

shall we speak of this desecration of the sacred mysteries of the Christian faith? How will Christians—Protestants—Americans—receive the project of exposing in the mockery of a French posture master, a mimicry of Christ's holy agonies upon the cross—for the diversion of the third tier at the Broadway? Will our people endure this? Will they gather, like another ruffian rabble of Judea, and shout, and clap, and encore it too? Will they applaud and cry in their souls enacted over again the horrible tortures at which the earth shook and the sun grew dark—at the sight of which the rocks were rent, and the dead started from their graves in terror? Will they have the crucifixion of the living God again, and look upon it with eyes of Atheists?

PAPER IMPROVEMENTS.—The Mercantile Library Association has recently added to its shelves a unique and valuable collection of the different qualities of paper now in common use. It was prepared by Mr. T. H. Saunders, who has extensive paper manufactories in England, and was designed to be placed in the Paris Exposition of Art and Industry. The whole collection forms a large and massive volume in folio, the only one of its kind, we believe in existence. The cost of its preparation is said to have been one thousand dollars. It has been presented to the Mercantile Library, through Mr. Saunders' agent in this country, and is on view at the room. From a glance at the specimens presented, we find that no less than one hundred and fifty-one varieties of paper are now constantly manufactured by dealers for the supply of the European and American market. The book trade conceives an amount which is almost incalculable, and usually the best qualities that are manufactured are devoted to this branch of the demand. The newspaper press requires millions of sheets, of different qualities, for its daily and weekly supply. The bank consumes large quantities, particularly the bank of England, the notes of which are always water-marked, and are never re-issued, but destroyed immediately after presentation at the bank. In Mr. Saunders' collection, we do not see any samples of paper manufactured from material other than the rags which have been the paper makers' standard of orthodoxy for hundreds of years. We believe it has been reserved for the United States to produce specimens of good paper from materials which, at first sight, seem least suited to such purposes. Attempts have been made, but thus far with only limited success, to procure a material for writing and printing from the fibres of plants and trees, but the use of forest wood has not arrived near the point of perfection, until within a period that is comparatively recent. The experiments of Mr. Beardsley in his mill, in this State, have attracted some degree of careful attention, though we are not aware that he has even yet claimed to produce an article fit for the uses of the book-printer. The idea of turning young fibres of common basswood into a handsome paper, has the merit of novelty, and if in addition to this recommendation, it can be made to possess the superior one of economy, it will be worth remembering that this work is not given up. Probably it has been noticed by all readers, that of late years the cream-tinted satin papers have come into use for books. A poet is held to be especially enticing when his sparkling thought is enbathed in a creamy, rich, suggestive page—a few lines of type upon a sea of cream, and a general air of pleasantness about the page upon which the eye loves to linger. Our book publishers are bent upon the introduction of improvements. Their policy is made to shape itself in accordance with the advancement of refined taste, and in it they doubtless find their account. Our books are more presentable than they were a few years ago, and the end is not yet. The next thing wanted is cheap, and at the same time, a handsome and durable paper, that shall wear as long and look as well as the English, and yet cost far less and be more readily made when the market needs supply. From all we hear, we incline to the belief that that event is not very far removed from us.—*Publishers' Circular.*

DESTRUCTION OF WEEDS IN PAVED PATHS AND COURTS.—The growth of weeds between the stones of a pavement is often very injurious as well as unsightly. The following method of destroying them is adopted at the Mint at Paris and elsewhere, with good effect.—One hundred pounds of water, twenty pounds of quicklime, and two pounds of flour of sulphur, are to be boiled in an iron vessel; the liquor is to be allowed to settle, the clear part drawn off, and being more or less diluted, according to circumstances, is to be used for watering the alleys and pavements. The weeds will not reappear for several years.

YOUTH THE PRISON OF GREAT DEEDS.—The greatest captains of ancient and modern times, both conquered Italy at five and twenty. Youth, extreme youth, overthrew the Persian empire. Don John of Austria won Lepanto at twenty-five—the greatest battle of modern times, displaying far more generalship than the greatest battle of the Crimea; and had it not been for the jealousy of Philip, Don John would the next year have been the Emperor of Moritania.—Gaston de Foix was only twenty-two when he stood victor on the plain of Ravenna. Every one remembers Condé and Heroy at the same age. Look at his captains; that wonderful Duke of Weimar, only thirty-six when he died. Banier himself, after all his successes, died at forty-five. Cortes was little more than thirty, when he gazed on the golden cupolas of Mexico. When Maurice of Saxony died at thirty-two, all Europe acknowledged the loss of the greatest captain and profoundest statesman of the age. Then there is Nelson, Clive, Innocent III. the greatest of Popes, was at the head of the Christian world at thirty-seven. John de Medicis was Cardinal at fifteen, and Guicciardini tells us, baffled with his state ability Ferdinand of Arragon himself. He was Pope, as Leo X., at thirty-seven. Ignatius was only thirty when he made his pilgrimage, and wrote the *Spiritual Exercises*.—Pascal wrote a great book at sixteen, and died at thirty-seven. Bolingbroke and Pitt were ministers before other men leave off cricket. Grotius was in great practice at seventeen, and attorney general at twenty-four. Aquinas was general of the Jesuits at thirty-seven. The history of heroes is the history of Youth Conquering.

THE IRISH PEASANT.—A CONVICT RETURNED. In the year 1848 a poor tailor, residing in the village of Ardkillan, lost a boister. It was stolen by somebody who thought it was less sin to steal than to starve. Two men were arrested and tried—one was acquitted, the other found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. To the authority in Australia this man appeared "a good citizen in slavery"; his conduct was remarkable—it procured him employment—he was entrusted with a gang, and ultimately with the duties of bookkeeper. At the end of three years, the authorities gave him his liberty as the reward of his merit. He was fortunate in the bush as a shepherd—more fortunate in the duggings as a gold seeker. He was last week in England disposing of a cargo of his own wool, and this week the inhabitants of Tulk were astonished by the anxious inquiries of a well-dressed gentleman, who wished to see one Betty Connolly, a woman remarkable for poverty, patience, and good conduct—he found herself and her children in a bog cabin—he saluted her with "God save all here—do you know me, Betty?" She eyed him calmly for a moment: "My own Johnny," she cried, and fanned in the arms of her husband. The scene that followed may be imagined—hope and joy tumultuous in either breast—the past a shadow dark—the present all in sunshine. This is not "a story written for the papers"; it is all true.—The man was in the way at home—in Australia he pushed opposition out of the way, and found means to assist several "highly respectable" Irishmen who were not so fortunate as himself. Amongst the Irish peasantry are to be found a great many of Nature's aristocracy. The returned convict is the owner of £50,000, and as many thousand acres; and says, himself, the wife is better than all. The story will be a treat to those who are sick of the Sudlers and Palmers.

News Department.

From Papers by Steamer Arabia, July 19.

We are enabled to state that Her Majesty has appointed Lieut. General His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge to be Commander in chief of the Army, in the room of Viscount Hardinge, whose state of health is unhappily such as to have induced him to tender his resignation. It is, we believe, beyond all doubt that no nomination would have been so gratifying to the army, and to the country at large, as that of his Royal Highness. The Duke of Cambridge is essentially a soldier; warmly attached to his profession, he does not interfere with any other, and habitually, refrains from the exercise of any political influence that he might derive from his exalted position. His Royal Highness is a Lieut. General of 1854, and is high up on the list; but even if this had not been the case it was obviously important to secure an officer for the chief command who was fresh from recent service, and capable of originating measures founded on personal experience of the present times, rather than on professional tradition of the past.—*Morning Post.*

The *Gazette* of Friday contains the announcement, that Mr. Valentine Fleming, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, and Mr. Donjuick Daly, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, have received the honor of knighthood.

The case of Arcand, an American commences on Tuesday next at Bath, before the Archbishop of Canterbury, who will be assisted by Dr. Lushington, the Dean of Wells, and, we believe, a third person not yet named, sitting as assessors. Dr. Phillimore will appear for the Archdeacon, and Dr. Bayford for Mr. Ditcher. Should not the case go off, as is anticipated, on some technical objections that will be raised, it will probably occupy the remainder of the week. We have made arrangements for a full report to appear in the next and succeeding *Guardians*.

FRANCE.

The Emperor's sojourn at Plombières, which is entirely devoid of state or ceremony, will not, it is thought, exceed twenty-five days. The journey thence to Arouenbourg is spoken of as a certainty, and the subsequent interview the two Emperors with hardly less confidence. The latter event bodes no good to Lombardy; for it can scarcely be supposed that the Sovereigns will meet save to agree in their views both on that and other questions, and that Austria either will, or indeed can, change her policy before the force of mere representations, or must be more than sanguine who can anticipate. It is reported that the French Bishops in the neighbourhood of Plombières intend paying their respects to Louis-Napoleon in a body.

With the Emperor and Ministers have also disappeared all our late illustrious visitors—the Cardinal Legate, the Duke Regent of Baden, &c. The former, after having officiated at a great number of the churches of the capital, and visited most of the religious and charitable foundations, paid his farewell visit to the Chateau of St. Cloud immediately before the departure of the Emperor. The Cardinal received from the hands of the Emperor, on his own account, the diamond cross which is *d'usage*, on such occasions, as well as the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honor; and, as a present to his Holiness, a magnificent tapestry, of the finest Sevres porcelain with appropriate paintings. I have heard it whispered that the Legate is not altogether satisfied with the nature of his reception, and the feeling given to him at the Imperial Court. Whether owing to his numberless ecclesiastical occupations, or other cause, Cardinal Patrizi has certainly not appeared to live with the Imperial family in the same intimacy as their other Royal guests, and as he may have thought himself entitled to do, when clothed with the full dignity of Legate *a latere*. Be this, however, as it may, his presence has served strongly to revive the rumour of a grand ceremony for the year 1857, and the coronation, at length, of the Emperor and Empress by the hand of Pius IX. himself. There is a report also that the Cardinal is the bearer of an offer to the Court of Rome of the two Swiss regiments lately raised for the French service, and now at Lyons, in the event of the French army being gradually withdrawn from the Peninsula.

The *Morning Post* announces the outbreak of a formidable insurrection in Madrid. "The populace were on Monday night in arms, and there was sharp fighting in the streets between the insurgents and the troops. At 10 o'clock yesterday morning the fighting continued; but, up to that time, the Queen's troops, under Marshal O'Donnell, retained possession of the city, and continued to make head against the rebels. The insurgents proclaim a republic. It is not known where Espartero is."

With reference to the change in the Spanish Ministry, the Paris correspondent of the *Times* has the following:

"According to a private despatch from Madrid, the first step O'Donnell was expected to take would be the immediate disarming of the National Guard, and that immediate insurrections were expected in the provinces. It was also rumored that Espartero would set out for Logrono. Reverting to the affair of Recours, it appears that immediately on O'Donnell's demanding that Minister's dismissal, Espartero went to the Queen and told her Majesty somewhat "brusquement" that she must choose between O'Donnell and himself. The Queen begged him to retract this requisition and not to force her to make such a choice. Espartero insisted, and then the Queen said she could not consent to the resignation of O'Donnell, on which Espartero declared his intention of retiring from the Ministry. It was said at Madrid that the Queen acted under the advice of the French Ambassador, for she personally likes Espartero much better than O'Donnell. On the whole, it is rather lucky that the English Ambassador was absent from bad health, for he must either have opposed the French influence, and thereby have damaged the *entente cordiale*, or else have silently and humbly sided with M. Turgot and abandoned all English traditional feeling and preferences in Spain.