

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

Mrs. General Sherman has received \$230,000 for the Pope.

CATHOLIC GOVERNORS.—There are now two Roman Catholic Governors of States—Nichols of Louisiana and Carroll of Maryland.

It is expected twelve Archbishops and Bishops will take part in the consecration services at St. Mary's Cathedral on the 20th, when Dr. Hannan will be created Archbishop.

THE SCOTCH DEPUTATION.—We learn by telegram from Rome that the Holy Father has fixed the 11th of May for the reception of the Scotch Catholic deputation.

DEATHS OF CLERGY IN THE UNITED STATES.—During the year 1876 there died in the United States one Bishop, eighty-nine priests, and seventy-four members of the religious orders.

ANOTHER ANGLICAN CLERGYMAN CONVERTED TO CATHOLICISM.—The Rev. John Frederick Fagge, Vicar of Aston Cantlow, near Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, has given in his adhesion to our holy Church.

AS PUNISHED.—Sacrileges have lately become common in Rome. Two shrines of the Blessed Virgin have been despoiled of the votive offerings, and lately the police arrested two individuals in the very act of robbing another.

CATHOLIC SETTLERS.—The Western Watchman says: "Quite a number of settling down in Kansas City, and all the parishes are increasing. Efforts will soon have to be made towards building larger churches."

THE ENGLISH DEPUTATION TO ROME.—We learn that it has been arranged for the members of this deputation to assemble at Duke Salviati's palace at 2 p.m., on Wednesday the 9th of May—the day before that appointed for their reception by the Pope.

ACCELAND.—The Bishopric of Auckland, New Zealand, some time vacant by the resignation of Dr. Croke, new Archbishop of Cashel, has been filled by the appointment thereto of Dr. Clerayre, a French priest of the Diocese of Wellington.

THE BISHOP OF VERSAILLES.—Mgr. Jean Pierre Mabille, Bishop of Versailles, is at the point of death. He seems to have come to Rome to see the Holy Father and to die. After his interview with the Pope he was removed to the house of the Fate Bene Fratelli, and having received all the rites of the Church calmly awaited the final summons.

CARDINAL TREVISANATO.—The death of the Patriarch of Venice, Guisepp Luigi Trevisanato, Cardinal Priest of SS. Nereus and Achilles, is hourly expected. He was born Feb. 15, 1801, is seventy-six years old, and has been fourteen years a Cardinal. He was created by Pius IX.

DEATH OF A CARDINAL.—His Eminence Cardinal Luigi Vannicelli Casati, Cardinal Priest of S. Prassede, Prodatario of His Holiness, and Archbishop of Ferrara, died in the Palace of the Dataria, in Rome, on the morning of the 21st of April. His death was most edifying. He was created a Cardinal in jure in Dec., 1830, and proclaimed in January, 1841, by Gregory XVI. He was born on April 16, 1801, in Amelia, and was therefore aged seventy-six at the time of his death.

THE PAPAL ADELEGATE.—A meeting of the Roman Catholics of Hulfax was held on Wednesday evening, in St. Mary's College, for the purpose of taking into consideration in what manner the Rt. Rev. Dr. Conroy, who is now on passage from Dublin, charged with a mission from His Holiness the Pope in connection with ecclesiastical affairs, should be received on his arrival in this city. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, and committees were appointed to meet on Monday evening next at the same place, to make arrangements for a suitable reception.

OFFERINGS TO THE HOLY FATHER.—We have lately had an opportunity of inspecting a choice and varied collection of Jubilee offerings to his Holiness, supplied from the well-known church-furnishing establishment of Messrs. Burns and Oates, of Portman-street. They comprised vestments of various kinds and articles of ecclesiastical metal work and jewelry, in many instances of a very elaborate character; notably, a massive episcopal ring—amethyst, set round with diamonds; and a chalice of the "Louis XIII." period, in burnished gold, most artistically chased in "basso-relievu" round the cup, knob, and foot, with various incidents and emblems of the Passion.—*Tribune.*

BRITISH SUBJECTS WHO WERE CARDINALS.—To the list of British subjects who were created Cardinals should be added Cardinal Fabricius Seceberas Testaferrata, a native of Malta. He was the first Maltese created Cardinal since the so-called Reformation. He was younger son of Don Pasquale Seceberas Testaferrata, Baron of Castel Cicciano Donna Lucretia del Baroni Delo Delmo. For his services to the Church during the French war, at which time he was nuncio in Switzerland, and settled the question of mixed marriages, he was created by Pius XII. a Cardinal Priest with the title of St. Pudenzia. He died in 1843 at Singaglia where he was Bishop, and was succeeded in the title of St. Pudenzia by his Eminence Cardinal Wiseman.

THE DUTCH CATHOLICS.—Since some time the Catholics of Holland are preparing for the Episcopal Jubilee of his Holiness. A suggestion has been made in some paper that the wages, or the earnings of one day, might be laid aside for the Holy Father, and immediately it has been taken up by thousands and thousands, especially by congregations of men. The amount will, of course, be very considerable. The leading Catholic daily *de Tijd*, of Amsterdam, has opened a subscription, which in a few days has reached about £800 sterling, and in the meantime the meantime the other papers also receive subscriptions, and afterwards send them into *de Tijd*. The same plan was followed for the first time some twelve years ago, when the amount of the New Years gift to the Pope was something between £17,000 and £18,000, and has been successfully carried out on different occasions. This time, however, the money will be placed in the hands of the Bishops of Holland, the disposal being left to their Lordships.

THE VATICAN.—The health of the Holy Father continues to be excellent, and the sciatic pains are less severe. Large audiences are given every day. The Roman Liberal newspapers are pleased to spread alarming reports about the Pope, and sometimes assert that he is moribund. That the Liberal journals should invent absurdities about the Vatican is no wonder. Baron Nicotera, in the Chamber of Deputies, this week, enlarged on the venal and calumniating propensities of the revolutionary newspaper writers; who for gain will insert any statements likely to attract readers. But it is surprising that the correspondents of London journals should repeat stories which have no foundation save in the wanton fancy of the concoctors. Dr. Domenico, Bishop of Alleghany, U.S., has arrived in Rome, at the South American College. Several other American Bishops are expected, including Bishop MacNelly, from Albany; Dr. Galberry, Bishop of Hartford; Dr. Henly, Bishop of Portland; Dr. Williams, Archbishop of Boston; and Dr. Woods, Archbishop of Philadelphia. Among those admitted to audience this week were Mr. John Sherlock, of Baha; Mr. Ayler, 16th Lancers; and Mrs. Ayler; Colonel and Mrs. Alcock, Stowell, of Kilbilly; and Captain Robert Aldworth, of Newmarket; county Cork, Ireland.

WAR NEWS.

Turkish vessels have appeared of Odessa to take supplies.

Turkish reinforcements continue arriving on a large scale.

The Danube, which has been very high, rendering any attempts to bridge it dangerous, is now falling.

Prince Edward Islanders are talking of exporting horses to England.

There is at present a slight difficulty between France and England on the Newfoundland fisheries question.

A despatch from Berlin says 18 Russian officers have been sent to take commands in Despatovich's rebel band in Bosnia.

The exportation of corn from Servia has been prohibited in consequence of the great scarcity in the frontier districts.

The Russians yesterday sank a large Turkish iron-clad in the Danube with Hassan Bay and a crew of 300 men.

The Porte already finds a Constitutional form of government rather a bore, and talks of closing the Parliament.

New York, May 13.—It is stated that the Russian fleet has received orders to sail on Tuesday, its destination being kept secret.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 13.—The Chamber of Deputies has voted an address thanking the British Government for their reply to Gortshakoff's circular.

RECEPTION OF THE CANADIAN PILGRIMS.—ROME, May 11.—The Pope received, to-day, the French Pilgrims from Canada and from Rhode Island. The Pilgrims presented considerable sums of money.

Telegraphic communication with Kars continues. The Russians endeavoured to obtain information by tapping the wires, but were immediately discovered by their eavesdroppers.

It is much remarked that the Russian troops passing Bucharest have exchanged their ordinary colors for flags bearing the double Greek Cross which are carried only when the war was a religious one.

A Bucharest special says only one man escaped from the Turkish monitor sunk near Ibrail. A Belgrade despatch says the first class militia have received orders to be in readiness and provided with four days provisions.

BUCHAREST, May 13.—It is officially stated that the Turks endeavoured on Saturday to effect a landing at Oltenitza; the attempt was frustrated by the gallant resistance of the Rumanians. Prince Charles has gone to Oltenitza.

PARIS, May 12.—The Bey of Tunis, who was summoned by the Sultan to send a contingent, has excused himself because of financial inability, but allow his subjects to volunteer.

The Russian Government is in a state of great anxiety with respect to insurrections; the revolt in Caucasus is not nearly at an end, and in fact is increasing, while an uprising is also on foot in the Crimea.

A Constantinople telegram says the inhabitants of Constantinople who hitherto have been exempt from conscription are now to be made amenable. The Porte is very uneasy about supplies of arms and ammunition which have still to come from New York, and is very angry with America for allowing the Russian squadron to remain in American waters.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—A Victoria dispatch states that the colonists are alarmed at the defenceless condition of the colony, with the Russian fleet within a few days' sail. A public meeting is suggested to devise means for safe protection, with the assistance of the Imperial force available.

A Constantinople despatch states that news has been received that communication between Kars and Erzeroum has been re-established. The Governor of Kars reports a loss of 30 killed in the engagement of the 8th inst.

Turkey is also not free from internal strife. Dissensions have arisen between the Government and the Chambers on account of the Porte's acceptance of the German protectorate of Russian citizens remaining within the limits of the Ottoman Empire.

Unity has finally been restored in the British Cabinet on the delicate question of Engoban's Eastern policy. The debate on Mr. Gladstone's resolutions was continued yesterday, but was marked by no important feature. Differences between England and Russia are reported to be increasing.

LONDON, May 13.—Official Constantinople despatches says the Russians having attacked on Friday in great force, a position occupied by the vanguard of the Turkish auxiliary troops in the vicinity of Batoum, a battle ensued and lasted 8 1/2 hours, resulting in the complete rout of the Russians who lost 4,000 men. The Turkish loss is inconsiderable.

A Vienna despatch says the Russians seem to be still feeling their way in Asia Minor. Delay can only be of advantage to the Turks, if they use it for concentrating forces in the right place. If the Turks can send out from Kars soldiers to ambuscade the Russian reconnoitering parties. It cannot be so very closely invested. Wherever the Russians have gone they have at once established their own administration.

Bad feeling here is increasing; The Turkish journal actually advocated the massacre of Christians. Mr. Layard has demanded explanations. There is great uneasiness among European residents, many have left, and others are leaving. The Khedive's actions are watched very distrustfully. It is known that he has been tempted previously by Russia, and it is thought, if the Turks suffer any important reverses, the temptation will prove too strong for him.

MANCHESTER, May 12.—A Rutchuk despatch of Thursday says it is plain the time for action on the Danube is near. The Russians evidently, under cover of overwhelming artillery fire, intend to attempt to cross the river at several points simultaneously. Notice has just been given that the Russian batteries at Guirgevo may commence firing on its town and fortress at any moment. Turkish fortresses on the Danube are well prepared to withstand the attack.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 13.—An official telegram from Tiflis states that after capturing Munster the Russians, on the 11th inst., threw forward two columns against Katsubani Heights, skirting the river Kintzisi. This strong position was stormed by the Russians, with the loss of 12 killed and 115 wounded. The Turkish losses were enormous, Katsubani Heights are near Batoum, and the Turks were entrenched in their position there. (The above is the Russian version of the same affair, which the Turks claim as a victory.)

Great preparations are going on in Russia in the event of a third Power taking a hand in the present struggle. All the fort garrisons of the Baltic have been made up to their full strength, and the army of the North is being concentrated along the shores of that sea. A force resembling in character the German Landwehr will also shortly be called out for the defence both of the Baltic and of the Black Sea shores; and it is intended to organize the companies in every Russian town, so that every man capable of bearing arms may be thoroughly drilled. The troubles at home are threatening to become serious.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. MacCarthy, M. P. for Mallow, is confined to his room from illness.

The residence of Major Maher, at Ballinakill, was completely destroyed by fire.

The Inspectors of Irish Fisheries propose holding a meeting at Limerick, on the 28th inst., to inquire into the state of the Shannon fisheries.

Mr. Pope Hennessy is gazetted Governor of Hong Kong; and Mr. G. E. Rushworth Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica.

The tenantry of the Ardagh estate, county Longford, have presented their landlord, Sir George Fetherstone, with an address of welcome.

The Limerick town council have adopted a memorial to the Earl of Derby against the Italian Clerical Abuses Bill.

A collection in aid of the Butt Testimonial was taken up on Sunday at the several Catholic churches of Limerick, and resulted in close on £200 being subscribed towards the fund.

SUNDAY CLOSING.—Alderman Cleary, ex-Mayor of Limerick, gave evidence before the Sunday Closing Committee, and though he is the proprietor of an extensive hotel, insisted that the full measure of closing was as little as the people of Limerick demanded.

The O'Donoghue brought the land question before the house last Friday, on resolution. A seven hours' debate followed. The mover represented the view of the tenants, that they have not adequate protection for their industry; but the Government saw no necessity for fresh legislation.

MR. GLADSTONE.—Somebody is always saying something about Mr. Gladstone, and somebody is always writing to him about that somebody. The last rumour is that he had pledged himself to Home Rule, and the last postcard from him contains a denial of the rumour. What next?

MAJOR O'GORMAN.—Joy reigns in the House of Commons at the safe return, after his illness, of Major O'Gorman. The hon. gentleman looked as healthy and jovial as ever, and the whole assembly gave him a hearty reception as he ascended to his elevated seat under the gallery. His voice of "rolling thunder" will be heard from hence.

TROUBLES.—Mr. Mitchell Henry and Mr. A. M. Sullivan have retired from the Home Rule Parliamentary Committee. Mr. Philip Callan is the *let-noir*, and they decline his company. The Irish party in the House are likely to suffer from greater disunion, unless the member for Dundalk can be restrained in manner and speech.

THE REPRESENTATION OF TIPPERARY.—Quite a host of names are mentioned in connection with the vacancy in this county. Amongst them are those of Mr. Stephen Lanigan, D. L., Glenagill, Templemore; Mr. E. St. John Brenon, Crosshwaite-park, Kingstown; Mr. Jerome J. Guery, J. P., Cashel; and Alderman M'Sweeney.

THE PROTESTANT CHURCH.—Dr. Alexander, Bishop of Derry, in a letter to the Primate, announced his withdrawal from the Synod: his reason being that that body has adopted the "Form of Preface, according to resolutions of 1875-76," whereby contradictory doctrines are permitted to be held and taught by the Irish Protestant clergy.

MR. A. M. SULLIVAN AND MR. CALLAN.—Mr. A. M. Sullivan has, I understand, been invited to contribute to the *Nineteenth Century*, a paper on Home Rule. The intermediary between the editor and the desired contributor was a well-known dignitary of one of the Churches, who occasionally discourses through the pages of a magazine.—*Mayfair.*

NEW ORPHANAGE.—The foundations are being laid for the building of a new orphanage institution, which will cost £4,000, at Dowth, county Meath. Mr. Ashlin, of Dublin, is the architect, and the contractors are the well-known and eminent firm of Hammond Brothers, Sheephouse. The works will be carried out under the supervision of Mr. P. J. Dodd, architect, Drogheda, and the entire expense is to be borne by the trustees of the Netterville Institution.

LETTERKENNY.—A striking evidence (says the *Freeman*) of the advancement of education in Letterkenney is furnished by the announcement made by the Commissioners of National Education a few days ago—viz., that the first Carlisle and Blake premium for last year was awarded to the Letterkenney Male National School, taught by Mr. Hugh O'Donnell, and under the management of the Rev. F. W. Gallagher, administrator. 1,300 schools completed.

MR. PARNELL AND MR. BIGGAR.—A Central News telegram says—"We understand that the Cabinet has had under its consideration the conduct of Messrs. Biggar and Parnell in obstructing public business during the present session, and has arrived at the conclusion that in consequence of the standing order, which prohibits opposed business after half-past twelve, no steps can be taken at present, but the Ministers have determined that under no circumstances will they submit to the half-past twelve limit in future."

THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—The beginning made by the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language promises complete success. From the prompt and hearty support offered the society by men of all creeds and classes, it is evident that the undertaking will make the most rapid and satisfactory progress. Subscriptions are pouring into the treasurer's hands by every post; branch clubs are starting up in several localities; and the Irish press, with one exception, unworthy of notice, is cordially assisting in the good work of preserving the old tongue of our fathers.—*Irishman.*

NEW UNIVERSITY.—At a meeting of the Roscommon board of guardians, the petition of the Dublin corporation in favour of Mr. Butt's University Bill having been handed in, the chairman said the usual course in such cases was for some gentlemen to give notice of motion on the subject, in order that the matter might be discussed by a large board. Mr. Bagot thought the education question could hardly be considered poor-law business. The chairman said the government made it poor-law business when they asked the unions to become contributory. Mr. L. Kelly gave notice that he would move, on the 28th inst., that the board adopt a petition in favour of Mr. Butt's University Bill.

VALUE OF LAND IN IRELAND.—A parliamentary return has recently been issued from the Landed Estates Court containing returns showing the landed estates held either in fee, fee-farms, for lives renewable forever, or for terms of which 60 years shall be unexpired, sold in the Landed Estates Courts since 1865. From these returns it appears that the average number of years' purchase obtained through Ireland for the estate classified above was in 1865 20 years' purchase; in '66, 20 1/2; in '67, 21; in '68, 22 1/2; in '69, 31 1/2; in '70, 20 1/2; in '71, 23 1/2; in '72, 22 1/2; in '73, 22 1/2; in '74, 20 1/2; in '75, 22 1/2. The amount properly sold in the Landed Estates Courts is yearly diminishing; the purchase money of the property sold in 1873, being in round numbers about a million and a quarter pounds; in '74, about nine hundred thousand; and in '75, about eight hundred thousand. The largest sale of recent years was the Waterford estates in the County Londonderry. It was sold in 1862; its rental was £14,912; its Poor Law valuation was £18,155; and the purchase money £431,418; being a rate of 30 years on the rental and 23 1/2 on the valuation.

GENERAL NEWS.

AUSTRIA.—Austria and Spain have published declarations of neutrality.

LONDON.—London despatches announce the death of Lord Erskine and the Marchioness of Lothian.

GLASGOW, May 13.—The shipbuilders' lockout will affect 25,000 to 30,000 men.

The British Government are said to have authorized a banking firm in Pera to purchase 100,000 head of cattle.

The report that English officers had been sent to select a site at the mouth of the Suez Canal, for military purposes, is denied.

Iquique, a seaport town in the south of Peru, containing a population of about 1,000 was destroyed by an earthquake on the 10th inst.

The President of Buenos Ayres has granted a general amnesty to all who took part in the insurrection.

An official despatch from Constantinople says the Russians were completely routed in an engagement on Friday, with the vanguard of the Turkish auxiliaries, losing 4,000 men.

The Bonapartist element in the Versailles Chamber of Deputies has become so unruly, a motion was made to restore the rule of 1849, giving the President power to suspend the pay of the disturbers.

INTERNATIONAL COURTESY.—A Berlin despatch says the Emperor William has received the French Ambassador and commissioned him to forward a message expressing the Emperor's good wishes for France to President MacMahon.

NO CORRESPONDENTS.—The London correspondent of the *Scotman* says there is good authority for the statement that to the present moment not a single journal in Europe has received permission from Russia to send a correspondent to the headquarters of the Russian army.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—A Victoria despatch states that the colonists are alarmed at the defenceless condition of the colony with the Russian fleet within a few days' sail. A public meeting is suggested to devise means for protection with the assistance of the Imperial force available.

TROUBLES IN SPAIN.—A despatch from Bilbao says the Government apprehending a rising in Los Encartaciones district has ordered the military occupation of and domiciliary visits in search for arms in suspected localities. A latent agitation exists throughout Biscay.

COLOSSAL STATUE TO PRINCE BISMARCK.—A subscription has been started in Germany for the purpose of erecting a statue to Prince Bismarck on the summit of the Hartz Mountains, the culminating point of Northern Germany.

An awful famine is raging in Chian. The last harvest was a slender one, consequent on the drought, and now that stores are exhausted, hunger and pestilence are exacting incredible sacrifices. It is believed that up to the present some millions have succumbed, and as many more must die before the new crops come in.

The dogs on Mount St. Bernard saved the lives of forty persons during the past winter. At the distance of an hour's march they can discover, through the wonderful sense of smell, whether travellers are on the mountain, and begin to howl as soon as they do.

The French war estimates exceed those of Germany by 30,000,000, in consequence of the number of officers in the French being much larger than in the German army. The total amount asked for was, in round numbers, \$110,000,000.

Australia, which at the beginning of this century had no more than 100,000 inhabitants, counts now 800,000 Catholics, and zealous Catholics. They have built churches, hospitals and schools. The first and only Catholic Bishop in the province resides in Sydney, but it will not be long till the Holy See shall have to erect a new bishopric.

CONTINGENCIES.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says the official contradiction of the statement that Lieut.-General Sir John Lenthorn Simons would be appointed Commander-in-Chief of an expeditionary force is correct, only because there is not such a thing as an expeditionary force; nevertheless, he is most assuredly thought of in high places, should certain things happen; and so of some other matters which have been announced; they may never come to pass, and were, at best, contingent.

DISTANCES.—The following distances will give useful information to the reader.—From Odessa to Sebastopol, 190 miles; Sebastopol to Constantinople, 340; Kostendji, 240, and to Sinope, 200; Constantinople to Sinope, 250, and to Erzeroum, 690 miles; Sinope to Tanager, on the Sea of Azov, 420 miles; Erzeroum to Tanager, 500 miles; Erzeroum to Batoum, 80 miles.

COFFEE.—The discovery of its use as a beverage is ascribed to the superior of a monastery in Arabia, who, desirous of preventing the monks from sleeping in their nocturnal services, made them drink of the infusion of coffee, after hearing the reports of shepherds who observed that their flocks were more lively after browsing on the fruit of that plant. Its reputation spread through the adjacent countries, and in about 200 years it had reached Paris. A single plant, brought there in 1714, became the parent stock of all the French coffee plantations in the West Indies, and the French and Spanish all over South America and the West Indies. The extent of the consumption now can hardly be realised.

The idea has recently occurred to some French gentlemen of starting a national subscription for the repurchase from Germany of that part of Lorraine which was ceded by the treaty of 1871; and it has already become necessary to warn the public against certain persons, who have constituted themselves collectors, but do not deem it necessary to account for the funds entrusted to them. Meanwhile it has been suggested that before definitely organizing the grand Patriotic Association for the Recovery of Lorraine, it may be as well to ascertain if Germany is willing to sell the territory in question. Of course there is no lack of precedents. France herself sold Louisiana to the United States in 1803 for the modest sum of \$15,000,000, while Russia sold Alaska in 1867 to the same power for \$7,000,000. But European soil is not so readily sold, the latest transaction of this nature having been a very small one indeed. It will be remembered that the Prince of Monaco gave up the communes of Roquebrune and Menton to France in consideration of the sum of 4,000,000 francs. It is also within living memory, though the period seems far distant, that by the Treaty of June 11, 1857, the late King of Prussia renounced his claims to the sovereignty of Neuchâtel, stipulating only for the title, and a pecuniary compensation, which was not paid, and the claim was ultimately waived. But the Prussia of to-day is not in the habit of concluding bargains unsatisfactory to itself, and even if the German Emperor's Government felt disposed to sell Lorraine, one may be sure that the price asked would be a far higher one than could be raised by voluntary contributions. The attempt to pay a portion of the French war indemnity in a similar manner, it will be remembered, proved a dismal failure.

GRASSHOPPER CLUBS.—The grasshopper pest has become so serious in several of the American States, that grasshopper clubs have been established with the object of taking organised action against this destructive insect.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

THE ZUYDER ZEE.—The Zuyder Zee is about to be drained, at an estimated cost of 133 millions sterling, by means of engines of 10,000 horse-power. The operation, it is thought, will occupy 10 years.

THE DISTANCE BEES FLY.—A writer in a contemporary dredged the backs of his bees with flour as they were leaving the hives in the morning during a very dry time, doing this by pre-arranged arrangement with a friend who had a fine clover-field in bloom forty miles away. The friend wrote back directly, "There are plenty of your white-jacket bees here in the clover."

A CALCULATING CROW.—A Scotch newspaper of the year 1816 states that a carrion crow, perceiving a brood of fourteen chickens, under the care of a parent hen, on a lawn, picked up one; but on a young lady opening the window and giving an alarm, the robber dropped his prey. In the course of the day, however, the plunderer returned, accompanied by thirteen other crows, when each one seized his bird and carried off the whole brood at once.

AMERICAN INSECTS.—The last Kansas traveller tells a story of a citizen of that State, who, while on board a steamer on the Mississippi, was asked by a gentleman "whether the raising of stock in Arkansas was attended with much difficulty or expense." Oh, yes, stranger, they suffer much from insects." "Insects? Why, what kind of insects, pray?" "Why, bears, catamounts, wolves, and such like insects." The stranger stopped further inquiry.

DEATH OF ANTIOCHUS.—When Antiochus was slain in battle by Centaretrius, the Galatian, the victor, exultingly leaped on the back of the fallen king's horse; but he had no sooner done so, than the animal, as if sensible that it was betrayed by the slayer of his master, instantly exhibited signs of the greatest fury, and bounding forwards to the top of a lofty rock, with a speed which defied every attempt of Centaretrius to disengage himself, leaped with him over the precipice, at the foot of which both were found dashed to pieces.

NATURAL BREAKWATERS.—A very singular feature in the marine landscapes between Terra del Fuego and the contiguous mainland is the floating gardens of seaweed that serve as natural breakwaters against the violence of the ocean swell. The scientific name of the plant is the *Macrocystis pyrifera*. Frequently it grows to a length of between three hundred and four hundred feet. It gives cover and pasturage to every species of crustacea, great and small; while the intertangled mass, swaying like a ponderous curtain in the water, effectually breaks the shock of the most tremendous rollers.

WILD ANIMALS IN ENGLAND.—Lord Macaulay, in his account of the state of England in 1635, states that at Enfield, hardly out of sight of the smoke of the capital, was a region of twenty-five miles in circumference, in which deer, as free as in an American forest, wandered by thousands. The last wild boar, which had been preserved for the royal diversion, and had been allowed to ravage the cultivated land with their tusks, were slaughtered by the exasperated rustics during the licence of the civil war. The last wolf that roamed in Great Britain was slain in Scotland a short time before the close of the reign of Charles II.

ONE SWALLOW DOES NOT MAKE A SUMMER.—The frequent appearance of single swallows on the verge of summer many days before the general arrival of the tribe, has given rise to this common proverb. They seem as if, like Noah's dove, they were despatched from the main body to spy and report on the appearance of the earth, or to find the longitude or latitude of their flight. A diligent observer of nature assures us that the first of these scouts to arrive at the old haunt of a colony will remain, as it were, to take and keep possession; and that a second and third will arrive, but after a short time will go away again, doubtless to convey intelligence to the main body of the state in which matters are before they attempt their general migration.

A TAMM SKA-GULL.—Many years ago, a Mr. Scott, of Benholm, near Montrose, accidentally caught a sea-gull, whose wings he cut, and he placed it in his garden. The bird remained in that situation for several years, and being kindly treated, became so familiar as to come at a call to be fed at the kitchen door. It was known by the name of Willie. This bird became at last so tame that no pains were taken to preserve it, and its wings have grown to full length, it flew away, joined the other gulls on the beach, and came back from time to time to pay a visit to the house. When its companions left the country at the usual season, Willie accompanied them, much to the regret of the family. To their joy, however, it returned next season; and with its usual familiarity came to its old haunt, where it was welcomed and fed liberally. In this way it went and returned for forty years without intermission, and kept up its acquaintance in the most cordial manner, for while in the country, it visited them almost daily, answered to its name like any domestic animal, and at almost out of the hand. One year, however, very near the period of its final disappearance—Willie did not pay his respects to the family for eight or ten days after the general flock of gulls had arrived on the coast, and great was the lamentations for his loss, as it was feared he was dead. But to the surprise and joy of the family, a servant one morning came running into the breakfast-room in ecstasy announcing that Willie had returned. The whole company rose from the table to welcome him. Food was soon supplied in abundance, and Willie with his usual frankness eat of it in the most hearty manner, and was as tame as any barn-yard fowl about the house. In a year or two afterwards this grateful bird discontinued his visits for ever.

CAMPOR WOOD.—The Camphor wood boxes brought from China and the East are well known for their strong preservative odour, and found useful in keeping away moths from woollens and furs. The China and Japan tree belongs to the laurel family, and that of Sumatra and Borneo is the Dryobalanops Camphora. Even the leaves and fruits smell of camphor. In Sumatra this tree is abundantly met with on the west coast, and is chiefly in the extensive bush, but seldom in places more than a thousand feet above the level of the sea. The tree is straight, extraordinarily tall and has a gigantic crown, which overtops the other woody giants by one hundred feet or so. The stem is sometimes twenty feet thick. The Borneo Camphor of this island is the most esteemed of any, and it is for this drug, obtained in but small quantities—seldom more than half a pound to a tree—that the tree is ruthlessly destroyed. When felled, it is divided into small pieces, and these are afterwards split; upon which the camphor, which is found in hollow crevices in the body of the tree, and above all, in knots or swellings of branches from the trunks, becomes visible in the form of granules or grains. An essential oil also exudes from the tree in cutting, which is sometimes collected, but is scarcely remunerative. On the west coast of Formosa, there are forests of camphorwood, and a great deal of crude camphor is shipped thence to Amoy and other Chinese ports. Large quantities of wood are sawn into planks, tables and cabinets, are then made of it, and this is also turned into plates, and washing basins; but only a small portion of the vast camphor forest of Formosa has been reclaimed from its wild inhabitants, and this consists of a few tall trees, the growth of which is slow. When a tree is felled, the part of the wood is given into splanks, the rest chopped small and boiled down for the camphor.