

## CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

## IRISH NEWS.

## WAR NEWS.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

**RETREAT.**—The annual retreat of the Archdiocese of Toronto commences on the 6th of August.

**RETURN.**—The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, Mgr. Guibert, has returned to his diocese from Rome.

**THE POPE.**—His Holiness the Pope, notwithstanding the prophecies of the Infidel Press, enjoys good health.

**HONOR.**—The Senate of the Ottawa College has conferred the degree of M.A. on Mr. McCabe, Principal of the Ottawa Normal School.

**ELEVATED.**—Bishop Gibbons will take charge of the administration of the archdiocese of Baltimore early in the fall, if not sooner.

**ANGELUS.**—The late Cardinal Philippe de Angelis was created Cardinal by Gregory XXI. Since his elevation Plus IX. has created 118 cardinals, of whom 58 survive.

**IMPROVING.**—The health of Mgr. Dupanloup is daily improving. A letter written by himself to reassure his friends arrived at Paris the other morning.

**THE IRISH CATHOLIC BENEVOLENT UNION.**—The Irish Catholic Benevolent Union of Canada, which consists of twelve affiliated benevolent societies in Ontario, holds its annual convention in Toronto on the second Tuesday in September.

**JESUIT FATHERS.**—The Jesuit Fathers, Quebec, have received permission from the Government to take possession of the old belfry on the Jesuit barracks, which is to be torn down, and the establishment of the main gateway which bears the monogram of the Society of Jesus.

**BLESSING A STATUE.**—Bishop Duhamel blessed the statue of St. Anne at Gattineau Point, on Friday afternoon. During the services in the church, a notorious character named Larocque entered and struck a man in the congregation. Considerable excitement ensued, but order was speedily restored.

**THE TRIDUUM.**—The solemn Triduum in honor of St. Anne has commenced throughout the Archdiocese of St. Anne. The concourse of pilgrims is immense; crowds are coming from all quarters. This province has been by solemn brief from the Pope placed under the protection of St. Anne; hence this grand Triduum, or three day's prayer amongst Catholics.

**CONVENTION.**—The fifth annual convention of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union will be held in this city on the 11th of September next. The number of societies now composing the Union is twelve, and at the coming meeting efforts will be made to induce all Catholic lay organizations of a benevolent nature to become affiliated with the Union, and thus increase its strength and usefulness.

**CATHOLIC PEERS IN PARLIAMENT.**—There are 26 Roman Catholic peers of Parliament: Duke—Norfolk; Marquises—Bath, Ickip; Earls—Fingall, Grouard, Denbigh, Kenmare, Oxford, Gainsborough; Viscounts—Gormanston; Barons—Camons, Beaumont, Stourton, Vaux, Petre, Arundel, Dormer, Stafford, Clifford, Lovat, Desfrenne, Howard, Acton, O'Hagan, Giffy, Gerard.

**NOBLE GIFT TO THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LILLE.**—A letter is published, written by the Cardinal Archbishop of Cambria to Mgr. Aantour, Rector of the Catholic University of Lille, in which His Eminence, after speaking of the extreme importance of establishing a faculty of medicine in that University, announces that there has been placed at his disposal the sum of one hundred thousand francs (£4,000) for the purpose of founding a medical professorship at Lille. His Eminence adds that he has reason to expect similar acts of munificence to follow.

**BAVARIA.**—The Bavarian legislature reassembled on July 2. All the Catholic members attended Mass at the Church of St. Michael in order to obtain the Divine blessing on their labours. The next day Herr von Ory was re-elected President of the Chamber by 78 votes out of 152, and Dr. Kutz was elected Vice-President by the same number of votes. This result completely falsified the expectations of the Liberals and mischief-makers, who had calculated with certainty upon a split in the Catholic ranks. But they presented a united front, thus showing how powerless were the manoeuvres of Dr. Sigle and his friends, and the little hold the *soi-disant* Catholic popular party has in Bavaria, at least as a distinct organisation.

**ORDINATIONS AT MAYNOOTH COLLEGE.**—The following gentlemen received the order of priesthood at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, on Sunday, 1st July: Revs. W. Cahill, Ossory; C. Kieley, Kerry; P. Smith, Meath; M. Bracken, Meath; A. O'Riordan, Cloyne; Daniel Lyons, Kerry; E. E. Butler, Ossory; J. Tower, Armagh; M. McGarran, Galway; C. O'Connor, Cloyne; J. Lane, Cork; J. Mangian, Kerry; J. P. Garry, Kilkilroe; J. Duan, Cashel; M. Hayes, Kilkilroe; M. Hallinan, Cork; T. Twomey, Cloyne; W. Dermody, Meath; M. Heher, Kilkilroe; T. Rowe, Meath; P. Corcoran, Tuam; J. McMahon, Clogher; W. McKenna, Clogher; P. McCabe, Clogher; John Cassidy, Meath; P. Agarty, Rathpoo; P. Walsh, Clogher; P. O'Doherty, Derry; J. Hassan, Derry; P. McNamee, Derry; P. Clarke, Derry; John Quinn, Ardagh; J. Pinkman, Ardagh; J. Slattery, Kerry.

**A SPLENDID TONOR.**—Accounts from Rome are still enthusiastic as to the effect produced by the singing of the Franciscan monk, Father Giovanni da Papa, who is declared by all who have heard him, to possess, without exception, the most powerful and exquisitely beautiful tenor voice ever heard in this planet. On Friday evening of last week he sang at St. Peter's; and as this great event was known before-hand, all Rome flocked to the great Basilica to hear him. Among the crowd of "great," as well as "small" people assembled to enjoy this wonderful musical treat were the Duchess Massimo, Duchess de Ceri (daughter of Prince Torlonia), Countess Cerasi, Madame Lorenzana, Marquise Antici-Mattei (a connexion of the Holy Father), Marquise de Noailles, Baron and Baroness Baude, and all the diplomatic body accredited to the Papal Court.

**DEPARTURE OF REVD. FATHER LOWEKAAMP.**—Revd. Father Loweikaamp, for a long time past connected with St. Patrick's Church, took his final departure from Quebec, for Boston, on the 20th ult., where he has been appointed to another charge, in connection with a very large church about to be erected in that city. Several members of St. Patrick's Congregation had decided to arrange a demonstration for the occasion of Father Loweikaamp's departure, which was expected to take place on the 30th ult. The Revd. gentleman hearing of this, determined to evade the proposed honor and, therefore, left by the Montreal boat on Friday last; several leading members of St. Patrick's Congregation, however, hearing of Father Loweikaamp's intention, went down to the boat to escort him on board and see him off. Amongst those present we noticed Alderman Henchey, Mr. B. Leonard, President St. Patrick's National and Beneficial Union, Messrs J. Shea, T. Shea, F. Gunn, J. Valdon and several others. Rev. Father Burke, C.S.B., was also present on the pontoon. Revd. Father Loweikaamp has been replaced by Revd. Father Hennig, an Englishman and a very eloquent preacher. The reverend gentleman arrived here on Thursday last, and also replaces Revd. Father Burke as Superior of the Clergy of St. Patrick's Church.

**RECONCILED.**—The feud, which existed between Mr. But, and Mr. P. J. Smyth is healed.

**DOWNED.**—Father Doran, a popular Parish priest of Dublin, was drowned in the Liffey on the 8th instant.

**BLANCONI.**—We understand (says the Limerick Reporter) that Mrs. O'Connell, of Longfield, Cashel, is engaged on the writing of the life of her father, the late Charles Blanconi, D.L.

**THE REPRESENTATION OF PORTARLINGTON.**—The Irish Times says:—We have been informed that Capt. Dawson Damer has intimated his intention of retiring from the representation of Portarlington, in favor of Gerald Fitzgibbon, Esq., solicitor-general.

**OBSTRUCTION.**—In the British House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr. Parnell (Home Ruler) having refused to withdraw certain expressions he had made use of, was ordered to leave the House and Sir Stafford Northcote moved that he be suspended till Friday for contempt.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARYSHIP.**—A rumor prevailed recently in Dublin official circles that Mr. Cross the Home-Secretary, will succeed Mr. Ward Hunt as First Lord of the Admiralty; that Sir M. H. Beach will become Home-Secretary, and that Mr. Plunkett will succeed Sir M. H. Beach as Chief-Secretary for Ireland.

**NANO NAGLE.**—There is reasonable certainty that His Holiness will, before the close of the year mark, in some striking manner, the virtues, the life and the labors of the venerable Nano Nagle, on the centenary of the foundation of the Order of Irish Presentation Nuns, a circumstance which causes great joy in Ireland and wherever the Irish race or that order is located.

**SIR W. GREGORY.**—The Dublin Correspondent of the Catholic Review says:—"I send you, as matter of deep Catholic and Irish interest, the proceedings regarding the departure of Sir W. Gregory from the Governor Generalship of Ceylon. All Galway, which he represented for many years, in the House of Commons, is preparing to give him a hearty reception. It is rumored that he has been received into the Catholic Church, but, whether he has or not, I can speak from personal knowledge, that a more thoroughly Catholic man in sentiment and feeling scarcely lives than Sir W. Gregory."

**VICTORY FOR IRISH RIFLEMEN.**—The annual contest for the Elcho Shield at Wimbledon, England, took place on July 19th and resulted in a victory for the Irish team, the totals being as follows: Ireland, 1,568; England, 1,464; Scotland, 1,439. The shooting was far ahead of anything shown in previous matches for this trophy, and yet it appears to afford American rifleman encouragement. The team that is to come to this country in September will be selected from the three teams which contended at Wimbledon, so that an opportunity is afforded those interested on this side of the water to judge of the merits of the coming marksmen.

**MR. T. A. DILLON'S SHIP-RAISING EXPERIMENTS.**—On the 7th inst. Mr. Dillon made his first real attempt at Waterford to lift the *Arena*, a 500-ton bark. The sail was lowered, well tightened round the wreck with perfect ease, without the aid of divers, in forty minutes or so, and in twenty minutes the air pumped into the sail caused the ship to surge, lift, and slip, and volumes of mud appeared. The strain on the wire cables on shore grew alarming, as the vessel was gliding away without any steam tug to hold her in. She is now free out of her mud berth and will be hauled out next neap tide. Although in her struggles she injured part of her sail on the port quarter, the sail forward retains its air. The ship is all alive and moving, extra cables being put on to keep her steady.

**THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF BRAZIL.**—Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Brazil and suite arrived in Dublin on the 7th July, and proceeded to the Shelbourne Hotel. That evening they visited Guinness's Brewery, and the Earl of Dillistery. On Sunday, at an early hour, their Majesties visited the North Dublin Workhouse, Glasnevin Cemetery, Nelson's Pillar, &c. They heard mass at the Carmelite Church, Whitefriar-street, and afterwards paid a visit to the Trinity College. When at Glasnevin the Emperor assisted one of his staff to climb the mound over the O'Connell crypt, directing him to pull a large handful of daisies as a souvenir. When he was being shown the statues in the library of Trinity College, his Majesty remarked to the Provost: "Many of these I do not know; but where is the statue of O'Connell?"

**THE MURDER OF MR. YOUNG.**—The representatives of the late Mr. James Young, who, it will be remembered, was recently murdered close by his residence at Castlerena, in the County Roscommon, have given public intimation of their intention to apply, at the next assizes to be held in Roscommon, for a presentment of £7,000 to compensate them for the loss and damage they have sustained since the murder. The claim is, of course, made under the Peace Preservation Act, 1870, and the notice issued recites that the crime is one of those commonly called agrarian or has arisen out of an illegal combination or conspiracy. It is stated that a number of cesspayers will oppose the presentment on the grounds of the murder not being agrarian. The reward offered for the apprehension of the perpetrator is now close upon £1,700, the voluntary contributions making up £1,200, independent of the £500 offered by the Government. Up to the present no arrests have been made, and the whole dreadful affair continues the same impenetrable mystery it has been from the commencement. Since its occurrence twenty-five extra police have been quartered in Castlerena at the cost of the ratepayers.

**DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT.**—A Mr. Green endeavored to hit hard at the Irish members. He said "pigs could obstruct." Mr. O'Connor Power used the word hypocritical. On being called to order he said he meant hypocritical: to which softening the rowdy element in the House answered "shabby." At the demand of Mr. Parnell, the chairman called the "shabby" creature to order, but his name did not transpire. At this point the chairman himself began to lose his senses. By name he called Mr. O'Donnell to order, at which there was a guffaw. Then the chairman joined the violent faction on the Conservative benches, for he began to chaff Mr. O'Donnell. Dungan's member went on speaking, or trying to make himself heard, in a deafening din of screams, hisses, cat-calls, and uproar. Mr. Parnell heard a member say in reference to the opposition to Mr. O'Donnell: "Let us see how much he will stand." After this observation the bed-lamites on the Government benches became furious in their interruptions; they were disgusting. One of them was heard to make the noise of one vomiting. For a long time the disgraceful conduct of the "worthy" Saxons continued; several motions, known as "obstructive," by the Government crowd, having been moved, and, of course, lost. With the most obstinate determination on the part of six Irish members, the Government was kept at bay until twelve minutes past seven, on Tuesday morning, when the House was counted out. "We would not deprecate nor deplore this outbreak of hostility to Irish members, because if our representatives are not lost to all honor it will inspire them with some spirit."

**DEFEATED.**—The Russians are reported to have been defeated in an assault upon Silistria.

**SIGRET.**—It is stated that the Russian loss at Plevna included 400 prisoners and two standards.

**MOON TROOPS.**—The troopship *Crocodile*, with 1,269 officers and men has sailed for Malta.

**RUSSIAN ADVANCE.**—The second Russian army corps has invested Silistria.

**IN DANGER.**—A few forced marches will bring the Russians to Constantinople.

**CALLING OUT THE RESERVE.**—Russia has called out the reserve of the Landwehr.

**BRAVE MONTENEGRO.**—All the forts near Nicosia have been captured by Montenegrins. Nicosia itself still holds out.

**REINFORCEMENTS.**—The troop ship "Euphrates" sailed to-day with 1,552 officers and men for Malta from England.

**ATROCITIES.**—The Turks are murdering the Christians without mercy at Kavarna, on the Black Sea, north-east of Varna.

**DEFEATED.**—A Constantinople despatch says:—It is stated that the Russians were defeated in an assault on Silistria on Monday.

**SHAIK AL ISLAM DISMISSED.**—Sheik al Islam has been dismissed. Great military activity prevails. Volunteers are everywhere enrolling.

**TURKISH DEFEAT.**—Suleiman Pasha was defeated at Karabunar, lost ten guns, and is retreating on Adrianople.

**CONTEMPTUOUS.**—Gortschakoff has notified the powers that Russia will not treat directly with the Porte. The question will be submitted to the great powers.

**SURRENDERED.**—An Ostroh correspondent announces that Fort Vir, at the southern entrance of the Duga pass, with a garrison of 60 Turks, has surrendered.

**NICOSIA.**—A Ragusa telegram says it is stated that all the outlying forts around Nicosia have been captured by the Montenegrins, and the fortress of Nicosia alone holds out.

**CHECKED.**—The Russian advance, both north and south of the Balkans, has been checked. The Turks claim a victory in a great battle fought between Shumla and Rasgrad since Monday.

**BLOWN UP.**—The Montenegrins have blown up the outworks of Nicosia, which they recently captured. They are now bombarding the fortress from all sides.

**FIGHTING GOING ON.**—Fighting has been going on since Thursday between the Russians and the forces of Raouf Pasha near Eski-Sagra, south of the Balkans.

**DESTROYING BRIDGES.**—The Italian Consul has advised his compatriots here that the Russians have destroyed six railroad bridges between Jamboli and Philippopolis.

**ENGLAND'S SCHEMES.**—The schemes attributed to England of occupying first Gallipoli and next Constantinople do not preclude the belief in early peace.

**EXPECTED FALL OF THE GRAND VIZIER.**—The fall of Edhem Pasha, Grand Vizier, is believed imminent. The Imperial decree appoints a court martial to try Redif and Abdul Kerim Pashas.

**IMPENDING MASSACRE.**—The consuls at Salonica Cavallo and Lagos telegraph that they fear massacres are impending, and call for the prompt despatch of help; 90,000 men are on the way to reinforce the Russian Caucasian army.

**THE DANGEROUS WAR MUST BE STOPPED.**—The barbarities by Mohammedans, Russians and Bulgarians no longer allows an unconcerned view of the position of the unfortunate Christian populations. Austria and Hungary are still interested.

**PEACE RUMORS.**—Peace rumors still circulate. Everybody is convinced of the resolute maintenance of an understanding between the three great powers. It is felt that the moment for action is approaching.

**BEATEN.**—Suleiman Pasha's advanced guard of 10 battalions and two batteries have been defeated, losing ten guns and a considerable quantity of ammunition. Suleiman himself remains at Adrianople.

**REINFORCEMENTS WANTED.**—The Greek Consul at Burgas and French and Italian Consuls at Gallipoli telegraphed their respective ambassadors here for men-of-war, owing to the excited state of the Moslem population.

**NAVAL ACTION.**—The Russian steamer "Nicholas" and two sloops engaged a Turkish monitor near Silistria; she was fired and considerably damaged and several of her crew killed. The Russians sustained insignificant damage.

**A MARINE ENGAGEMENT.**—An old merchant ship "Vosta" had an engagement off Kustenje, five hours with a Turkish monitor, which fled much damaged. The "Vosta" went to Sebastopol for repairs. Two officers and nine sailors were killed, and six officers including the commander and seventeen sailors, wounded.

**THE BALKAN LINE.**—A despatch from Kavarna, near Baljik, says the Turks are massacring the Christians without mercy. A despatch to the Greek Ambassador at Constantinople asks for prompt assistance, as otherwise not a man will be left. The English war sloop *Rapid*, with Austrian Lloyd steamers, left immediately to receive fugitives.

**THE MEDITERRANEAN REINFORCEMENT.**—In relation to the Mediterranean reinforcements there seems to be a general feeling among the press that the extent of the preparations are greater than required by such a comparatively insignificant measure as the despatch of a reinforcement of 3,000 men to the Malta garrison. One paper pertinently inquires:—"Why, as one troopship could, in two trips, take 3,000 men, should five troopships be preparing with feverish activity, and the preparation of the others—the Simoon and Himalaya, at Devonport—be in contemplation?" The London papers furnish long strings of items of military and naval intelligence, and, doubtless put an exaggerated interpretation on many events, such as the forthcoming regimental inspections, &c., which may be matters of mere routine which would pass unnoticed in ordinary times. But this shows the interest evoked, and, among the mass of news, some certainly indicates that the Government has an eye to eventualities.

**THE AUSTRIAN CRISIS AT HAND.**—The *Times'* Vienna correspondent, who is not only exceptionally well informed, but careful and not liable to exaggeration, telegraphs the following:—"The rapidly with which affairs in the East are developing cannot but produce a vivid impression upon public opinion in Austria-Hungary, and this impression is reflected in the press of the two countries. Thus, for some days past, the Austrian papers demand, with ever increasing vehemence, that Austria should take active steps. Meantime there has been an entire change of thought in Hungary. Public opinion, which at first loudly called for intervention in favor of Turkey, now demands that steps be taken to protect the interests of Austria-Hungary, without, however, indicating the limit of these interests. Count Andrassy, who up to the present has preserved a reserved and expectant attitude, will have much to do to hold up against these manifestations of public opinion until the moment when events will allow the Vienna Cabinet to employ a more decided policy."

**MANITOBA.**—The Winnipeg garrison will be totally disbanded on the 23rd of August.

**DR. DUNN.**—It is reported at Toronto that Sir James Ferguson the well-known diplomat, is to succeed Lord Dufferin as Governor-General of Canada.

**HAPPINESS.**—A St. John's (Newfoundland) paper complains that no public telegrams have been received at the commercial news room for three weeks.

**FRENCH ELECTIONS.**—The date of the elections in France has again been changed, the 14th of October being the day now fixed upon by the Council of Ministers.

In various parts of the country an unusual mortality is noticed among the English sparrows. It is thought the birds, in eating the potato bug, are poisoned by Paris green.

**CHANGE OF BASE.**—The Greeks have taken alarm at Russia's advances and are now beginning to talk of aiding Turkey, against whom they were, at first, said to be about to declare war.

**VALUABLE BOOKS.**—Some idea of the value of the oldest printed books may be formed from the fact that the contributions to the Caxton exhibition sent from Earl Spencer's Althorpe library alone have been insured for \$275,000.

**REVIEW OF ENGLISH TROOPS.**—On the 10th July, Her Majesty reviewed 14,000 of her troops in Windsor Park. The little army, according to the English papers, looked well and marched magnificently, the cavalry being specially admired.

**NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL.**—The *North Star* of St. John's Nfld., suggests the appointment of the Duke of Connaught, better known to us as Prince Arthur, as Governor General of the Dominion, when Lord Dufferin's term of the office expires.

**DEATH OF CAPT. JACK.**—The death is reported of "Capt. Jack, Chief of the Modoc," a somewhat famous successor of the original chieftain. He was shot and killed by his companion in a rude hut on the Snake River, Southern Idaho, during a drunken quarrel.

**PRIVATE JUDGMENT VS. AUTHORITY.**—The Bishop of Lincoln declares that certain persons who have forwarded to him a petition for the use of fermented wine in the communion are not fit to receive the sacraments at all, as in their pharisaic self-conceit they give their private opinions against the practice of 1,600 years.

**GOVERNOR-GENERAL.**—The Governor-General and the Countess of Dufferin will leave Ottawa on Monday next for St. Paul via Detroit and Chicago and thence will proceed by Fisher's Landing to Winnipeg, where they are expected to arrive on the 6th or 7th of August. The details of the Vice-regal tour in Manitoba and the Northwest have yet to be arranged.

**GENERAL GRANT.**—Grant at a dinner with the President of the Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation, in reply to a toast, said he was glad to be in a republic on that side of the Atlantic. He boasted of the kindly feeling which American people entertained for the President of the Swiss confederation and M. Stemmli, for the part they had taken in Geneva arbitration.

**ELOPEMENT.**—Lord Tempest, who has just eloped with another man's wife in England, lived in Racine, Wis., from 1857 to 1861, where he kept store, and did not enjoy the confidence or respect of the community. He had been exiled from England in consequence of his action in throwing his superior officer from the balcony to the parquet of a theatre. His father died in 1861, and he succeeded to the family estates.

**BUSINESS PROSPECTS IN WINNIPEG.**—The presence of traders from the Northwest tends somewhat to make trade good at present. Freight rates are light and several of the Red River Transportation boats have been laid up during the dull season. Crop prospects are looking better every day, and there is every indication of a bountiful harvest, notwithstanding the unprecedented wet weather which we have experienced during the last two months.

**RISE IN COAL.**—If the Railroad Strike lasts much longer the price of coal will certainly be advanced. The Pennsylvania Company has already notified the wholesale dealers of an increase in the price of Pittsburgh, and other companies will be only too glad to follow. Almost every interest in the country is affected by the strike. The July auctions of the Pennsylvania, Delaware, Lackawanna and Hudson coal companies are postponed.

**QUEEN VICTORIA.**—Queen Victoria is specially fond of Indian Shawls. The stone which is her speciality is the sapphire. The Empress of Russia has an unrivalled collection of turquoises and pearls. The ex-Queen Isabella of Spain has the most valuable collection of laces in the world, one of her shawls being worth £4,000. The Grand Duchess of Saxe Weimar is said to possess the finest set of rubies, and the Empress of Austria the best emerald and opals in Europe.

**WHAT JOSEPH IS DOING.**—Despatches report that Joseph is strongly entrenched in Lolo above Onofio and Camas Prairie Crossing. He is increasing his force, has nearly four hundred warriors, and boasts he intends to whip Gen. Howard and return to Walla Walla. Joseph is well supplied, and has stock secured at Little Camas Prairie, where the approach is difficult and well guarded. Joseph's camp is ten miles from Pierce City and no force can reach his rear without discovery and prevent his retreat when attacked.

**MR. GLADSTONE IN DANGER.**—Mr. Gladstone has just had a narrow escape from death. While walking near the House of Commons, a hansom, driven at reckless speed nearly over him. Just as the cab-horse was upon him, Mr. Gladstone, attracted by the shouts of the bystanders gave a sudden jerk forward, and he saved himself. Two or three members who witnessed the narrow escape remonstrated with the cabman for his indiscretion, and a police constable took the delinquent's number. About three years ago Lord Beaconsfield was nearly knocked down too.

**CATHOLIC UNION.**—A meeting of young men of Ottawa having been called for the purpose of inaugurating some kind of an organization the rumour seemed to have got abroad that a mass meeting of Catholic citizens had been summoned to form a Catholic Union, hence St. Patrick's Hall was crowded full of French and Irish citizens last night. The meeting was a most influential and respectable one, and throughout the proceedings, the utmost harmony and good order prevailed. Capt. McCaffrey was called to the chair, and Mr. J. Walsh was requested to act as Secretary. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. M. Starns, W. H. Nagle, J. Kehoe, Ratté, McCaffrey and Battle. The latter gentleman explained, as one of the promoters of the meeting, he had simply intended that the attendance should consist of young men. He also stated that His Lordship the Bishop of Ottawa would not countenance the formation of a Catholic Union at the present time, and hence the men wished to form a Literary and Benevolent Club. Each and every one of the speakers, having emphatically denied that the meeting was called to organize opposition to Orangemen, are bound to accept the statement. —*Ottawa Free Press.*

**VERACIOUS TROUT.**—A gentleman recently killed a large trout in a stream in Dorsetshire. On being landed he disgorged in succession a water-rat, a young duck, and a quantity of minnows. With all this provender aboard he had condescended to rise at a small March brook.

**A THREE-HOOFED HORSE.**—The hipporion, or three-hoofed horse, was the first representative of a family so useful to mankind. This animal in addition to its true hoof appears to have had two additional elementary hoofs, analogous to those which we see in the ox. The object of these, no doubt, was to enable the hipporion to extricate his foot with greater ease than he otherwise could do when it sank through the swampy ground on which he lived.

**GIGANTIC MALTESE TORTOISES.**—Dr. A. Leith Adams, F.R.S., formerly surgeon in the army, but now professor of zoology in the Royal College of Science at Dublin, has recently shown that tortoises formerly existed on the island of Malta equal in size the most gigantic specimens from the islands of the Indian Ocean or the Pacific. Their remains are found in the same caverns which yield the bones of the dwarf elephants so conspicuous in the extinct fauna of Malta. These caves also yield remains of two gigantic species of swans.

**CLOTHING THAT WILL NOT BURN.**—It is well-known that certain substances, notably phosphate of ammonia, incorporated in the fibres of tissues render the same incombustible, or, rather, admit of their burning very slowly and carbonizing with the production of flame. M. l'Abbe Mauran, says *La Nature*, has recently discovered that a mixture of borax, sulphate of soda and boric acid, in suitable proportions, while rendering cloth unflammable, will also prevent any alteration of color, flexibility or lasting qualities through the effect of combustion.

**A CURIOUS FISH.**—A very curious fish is now in the possession of Mr. Rouben Fisher, of South-molton. It is a dried specimen, but quite perfect; is about eighteen inches in length, about half of which is the tail of a fish very much like a small cod. The upper part consists of a head and body, with arms and trunk resembling the arms and trunk of the simia tribe, except the face, which has "a beautiful aquiline nose;" the teeth in the mouth are quite perfect; the sockets of the eyes are round, and large for the size of the face; the ears are small and erect like those of a monkey. The body has eight ribs on each side which are very strong at the upper, or back part, showing no vertebra, and tapering towards the breast.

**FLOATING GARDENS.**—In the beautiful valley of Cashmere, among the Himalayan Mountains, lies a lovely lake called Dal. Floating about on its surface, sometimes carried by the winds from one end of the lake to the other, are numerous small islands, on which grow the fairest cucumbers and the most luscious melons known. The way in which these floating gardens are made is very curious. All about the main shores of the lake grow quantities of reeds, sedges and water-lilies. When these grow very thickly together, people cut them from the roots which hold them near the shore. The leaves of the plants are then spread out over the stems, making a sort of trellis-work to support the soil with which it is next to be covered. After this has been done, the seeds are planted, and the floating garden is left to care itself until the fruits are ready for picking.

**THE MOSQUITO.**—If stagnant water is exposed to a summer's sun for several days, waggetails begin to appear on the surface, and grow until nearly a quarter of an inch long, seeming to live on air and water. In a short time they become encased and sink to the bottom. In a few hours a short hair grows out of the sides, soon becoming a small enterpillar, rising to the surface and floating to the shore by the aid of the slightest breath of air. Soon a fly is hatched leaving its tiny shell upon the water. That fly is the mosquito, which is ready to smother the very life blood out of you. Where mosquitoes abound there is but one certain and efficient means of keeping them from disturbing sleep. Get under a good mosquito bar, which should be adjusted to the bed before sundown, for they do not begin to stir around in the room until later in the evening. Mosquitoes must have a living as well as other people; and what is more, they will have it, and will go through fire and water to get it. We once noticed a device at Key West to keep them away—a woman sitting out of doors, near a pile of burning rags, the wind blowing the smoke on her. She could stand that stench by the hour, but the mosquitoes wouldn't—they had more sense.—*Exchange.*

**INSENSIBILITY OF THE BRAIN.**—Sensibility is, in reality, very different from what is suggested by first experience. Thus, the brain is insensible. That part of the brain which, if disturbed or diseased, takes away consciousness, is insensible as the leather of our shoe. That the brain may be touched, or a portion of it cut off without interrupting the patient in the sentence he is uttering, is a surprising circumstance! From this fact, physiologists formerly inferred that the surgeon had not reached the more important organ of the brain. But that opinion arose from the notion prevailing that a nerve must necessarily be sensible. Whereas, when we consider that the different parts of the nervous system have totally distinct endowments, and that there are nerves insensible to touch and incapable of giving pain, though exquisitely alive to their proper office, we have no just reason to conclude that the brain should be sensible or exhibit a property of the nerve of the skin. Reason on as we may, the fact is so—the brain, through which every impression must be conveyed before it is perceived, is itself insensible. This informs us that sensibility is not a necessary attendant on the delicate texture of a living part, but that it must have an appropriate organ, and that it is an essential provision.

**INSECT KILLERS.**—At present, and hitherto, from time immemorial, insect plagues have been in this country kept in check by the changeableness of the climate and plentifulness of birds. The black grub of the crane fly is the great plague of the season, and it prevails in districts where the birds are fewest. If it should increase in the next half-dozen years as it has in the last two or three, there will not be left a blade of grass in or near any town, and grass will be quite a scarcity in the country. The birds have a quick way of reckoning with this grub at dawn and dusk, when it glides about enjoying its dewy repast; but where there are no birds, it has the world nearly to itself, for man can do but little to lessen its numbers. The worthy citizen who fancies there must be some sentiment at the bottom of our defence of birds, and advocacy of open-air teaching, may be desired to consider a proposition which we will put in plain English: "We conclude, therefore, with a declaration of our belief that the birds wantonly destroyed during the past six weeks in this country are, in respect of the services they might have rendered in the preservation of our crops, the representatives of millions of money lost and gone for ever, and of which every man—the agricultural citizen included—will have to pay his share." We do not say "the country is ruined," we simply say that every bird is worth so much in actual money as a destroyer of vermin, and the postulate being agreed to, it remains only to marshal the data, and the conclusion will be a matter of simple arithmetic. —*Gardener's Magazine.*