

three times to drive away the fly—but in vain. 'Are you not going, you obstinate creature?' he cried out, angrily. 'Then you shall forfeit your life on the spot.'

He struck the fly with his cap. 'What,' he exclaimed, in astonishment, 'have I not despatched you? are you not dead? no!' Again he struck deliberately and forcibly.

'What can this be?' said he. He looked closely at the fly—he felt it with his finger—he shook his head, and put on his spectacles.

'Verily,' cried he, in the greatest amazement, 'it is painted—as I live—painted! Who did this?'

'Pardon me this innocent trick, my dear father,' said the Baron. 'To gain your good will, and to deserve the hand of Angelica, I became a painter. I did not wish to say anything of my intention until now, as I was uncertain whether I could succeed. I would certainly have made a much greater proficiency in the art, had I the benefit of your instructions, but circumstances made that impossible. I expect to be able to produce more worthy fruits of my labour, than these trifles.'

Concluded in our next.

### General Intelligence.

#### AN INCIDENT AT MOODKEE.

We have been favoured with an excellent authority with the following account of the death of Father Francis, a Catholic priest, at the battle of Moodkee. The event is the same alluded to by our cotemporary, the *Englishman*, in its number of the 5th instant:—"We have received the sad intelligence of the death of the Rev. Father Francis of St. Etienne, which most melancholy event took place on the 18th of December last, at Moodkee, during the first engagement of the British with the Sikh army. He was seen, just before the action commenced, endeavouring to animate the soldiers, and exhorting them to place their confidence in the Lord God of Hosts. When the tremendous artillery of the enemy began to fire, he went to attend her Majesty's 50th Regiment into battle. Catholics as well as Protestants were anxious that he should not expose his valuable life to risk, but the love of his fellow-creatures and the holy ardour of his divine mission were paramount over every other feeling, and, in the fond hope that he might assist the wounded, and soothe the last moments of some expiring sinner, he lost sight of his own safety, and, alas! he fell a victim to his noble sense of philanthropy. Two days after the action his lifeless corpse was found amongst the heaps of the killed, dreadfully mutilated

by several wounds inflicted on his head and neck with a sword. It is necessary to say, that when lately he left Loodiana, Government refused him every comfort, and that in consequence he was obliged to hire two camels for his service at his own expense. The same happened to him when he accompanied the army from Cabul, and when he attended the battle of Maharajpore. The Irish Catholics and many Protestant friends will lament the loss of such a zealous missionary, and will always recollect his wonderful exertions during the cholera in the hospitals of Kurnaul, Agra, and Meerut. We hear that Bishop Borghi has directed two of his clergymen to join the army of the Sutlej as soon as possible.—*Agra Ukhba*, Jan. 15.

We are delighted to hear of Catholic chaplains attending regiments of Catholic soldiers. The notice of this particular chaplain's heroism and good report among all classes will be particularly useful to our readers. We hope the example will be extensively followed, and that provision will be made for giving spiritual assistance to all regiments containing a considerable number of Catholic soldiers.

#### MALTA.

PURITANISM.—A letter from Malta, dated Feb. 24, says:—"We have just had a little disturbance here, caused by the Protestant Puritanism of our Governor. The Maltese population are in the habit of keeping fete on the three last days of the Carnival, particularly the Sunday. The Governor, being desirous of having the Sunday observed as in England, had this year prohibited the amusements of Shrove Sunday. Notwithstanding this prohibition the people assembled in great numbers in the streets, and particularly in front of the Governor's palace, where the Maltese regiment was on guard. Orders were given to them to charge their arms, and disperse the crowd by force. The soldiers having hesitated to do this, the Scotch regiment was sent for, and several bodies of police. The space before the palace was soon cleared, and a number of persons were arrested, amongst whom there were merchants, lawyers, &c. They were the next day brought before the magistrate, who ordered them all to be set at liberty, with the exception of two, who have been committed for trial."

#### AMERICA.

THE EFFECT OF RELIGIOUS SCULPTURE ON AN AMERICAN PROTESTANT.—The famous ivory Crucifix brought from Genoa to New York, has been exhibited, and created great interest, as the following extract from a letter proves:—"I entered the room in the Masonic Hall, and as I caught a