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PHILADELPHIA GENUINE COLLECTION  
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COLLECTION

BOX 21, FOLDER 8

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

### LETTER FROM ROME.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]  
ROME, Italy, Sept. 9, 1870.—We have had a most exciting week. First came the news of the Emperor's downfall; then the declaration of the Republic in Paris. On Tuesday news of a deeply interesting nature to Italy and Rome was buzzed about. The Italian troops, it was said, had crossed the frontiers, and were marching on to Rome. It flew like lightning, and with the lightning, to all parts of the peninsula. At Palermo, Venice, Milan, Turin, everywhere, crowds assembled on Tuesday night, crying "ON TO ROME," and the cities were illuminated. It appears now that the only cause for the report was, that on Monday a part of the troops came into Monte Rotondo, 17 miles from Rome, foraging. The poor inhabitants of the place, seeing the troops coming in, fled to the Campagna, but soon returned, when they found the visit meant business and not war.

At Rome the authorities made all sorts of defensive preparations. Tuesday night I sat in my balcony window, which overlooks the Piazza di Spagna and Babuino, until morning. At four o'clock I saw the cavalry, cannon, soldiers and sand bags go up to the Pincian gardens; nearly all day Tuesday the gates of the Pincian were closed and guarded. During the night military *estafettes* galloped to and fro from the Porto del Popolo; soldiers walked with guns on their shoulders along the Piazza, guarding the lonely, silent place, and I wondered, if a bombardment took place, what we should all do. It is very exciting and interesting to tell of such things after they are all over and you are safely out of it; but when the danger is near at hand it takes an immense deal of curiosity and love of adventure to sit quietly and watch for its coming without quailing a little. I looked at the Pincian Hill, just at the upper end of the Piazza, and thought how near we were to one point of attack at least. I am very much afraid if I had heard a cannonading then and there I should have fled

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But on Wednesday noon the soldiers and sand-bags came down from the Pincian, and it was rumored that the French Republic had forbidden Italy to come! So wild and senseless are reports at such times. One piece of true information, however, I learned on Tuesday. Com-mandeur Tounello, a religious, good man, who is respected by the Pope, was sent by the Italian Government, last Monday, to His Holiness, unofficially, to announce that a diplomatic agent or *envoyé* would arrive in a few days to open a diplomatic treaty with His Holiness. The grounds of the treaty Tounello brought with him. They were:—Necessity existing for Italian occupation of Rome—occupation to be *pro forma* only; the Pope to have an allowance equal to the revenue of the annexed and actual Papal States; the Rural Guard to be kept up in proportion as it should be needed for the protection of the city; the foreign troops to be dismissed and the Italian troops to take possession of all fortified points.

This morning there arrived by train the Italian diplomatist, Count Ponzo di St. Martino, as an official agent to treat with the Pope on these terms. With Count di St. Martino is his Secretary, Marchese Guiccioli, son of the notorious Countess Guiccioli. Now it remains to be seen what His Holiness will do. At Civita Vecchia is an English vessel ready to take Pius IX. to Malta, if he wishes. But it is said Cardinal Antonelli opposes that step, and the probabilities are that the Pope will "accept the position," most unwillingly, of course. It is said His Holiness remarked yesterday, if he consented to stay it would be as a prisoner, and he should regard himself as such. One thing is certain—Pius IX, like the Emperor Napoleon, at Cassel, will have very comfortable quarters and income for a prisoner.

Between now and the 15th of September the Italian troops will be here. On the 15th the famous Convention expires, and the Italian Government is bound no longer to stay away.

Yesterday being the Nativity of the Madonna, the Pope and Cardinals attended the ceremony at the Church St. Maria del Popolo, which is in the Piazza del Popolo. I stood very near the state carriage as His Holiness got into it after the *fonction* was over. Pius IX. looked in his usual health, stepped a little more alertly than in ordinary times, but his face was not quite so benignant; it was rather stern in expression; his dark brown eyes flashed sharply about, and his mouth was very firm and resolute. The good old gentleman looked equal to any emergency.

Cardinal Buonaparte was not present at the ceremony. His Eminence has left Rome, it is said, to go to the Emperor at Cassel. Cardinal Antonelli was in the state coach with the