

soon become guilty of *leze-serenile*, or *high-treason* against the state. I know, that the Most Serene Republic is very scrupulous about what relates to their usages and customs, as well as to their laws.

I will confine myself therefore, Madam, to telling you what will admit of no contradiction, and be entirely conformable to the sentiments of the whole Senate; which is, that they cannot sufficiently assure you of the respect due to your genius, your birth, or your virtue, and with which I have the honour to be, &c.

Rome, 10th January 1753.

THE JESUITS.

According to one of the apothegms of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the society must be now in a very flourishing condition. It is said that he used to tell the Fathers of the company, that when the world persecuted them, and reviled them most bitterly, it would be a sign that they were working well in the cause of God.

All manner of enemies are attacking them, and all manner of awful and silly things are charged on them.

Among the queerest things that we have met for some time, is the charge that the Jesuits scattered throughout the world, regularly communicate to head quarters at Rome all the information they gather in the confessional. This statement we have met in various quarters.

Now let us just calculate how easily this could be effected: according to the reports of their enemies, the Jesuits number more than 10,000 priests throughout the whole world. They are nearly all engaged in hearing confessions, more or less; some of them are occupied as much as six or eight hours daily. The very lowest estimate will give us at least 75,000 confessions heard by them daily. These confessions cannot be written on less than 10,000 sheets of foolscap, largest size, closely written, and frequently crossed. Just imagine, gentle reader, Father Roothan at Rome in his room with an immense pile of 10,000 letters laid before him every day! Every morning he sits down and sets to work before such a mountain,—and must finish them before he sleeps—for he will have as many more to-morrow. And if ever the northern mail fails at Rome for two or three days in succession, as it does here—he may have some 25,000 letters *extra* to read on such occasions.

We have calculated his annual postage bill. It must average ONE MILLION OF DOLLARS A YEAR!!
Catholic Miscellany.

A NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH IN NEW YORK.—Through the great zeal and enterprise of the Rev. Joseph P. Burke, a spacious Catholic church edifice

has been projected to be located in 25th st., near 5th Avenue.

The laying of the corner-stone of the new church will take place on Thursday, May 22, at 3 o'clock, p. m., of that day.

After that ceremony a discourse will be pronounced by the Right Rev Bishop Hughes.

This attempt to furnish additional church accommodation for the very numerous Catholic population of our city will we hope meet with deserved encouragement. We hope there will be a numerous and cheering assemblage at the ceremony of the 23d inst.—[N Y Freeman's Journal.]

ANNALS OF THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH—

NO. XLIV.

The new number of this interesting and edifying miscellany contains numerous communications relating to the scenes and prospects of the Catholic missions in the Levant, in Siam, and Eastern Oceana. All of them describe instances of missionary devotedness, patience in suffering and attachment to the faith, which remind one of the zeal and fervency of the early ages of Christianity; and independent of the great variety of useful and interesting information which may be derived from a perusal of this excellent publication, it is impossible, we think, to read a single page of it without that profit which the living admonition of pious example must ever produce. A communication from the celebrated Eugene Bore draws a melancholy picture of the state of the Christians in Persia, and in some of the other letters we find equally sad accounts of the petty persecutions to which Christians are subjected by the Mahomedan authorities of Syria and Egypt. Had we room for extracts the present number of those pious annals would furnish us with abundance of interesting ones, but we select, for the present, the following account of the Sandwich Islanders, which we find in a letter from the Rev. Father Desvaut of the society of Picpus, to another priest of the same society, dated Sandwich, Oahu, Islands, January 2d, 1844:—

"It remains for me to say a few words upon the present state of these islands, and the manners of their inhabitants. With the exception of a few improvements effected by strangers in the places that they inhabit, the lands are in the same state as formerly. The plains, which are on the sea-shore, are in general very barren: one often travels five or six leagues without meeting a tree; you see no other verdure than a little grass and a few shrubs. Often there is only the bare ground and stones. The streams which descend from the mountains are the only resources of the country. They make various drains to cause the water to flow into the marshes, where the taro is planted. If the stream happen to dry up, there is then a complete scarcity in the country.