and special pleading; decided in favor of Crispi, and accepted the resignation of Depretis, paying a flying visit to Palermo to install the new pro-dictator, Mordini. Crispi was decidedly in the right from the revolutionary point of view, for the instant Garibaldi consented to the annexation of Naples and Sicily he was compelled to retire to Caprera, his volunteers disbanded, and the liberation of Rome and Venice was postponed to an indefinite future.

As long as Cavour lived, little more was heard of Depretis, but after the death of the great Prime Minister he became the staunch ally of Rattazzi, was Minister, and remained so during the tragedy of Aspromonte. He was, nevertheless, a steady supporter of Liberal measures, and waged war against the Moderates perseveringly for the next fourteen years, then appeared as "the minister of progress," and in 1878 the famous programme of Stradella brought him nearer to popularity than he ever came before or afterwards. In the House elected on his platform, his majority was tremendous. From it the pillars of the Moderate church had been excluded—Bonghi, Visconti Venosta, Spaventa, and Saint-Bon only succeeded in entering at the double elections. Massari, Broglio, Ruspoli, and the smaller fry did not get in at all. And here Cavour's judgment proved true. Depretis had not the elements for a leader of men; he seemed frightened at his own power, dismayed by the clamor for the actuation of his own liberal programme. Then an element—whether of strength or weakness we will not decide, but a lessening