

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE FIRST FRANCISCAN MONASTERY.—The Cork Examiner says it is interesting to note that on the site of the new church, Maurice Fitzgerald, in 1224, laid the foundation stone of the first Franciscan monastery that ever existed in Ireland.

TEMPERANCE.—The Father Matthew Association held a public temperance meeting in St. Peter's Hall, Portland, on Sunday evening. Mr. J. J. Ryan, the President of the Society occupied the chair, and B. J. Ritchie, Esq., delivered an interesting address. Mr. Thos. O'Reilly who was also to have spoken, was unavoidably absent.—St. John Freeman.

GRAND CATHOLIC EVENT IN BELFAST.—The Belfast Examiner says:—On Sunday, August 12th, there was a celebration memorable in the annals of the Catholics of the century in Belfast. We refer to the consecration of the church-gem which adorns one of our principal streets, and reflects lasting honor on the spirit of our people. On that occasion nearly all the prelates of Ireland, and many from Great Britain, were our guests.

CATHOLIC REGENERATION IN ULSTER.—A remarkable proof of the recuperative power of the Catholics of Ulster was shown in the dedication recently, of the splendid new church of St. Patrick, Donegal Street, Belfast. The officiating prelate on the occasion was his Grace the Archbishop of Armagh, and amongst the congregation were no less than four hundred other bishops, including one from England and one from America. Father Burke was to have preached later on in the day in the same church, but we regret to say that illness prevented him from fulfilling his engagement.—Nation.

RECEIPTS OF THE POPE'S JUBILEE.—The Tablettes d'un Spectateur says:—"At the Vatican an account has been drawn up of the sums brought to the Pope by pilgrims during the Jubilee of Pius IX., and which amounts to 26,476,381. Of the total 9,198,000, was in gold, and the rest in paper. The money will be employed as follows, by order of His Holiness:—Four millions will be paid into the funds of the Holy See; four millions will be given to the present and former servants and soldiers who have remained faithful to the Pope and their families; four millions will be employed in restoring monumental churches, and in executing works of recognized utility, serving at the same time to encourage art and industry; the balance of 4,476,381, will be distributed in subsidies to charitable institutions, such as hospitals, asylums, etc., and to aid the Clergy and Religious orders in the poor parishes."

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A PRIEST AT THE ALTAR.—At Buenos Ayres, lately, Father Antony, a Religious upwards of sixty years of age, was saying Mass in the Franciscan Church when a stranger entered the church, rushed up to the altar, and fired a pistol straight at the celebrant. The bullet struck the priest on the back of the neck, and inflicted a terrible wound, but did not penetrate. Glancing off, it lodged in one of the pillars of the altar. Although bleeding profusely, the excellent priest continued the Mass, and finished it before he would allow himself to be removed or his wound dressed. The assassin, when apprehended, declared that he was a Russian, by name Michael Kulayo, and stated that he had suffered injustice from the Emperor of Brazil and the Princess Regent Isabella for which he held the monks responsible, and that he had therefore resolved to kill the first of them whom he chanced to meet. Father Antony was wholly unknown to him, but he happening to be the first Religious met with by the assassin or madman, became his victim.

CARDINAL MANNING.—Of England's Cardinal, Manning, a possible successor to Pope Pius IX., a correspondent says:—"In every state, hue and circumstance of life, Cardinal Manning is at home. In his titular church at Rome, addressing his clergy in Italian, and the crowd of his own countrymen, assembled to witness his installation, in English; in his pro-cathedral at Kensington, preaching to a congregation half composed of 'heretics,' who have come as much to see him as to hear him; at a garden party at Chiswick; at Exeter Hall, pleading the cause of total abstinence with all the fervor of an apostle; at the Vatican Basilica, swaying the debates and shaping the decisions of an Ecumenical Council; at a bright Oxford banquet, in honor of some academic friend, reappearing for a brief hour, as if from another world, on the stage of his early triumph and first friendships—wherever the work which he has chosen to take in hand may be in any way advanced, Cardinal Manning is to be found, always saying the right word and doing the right thing, as by a sort of natural gift and instinctive wisdom."

JUSTICE TO THE JESUITS.—The present Spanish Government, however weak its title, has at least achieved the merit of making a restitution which ought to have been made years ago by a legitimate king. The "most noble and most loyal" city of Azpetia, in the province of Guipuzcoa, is the native place of St. Ignacio de Loyola, the great founder of the Society of Jesus. During both Catholic and Protestant reigns, the city was held for its legitimate sovereign to the last. In an eminently Catholic province this city stands foremost as a bulwark of the Catholic faith; yet, strange to say, ever since the cruel and perfidious expulsion of the Jesuits from Spain, in 1767, the convent about a mile away from Azpetia, which bears the name of the founder of the society, had lain in ruins, having like many other similar edifices become a prey to the desolation that fell on Spain at that time. Recently, however, on the occasion of the festival of St. Ignatius, was attended by the bishops of Santander, Calahorra, Pamplona, and Vitoria, the convent was restored to its rightful owners, and by this act of justice the Government of Don Alfonso has done a great deal to conciliate the ruffled feelings of the Basque people.

THE LATE FATHER CLUNE.—Rev. Michael Clune was born in County Clare, Ireland, and came to this country about the year 1850. He completed his theological studies at Montreal and was ordained priest in this city by the late Bishop Phelan April 23rd, 1854, where he remained as curate for eighteen months, when he was appointed to the parish of Loughboro. During his stay there he made many improvements, and built the church now in use. After four years' residence in Loughboro he was appointed parish priest of Smith's Falls, where he labored till his last illness. Though at first the Falls was a comparatively poor mission he built a church which is among the finest of the diocese. Finding his health failing he came to the House of Providence of this city, where he was tenderly cared for by the good sisters, and had with him almost continually the Bishop and priests. There was a solemn requiem Mass for the repose of his soul on Monday morning. The last services were celebrated at Smith's Falls on Wednesday morning. High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Twobay. The choir sang a plain chant Mass. After the first Gospel the Rev. Father Leonard ascended the pulpit, and, after the usual announcements, he read the gospel of the day, St. Luke, chap. XII., verses 11-17, where Christ raised from death the widow's son at Nain. The rev. gentleman alluded in very feeling and eloquent terms to the death of the Rev. Father Clune and appealed in most touching language to all the faithful present to pray for the repose of his soul. The sermon of Father Leonard was a most eloquent effort and was listened to with breathless attention by the large congregation.—Kingston Whig.

IRISH NEWS.

A BRAVE YOUNG LADY.—As a girl named Delia Kelly was bathing in the ladies' bathing place in Howth, the current carried her beyond her depth, and she was in imminent danger of being drowned, when a young lady, Miss Josephine Mary O'Farrell, 16 years of age, rescued her.

THE HOME-RULERS.—Isaac Butt, the Home Ruler member of Parliament from Limerick, publishes a letter showing the difference between himself and the Obstructionists, and ridiculing the idea that Home Rule can be obtained by annoyance and inconvenience caused by Irish members.

RIOT ON "LADY DAY."—On August 15, as the Smithfield Catholic brass band, which had been taking part in the demonstration in Lurgan, was passing the Cook Monument on its way from the Great Northern Railway terminus, stones were thrown at them by a Protestant mob, which was collected in Wellington Place.

The O'Donoghue's letter on the obstructive policy has been the subject of much comment in Tralee. It is stated that the hon. member's friends intend presenting him with a requisition to resign his seat, with a view of re-electing him, in order to let his opponents see he represents the majority of the electors.

A GOOD REPRESENTATIVE.—Speaking of the Irish "Obstructionists," the London correspondent of the Liverpool Journal says:—"The worst fellow of the lot is Nolan. He is really the moving spirit of the clique. He does not talk so much as Parnell, Biggar, and O'Donnell, but he plots, and arranges, and organizes the conspiracy."

A GOOD PLATFORM.—The successful candidate for Clare, Sir Bryan O'Loughlin, through his brother Mr. Michael O'Loughlin, promises to take his stand with the Irish Parliamentary party, in support of Home Rule, denominational education, a satisfactory tenant-right bill, and, in fact, of all the other demands now made by the overwhelming majority of the Irish people.

ENGLISH OBSTRUCTION.—The Dublin Nation says:—"One fact about the division—or rather divisions, for two were taken by Mr. Parnell on the Phoenix Park outrage question—ought not to be forgotten. The Irish motions, though rejected by the House, were carried on the Irish vote. They were, in fact, obstructed by the intrusion of a hostile British majority."

ORANGE.—A correspondent of the Ulster Examiner complains that Vere Foster has issued orange colored invitations for subscribers to the Belfast Royal Hospital. He says:—"I do not object to orange as a color, but I decidedly object to allow its being used to the disadvantage of a charitable institution that is intended to relieve the sufferings of all creeds and classes."

STRANGE DEATH.—The Ulster Examiner reports the strange death of two children in Newry. A child belonging to a respectable man named McAlpine fell into a water-but in a field near Newry, and before assistance arrived was drowned. On the same day, a little girl three years old, the daughter of a man named McGovern, died from eating fruit.

THE BLIGHT IN THE NORTHWEST COUNTIES.—The Derry Journal says:—"We regret to state the various parts of the northwest counties potato blight is making its appearance. This dreadful disease has settled upon nearly all the gardens in the neighborhood of Castledawson. The early plots are most seriously affected, those planted late being comparatively safe."

MR. DOWNING ON THE "OBSTRUCTIONISTS."—Mr. McCarthy Downing, M. P., has written to the Cork Examiner repudiating the report given in the Irish Times of the meeting of Home Rulers recently held. He says:—"While I deprecated the course pursued by Mr. Parnell and his allies, and, by the resolution which I prepared and proposed, desired to draw a distinctive line between them and the other fifty-three Irish Home Rulers, I never used an offensive, nay, a harsh expression, towards the gentlemen forming the minority, nor did I impugn the sincerity of their motives."

HOME RULERS ON LOUGH NEAGH'S BANK.—An unusually large gathering was held, August 2d, at the cross of Ardree. The people for many miles around always hold the 2d of August as a gala day, and from time immemorial, on this day visit the old moss-covered cross and picturesque ruins of the church and abbey, which once, in times long past, ornamented Lough Neagh's banks. The members of the Home Rule Union numbering about 5,000, and accompanied by a large concourse of the people at large, paid a visit to the old ruins.—Cor. Ulster Examiner.

REPRESENTATION OF CLARE.—The following telegram from Sir Bryan C. O'Loughlin, Bart, M. P., for Clare county, was received on Tuesday afternoon from Melbourne, having only taken eight hours in transmission. Mr. Michael O'Loughlin, B.L., by whom it was opened, at once announced the contents thus:—"To the Independent Electors of my Native County of Clare.—Electors of Clare,—I have received official intimation of my return. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the noble tribute to my brother's memory. This sacred bond binds me to you with life-long gratitude. Will make necessary arrangements to return speedily. Thanks to all."

"PROSPERITY" SPEECHES.—The Dublin Freeman, in reference to the Lord Lieutenant's "prosperity" speech at Galway, says:—"We really think the time has come for an earnest protest against the delusive sophistry which successive Viceroys feel bound to serve up to the successive gatherings at agricultural dinners in Ireland. Twenty years ago Lord Carlisle, the most amiable of men and weakest of statesmen, began this very unfortunate system. He proclaimed to all the world that Ireland was steadily and even rapidly becoming one of the richest countries on the face of the earth; and as he was talking in this strain, there was ripening under his unconscious eye the most serious and formidable rebellion of modern times. We find a third of the soil of Ireland is waste lands, and we find the 30,000 men who would be proud and glad to make it good land if they dared, trudging like helots to England to gather in the harvest."

THE CLARE ELECTION.—On the 11th Mr. Burton resigned in favor of Sir Bryan O'Loughlin as a candidate for the representation of Clare. Consequently upon this, the issue lay between Sir Bryan O'Loughlin, the O'Gorman Mahon, and Mr. Reeves. The election of the latter in the Conservative interest was, as a matter of course, materially strengthened by the retirement of Mr. Burton. The election took place on Monday, and the proceedings throughout were orderly. At one of the polling places in the division, having a total of 578 voters on the register, strange to say there was a total absence of public interest. Among the candidates the O'Gorman Mahon appeared as an evergreen. Half a century ago he was in the front rank among the leaders of the people. He brought Daniel O'Connell to Clare; he sat for Clare himself. Later on he helped forward the National Conference, and, later still, entered the ranks of the Home Rule League. Throughout Tuesday an immense crowd occupied the space in front of the court-house, and waited with admirable patience until the result was made known. At three o'clock high-sheriff declared the state of the poll to be as follows: O'Loughlin (H. R.), 1,721; O'Gorman Mahon (Nationalist), 1,149; Carey Reeves, 764; majority for the Home Rule, 572.

WAR NEWS.

INCREASED.—The garrison of Widdin has been raised to 9,000 because of Servia's attitude.

BANISHED.—Redif Pasha and Abdul Kerim Pasha, with the ex-Commandants of Senari and officers, have been banished to Lemnos till the conclusion of the war.

ARMISTICE.—The correspondent at Montenegro headquarters at Ostrok reports a 24 hours' armistice has been agreed on, and negotiations are going on.

NO PEACE.—The Bucharest correspondent says peace is impossible till the Turks are crushed. If the Czar concludes an unsatisfactory peace, he would have to enter Moscow at the point of the bayonet.

NO MEDIATION.—Foreign representatives, except those of Austria and Russia, remonstrated with Prince Milan about his military preparations. Gortschakoff urged Servia to enter the field so soon as possible.

RUSSIA COQUET.—A Poreidin special of Monday, via Bucharest, on Tuesday evening says:—"The attack on Osman Pasha to-day was very severe. We shall enter Plevna probably to-morrow. The Grand Duke Nicholas is here."

REPULSED.—Armed Pasha on Tuesday repulsed the Russian attack at Kadiski, near Rastchuk. The Russians lost 1,000. The Turks claim to still hold command of Galbria, on the road to Shipka Pass. Cannonading is going on in the Pass.

SEBASTOPOL.—Hobart Pasha represents that the new fortifications of Sebastopol are strong enough, even without the addition of torpedoes at the harbour, to destroy the finest fleet which would venture to attack them.

CHANGE OF HEAD-QUARTERS.—The Russian headquarters have been moved from Gorry Student to Bulgareni. This indicates either an advance in the direction of Plevna, or retreat from the neighbourhood of the Jontza line.

ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE EXPECTED.—The chances are great that the vicinity of Karalom will soon be the theatre of a decisive battle of large proportions. The Russians have evacuated Gagovo, and retired to Polomska, pursued thither by the Turks and Egyptians.

MUTUAL SLAUGHTER.—2,000 Montenegrins surrounded a village near Preaska, intending to get cattle and corn. During the night another band of Montenegrins arrived and being mistaken for Turks a fierce combat ensued, 700 being killed and a large number wounded.

RUSSIAN DEFEAT.—Mehemet Ali telegraphs from Kechlowa that Eyoub Pasha has defeated the Russians this side of the Lom; the Russians recrossed the Lom in disorder, abandoning their fortified positions near Kechlowa; they lost 3,000; the commander of their cavalry was killed; we lost 100.

BATTLE OF LOVATZ.—The battle of Lovatz commenced by the Turks attacking the Russians fiercely. The Russians repulsed nine successive assaults drove the Turks into the town, entered with them, and drove them out. The Turks retired in disorder before Skobloff's cavalry. The slaughter was great, especially among the Turks.

DRIVEN BACK.—An important engagement took place yesterday near Rastchuk, afterwards the Russians bombarded that city. The Turks replied the cannonade lasted all yesterday and continues to-day. Some Turks from Widdin last night in attempting to reach Chupenchene, near Kalafat, in a boat were driven back by the Roumanian battery.

A FEINT.—At the capture of Lovatz, the actual Russian attacking force was 22,000, with a division in reserve. The capture was effected partly by surprise. The Russians, on Sunday and early on Monday, bivouacked on the reverse side of the heights east of Lovatz, to conceal the camp fires from the Turkish sentinels. Earth works were thrown up by the Russians during the night for 80 cannon.

HARD STRUGGLE.—A Russian official account says: On Tuesday the Turkish forces from Rastchuk captured Sladidkio, but were driven out with great loss. The Russians lost 180. Prince Merinsky telegraphed that Loftcha had been taken after 12 hours' fighting, despite its natural strength and the stubborn resistance of the Turks. Gkobeloff was the hero of the day. The Russian loss was not ascertained. General Gasgildiaeff was wounded.

POSITION.—The Russians have withdrawn their right wing from the upper Lom line at Popski, to where they can touch the forces guarding Osman Pasha's roads. Thus Mehemet Ali has gained an advantage by the Karusban victory. The Turks, as the result of this victory, occupied a mountain forming the key of the Rasgrad position, and commanding the Lom, the Karalom, and the Russian position at Obaka and Gazover.

TO BE REPLACED.—The Russians, dissatisfied with the incapacity of the staff officers, especially Sevitsky, acting chief, all eyes turn to General Diagomiroff, who, though wounded, directs military operations. The discontent is augmented by the appointment of Prince Charles to the command before Plevna. It is exceedingly probable that Servia will immediately declare war. Only the Grand Duke's orders are waited for, and 40,000 men will pass Widdin and operate in rear of Osman Pasha; 20,000 men will form a stationary reserve.

THE MILITARY POSITION.—The Russian occupation of Lovatz places Osman Pasha in the awkward position of a hostile force on both flanks. Either defeat at Plevna or attempted withdrawal might result in the destruction of his army, unless the Russians are compelled to weaken their forces on that side, in order to meet Mehmet Ali's advance from Rasgrad. The latter seems to place Carewitsch's army in a position very similar to Osman Pasha's. If Turkish forces may be trusted, a division of the Turkish army have crossed the Lom and reached the neighbourhood of Operteni, while another has crossed the Karalom to Polomska. These are understood to be operating against Biala, but they jeopardize the whole Russian campaign east of the Yaxtra river, as well as the communications with Turnova.

RUSSIAN GRAND ATTACK.—The Herald's cable records the advance of the Russians preceding the capture of Lovatz, and says:—"The long expected attack on Osman Pasha has at last commenced. According to a pre-arranged plan by which the assault was to be simultaneous along the whole Russian line, from near the Balkans, south of Lovatz, to the almost the foot of the Balkans, south of Lovatz, the attack was made as irresistible. The Grand Duke fully intended that the advance once begun should not suffer any check. He had pursued during the past month with ceaseless and relentless purpose, the one purpose of crushing Osman Pasha, and retrieving the disaster of July the 31st. On Monday everything was ready, and the advance begun at six, with fighting at ten. The Turks fought obstinately, while the Russian advance was irresistible. All ready communication between Lovatz and Plevna has been severed, and when the former position is carried, as it must be to-day, the left centre will flank the Turkish position, by moving into the south of Plevna. The battle continues. Is Lovatz falls to-day, we expect to enter Plevna to-morrow."

MISCELLANEOUS.

CATHOLIC UNION.—This organization is extending itself with great rapidity. Another branch was opened at St. Roche, Quebec, last week.

CHINA.—The Emperor of China has issued an edict prohibiting opium smoking throughout the country, particularly among officials, scholars, and the soldiery. It is to take effect three years hence.

TORPEDO VESSEL.—A Russian seagoing torpedo vessel, the first of its class, has just been launched on the Neva. It is constructed solely for the use of Whitehead's torpedoes.

SENATOR CONKLING.—On the return home from Europe of Senator Conkling, the patriot of the Rochester Democrat tossed up his hat and exclaimed: Lo, the Conkling hero comes.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—The Viceroy of India reports a great improvement in the crop prospects in Madras, Bombay and Punjab, while Mysore is still badly off.

PROXY.—The Emperor of China is provided with a *Uchachuts*, or whipping-boy, whose duties consist in presenting himself for punishment whenever the young Emperor is guilty of sins of omission or commission. The office is not considered a sinecure.

SITTING BULL.—A St. Paul despatch reports that a scout who left a point twenty miles from Sitting Bull's camp, Aug. 23, says there are no indications of Sitting Bull on this side of the line. Messengers from Canadian police, Aug. 18, reported that Sitting Bull was in British possessions as late as Aug. 14.

LACROSSE.—A match was played on Tuesday afternoon, on the Plains of Abraham, between the Shamrock and White Stars Clubs of this city, in presence of a goodly number of spectators. Four games were played; the first falling to the Shamrocks in twenty-eight minutes. The next three were taken by the White Stars in 10, 15 and 13 minutes, respectively.

TURKISH LEADERS.—The Turkish army is, contrary to opinion, well officered in the highest ranks, being led foreign officers, many of whom have attained distinction. It is said that Osman Pasha is no less a person than Marshal Bazaine. Mehemet Ali is a Prussian educated in the best military schools. Colonel Valentine Baker has always been regarded as one of the best cavalry officers in Europe. Mukhtar Pasha's second in command in Asia is a Hungarian. Hobart Pasha, as every one knows, is one of the best naval officers England ever had. French, English, German, Austrian, Hungarian, and American officers are plentiful in the Turkish army.

CHINESE SCHOOL.—The Chinese in San Francisco have petitioned the Board of Education for a school. They say in their memorial:—"Your honorable State levies poll and other taxes for the support of education, and makes no difference between natives and foreigners: If from the first Chinese and Americans had been placed on the same footing in the schools, it would have been in accordance with right and justice, and there would have been subsequently no distinction; but your honorable State has established schools of all grades and have not admitted Chinese, which is contrary to the original intention (that they should be open to all). We therefore respectfully and earnestly beg that you will open schools for the benefit of the Chinese, and that you will appoint Mr. Kerr, who is familiar with our language to have charge. Thus the original excellent design will be realized, and the learning of your honorable country will be disseminated."

AWFUL SUFFERING IN INDIA.—The editor of the Madras Times, a member of the relief committee, writes August 1:—"The population in Southern India, more or less affected by the famine, number 24,000,000. In the most favorable circumstances at least one-sixth of the people will die. The famine is immeasurably greater than was that in Bengal. Twenty-three people in all died of starvation in Bengal. In Madras no camp of 3,000 rises morning after morning without leaving 300 corpses. In the interior the distress is most fearful. One gentleman passing down a valley in Wynnad District counted 29 dead bodies on the road. A coffee-planter seeking shelter from the rain in a hut, found six decomposing corpses in it. Every day mothers are seen in the streets of Madras offering children for sale, while the founding portion of the poorhouse is full of infants found by the police, on the roads, deserted. Since the famine has commenced 500,000 people have died of want and distress. The first big tragedy may be expected in Mysore. In that province there have been cases of cannibalism already."

POPULATION OF BELGIUM.—The Belgian census, just taken, shows the population of the country to be 5,335,185. This is almost precisely the present population of Ireland, which by the late census was 5,338,986. What an illustration of the effect of different government! Belgium is one of the most prosperous and happy countries in the world. It has no national debt; its cities and towns are full of trade; its harbors of commerce; its agricultural population comfortable; its laws respected; its king beloved. Ireland, on the contrary, though teeming with national resources, is silent with the lethargy of death; her cities and towns are without trade, crumbling to decay; her wonderful soil produces only grass for sheep and herds; her splendid fields are devoid of husbandmen, who have sailed away in despair to till the soil of other countries; her wide and sheltered harbors are empty of ships; her deep river-mouths are filling up with drift-land; stagnation has settled on all things—income is dead, output alone continues, in the shape of rents to be spent abroad by absentee landlords, and fat cattle for the English market. It is a direful contrast, that should nerve the determination of Irishmen to continue agitating till they secure for Ireland the blessing of Home Government.—Boston Pilot.

THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER.—Edward King, writing from the Danube to the Boston Journal, says:—"These Russians remind one very much of American soldiers in the field. They have the same jolly insouciance, the same good natured way of accepting privation as their common lot, and same pleasant and picturesque manner of regarding the most disagreeable things. I think they look upon the Turks without any actual hatred—feeling for them only a kind of mild contempt, which has been somewhat increased by the manner in which the Turkish cavalry ran away at Matchin the other day. There is but little to be said thus far in favor of the Turkish irregulars, who were expected to achieve such prodigies of valor. They have vanished before the Cossacks like leaves before the wind. I doubt if a single straggler could be found anywhere in the environs of Sistova. Regular troops make short work of such fellows. The Turkish prisoners that I have seen were almost as tattered and forlorn as the Bashi-Bazouks. There is a little group of Anatolians here, imprisoned in a cottage. They are evidently quite resigned to their fate, and sit musingly gazing at their captors with a puzzled air, as if they rather fancied it all a dream. The Russians treat them very kindly, and I believe that far there is no instance in which any disposition has been shown on the part of the commonest soldier even to threaten them."

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

ADVENTURE WITH AN EAGLE.—A farmer of Glenmark, named Mill, was out one day with his gun, and, coming upon an eagle's nest, he made a noise to start her and have a shot. She was not at home, however, and so Mill, taking off his shoes, began to ascend, gun in hand. When about half-way up and in a very critical situation, the eagle made her appearance, bringing a plentiful supply to the young which she had in her nest. Quick as thought she darted upon the intruder with a terrific scream. He was clinging to the rock by one hand, with scarcely any footing. Making a desperate effort, however, he reached a ledge, while the eagle was so close that he could not shoot at her. A lucky thought struck him; he took off his bonnet and threw it at the eagle which immediately flew after it to the foot of the rock. As she was returning to the attack finding an opportunity of taking a steady aim, he shot her dead.

GIGANTIC BONES.—Whenever any bones of unusual magnitude were discovered, it was invariably the custom to ascribe them to some giant. This was always so up to recent years, and no wonder it was so much the case at the early period of 1660. About that time, when the brook or rivulet from which the town of Corbridge, in the North of England, derives its name, had been worn away by some impetuous land-flood, a skeleton, supposed to be that of a man of extraordinary and prodigious size was discovered. The length of the thigh bone was nearly six feet, and the skull, teeth, and other parts proportionately monstrous, so that the length of the whole body was computed at twenty-one feet. It is conjectured, by the more enlightened men of modern times, that these strange bones belonged to some large animal that had been sacrificed by the Romans at the altar dedicated to Hercules, which was found here some years ago. Notwithstanding that the superstition of former years has lost nearly all its credit and influence, a singularly large bone found here is now exhibited in Keswick Museum as the rib of the giant Cor.

THE SNOWFLOWER.—One remarkable account is admitted into *Les Mondes* of a so-called snow flower, said to have been discovered by Count Anthonoff in 1863, in the northernmost portion of Siberia, where the earth is continually covered with a coating of frost. This wonderful object shoots forth from the frozen soil the first day of the year, and reaches a height of over three feet, blooms on the third day, remains open twenty-four hours, and then returns to its original stem, leaves, and flower are converted into snow; the leaves are three in number, and about three inches in diameter, covered by a kind of microscopic ice, developed only on that side of the stem which is turned to the north. The flower then opened is star-shaped, its petals of the same length with the leaves, and about half an inch wide. On the third day the extremities of the anthers, which are five in number, show minute glistening peaks, like diamonds, the size of a pin's head, which are the seeds of this astonishing flower. Count Anthonoff collected some of these seeds, and hastened with them to St. Petersburg. They were placed in a pot of snow; there they remained for an entire year, but on the 1st of January, 1864, the snow-flower burst through its icy envelope and displayed its beauties before the eyes of the imperial court.

SLEEP.—Dr. Hammond says sleep may be defined as general repose. Almost all the organs rest during sleep. The heart, popularly supposed to be in perpetual motion, is at rest 6 hours out of 24, the respiratory organs 8, and the other organs more or less. The brain alone is constantly employed during wakefulness, and for it sleep was formed and made needful to its preservation. It is true that sleep does not give the brain a total recess from labour; imagination and memory are often vividly active during sleep, and unconscious cerebration likewise takes place, but enough rest is obtained for the renovation of the brain, and that which has been torn down during wakefulness is to a certain extent rebuilt. Sleep is a most wonderful power—often stronger than the will, as in the case of the sleeping soldier—and more mighty than pain, as when sick persons and tortured prisoners sleep in the midst of their suffering. No torture, it is said, has been found equal to the prevention of sleep. The amount of sleep needed differs according to the constitution and habits. Big brains and persons who perform much brain labour need a large amount. Children need more than grown people, because construction is more active than decay in their brains.

AN ADVENTURE WITH A TIGRESS.—A soldier named Stewart had left the Lieutenant-Governor's camp at Mirzapur on the night of the 25th of November for a day's shooting, and intended to return on the night of the 26th. He had been especially cautioned not to venture into the jungles, with the chance of meeting a tiger when on foot; but an eager temperament and intense love of sport overcame caution. He fell in with three brother sportsmen living in a ruined fort in the jungle. They went out together, found and attacked the too probable enemy, and a tigress was wounded in the leg. A wounded tiger may become the scourge of a district. It was natural that English sportsmen should make every attempt to kill the beast, rather than leave her slightly disabled close to several large native villages. They tracked her by the blood, still wet, beneath their feet, up the face of a steep, stony hill, to a mass of rocks where was a cave, the mouth of which was visible above them. The place was very dangerous. They knew that the object of pursuit was close at hand, and most probably in the cave. A council was held, and it was proposed to defer proceedings till the following morning, in order to get buffaloes to the place, and, by driving them along among the rocks, make the tigress show herself. Stewart opposed the delay. He had left the camp on the understanding that he was to return that night, and, in his eagerness to lose no time, went straight up to the mouth of the cave, and looked in. Providentially, nothing was there. He then tracked the blood a little beyond the spot; but, as darkness drew on, he yielded to the general wish, and agreed to await the morning for further operations. Having to pass the place on his return to camp, he reckoned that an hour up the hill, added to the night's absence would not cause any serious detection. The next morning there was delay in procuring buffaloes, and the party had to go to work without them. The blood of the wounded animal being moreover, dry, it was difficult to ascertain her precise locality. Division of opinion as to her movements ensued, the trail became lost, and there was a partial separation of the guns. Crouching in a comparatively open part of the jungle, the tigress saw him approach and unexpectedly dashed on him. Struck down to the ground, he remained motionless. From his own account he had no inclination to call out; and well that it was so. A strange necessity is that of suppressing all signs of the life it is man's instinct as well as duty to preserve. His enemy, passed him, but soon returned to seize him by the left calf, changing to the thigh in an attempt to carry him off. Thinking her victim dead, she dropped him from her mouth, then struck him with her closed paw and left him, not however till she had inflicted no less than thirteen intelligent wounds. On being found by his companions he helped them for the moment in blinding up his own wounds, but soon sank into a kind of delirium. He was put upon a litter, taken into Chunar, and, by care and skill, enabled in a few weeks to return to duty.