

**COUNT CAMPELLO
AND CATHOLIC
REFORM IN ITALY**

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Count Campello and Catholic reform in Italy by Alexander Robertson

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ALEXANDER ROBERTSON

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AND
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*In Italia si
combatte per
la gloria del Vangelo di G.C.
C. Enrico di Campello*

From a Portrait by Lombardi.

COUNT CAMPELLO

AND

CATHOLIC REFORM IN ITALY

BY

THE REV. ALEXANDER ROBERTSON
SAN REMO.



REGIS
BIBL. MAJ.
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PREFACE.

COUNT CAMPELLO is the founder of the Italian Catholic Reformed Church. Who he is, and what that Church is, are well known in Italy, where his personal character is held in high esteem, and where a steadily increasing number of his countrymen are reaping the fruits of his self-denying labour. By them he is recognised as breathing the spirit of Arnold of Brescia, Savonarola of Florence, Paola Sarpi of Venice, Rosmini, Gioberti, Andisio, and other such reformers; and as carrying into action, in these days of Italian unity and freedom, the religious principles for which these men suffered imprisonment and martyrdom.

In England, too, Count Campello and his

Reform movement are attracting considerable attention. Notices of his work appear from time to time in the daily press, and in various religious organs; whilst a detailed report of it is issued annually by "The Italian Church Reform Association," London, of which the Most Rev. Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin, is chairman. Fresh interest in it has also been awakened by the visit which Count Campello made to England last summer, and by the meetings which he addressed in London and in the Provinces. Still, comparatively few have full and exact knowledge of him and of his labours, whilst that possessed by others, as shown in letters of enquiry and criticism that have lately appeared, is not only defective, but inaccurate. As, however, the Count appeals to England for sympathy and help, and as the fate of his mission depends to a large extent on the response he receives, it seems desirable to give to the public the information necessary to enable them to judge correctly

of the reformer and his cause, so that they may grant or refuse what is asked. It is in the hope of supplying, at least in part, this want, and of helping forward this public judgment and action, that I have written the following pages. At the same time, I believe that, outside all such considerations, the career of Count Campello is not without many elements of permanent interest, and is worthy of being known for its own sake.

The story of his "Life and Work in the Church of Rome," and his "Past Catholic Reform Work," I have written out largely from notes I made of conversations held with Count Campello at different times. For not a few facts, however, I am indebted to the pages of the "Foreign Church Chronicle," and to an "Autobiography" which Count Campello put into my hands. A translation of this was published by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton in 1881.

The story of his "Present Catholic Reform Work" contains simply an account of what