

zens ; and the despots cannot increase their army without admitting into it a greater number of men interested to destroy them. A small army may have sentiments different from the great body of the people, and no interest in common with them ; but a numerous soldiery cannot. This is the barrier which nature has opposed to the increase of armies. They cannot be numerous enough to enslave the people without becoming the people itself." It was on the unseen rock so skilfully marked out here that Louis XVI., Charles X., and Louis Philippe, made shipwreck in turn, and that led to the error of our contemporaries. They took note of the hundred thousand men and the eighteen fortresses, but not of the all-influential principle which, in the Revolution of last week, rendered them of no avail.

Events have exhibited the influence of the second French Revolution on this country as, in the main, wholesome. It furnished the moving power through which Parliamentary reform was carried, and the representation of the empire placed on a broader and firmer basis than at any former period. It formed the primary cause of the abolition of slavery in our colonies ; destroyed monopoly in the East Indies ; re-organized our municipal corporations ; and, above all, gave to the people a standing-room virtually, though not nominally, legislative, through which, in the character of a league such as that which carried the great free-trade question, they can constitute themselves into a kind of outer chamber, whose decisions, if there be in reality a clamant case to give union and energy to their exertions, the *two inner* chambers must ultimately be content to register. And if, after all, it did not do more, it is only because all merely external reforms, whether political or personal, are in their nature unsatisfactory, and because men can only be made happier by being made wiser and better. It was through the inherent justice of the second French Revolution, be it remembered, and the