

**SKETCHES ON ITALY: ITS  
LAST REVOLUTION, ITS  
ACTUAL CONDITION, ITS  
TENDENCIES AND HOPES**

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Sketches on Italy: its last revolution, its actual condition, its tendencies and hopes by Various

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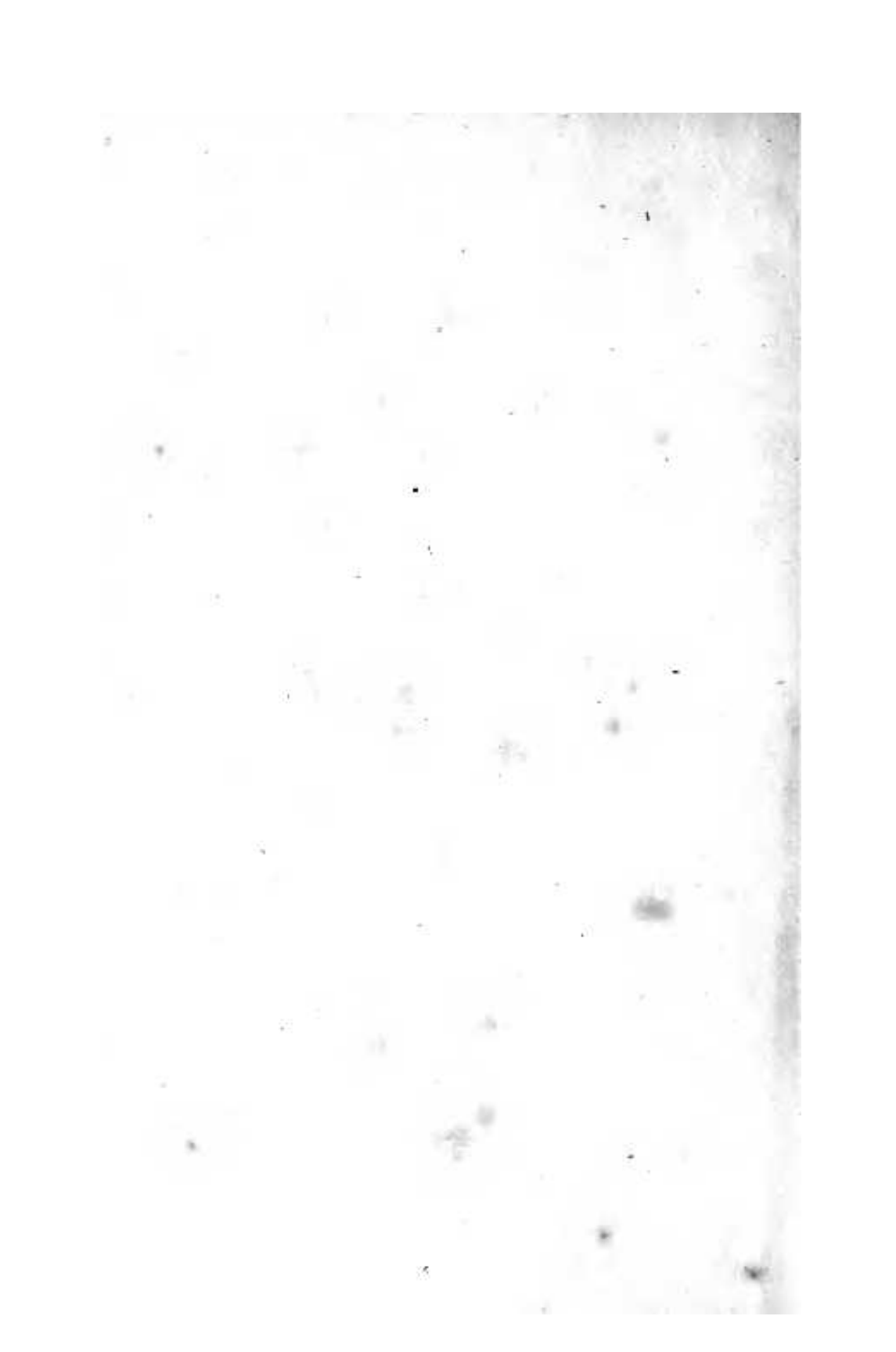
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**VARIOUS**

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE renewed and increasing interest felt by our countrymen in Italian affairs seems to call for a popular view of what may be termed "the case of Italy against her oppressors," and such this little work will be found to afford.

It is from the pen of one whose name unhappily cannot be divulged without injury to himself, but who is known by all his friends to be intimately acquainted with the history, politics, and social condition of Italy, and as a man of high honour and true Christian principle. A Roman Catholic by birth, he has the conviction, shared by many, that the political element in that system would be annihilated by the overthrow of its political centre at Rome, and that whatever is really Christian in it would readily amalgamate with the universal Church of Christ, were it once set free from the despotism of the Vatican. His patriotism is attested by cruel wrongs inflicted on him by the enemies of freedom, and endured with heroic resignation. His sources of information are unexceptionable, and his



principles prevent his unconsciously glossing facts to bolster up particular theories.

In addition to the general historical sketches included in this volume, it presents in a small compass a very graphic and comprehensive account of the great Italian Revolution of 1848-9.

The work was begun in the autumn of 1853 and brought to a close early in the following year, since which time it has been untouched. For the reasons stated above, the Author has been requested to allow its publication now, and has consented. He has also added an After-Chapter to the seventeen of which the work originally consisted, in order to present to Englishmen a view of Italy not only in the past but in her actual circumstances.

We most cheerfully comply with the request to furnish this brief statement as an introductory recommendation of the work.

(Signed)

C. E. EARDLEY.

C. HOLTE BRACEBRIDGE.

December, 1855.

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