

our people, by forming their habits, by instructing them in the meaning of our prayers, as that in which they are to take a part, and by removing every external hindrance, and by applying every external aid which can assist them in intelligently joining in the Service. The application of this principle ought to direct your judgment according to the liberty which the Church has given you, according as to the chanting or reading of the Service. The question ought to be, not what we would like, but what would most promote the edification of the people who are to join in it, the answer to which may well be different in different places, though in all the principle is the same. Whatever makes the Service unintelligible or offensive to the people ought to be absolutely avoided. The reading of God's Word and the reading of the Prayers at a rate which the congregations cannot follow, or in a tone which is offensive to them, is in itself a violation of our highest duty."

On the subject of the Papal aggression his Lordship says:—
 "The most efficient mode of guarding against all this is to keep clearly and distinctly before our eyes the great corruptions of the Romish Church, against which our Formularies and Articles continually warn us. Let him who would conscientiously resist danger beware of tampering with the temptation in any form. I do not doubt that many recent converts have fallen from want of watchfulness, not only in themselves, but also on the part of their spiritual guides. Of late our writers have been unwilling to condemn Romish errors in distinct language; they speak of them as something mysterious, and think it better to say nothing about them. Their forms and modes of expression, which were originally orthodox, have now become identical with Romish corruption; they are freely used without an accompanying protest against Papal usurpation, while the use of them is justified by quotations from the fathers, which are the very quotations used by Rome, and which, separated from the context, seems to a reader who knows no more, to favour their faith. Again, the use of Roman Catholic works of devotion exposes us to several grave dangers. Error is here presented in its most alluring form; and at the most unguarded moment when souls are melted in devotional contemplation, or warmed by the influence of prayer and supplication, the heart receives readily what at a later moment, as it begins to cool down again, makes a deep and abiding impression.—Nor do the mass of what are called adapted versions act with less injury. Even if all error be excluded, there is a tone in them altogether alien to the services of the English Church, and alien to the Holy Scriptures tending to swerve the mind from that sober tone of prayer which it is the object of our Church, to encourage and to substitute a more exciting and stimulating style."

THE RURAL DEANERY OF LEEDS.—The Report of the Committee of the Rural Deanery of Leeds has just been published, and is a very remarkable document. Its practical earnestness will ensure it due attention from Churchmen, and all parties will recognize that its clauses are directed to afford benefit to the poor and ignorant. It is worth observation that party strife and battles about words have been completely silenced and put a stop to at Leeds, by the reality of the determination of the clergy there, to devote some united efforts for the good of the people. Dr. Hook of the Parish Church, and the Rev. W. Sinclair, of St. George's, are cordially as one of the present important occasion. The Committee consider that the length of the morning service is unsuited to the aged or infirm, as well as to children; and that this operates unfortunately in keeping the poorer and more destitute members of the Church from the holy sacrament, since they cannot afford to be absent for so long a time from their families. They consider, too, that some special efforts must be made to supply those who never enter the Church with the means of religious stimulus and instruction. They also desire to have a hymn-book of comprehensive character, published by authority. And they are most anxious to increase and improve the existing educational machinery, both for children and adults. For attaining these ends, they would recommend that the Morning Prayer, Litany, and Communion Office be regarded as three distinct services, and used, according to convenience, as such. They advocate that in addition to an increase of the three ministerial orders of the Church, especially of the diaconate (with deacons who shall be allowed to pursue their secular callings) open air preaching shall be practised. They suggest that the hymn-book shall be as comprehensive, doctrinally, as the Church can possibly allow; and, if published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, it will be within the reach of the poorest buyer. With respect to education, they conceive that no national system would be tolerated, either by Churchmen or Dissenters, which excluded religion; the religious element, therefore, is regarded as indispensable. But they would not force dogmatic teaching on unwilling pupils, or exclude from school those who refuse to imbibe such instruction. And they urge the attention of the Clergy to Mechanics' Institutes, and other similar institutions, as channels through which an indirect influence of a religious character may be conveyed without offence or charge of intrusion. In short, the pamphlet bears strong evidence of Dr. Hook and his brethren at Leeds being men of large sympathies and earnest purpose, and we commend their example to the attention of all ministers of the Church of England in their several spheres of duty.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER "AMERICA."

New York, Dec. 7.
 The *America*, from Liverpool, arrived with dates to the 21st ult.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Paris Constitutionnel*, states in that paper of Thursday, that private advices from Targov, bring news of a fresh and terrible defeat sustained by the Russians in Circassia. No details are given, but accounts agree in stating that the Russian corps of the Army was completely routed in the neighbourhood of Derbend, and lost all their guns—28 in number.

ENGLAND.—Lieut. Pica has already set out from London on his expedition to the Polar Seas, in search of Sir John Franklin.

The Schooner *Emma*, Capt. John Steers, from Newfoundland was wrecked on Verber Bank, on the 21st ult. The Captain Pilot, and ten men were drowned.

IRELAND.—The flood of immigration still pours towards America.
 A deputation of London merchants interested in the trade with Spain, had an interview with Mr. Labouchere on the subject of a proposed immigration to Spain. He promised the subject every consideration.

FRANCE.—The National Assembly was engaged on Wednesday, in continuation of the debate on the Municipal Bill.

An important seizure had been made in Paris, by the agent of the police, of a quantity of arms and ammunition, and important papers, relating to a plot by the Socialists, for a Democratic Socialist Republic.—Ten persons were arrested.

The law restricting universal suffrage will be repealed.

The *Constitutionnel* states that a flagrant conspiracy is on foot against the President Louis Napoleon.

The Editor of *La Province*, a Socialist paper, has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 2000 francs, for articles published, offensive to the President of the Republic.

Two steamers came in collision, at Marseilles, one of which was sunk and all on board perished.

SPAIN.—Accounts from Madrid state that the Spanish Government, on demand of Lord Howden, had pardoned 23 English subjects, who had taken part in the Cuban expedition. Several thousand stands of arms had been shipped at Cadiz, destined for Cuba.

ITALY.—It is announced as the intention of the Grand Duke Leopold of Tuscany, to resign.

ROME.—A correspondent of *The London Daily News* writing from Rome says, that the United States was about to be placed on an equal footing with Great Britain by having a Cardinal in New York; Archbishop Hughes was about to be created a member of the Sacred College.

New York, 7th December.

KOSSUTH'S RECEPTION.—During the greater part of the morning the streets through which Kossuth's procession was to pass were densely crowded, many of the houses were decorated with tri-colour emblems and flags of every description; most of the Hotels and large Stores were decorated in a gay and enlivening manner; on some of the flags were transparencies and mottoes—liberty of speech forever, in defiance of oppression or persecution. Hungary, Kossuth, and various other emblems are waving to the breeze, all breathing the spirit of freedom and liberty. Jennings's hat store is quite characteristically decorated; a large banner covers nearly the entire front of the building, upon which is painted an allegory representing Austria and Russia fleeing before Turkey, who defends Kossuth from their assaults. From Irving House are floating flags of America, Turkey, Hungary, and other nations, and in front are displayed the portraits of Washington, Kossuth, La Fayette and the Sultan. About 500 or 600 persons assembled at 9 o'clock on the steamer "Vanderbolt," at Castle Garden, by invitation of the Committee of Arrangement.

The boat in which Kossuth disembarked was surrounded by thousands of steamers, and sailed some distance up both rivers, and was received with repeated salutes as she proceeded along the different wharves, when she returned to Castle Garden, and Kossuth could be distinguished, by the thousands of cheers on cheers that rent the air, and the crowds seemed to put no bounds to their reception of the great Magyar. On the route up the Bay guns were fired from Governor's Island, and the Jersey shore; and on going up the East River as far as Greenport, the "Vanderbolt" was hailed with cheers from crowds congregated every where; at the navy yard salutes were fired from the United States ship "North Carolina" and frigate "St Lawrence." The battery was densely crowded with spectators and the military; and on the appearance of the steamer, General Morris's corps of artillery fired a salute, which was returned. The cheers were very vociferous.

M. Kossuth expressed his acknowledgements for his reception in a very appropriate manner.—*Colonist*.

From our English Files.

ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS—SINGULAR SUCCESS IN THEIR TREATMENT.

There is one department of human life, in which the conductors of a public journal find occasional compensation for hours of unrequited anxiety, and that is, strange to say, the department of human misery. It falls to our lot, from time to time, to make the humble instruments of inviting attention to that sphere in which the various ills which afflict man in his blighted and fallen condition, take up their dreary abode; and it is the consciousness we possess that, to publish the details of woe, is one untiring step towards its alleviation, that affords to us encouragement in taking up the cause of distress. A touching little pamphlet has been sent to us, extending only to a few pages, purporting to be the report for 1851 of the management of the Asylum for Idiots. This institution, it seems, has been practically at work for two years, though it dates its commencement a year earlier, which period was consumed in preparatory labours. The report speaks of the institution under the endearing name of a FAMILY, consisting of one hundred and ninety-five individuals—males, whose members are made up of the saddest elements of physical existence—partakes of that one blood wherewith God made the family of man; of it, yet hardly so it. These sons and daughters of sorrow labour, not only under severe degrees of mental infirmity and privation, but under the superadded affliction, for the most part, of an infirm or diseased constitution; the majority of them are feeble, several imperfectly formed, some are partially paralysed, and many epileptic, all to a certain extent limited in the use of their bodily powers, with senses sluggish, imperfect speech, enfeebled use of their hands, and unsteady or rickety walk. Such the materials, to the passing eye unpromising and dismal indeed, out of which the managers of this asylum hope to raise a home circle of not useless but happy beings. There are those who are conversant with the sentimentalities of misery, who can descant upon it, and dwell amidst the poetry of it, who are

In love with wretchedness,
 But shun the wretched."

Everybody who knows his own natural character sees and deprecates the root of this spurious pathos there, and he is therefore in a condition to estimate something of the toil, something of the self-denial, something of the shunning, something of the labour of love, that are exercised when the heart and hand of benevolence come in actual contact with such poor outcasts; he can understand how many glooms of hope are extinguished by the caprice of silliness, or absolute vacancy, which from time to time cast a black shadow of almost despair upon every effort; he knows what a demand upon the resources of the temper and the spirits is made by the tardy steps of even the most hopeful. To such the report especially addresses itself, and to such it will be read with sentiments of gratitude and admiration:—

1. First of all, to conceive of any change that has been effected, it is needful to know what was the state

of the family originally. Amongst those placed under the care of the board from the commencement there have been; 25 unable to walk; 114 unable to feed, dress, or to take care of their person; 20 epileptic; 12 paralysed; sixty-eight dumb; and 25 under nine years of age.

All the family, of course, were the subjects of physical infirmity and mental imbecility. The rule with the board has been, from the first, to deem no case *incurable, however bad in itself, and however burdensome to themselves, where there was the reasonable prospect of amendment.* So helpless and so unpromising a family perhaps was never before brought together.

Physical training has of course had the first place; which, as advance is made, is succeeded by that which is mental and moral. First, bathing, shampooing, and gymnastic exercises; then reading, writing, natural and Scripture history, singing and drawing, and music; also gardening, carpentering, &c. The result has been, as far as the limited time allowed for the experiment, absolutely good. Six have been taught to walk, and fourteen much improved, who had a crippled use of their limbs. Twenty-seven who were dumb, or made strange and unmeaning noises, are getting the use of articulate sounds, and are beginning to speak. Forty-eight have been taught to feed and dress themselves, and to observe cleanly habits. Twenty-three have been taught to read; twenty-seven to write; eleven to cipher; sixteen to draw. Some are taught music; nearly all singing, nearly all are in the drilling or gymnastic classes. Ninety can attend with propriety on domestic, and about fifty can attend on public worship, and have pleasure in so doing. There is order, there is the formation of good habits out of the revolting material of screaming, barking, moping, dirt, and destructiveness. In attaining this, several cases were placed under separate care, night and day, from hour to hour. There is health; a family so infirm and frail may be well supposed to need the tenderest nursing that a warm heart can bestow upon it, and for lack of which, doubtless, hundreds and thousands have fallen away to hopeless demeritation, and early grave. For the first eighteen months during which the asylum was open, much painful service, as may be supposed, fell upon the infirmary. But subsequently the change has been so striking that there is not a single case of sickness in the whole establishment. There is happiness: elements of buoyant happiness exist in the poor idiot. The report says:—

"The poor idiot, if wisely and kindly treated, is mostly disposed to be happy. Providence tempers the wind to the shorn lamb. Every advance we make in the care and education of this class has a sensible effect on their contentment and satisfaction. Care sits lightly on them; they are very open to kindness, and glad to return it; and even under privation they are often saved from distressing consciousness. Apart from the cases of positive physical disease and suffering, there is not a family, far or near, more contented, more cheerful, more happy! And this is so evident, and at the same time so surprising to visitors, that they commonly retire, asking themselves, CAN THIS BE AN IDIOT FAMILY?"

The benevolent promoters of this most benevolent asylum seem to have made out a case of pressing necessity, in circumstances appealing emphatically to feelings which must awake, in many hearts, notes too touching to dwell upon. What they want is a building adapted to the great emergency, aspiring to the character of a national asylum. Private dwellings are found inconvenient, incapable of being converted into the required accommodation. What is indispensable to success is separation and classification. An eligible site, half an hour's distance from London, has been secured; and a building fund has been opened, headed by the notice of a donation, by will, from Sir Charles Forbes, of £500. It is proposed to raise a model institution, worthy of the object, and to provide, at first, for not less than three hundred beds. £10,000 are required before it can be commenced. We are glad to make it public, and trust that "the blessing of Him who maketh rich, and abeth no sorrow with it," may prosper the undertaking. A poll paper has been sent to us, setting forth that the autumnal election of the charity was to take place on the 30th October, for the purpose of choosing fifteen candidates—the number of applicants, their circumstances, making up a history of human wretchedness of which it would be only needful to lift up a corner of the drapery that hides the woe of London from the wealth of London, to melt 10,000 hearts—amounts to one hundred and sixty-four; a large proportion between the ages of thirteen and eighteen.—*Christian Times*.

LORD STANHOPE ON THE CORN LAW.—The Earl of Stanhope has addressed a letter to the farmers of Great Britain, in which he warns them against the delusion that a fixed duty of 5s. on foreign corn would be of any use to them. His Lordship's idea is, that the best Corn Law would be that which would exclude foreign corn altogether when it is not wanted, and admit it freely when it is wanted; and accordingly he commends the principle of the law of 1822. On these grounds he advises the farmers to insist on their right of perfect equality with their fellow citizens, and consequently on the abolition of all the remaining restrictions upon trade, in order that, the ruinous character of the Free Trade policy being made apparent, the country may be led to clamour—which he anticipates it would not be long in doing—for a return to a sounder policy.

AN AWKWARD MISTAKE.—One evening last week several of the members of two dissenting congregations here happened to hold in their respective meeting-houses, the one a social and the other a musical meeting at the same hour. It had been arranged by one of the parties to add to the enjoyment by a feast of pies, which a messenger was dispatched to order. It happened, however, unluckily, that the pie-man's servant, from the names of the superintendants of both meetings being the same, entertained the idea that the articles of comfort must be for the meeting in the church of which she was a member, and carried them there accordingly. It was the wrong place, however, and the company could not for a long time conceive who could be the donor of such a seasonable gift. Meanwhile the other party, were wearying for their pies, and after an hour's anxiety their patience was so much put to the test that they dispatched a messenger to inquire into the cause of delay. Their disappointment may be imagined when the messenger returned and informed them that with the exception of the half-dozen pies he had in a plate, the whole stock had gone to the other social party. We learn that the matter was amicably adjusted afterwards over a very good laugh.—*Perthshire Courier*.

Letters from Alexandria say that a Government engineer from Malta is "exhuming the post-rate column known as Cleopatra's Needle." They add, "it does not seem that he is very sanguine of its condition justifying him in recommending the outlay necessary for its removal to England."

ORIGIN OF BANKS.—Banks, now so useful, were of Venetian invention; and the first was contrived about 1150, to assist in the transactions of a loan, and called the Chamber of Loans. It soon became the celebrated bank of Venice, and conducted all money transactions. The plan was carried into foreign countries; and the projectors being called Lombards, the great banking street in London is to this day called Lombard Street. Its celebrity led to the establishment of similar public banks at Barcelona in 1401; at Genoa, 1407; at Amsterdam in 1609; in London, 1694; at Edinburgh, 1695; and at Paris in 1716. The Bank of England is managed by a governor, deputy, and twenty-four directors, with about 1,000 clerks.

Mr. Behnes, the sculptor, has just completed a colossal marble bust of the Duke of Wellington for his Majesty the King of Prussia.

COST OF KEEPING THE IRISH GOVERNMENT.—A curious suit is pending in Dublin, on the part of Mr. James Birch, proprietor of the *World* newspaper, against nominally the Right Hon. Sir W. M. Somerville, but virtually the Earl of Clarendon. Mr. Birch has, it seems, done much work,—whether clean or dirty, does not appear upon the face of the pleadings,—for "the Castle," for which he seeks, but cannot obtain, payment. The Irish Secretary has put forth, as a shield against this claim, a demand for "a bill of particulars." The claim made is for £6,000, the work done is described as "operating upon public opinion." These peeps into the organization of the "Liberal" party are exceedingly edifying.

PROGRESS OF PAUPER EMIGRATION.—The example set by the Queen's County landlords in the Carlow Union, by sending out to British North America numbers of paupers and their families, has already been followed in several other unions. One of those landlords, Mr. Edge, published a statement, showing that he had shipped 140 paupers, who had been charged to his estate, at a total expense less by £112, than the cost of their maintenance in the workhouse for a single year. Arrangements are now in progress for sending out 1,000 paupers from the union of Nenagh, North Tipperary, where Lord Dunally and the other resident proprietors are co-operating with the Poor-Law guardians. They seem not to have the slightest apprehension of any serious inconvenience from the want of labourers in the district, whilst there are fair grounds to anticipate considerable relief to the ratepayers, from a diminution in the permanent pauper burden.

The *Liverpool Mail* says that, during her Majesty's visit in Lancashire, she expressed herself in strong terms against the use of white kid gloves by gentlemen in drawing room company.

The sexton of Charlbury, Oxfordshire, while digging a grave a few days since, found a bow-shaped Roman fibula, made of bronze.

DEATH OF DR. MAINZER.—Dr. Mainzer, the celebrated musician, died on Monday night, at his lodgings, in Higher Broughton.

TRICKS OF PHRENOLOGISTS.—The *Edinburgh Witness* states that a mischievous wag of that city on being requested by a German phrenologist to send him a good typical skull of a Scotch Puritan, sent him, under that title, the cranium of an Irish blackguard of the Cowgate, who whether drunk or sober, was always a good catholic, but who for the last twenty years of his life had never once attended chapel, or unbosomed himself in the confessional.

FRENCH OFFICERS AMONG THE KAFFIRS.—We find the following in the *Ashbar* of Algiers on the 30th ultimo:—"In the war now raging at the Cape of Good Hope, the Kaffirs have received the support of several foreign officers, among the number is a Frenchman named Parel, who served for a long time in Algeria as sub-officer of artillery, and was afterwards in the same rank in the garde mobile, where he displayed great bravery. After that corps was disbanded he embarked on board a vessel bound for the East Indies, which put in at the Cape. On learning what was taking place in that country, he repaired to Lita-Kou, a Kaffir town inhabited by a powerful people, to whom he offered his services, which were readily accepted. He has since taken part in several sanguinary affairs, and he has acquired a great ascendancy in the country by his courage and intelligence. He commanded the fortress of Makoy, an important position, which defended the principal defile leading into Upper Kaffaria. The English troops have several times besieged this fort, but, after losing a great number of men, were obliged to retire. This circumstance has given a high reputation to Parel, who will probably play a very important part in the war in that country."

FREEMASONS AND ODD FELLOWS.—Dr. Paul Cullen, who has recently been commissioned by the Pope to govern all Ireland, has just issued a pastoral letter, which concludes as follows:—"And here let me admonish you again, as I have done repeatedly before, both by word and in writing; that nothing can be more fatal to charity than those secret societies which have been, unhappily, propagated throughout many parts of the country. I have before declared to you—and I beg of the clergy in every parish to repeat the admonition continually—that all those who are banded together by oath in those wicked societies, under whatever name they may be called, and also all Catholics who join in the society of Freemasons, as has been repeatedly declared by the Roman Pontiffs, are subjected to the penalty of excommunication, cut off as rotten branches from the Church of God, and, if they die in this deplorable state, doomed to eternal perdition. It is a sad calamity that a system so pernicious in its effects and so hostile to Christian charity, should be tolerated or encouraged in any district."

A ZOOLOGICAL PROBLEM.—On the 3rd of October, 1851, and towards the hour of evening, one of the box constrictors in the Zoological Gardens of the Regent's Park, received a present of two live rabbits for his supper. . . . As he had not had any food for some weeks, it is supposed that the rabbits will be a very acceptable present for his serene lengthiness. The cool air of autumn is tempered by a warming apparatus in his saloon, but, in case he should wish for a still greater degree of heat, a blanket is given him to creep under, or in the folds of which he may enroll himself at his pleasure. It is not a fine household blanket, but a thick, rough, railway blanket-wrapper of the largest size. All his comforts being thus attended to, the keeper of the serpent-house bows and takes his departure for the night. . . . In the course of the night of the 3rd October last past, the watchman, as usual, entered the serpent-house. Walking round, and holding up his lantern to the different cases, he perceived that the box constrictor's "supper" was hopping about the cage in a very unconcerned manner, but, on turning from the rabbits to their proprietor, what was his dismay at perceiving that the serpent had seized upon one corner of the thick rough blanket in preference, and was drawing it down his distended throat. Away ran