

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE ASSEMBLY.—Paris, Nov. 23.—In the Assembly, to-day, the debate on the third reading of the Electoral Bill was continued. M. Barthélemy, a Moderate-Republican, moved an amendment forbidding the Government from suggesting candidates to the electors. The amendment was rejected by a vote of 314 yeas to 318 nays. M. Picard and other Deputies endeavoured to elicit a declaration from the Government as to whether it repudiated the system of official candidatures. Ministers Dufaure and Buffet evaded the question, the latter saying he could not add anything to his previous explanation. The Committee on the Press Bill intend to demand a complete abolition of the state of siege.

BONAPARTIST MEETING.—Paul de Cassagnac addressed a Bonapartist meeting in Belleville to-day. Three thousand people were present, and loudly cheered the speaker, who advocated a plebiscite, and promised in the name of the Empire the suppression of the Octrois, and the establishment of an income tax.

SAVOY.—Paris, November 26.—A rumor is current to the effect that there is a movement on foot among the people of Savoy, having for its object a separation from France and re-annexation to Italy.

A PLAGUE OF RATS IN A FRENCH CAMP.—The French cavalry camp at Rocquencourt is suffering from a plague of rats. These rats have increased with such rapidity as to form a veritable army, displaying the utmost daring and cunning and fearing neither light or noise. Every morning some unfortunate soldier finds either the harness of his horse gnawed into morsels, or discovers the buttons left as the sole relics of his trousers. To keep their bread safe for breakfast, the troopers are obliged during the night to hang their leaves over their beds by a string, and are then often awakened by the cord falling on them, a rat having gnawed the cord in two. A price is set on the head of each rat, but the depredators give battle generally, successfully to the fiercest dogs.

DEATH OF THE MOTHER GENERAL OF THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME.—The congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame mourns the loss of their Superior-General. On Monday, the 25th of October, the Reverend Mother Constantine, 5th Superior-General of the Order, departed this life at Namur, in the 74th year of her age, the 52nd of her religious profession and the 33rd of her generalate. A week before her death, she received all the last rites of the Church at the hands of Mgr. Gravez, the Bishop of Namur. The late Mother-General entered the Order of Notre Dame in 1824, and after passing some years in the Convent of Jumet, she was recalled to the Mother House, where she became, first the local Superioress, and then the Mother-General of the congregation. Few have had the privilege of doing as much as she has done for the education of all classes, but especially of the poor. She added sixty-six houses of education to those already existing under the Sisters of Notre Dame, twenty-four of those were founded in Belgium, seventeen in England, and twenty-five in America, including the convents of California and Guatemala. England owes its communities of Notre Dame entirely to her, for the first Colony of the Sisters was sent to Cornwall by Reverend Mother Constantine thirty years ago. The government of the late Mother-General was characterised by its prudence and decision no less than by its generous light heartedness and its maternal kindness. She united in a rare degree the two qualities which form the ideal of all wise direction, firmness and gentleness, and in her the Superior was never separated from the Mother. Indefatigable in her labours, she was able until the end of her long and useful life to grasp every detail of the vast administration at the head of which Divine Providence had placed her. Although her health had been failing for years, her courage never gave way and she may be said to have died at her post, and in the midst of her work. On the very day before her death she was able to converse with the Bishop of Liege, an old and valued friend of her congregation. Her task was done, her course was accomplished, and her sorrowing children, even in that hour of separation, might well look up through their tears to the home where she shall reap after all her labours such an exceeding great reward!—L'Amé de l'Ordre.

SPAIN.

THE NOTE TO WASHINGTON.—Lisbon, Nov. 23.—Private accounts from Madrid state that the Constitutional party is divided. Some advocate abstaining from the approaching election. It is also stated that the majority of the Ministry disapproved of the reply of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Washington note, which was regarded as too moderate. It is understood that the reply, as finally delivered to Washington, was drawn up by General Jovellar, President of the Council and Minister of War.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—Carlist official organs claim that Don Carlos has saved Cuba and the honour of Spain, his recent offer of a truce having caused the United States to modify their attitude.

GEN. SABALLS IN PRISON.—New York, Nov. 23.—The Paris *Liberte* received here by the last European mail says that Don Carlos was on October 22nd in a house in the village of Ebulain, about ten miles from Pampeluna. At two o'clock in the afternoon Gen. Saballs arrived in a carriage accompanied by Mayor Bernuy, who continues to intervene in the most flagrant manner in the affairs of the neighboring country. The French functionary obtained an audience of the Pretender and introduced Gen. Saballs, threw himself at the feet of Don Carlos, and asked humbly for a secret audience. The favour was accorded and the Prince expressed his great dissatisfaction at the conduct of the General. The interview lasted about twenty-five minutes, at the expiration of which time Don Carlos called the chief of his escort and demanded a squad of seven men and a sergeant, and those eight horsemen surrounded Saballs and galloped with him to Estella, conveying orders to the Governor of that place to confine him in one of the cells of the municipal prison and not to permit him to have communication with any one.

THE HOLY SEE AND SPAIN.—Rome, Nov. 23.—Cardinal Simeoni has informed the Vatican that the Spanish Minister of Justice has been appointed to negotiate with him on the subject of the Concordat, and an ambassador to the Vatican will be appointed by Spain when the negotiations are concluded. Cardinal Antonelli has sent final instructions to Monsignor Simeoni. It appears that Spain wishes to have an entirely new Concordat, while the Vatican is merely willing to modify some portions of the present instrument.

SPAIN'S ANSWER TO THE WASHINGTON NOTE.—London, November 20.—A special to the *Telegraph* from Paris states that in the Spanish reply to the Washington Government nothing is conceded to the United States, except that the accused may invoke the aid of counsel before court-martial in Cuba. A telegram from Madrid to the same paper says:—"So far as can be learned, Spain promises reform in the matter of the confiscation of property, but declines to adhere to the treaty of 1795."

MINISTER LAYARD.—London, Nov. 26.—The *Daily Telegraph* this morning publishes a special from Madrid, containing the following:—"Hon. A. H. Layard, the British Minister, while passing through Bilbao recently, refused to receive a visit from Gen. Burriel, who is the Captain-General of the Province, and who, it will be remembered, directed the execution of the Virginius captives." It is reported that the Minister of State has remonstrated with Mr. Layard.

ITALY.

Garibaldi has returned to Rome and taken up his quarters at the Villa Cassini, for which Government pays the rent, near St. Agnese. The hour of his arrival at the station was previously announced, but his reception was very different from that accorded to him only nine months ago. How enthusiastic that was all the world knows. This time the only official that met him was Venturi the Syndic, and the only people that assembled to welcome him were the members of his own family. Before leaving Capri he wrote a letter to the Conte Guido di Carpegna, in which he declares himself a novice in agriculture, but an ardent lover of the art, and expresses the hope that some day the Krupp guns, and all other munitions of war will be turned into ploughs and spades in honour of human intelligence which will make men understand that they are brothers and not butchers, one of another; and then he adds, Rome will be dignified and adorned by the agrarian society to which he has the honour to belong. The Sozognio trial is the engrossing topic of conversation and speculation, but no foreign papers containing accounts of it or comments upon it are allowed to pass the frontier; not even those directed to the Chamber of Deputies or to the various Embassies, whose correspondence in general is considered entitled to special exemption and privilege. A dreadful state of infidelity is incidentally revealed at this trial by persons refusing to be sworn on the Gospels except as a mere formality and as not binding on conscience. One man would not do it even as a formality, which shows positive hatred of the Gospel. On being asked to place his hand on the sacred Book he said "No, I will not touch that Book, I will swear by the Constitution but not by the Gospel, because I hate priests to the death. The president actually said, "It is a mere formality, does not bind your conscience, and does not suppose you to like the priests." He still refused to swear, when the president gave him an *admonition*, but to no purpose—he would have his hands, ay, even his head cut off before he would swear by anything except the Constitution, and his own honor or his conscience. Whilst the president is taking notes the witness interrupts him by saying he does not feel well and must go. The president tells him he can't go yet. Then he says he is suffering from a malady called neuralgia, and that all Rome knows it, and he must go; "whereupon," say the Roman papers, "he was allowed to go free amid general hilarity!" This murder is a fearful tale which will take many days to unfold. The poor wretch who actually did it had no idea an hour before the deed of murdering anybody, much less one against whom he had no grudge at all; and he did not do it merely as a hired assassin, but was persuaded to it because it was for the good of the country, and would please Garibaldi!—Catholic Times.

TURKEY.

INSURGENT SUCCESS.—BAGSA, Nov. 23.—News has been received here from Slavonic sources, announcing that the insurgents have captured an important fort with all its garrison, which was commanded by Zubci. The insurgents have also occupied several strong positions in the vicinity of Piva.

LONDON, Nov. 24, 6 a.m.—A special from Berlin to the *Times* says that intelligence has been received from Herzegovina that the Turkish forts of Govansko and Hiciskic must shortly capitulate to the insurgents, unless provisioned in time. A telegram from Constantinople states that the Porte has urged the Russian and Austrian ambassadors to remonstrate with the Prince of Montenegro, because so many of his subjects are joining the insurgents. A despatch from Cettingo reports that the Servian envoy has returned to Belgrade, bearing suggestions which will serve as the basis of a treaty between Servia and Montenegro.

There has been plenty of fighting in the Herzegovina during the last fortnight, and on sifting the bulletins coming to us from both sides it appears very certain that the insurgents have achieved several successes, and that the crescent is in its wane. The entire Southern portion of the district is now in a state of rebellion, Gaba, Trebinje and Niezje are closely invested, and woe to the Turkish garrisons if one or another of these places should fall into the hands of the Christians. The struggle between them and their oppressors is not a modern war, but a regular crusade, in which no quarter is given on either side. The European Commission sitting at Mortar are reported to have come to the conclusion that the Turks will never be able to subdue the insurrection single-handed, and that an intervention will have to be resorted to in one shape or another. If this should be so, then for Heaven's sake let it be done at once. Just as Saguntua was lost while the conscript fathers of Rome were deliberating, so the noble cause of our fellow-Christians in the peninsula may bleed to death while the quill-drivers of the European circumlocution offices are trying to hit on a plan of intervention which is to make things pleasant all round, even the bankrupt Moslem included.

GERMANY.

The London *Tablet* of Nov. 6th continues its report of the Persecution of the Church in Germany, as follows:—

THE VICAR-APOSTOLIC OF SAXONY.—The newspapers which are assumed to express the views of the National-Liberal party are anything but pleased at the language used a few days since in the Upper Chamber of the local Saxon Parliament by the Vicar Apostolic, Mgr. Bernert. He has been specially selected for this post by the King, having been previously Court chaplain (*Kof-kaplan*), in which capacity he was much esteemed, and a great favourite among court circles. The Ministry introduced a Bill into the Saxon Legislature, the object of which was to bring the local code into conformity with the changes lately effected by the Reichstag in the Imperial German code. One of the matters with which the Bill dealt was civil marriage. In the course of the discussion in the Upper Chamber Bishop Bernert is reported to have stated that he was not on principle opposed to the institution of civil marriage so far as it referred exclusively to such "State" circumstances as rights of inheritance, civil legitimacy of children, &c.; that the State had the right to make legislative regulations concerning such matters, and the Catholics had the duty to obey, in so far as such regulations were not opposed to the doctrines and precepts of the Holy Catholic Church. Looking from the standpoint of ecclesiastical law, his Lordship stated that Catholics could recognize no ecclesiastical efficacy or binding force whatever in the new legislation; it was a purely civil enactment. The reservation by Mgr. Bernert of the rights of the Catholic Church has much exasperated the advanced Liberal section; they complain that to great is the force of Church discipline that this prelate, from whose antecedents every one would have expected "mild" behaviour, the very reverse of fanatical, is no sooner placed in the responsible position of Vicar-Apostolic of Saxony than he "shows his teeth" and acts like a mere "member of the Roman Catholic hierarchy," as soon as "there is a question of any antagonism between Church law and State legislation." And yet a little reflection should have warned the editor of *e.g.*, the Berlin journal, the *National Zeitung*, that a Catholic Bishop is only doing his duty in thus acting. The Prussian Government itself views civil marriage in a similar way. It requires all military persons, without exception, to follow civil marriage by the religious rite; even school teachers have been dismissed the service for presuming to act otherwise. Why is it that, notwithstanding the very strained relations between Church and State in Prussia, nevertheless the civil marriage law has been for thirteen months in operation in the Prussian provinces without giving rise to any conflict be-

tween the Bishops and the authorities of the State?

THE BISHOP OF LIMBURG (NASSAU).—On Monday, October 11th, the "public officer" appeared at the residence of the Bishop of Limburg to seize furniture or other property, to meet fines amounting to 600 marks (£30). On Tuesday, October 19th, a further notice was served on the Bishop calling upon him to pay an additional sum of 1,110 marks (£55). On the 23rd he was honoured with a fresh summons from the Provincial Government, demanding 460 marks (£20) for not having previously filled up the parish of Werschban, and threatening him with a further fine of 500 marks (£25) unless the parish be filled up before 20th November. The *Nassauer Bot* observes: "One would imagine on hearing of these successive fines that our venerable Bishop had become in his old age quite a millionaire or a large capitalist at least."

BOHN.—Some time since it was announced that the Prussian Government had resolved to close the Catholic Theological College (*Conventorium*), or residence for students frequenting the lectures of the Catholic theological faculty at the University of Bonn. The authorities of the university made representations on the subject direct to Berlin, and the result is that Dr. Falck has postponed indefinitely the suppression of the college. There ought to be in the establishment 40 whole and 20 half free places; but owing to the rise in price of everything there are actually only 30 of each kind. The Minister has placed the sum of 3,000 marks at the disposal of the university authorities, to be distributed among deserving students of the college, who are not in the enjoyment of free places. Herr Peter Hauptmann received from the Pope the Order of Pius. He applied through the regular channel for permission to wear it. Not receiving a favourable reply he applied direct to Count Eulenberg, the Minister of the Interior, requesting an unofficial prayer to be addressed to the King. This was in August. Herr Hauptmann has just received his answer. The Minister refuses to allow him to wear the Papal decoration.

CARDINAL LEDOCHOWSKI.—Various rumours have been afloat with reference to the possible curtailment of the period of imprisonment which the Cardinal Archbishop of Posen is undergoing. If one may credit the statements of the leading national Liberal journals no such good fortune is to be looked for. Further, they declare that the Prussian Government has already determined that "Count Ledochowski shall, upon his release from captivity, be interned in a city outside the province of Posen. Already arrangements have been made, so that from the beginning strict watchfulness shall be employed with regard to the Count, so as to preclude all possibility of his repeating the conduct of Martin of Paderborn." The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, however, declares that such assurances have no foundation.

BAVARIA.—In the course of the late debates on the address to the King in the Bavarian Chamber the Minister von Lutz declared that the clergy and Episcopate had used their influence to insure the return of candidates favourable to their own views. His statement being challenged he specified the Bishop of Ratisbon, von Senestrey, as having thus acted. The Bishop denied the charge emphatically, and called on the Minister to withdraw the charge or name his informant. The Minister has now published a letter, in which he accepts the Bishop's denial for himself, and the diocese in general; but he declares that the clergy of one particular diocese in the diocese used their official influence to favour the Catholic candidates. What a descent from the original sweeping charge!

NATIONAL RESOLUTION.

Whatever may be the direct result of the late demonstrations in Ireland, on public opinion and the Imperial Parliament, there can be no doubt that they unquestionably show the determination of the people to achieve the independence of the nation. Deep down in the heart of the nation glows the fire that feeds its resolution, and every manifestation of public feeling is but a flash from the great central fire, showing the strength of its throbbing and the force of its expansion. Its outer and visible light is the enthusiasm that inspires councils—warms and sustains the patriotic spirit in thought and toll—and inflames the mighty multitude with the sense of wrong and the sentiment of liberty. Its inner force can be marked only by the half impalpable perturbations that are felt instinctively as the bid feels the coming storm, and by the occasional outbursts of public feeling which show the latent forces that give significance and strength to agitation. What is called public opinion expresses in the aggregate the manifest influence which patriotic feeling exercises; but behind this there is the real spirit of nationality, which must be heard and cannot be suppressed. To anyone who has studied the recent demonstrations in Ireland, it will be evident that this spirit prevails everywhere—strengthening the national movement, and giving force and distinctive national character to what on the surface appears to be but ordinary agitation.

In truth and in fact, the sentiment of liberty is universal in Ireland—and what is still more important, this sentiment is sustained by a determination such as has not, in our time, swayed the masses of the people. Agitation no longer stirs the multitude unmeaningly, or aggregates them as a mere manifestation of the force of numbers. The multitude scan the situation and estimate their power, with a keen intelligence and a jealous anxiety as to possibility of the future. The Irish people are just—too just and too generous many will think, seeing what they receive in return for their confidence—and frankly offer to their enemies conditions, which may be honourably accepted on both sides, as a means of settling the feud of ages and establishing harmony, founded on equality. But the Irish people are by no means disposed to forego their right to resort to other means of winning back their own, should their just and honourable demand be refused. This we believe all can see, who will not accept superficial appearances for stern reality. This in fact, is the force that impels the Home Rule cause—and its existence furnishes the lesson taught by the late meetings.

Agitation everywhere is powerful in proportion to the force it represents—neither more nor less. When O'Connell proclaimed that agitation meant all talk and no action, he simply destroyed the basis on which agitation was founded, because he proclaimed that it was all show and meant nothing. This is an error that the Irish people are not likely to commit again. A new generation has grown up in the land whose spirit is trained in a nobler and more manly policy. It revealed itself—impetuously, it may be prematurely—in Limerick. It reposed in quiet determination in the calm but stern manhood of Wexford. It spoke in Meath and Louth in tones that could not be mistaken. It throbs for expression in Westmeath and the central counties, and will be heard in the resolute cheers of the men of Galway and Mayo before these lines reach our readers. In fine, throughout the land national spirit goes hand in hand with patriotic resolution, determined to do all, and sacrifice all, to secure for our crushed and trampled motherland the right to rule herself—to crown the brow that was bowed and bleeding with the symbol of nationality—the diadem of Liberty.

The manhood of Ireland has set its heart on this; and come weal—come woe—is determined to achieve it. The meetings held within the last few weeks, magnificent as they were as mere demonstrations—significant as they might be of the public opinion of Ireland—if Irish public opinion in any way influenced English action—owe their chief importance to the fact that they show the strength and resolution of the people. It

is well to talk of numbers in parliament, upsetting ministries—arresting legislation—and by general obstruction compelling England from motives of selfishness to grant the demands of Ireland. But this power would be of little avail if members in parliament did not represent nationality outside—and nationality not merely capable of expressing itself in returning members to parliament; but strong enough, and resolute enough, to counteract foreign policy, and be a source, not alone of instability to ministries, but of danger to the empire. Representing such a sentiment as this, an Irish party in parliament would be a real power—representing a nation, in fact, whether so declared or not—and we think we may with confidence affirm, that such will be the nationality represented by the Irish party of the future. The meetings furnish ample evidence of this; and he would be a poor politician, and worse statesman, who, knowing the materials at his hand—the force on which he can rely—would not, as an alternative, in case of the refusal of present demands, be prepared for the policy of the future.

These are considerations of grave import for the leaders of the Irish people, and certainly of not less serious weight to English statesmen. To the former they suggest the possibility of failure, and the danger of throwing back a people, excited by expectations founded in justice, on their own avowed and outraged feelings. To the latter, denial of the rights of Ireland can only mean the continuation of centennial hate and strife, which sooner or later must end in danger to, if not disruption of, the Empire.—United Irishman.

SAN FRANCISCO AS A PLACE TO EMIGRATE TO.—If

a man has money to begin with, and is possessed of good business capacity, he can undoubtedly amass a fortune more rapidly in this city than anywhere else in this country. Again, if a young man, coming from the east, brings with him such letters as to open a way into business, and if he once gets fairly launched, it must be his own fault if he does not succeed. But those who come here and base their hopes of success simply on their own merits—no matter how great those merits may be—inevitably fail. The market of capable efficient young men is overstocked, and many hundreds of would-be clerks, bookkeepers, accountants—really talented energetic fellows—are here out of employment, lingering on, hoping against hope, and ashamed to give up beaten and acknowledge failure where many no more deserving than they, have succeeded. Artisans, tradespeople, labourers, and servants, all prosper here, but in the professions and arts the supply of workers by far exceeds the demand. To servants especially this must seem the veritable promised land, for the wages they command are enormous, and the work comparatively light. A good housemaid, for instance, is paid from \$20 to \$30 a month; a first-class cook cannot be had for less than \$50, and "an *un vrai cordon bleu*" will command as much as \$75 monthly. Even a good Chinese cook easily earns \$6 a week, and the Chinese as is well known, will work for less than any class of white people.—San Francisco *Cor. N. Y. Tribune*.

GRANT AND THE KNOW-NOTHINGS.—Amid the present outburst of third-term talk from Washington and denunciations of it from the Republican papers a statement from the *Chicago Times* possesses special interest. It is to the effect that Col. Mosby, the original third-term man, is at the head of an organization in the South formed for the secret purpose of advocating the President's re-election, and that there is also a secret society, known as the "Anti-Catholic Organization," pledged to the President, which is sending out secret circulars to the leading men throughout the country. The *Times* gives this circular as follows:—

- NATIONALITY NO BAR TO MEMBERSHIP.—CONFIDENTIAL. Dear Sir: In view of the intolent, persistent, and aggressive efforts of Romanism in their avowed determination to subvert the Government of the United States, and destroy our civil and religious liberty, I desire to submit to you the following questions:
1. Are you a Protestant from principle and from choice?
2. Are you in favour of preserving constitutional liberty and maintaining the Government of the United States?
3. Do you regard Romanism as the enemy of civil and religious liberty?
4. Is it not, in your opinion, unwise and unsafe to appoint to civil, political or military office in this country, men who owe allegiance to the Pope of Rome, and who have sworn to obey him?
5. Are you in favour of maintaining the principles of one general, unsectarian, free-school organization?
6. Are you opposed to all attempts to use the public funds for any sectarian purpose whatever?
7. Are you in favour of putting into office honest and true patriots who are best qualified to fill the positions regardless of political parties?
8. Are you willing to be governed by these principles in your political actions?
9. Are you willing to unite with others who hold these principles; and henceforth devote yourself, your fortune and your sacred honor to the protection and perpetuation of civil and religious liberty and this great American Union?
10. Can you, upon your sacred honor, without equivocation or mental reservation, answer all these questions in the affirmative?
11. Can you furnish the names, ages, residences and occupations of the men who are willing to become organized under and be governed by the above principles?
If you are desirous of obtaining further information on the subject referred to in questions nine and eleven, please communicate with the person from whom you receive this circular. Please consider this circular, its contents and its source, strictly private and confidential.

IRISH MUSIC.—In a paper on "The History of a few popular songs and songs" in the *Saturday Freeman*, the writer says—"Four great so-called Scottish tunes are really Irish. 'Lochaber,' 'Maggie Lauder,' 'Eileen Aroon,' and 'The Banks of Banna.' 'Lochaber' was well known in England as an Irish tune long before it was adopted by the Scotch. It was composed by the Irish harpist, Miles O'Reilly, in 1654, and was carried into Scotland by another famous harp player, Thomas O'Connell, towards 1670. Now Allan Ramsay, to whom the air is generally attributed, was not borne until 1696, and the 'Farewell to Lochaber' was not published until 1726. Carroll O'Daly's exquisite tune, 'Eileen Aroon,' was purchased by the Scotch as 'Robin Adair,' and Handel said he would have loved to have been its author, as he considered the melody finer than anything he ever composed. 'The Banks of Banna' was written by the Hon. George Ogle, to the air of 'Down Beside Me.' The Scotch long coveted this tune, for, in 1793, Burns wrote to George Thompson, saying:—"You are quite right in inserting the last five in your list, though they are certainly Irish. Shepherd's 'I have Lost My Love' (Banks of Banna), is to me a heavenly air. What do you say if I put Scottish words to it?" Burns' words were, however, rejected by Thompson. In 1824 Thompson tried his hand at putting Scotch words to it, but failed. In 1851, Mr. Wood, of Edinburgh, gave it the words of 'Banks of Banna,' and it became immediately very popular. 'Eileen Aroon' was introduced by Boldieu into *Madame Blanche* as the type of a Scottish melody.

The following sale took place in the Landed Estates Court, Dublin, on the 6th ult.—Estate of the Rev. Samuel Raymond, Samuel Raymond, John Creigh Hornett, and others: *ex parte* John Smith, petitioner. Part of the lands of Moybelle, North, held for ever, subject to the yearly rent of £123 8s. 3d., and other part of the same lands, held for ever, subject to the yearly rent of £60, containing in all 458a. 0. 2p.; yearly rent, £113 14s. 9d. Sold at £3,790, to Michael Horgan.

Washington society is stirred to its depths because the Japanese Minister's wife has a little margin of exquisite embroidery about one of her dresses that cannot be duplicated for money. She cannot understand the bitter words spoken by the other ladies, but she sees their envy in their looks, and is made just as happy.

THE SUN AS AN INCENDIARY.—A Contributor to *Iron* notes two incidents of recent occurrence, which, in his opinion, indicate that some "mysterious" fires may have their origin in the action of the sun on glass. A few days ago the master of a steam tug in English waters found a large hole had been burned in the centre of the covering of his berth, and that the fire had penetrated to the bed itself, which was smoking. It was then discovered that this resulted from the concentration of the sun's rays by the glass "dead lights" in the side of the vessel. The grounds of a new mansion in a British town are entered through gates richly gilt and ornamented. To protect them temporarily they were covered with canvas. One afternoon lately this covering was found to be on fire, and was burned, one of the lamps above being broken by the heat. All ordinary theories of the cause of the fire failed to account for this one, and it was discovered that the globular lamps of the gate concentrated the solar rays and directed them on the spot where the canvas had been, and thus doubtless occasioned the fire.

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