

FUNERAL RITES.

IN SOME CASES, AT PARIS. I know not whether I have ever spoken in these letters of the manner in which certain funerals are conducted in Paris.

Mr. Frederick R. South, a writer of romances and melodramas, has been lately borne to his last resting place. His bier was followed by a great number of friends. When they had arrived at the cemetery, some of them proceeded to recite pieces of prose and poetry.

This is a very grave symptom of our religious and moral state. Heathen nations, even the most barbarous, went to preserve the sanctity of the tomb. They were serious and collected in their funeral ceremonies.

If the case of M. Soulié's funeral stood alone, it would be unjust to make it the subject of general remark. But how many similar facts have occurred in Paris, and in the other large cities of the kingdom!

What is the remedy for so great an evil? I know not, so long as impiety shall retain its preponderant influence. Respect for the dead is closely allied with the religious sentiment.

The Berean.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1847.

The papers received by last mail from England mention the arrival of Lord Minto at Rome: the supposed mission of this nobleman, as a clandestine envoy at first, preparatory to his appearing as Her Protestant Majesty's Ambassador at the Pontifical Court, has been mentioned in our columns before.

"The position and connection of his Lordship will be an immediate and sufficient guarantee of his responsibility, and will confer upon him much of that authority which it is as yet forbidden more directly to delegate, while his known qualifications for such a mission supply a complete assurance that the interests and honour of England will be safe in his hands.

Perhaps it will startle Lord Minto, to learn that while he was pursuing his journey on this conciliating mission to Rome, a papal decree was on its way to Ireland, condemning one of the measures of Her Majesty's government which was fancied to be among the most promising in the department of conciliation towards Rome.

"At a meeting of the Prelates thus informed of the Pope's pleasure, held on the 23rd of October, the following dutiful response was given:

"Resolved,—That the warmest and most respectful thanks of the Catholic Prelates be tendered to his Holiness for his decision and instructions, conveyed in a letter now read from the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation de Propaganda Fide, in reference to the provincial colleges in progress of erection by the Government; and that our Chairman, the Archbishop of Tuam, be requested to forward to the Holy Father this expression of our unanimous and unbounded gratitude."

"So much for the success of the College conciliation: The delusive hope of conciliating by means of the system of elementary schools called in Ireland 'the National System'—while in England that same appellation has been appropriated to a system of a totally different character—has been indulged for a number of years, but disappointment is the lot of those who hope to conciliate Rome by any thing short of submitting to her rule.

"Resolved,—That notwithstanding the explanation so kindly given by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, we are still of opinion that the changes introduced in the National System of education are most serious and dangerous; that they are in opposition to the instructions of the Holy Father, who recommended that the property of the schools should be vested in the bishops and parish priests.

It certainly is a very perplexing state of things, when British Statesmen have been hard at work to push the surrender of Reformation principles to the greatest extent that the remaining Protestantism of the country will allow, for them to learn from the Roman Catholic prelates that their measures 'are in opposition to the instructions of the Holy Father.' These disappointments will be evidently obviated, as soon as a channel shall be opened by which he whom they call 'the Holy Father' shall transmit his 'instructions' to Her Majesty's ministers direct, so that they may know at once how to carry on the affairs of the British empire so as to please the Pope of Rome.

The article headed NINEVEN, in our last number but one, ought to have been credited to the Rev. Alexander Keith of St. Cyrus, Kincardineshire, being taken, like the one on TRAE, in the present number, from his valuable work on Prophecy.

GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—A visit having been paid to Schneidemühl by the Rev. Norman McLeod, of Dalkeith, and the Rev. R. H. Henschell, a converted Jew from Germany, we believe, 'for the purpose of ascertaining, by personal enquiries and observation, the present state of 'the reform movement' in Prussian Poland and Silesia," they spent one Lord's day at the scene of John Czernski's labours; and from a report by them printed in 'Evangelical Christendom,' which includes an account of the two public services, at the former of which Mr. Czernski, and at the latter Mr. Henschell preached, we extract the following account of the conference which was held subsequently to the time of public worship:—

"After service we held our private meeting. This was in Czernski's house—that house alone affords abundant evidence that poor Czernski was not made rich, at least, by leaving the Church of Rome. It is a small one-storied old cottage, situated close to his church, and presenting a striking contrast to it; it is barely large enough to contain his family. Everything about it is of the humblest description—there is not a parish school-master in Scotland who has not a better. We found his elders waiting for us; and here I may just mention the organization of the congregation. The people elect a certain number, varying according to the size of the congregation, of respectable individuals to govern the church along with the minister. These are termed elders (die älteste); they are elected annually. These elders elect from their number an executive (die vorsteher) of four or five, one of whom takes charge of education, another of money, one looks after the poor, and one the sick; and in large congregations one takes charge of public correspondence, while each of the executive is assisted by an elder. The whole body take an oversight of the members of the congregation. About ten were present at our meeting. Our object in calling them together was to understand more fully their views, and state of mind, and especially to address and exhort them, in a fuller and franker manner than could be done in public, upon certain points which we thought required the friendly advice and counsels of neutral parties, in whose good intentions we were aware that perfect confidence was placed. We accordingly spoke our minds fully to them. The topics which we chiefly enlarged upon, were the deep interest which we knew, from our own personal observations, both in America and Britain, was excited in their behalf: 'the importance of their position, whether for good or evil; their heavy responsibility for the use they made of the talent God had put into their hands in thus calling them to witness for the truth; the absolute necessity of their holding fast to positive Christianity; and the truth as revealed in scripture, which we illustrated by the bearing

of such facts as the Resurrection and Divinity of Christ upon our duties and our hopes. We also expressed our opinion upon their duty of seeking a greater measure of reform in their public worship; more spiritual and more united prayer; the laying aside candles and crucifixes, and priests' garments, and the celebrating of the Lord's Supper together; and concluded by exhorting them to private, and also to united prayer, as a body having such important duties as they had to discharge.

"Though our conference lasted a considerable time, we were listened to with the utmost patience and kindness. Each person present, then, in an open and easy manner stated his opinion of all we advanced. They declared their sense of the importance of their position; their determination to hold fast to positive Christianity in opposition to Rationalism; their earnest desire to reform their worship more and more, though much, very much, had been already accomplished—but that, on the one hand, the prejudices of the people brought up in Popery and much attached, therefore, to symbolical worship; and on the other, the Rationalism of Ronge, which is giving up Christ crucified, and all the characteristic doctrines of Christianity, rendered it necessary for them to proceed in any reform with caution and prudence, lest their good should be evil spoken of by those who were watching for their halting. They also promised to begin a weekly meeting for the study of the Scriptures and prayer."

We subjoin a passage in which the impressions received by the two visitors are shortly summed up.

"We had every reason to believe that Czernski and Post were the sincere honest Christian men which we always took them to be. We are convinced that they desire the glory of God, and that they will every day obtain greater measures of light and truth. We must, however, admit, that they are still defective in some of their religious opinions, but the Lord will guide them into all truth. We earnestly recommend them and their brethren in Poland to the sympathies and prayers of the Church of Christ. Owing to the peculiar state of parties in Germany, they are viewed with distrust; one party think they are too orthodox and cramped in their opinions, and have yet to imbibe truer ideas of Christian freedom before they can command the sympathies of the enlightened public. Another party think them not orthodox enough, so long as they remain separate from the Evangelical Church, because of their desire for church freedom; and from their former connection with Ronge, they accuse them of rationalistic tendencies. In the mean time these men and their congregations are isolated and un-aided. They are chilled by poverty from within, and checked by politics from without. Unless they are aided by British Christians, their cause, and with it the cause of truth in the midst of Romish darkness, will suffer. If we cannot give them the commanding talent, or the political freedom, required to enable them to advance throughout the land the new reform action, we may at least so far strengthen their position as to enable them to give undivided attention to their work, and resist the incessant attacks and undermining efforts of their enemies."

Mr. Post, referred to in the above, is pastor of the German Catholic congregation at Posen; the report describes him as "a man of thought and of power, resolute and courageous, and possessed of sincere and unaffected piety." The incidental allusion to Ronge, found in the former extract, promises no satisfactory information respecting him; an account of a visit paid to him is, however, to be given in the next number of the publication which has furnished these materials.

LOTTERIES.—The legality of solicitations, by advertisement or otherwise, to become customers of foreign lotteries has been touched upon in our columns before; we are led to recur to the subject, by an account of what took place at the Mansion House, London, on the 15th of October, the Lord Mayor giving his well-considered opinion on the subject, as appears from the following report which we insert, because in this Province also, foreign lotteries are often seen advertised—contrary to the law and, no doubt, injuriously to the best interests of the country:

On Monday last, the LORD MAYOR said, he had received a great number of letters from different parts of the country, complaining of applications from the conductors of foreign lotteries soliciting customers to these speculations, and he considered that he performed no more than his duty in cautioning the public how they dealt in matters regarding which they had no security, especially as a heavy penalty was attached to the violation of the law upon the subject. If the Government were to sanction the operations of which his correspondents complained, it might as well, without any further hesitation or difficulty, permit lotteries to be carried on in England. He should, for the purpose of showing that he was justified in advising the course which he hoped would be adopted, read part of the 6th and 7th William IV., chapter 66, relative to advertising foreign or illegal lotteries. His Lordship then read the following part of "An Act to prevent the advertising of Foreign and other illegal Lotteries" (we omit the unnecessary words:—

"Whereas the laws in force are insufficient to prevent the advertising of foreign and other illegal lotteries in this kingdom, and it is expedient to make further provision for that purpose; it is therefore enacted that from and after the passing of this Act, if any person shall print or publish, or cause, &c., any advertisement, or other notice relating to the drawing or intended drawing of any foreign lottery or of any lottery or lotteries, not authorized by Act of Parliament, or if any person shall print or publish, any advertisement or other notice, for the sale of any ticket or chance in such lottery or lotteries, &c., every person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit the sum of £50, to be recovered, with full costs of suit, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in Westminster or Dublin respectively, or in the Court of Session in Scotland, on motion therefor to the use of His Majesty, his heirs and successors, and the other moiety to the use of the person who shall inform or sue for the same."

His Lordship added that, if the subject could be brought before a magistrate in the usual course of penal enactments, the penalty would have been inflicted long ago.

The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies on the subject of Lotteries.—It is to be recorded, to the honour of this representative body that, at their sitting of the 19th October, they unanimously adopted a resolution for the total abolition of lotteries.

ACHILL MISSION. Formation of an additional settlement.—Our friends who have so liberally assisted us in the setting up of a second Missionary

Settlement at Meelan, in this Island, will be happy to learn that the new church there was opened for divine service on Sunday last.—Achill Herald of Oct. 27.

ASSAULT BY A PRIEST UPON A BIBLE AGENT.—Rev. William P. Carthy, Roman Catholic curate of the parish of Donoughmore, was indicted for committing an assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm upon John Buckley, on the 30th July last, at Coolmona, near Donoughmore.

JOHN BUCKLEY, examined by Mr. SCANNELL, swore that he was in the employment of the Rev. Joseph Rogerson Cotter, rector of Donoughmore, for the purpose of selling Bibles and Testaments. On the day laid in the indictment, prosecutor was proceeding along the road at Coolmona, with a bundle of Bibles, Testaments and religious Tracts, when the Priest rode up and passed him. The priest returned and asked prosecutor what he had, when he replied 'Bibles and Testaments, Sir.' The Priest then asked to have them shown to him, when prosecutor handed them to the Priest one by one. The Priest then said 'I left my house this morning with the intention of horsewhipping you.' Prosecutor replied, 'Sir, you could have no right to do that, without provocation.' The Priest then got angry, and after bundling up the Bibles, Testaments and Tracts, dashed them into prosecutor's face, and scattered them about the road. The Priest then called a man and asked him what was his name, when the man replied Denis M'Carthy, on which the Priest dismounted, and desired him to hold his horse. The man complied, and the Priest then rushed at prosecutor, and struck him several blows about the face and shoulders with his whip. Prosecutor then said, 'Sir, you have broken the peace,' on which the Priest laid hold of him, and putting his leg behind prosecutor endeavoured to trip him, but prosecutor caught the Priest by the collar and thus kept himself upright. The man holding the horse called out to prosecutor, 'You villain, don't you know it is a Priest you have.' Prosecutor then endeavoured to escape, and while running off he was followed by the Priest, who struck him several blows with the but of the whip in the poll, and bruised his head. Prosecutor swore that but for the hardness of his hat he would have been seriously injured. In the course of the transaction the man holding the horse shook a stick at prosecutor, and but for the horse starting prosecutor was sure he also would have assaulted him; prosecutor ran off crying out 'murder, murder,' and left his books strewn about the road; prosecutor subsequently heard that the books were buried at the soup-house in Donoughmore.

On cross-examination by Mr. WALSH, prosecutor swore he gave no provocation; he was then asked respecting a tract he had about purgatory, which he said he had in the bundle, but he positively swore he did not thrust it into the priest's face; he was next asked who was to pay the cost of the prosecution, which prosecutor swore he could not tell and that he did not know whether the Rev. Mr. Cotter was to pay it, but if the expenses were demanded of prosecutor he certainly would pay them; he said that Mr. Corker, the agent in the case, was taken out to Donoughmore by the Rev. Mr. Cotter then addressed the jury in a very long speech, calling on them to be cautious how they received the testimony of the prosecutor uncorroborated.

The Court charged the jury, in the course of which it said that the non-production of the man who held the traverser's horse was not to be attributed to the prosecution, as he could not be looked upon as a favourable witness for the crown, but certainly his not appearing on the table for the defence was more subject of remark from the other side. The jury retired, but not having agreed at seven o'clock they were locked up until half-past ten, when they were discharged without returning a verdict.—Cork Constitution.

The Achill Herald on the above trial: "The case needs no comment of ours; it shows that Popery unites a people for the enjoyment of what has been called the palladium of British liberty, trial by jury. We never knew a case in which a Priest was concerned against a Protestant, in which justice was done by a mixed jury composed of such materials as constitute the juries at Quarter Sessions. It is some consolation to know that, in the present instance, the majority of the Roman Catholics, who sat as jurors in Priest M'Carthy's case, were for finding a verdict according to the evidence; but one determined disciple of Peter Dens can frustrate the purpose of eleven honest and upright men."

SECESSION TO THE CHURCH OF ROME.—The Rev. Mr. Chirol, Curate of St. Paul's, Knightbridge, was yesterday received into the Church of Rome, at St. Mary's, Chelsea. The Right Rev. Dr. Wiseman officiated at the ceremony, attended by several of the Roman communion. Mrs. Chirol, and Mrs. Chirol, sen., the lady and mother of the Reverend gentleman, made their profession of obedience to the Roman Catholic Church at the same time.—Morning Post of Friday 29th Oct.

ECCLIASTICAL.

Diocese of Quebec.

INCORPORATED CHURCH SOCIETY. PAYMENTS to the Treasurer at Quebec on account of the Incorporated Church Society, in the month of November, 1847.

Nov. 11. Proceeds of 2 Missionary Boxes, per Rev. A. W. Mountain, £1 7 3

" Mountain, Lieut. J. G., 26th Regt., Anl. Sub. to 1 July, '47 1 16 0

15. Stewart, Hon. John, do. 1 5 0

25. Vanovous, Mrs. do. 0 10 0

£4 18 9

Fund for Widows and Orphans of the Clergy. Nov. 2. Collection at Grenville, per Rev. C. Forest, £1 0 0

T. TRIGGE, Treasurer, Incorp. Church Socy.

DIocese of Toronto. Rev. ROBERT GREGORY COX, late Rector of St. Paul's Church, Acron, Ohio, has been received into this Diocese, and appointed Travelling Missionary in the Prince Edward District. His Post Office is Hillier.—Church.

NEW BISHOPS IN INDIA.—It is said to be in contemplation to subdivide the enormous Indian Dioceses by the erection of six new sees; thus giving that part of the British empire ten Bishops instead of the four now established there.

CONFIRMATION AT BOULOGNE.—The Lord Bishop of London having been prevented, by the late accident which had happened to him, from proceeding to Boulogne for the purpose of holding a Confirmation of the children of British residents, the Right Rev. Dr. Coleridge (formerly Bishop of Barbadoes) officiated for that purpose in His Lordship's place on the 19th October.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED:—Messrs. J. Cary, No. 145 to 196; D. Twinnam, No. 136 to 188; H. Watson, No. 150 to 201; W. Carter, No. 147 to 198; Wm. Poolner, No. 146 to 197; Edm. Baird, No. 145 to 196; Frs. Duclos, No. 147 to 195; A. J. Maxham, No. 157 to 208; Thomas Cowan, No. 157 to 182; Rev. C. Elliott, No. 137 to 188; Com. Orlebar, No. 53 to 208, and addit. No. 157 to 208.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received W. C. E.; T. J.;—R. V. R.—Angl. A. A. H. acknowledges the receipt of 10s. from the Rev. R. V. Rogers.

MR. THOMAS JONES, No. 1, Erie Street, is collecting Agent for the Berean, for Montreal and neighbourhood.

Local and Political Intelligence.

The Extra carrying the newspapers, by the 4th November English mail, arrived in town on Sunday afternoon. We make extracts from the papers which came to our hands, among which Willmer & Smith's European Times furnishes the greater proportion. We commence with the introduction to its summary.

The period that has elapsed since the issue of our last publication has been one memorable in the annals of trade and commerce. Scarcely had that paper left our shores, when commercial affairs assumed a crisis that alarmed all classes, and induced the Government to issue a letter of recommendation to the Directors of the Bank of England, to assist in mitigating the mercantile embarrassments that were daily occurring. The step taken by the Directors, in obedience to this letter, has had the effect of temporarily tranquillising the fears of commercial men. And although no great improvement has taken place in the demand for colonial produce or the value at which it is sold, a partial stop has been put to further failures, both here and in London. Still it must be acknowledged that trade, in all its branches, labours under much depression, and cannot, for some time yet, assume its usual buoyancy. The reports from the manufacturing districts, elsewhere alluded to, are most discouraging, and add to the difficulties of the present crisis.

Several matters of interest and importance have taken place in Ireland since we last addressed our readers. That country still remains a prey to anarchy and confusion, so that murders—cruel, horrid, blood-thirsty murders—continue to disgrace the south and western provinces. The question of tenant-right is now being much discussed and agitated from one end of the kingdom to the other. A kind of monster meeting was held at Kilmacnash on the 21th. The object of the meeting was to take steps to promote the "tenant-right" question.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.—Private letters have been received from Fort York, Hudson's Bay, announcing the safe arrival of the detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners who left England on the 1st of June last, to be engaged as a boat party in search of Sir John Franklin and his gallant company. The party will winter near Fort York, and in the spring of the year pursue their search after the missing voyagers, should no intelligence of the safety of the Erebus and Terror reach any of the settlements of the Company before that time.

SUICIDES.—On the 28th of October, a person of the name of Wm. Davison, solicitor, threw himself from the whispering gallery in St. Paul's Cathedral, a distance of 115 feet to the pavement below. Life was quite extinct, though the external injuries which the body had received were remarkably slight. A verdict of temporary insanity was returned by the Coroner's jury.

Another melancholy occurrence of which advice was received by the last mail is the suicide of Professor McCullagh, of the University of Dublin. It is conceived that he had brought on temporary insanity by excessive study.

Intelligence of the death of Count Mensdorff, cousin of Prince Albert, having reached Windsor Castle, the court went into mourning.

In Edinburgh, a crime has been brought home to the accused at the expense of some ingenuity. About seventy pigeons having been extracted from a dovecote belonging to the Duke of Buccleuch, and two parties having been apprehended who were proved to have supplied large quantities for shooting saloons, it only remained to prove the identity of the birds in the hands of the police. To settle this, several of the pigeons were on two different days let off from the county hall, Arthur's seat, and Calton-hill, small pieces of scarlet cloth being tied round their legs, and as some 50 per cent. of the number found their way to the Duke's cot, other cotes requiring to be passed in their course, the proof was held sufficient, and the prisoners were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment.

James Stephen, Esq., upon his retirement from the duties of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been raised to the dignity of a Privy Councillor.

On the 22nd ult., the Custom-house officers in Newry made a seizure of 22 barrels of American flour, in which was found concealed a large quantity of cavendish tobacco.

We regret to perceive a notice from Messrs. Wagon & Co., announcing that, after the 24th December next, their establishment in England, India, &c., will cease. The competition of the Peninsular and Oriental Company has caused this abandonment of their enterprising business connected with the overland route.

NAPLES, Oct. 21, 1847.—The insurrection in the Calabria is nearly suppressed. This has, of course, been accomplished by brute force, and a system of torture and terrorism which has scarcely had a parallel, even in the worst atrocities of the French Revolution.

ROME, Oct. 22, 1847.—The sovereign Pontiff is proceeding with steadiness and energy in his system of enlightened reform. Since the date of our last correspondence a measure has been promulgated which, in importance, even exceeds any thing hitherto accomplished. His Holiness has established a Council of State at Rome, in which the several provinces will be respectively represented. This body will, in fact, form the government of the country, of which the Pope is the head; it will be divided into sections, among which the different branches of legislative and administrative business will be divided; one of the most important of its attributes will be its controul over the finances, which will be most com-