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From the Italian standpoint. We are living in wonderful times but like all transition periods they are full of perplexities. The Italian nation is a dynamic force with - at the present juncture - no adequate outlet. What strikes any student of their manifestations soon the eyes is their superabundant energy, always taking a universal rather than a national character. This was true of Roman civilization, of the medieval church as it radiated from Rome, of Italian art in its many forms from Dante to the high Renaissance, of Italian music which arose, as the country declined; of the Strains of the Risorgimento as expressed by Mazzini - young Italy growing into young Europe - and now again after a partial eclipse of materialism and mediocrity the nation is conscious of great possibilities and of gifts it can bring - even during the past 50 years its patient armies of emigrant workers have poured real wealth in the ~~the~~ form of their labor into the New World - and it finds nowhere a sympathetic