

desired his companion to cling to the boat as he himself could swim. He swam some distance, but owing to the weight of his clothes, having a heavy top coat on at the time, he sank and met a watery grave. Capt. Newport's youngest son, who lives nearly opposite the spot where this lamentable casualty occurred, put off in a pram, but unfortunately too late, to render the ill-fated youth assistance. He, however, rescued his companion from his perilous situation, and brought him in safety to shore.—*Waterford Mail*.

**SACRILEGE.**—On last Saturday evening, the confessional in St. Mary's chapel, was robbed of its cushions by some sacrilegious miscreants. The cushions in the Augustinian chapel confessional were also stolen.—The clerk of the Augustinian chapel seeing a woman run rather hurriedly out of the chapel followed her, and found on her person the stolen cushions. A stole and other articles were also stolen out of the same chapel. The Catholic chapel of Kiltrush was broken into on Thursday, 23d instant, and robbed of the communion cloth, and four large brass candlesticks, specially cast for altar use. The parties in whose possession part of the stolen property was found have been arrested by Constable Scully, and committed for trial by J. Little, Esq., R.M.—*Limerick Examiner*.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

**MR. NEWDEGATE AND CONVENTS AGAIN.**—To the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*.—Sir, In the course of the debate on the Religious Houses Bill, as reported in your excellent journal of the 15th inst., I find Mr. Newdegate made the following observations:—"There was a convent in his neighborhood (Arbury), and there was a report that an attempted escape had been made from it. Whether she returned or left the convent they could not say; but this they knew of their own knowledge, that within ten days after that time fifteen hundred weight of iron stanchions or palisades were placed round the building, and that now it was as complete a prison as any belonging to her Majesty or the government of this country." As I wished to know the truth of this disgraceful report, I enclosed the above extract from Mr. Newdegate's speech in a note to the Chaplain of the convent alluded to, requesting him if there was any truth in the "report" to let me know as soon as possible; and the answer I received is this:—"There was a report that an escape had been made from the convent, but this report was and is false, as there neither was an escape, nor even an attempt to escape, made by any Nun of this convent. There are some iron stanchions to some of the lower windows, because about the 3rd or 4th of June, 1840, robbers broke through the lower windows and stole away the most valuable goods.—On the 23rd December, the same year, robbers broke into the place a second time. It was high time after this to secure the windows against robbers. Iron bars are round the cloister and some other windows; but there are none on the higher ones, except on one, to prevent thieves from entering.—I remain, Rev. dear Sir, yours truly, LEWIS GERARD, Chaplain, Rosary Convent, Atherstone, Warwickshire." You will observe, Sir, that in the debate of the 20th of March, Mr. Newdegate stated as a fact, what he last week modified as a "report." What a strange phenomenon, that what was once true, should, within the space of two months, become only a probability! Yet this probability or report was brought forward to prove that females were detained in convents against their will! What a pity Mr. Newdegate did not wait a little longer, for a second transition, after which we should have discovered that the probability, in the march of time, had become a non-probability, or something worse, expressed in fewer letters. Mr. Newdegate towards the close of his speech, said, "That in these establishments (convents) persons were confined under ground there could be no doubt." As Mr. Newdegate said this so confidently one would suppose there must be some truth in the assertion. Indeed, it must have been a self-evident truth, otherwise that gentleman would not have uttered it. If Mr. Newdegate has seen such places underground, why did he not say so in his speech as he would then have made a "case." But this he did not say, for the very best of reasons, because he has never seen one. If he took report for his authority, that report is nothing else but a gross falsehood, from whomsoever it originated. If that "vicious" bill should ever again be brought before the house, and Mr. Newdegate should be in search of facts on which to found an argument in its support, I shall be too happy to conduct him over five other convents in my neighborhood, besides my own; and when he shall have succeeded in his research, he may proceed to the House of Commons, and make known to his gaping No-Popery friends the discovery, "terrible dictu," of subterranean prisons, where scarcely a ray of light can penetrate, containing moaning females bound in chains and languishing in misery on beds of straw, having nothing for their food but bread and cold water, and that in a very small quantity. When the humane gentleman shall have witnessed this, he will then have a fact on which to argue, and not a falsehood.—I am, Sir, your humble servant, DANIEL O'KEEFE, Chaplain at the Benedictine Convent, Hammersmith.

**CONTROVERSIALISTS.**—The moment that it became known from the Rev. Dr. Cahill's letter concerning the "challenge" of the Rev. Mr. Lowe that he would not enter into any oral discussion of Catholic doctrine, or any written controversy, that moment—the very next day—he had challenges from three other Rev. gentlemen of the Establishment, who each professed the utmost eagerness to encounter the Rev. lecturer. Dr. Cahill, in his answer to one of the proposed disputants, (the Rev. Mr. Carpenter), reminds him that the recent conversions to the Faith among the Ministers and the laymen of the Establishment were not the result of controversy, oral or written, but of deep and attentive study, entered upon with humility and a sincere desire to arrive at truth. And in such a course of study, or in amicable conversation as between man and man, Dr. Cahill tenders his correspondent his best services. One result of this has been that in almost every church of the Establishment in Liverpool, for the past week and the present, the whole force of their artillery has been levelled against "Popery" and its abominations—a course from which the Church has nothing to fear.

The returns of persons who have emigrated from Liverpool since January last exhibit a gradual increase upon the numbers for the previous year. The number of passengers who sailed from this port in the month of April was 25,447 persons against 17,555 in April last year; making the number for the four months 67,130 against 49,463—an increase of 17,667.

The Earl Nelson presented a petition, signed by 2,000 clergy and 1,200 laity of the Church of England, praying that all questions touching doctrine, arising on appeal, or in her Majesty's Temporal Courts, may hereafter be referred to the spirituality of the Church of England; and further, that her Majesty will be pleased to remove the impediments which now obstruct the exercise of the ancient synodical functions of the church.

The Earl and Countess of Arundel and Surrey gave an elegant entertainment, on Saturday, to Cardinal Wiseman and a distinguished circle, including several eminent foreign divines of the Catholic Church. The Countess subsequently had a *soirée*, the company numbering upwards of 100 of the *élite* of English society professing the faith of the Catholic Church.

The *Church and State Gazette* says that the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill is like Sir John Cutler's stockings, which once so puzzled the judges and troubled their owner. They had been new-footed, new-legged, and new-topped. Fractures in the silk had been taken up with cotton, and rents in the cotton had been darned with worsted, had been made good with anything that happened to be at hand, until at "it was difficult to point out what had been the original material—what material most prevailed—or whether there could be an ownership in silk stockings not made of silk."

Miss Sellon, and the Protestant Sisters of Mercy, have left Plymouth, and taken a house in Lower Green, Bristol.

**PROTEST AGAINST THE BISHOP OF EXETER'S SYNOD.**—Between forty and fifty of the Protestant Clergy in the diocese of Exeter, have declined to attend the Synod convoked by the Bishop of Exeter, and have published their reasons for so declining. They say—First. That such assembly, if not contrary to the strict letters of the laws of the Church of England, is opposed to the spirit and intention of those laws, and altogether unprecedented in the history of the Church. Second. Because the primary object for which such assembly is to be convened—viz: to issue a synodical declaration affirming the article of the creed on baptism, is, they consider altogether uncalled for, inasmuch as the decision of her Majesty was not intended to impugn, neither does it, in their judgment, in any degree whatever, impugn such article of the creed. Third. Because it is expressly provided in the Pastoral Letter, calling the assembly that "the Bishop shall himself decide what matters shall actually be brought under the consideration of the synod," and "that no resolution can be deemed an act of the synod which has not his concurrence." Fourth. Because such assembly is manifestly powerless in law, "not having authority to pass any canons or constitutions which can settle any matter whatever, or be binding even upon those who pass them, whilst it is calculated to produce great evil and mischief, even to the disruption of the Church, being designedly intended to exhibit this diocese as independent in itself, standing out in unbecoming and injurious, if not schismatical, opposition to the Archbishop of the province, and the constituted authorities, by which the whole body of the Church of England is governed." They conclude by an expression of their "unfeigned respect and honor, for the character of the present Archbishop of the province, as well as for the office which he holds, and at the same time express their deliberate opinion that his Grace has not forfeited his right to Catholic communion."

**THE PROTECTIONISTS AT TAMWORTH—SERIOUS RIOT.**—A Protectionist meeting, in the Town-Hall, Tamworth, on Wednesday, was interrupted by an angry mob. Mr. Woolfeiston, a landed proprietor of great influence, presided, and was supported by Lord Levisham, M. P., Mr. Spooner, M. P., Mr. Newdegate, M. P., and Mr. G. F. Young. The proceedings within the hall were of a most enthusiastic character, but the people from without gave unequivocal intimation of their disapprobation during the time the chairman was speaking, and alluding more particularly to the early life of the late Sir R. Peel. An attack was made upon the windows—scarcely a pane of glass was left whole. The party from the Town-Hall went from thence to the King's Arms, and on their way many acts of violence, were committed by the mob. The hotel, so far as glass is concerned, was soon a complete wreck. Mr. Spooner, M. P., Lord Levisham, Mr. Newdegate, M. P., and Mr. Young, remained in Tamworth during the night, and left early on Thursday morning. At eight o'clock in the morning, when some of the farmers were leaving, a mob had assembled, and were hooting them on their departure. The state of the town was so much excited that it was deemed necessary to despatch a telegraphic communication for troops to Birmingham, and by a special train a troop was forwarded to Tamworth. Several prisoners were apprehended by special constables, sworn in on Wednesday. Some have been discharged, and others remanded. During the height of the riot only two of the borough police were to be seen, and "one of these was disabled by injuries received at an early hour."

**COMMISSION TO THE CAPE.**—Major Hogg and Mr. Owen have been appointed commissioners to proceed to the Cape, for the purpose of inquiring into the recent disturbances in Caffraria. The major acquired an intimate knowledge of the affairs of the colony, during his period of service there under Sir Peregrine Maitland, while Mr. Owen possesses a thorough knowledge of the Caffie language.

**CAVALRY REGIMENT FOR THE CAPE.**—Orders have been issued to many cavalry corps now at home to suspend the purchasing of their remounts, as the horses of the regiment ordered out will be distributed among the cavalry regiments for the Cape requiring horses. Many reports are in circulation as to which is to be the regiment selected for this service, and that which finds most supporters is either the 12th Lancers or the 3rd Dragoon Guards.

**A REVEREND "POACHER."**—The Rev. Mr. M'Even, of Levern, near Paisley, was found guilty a few months ago, by this presbytery, of "poaching, Sabbath profanation and falsehood." He was discovered one Sunday setting snares in his garden, and a Court of Justice of the Peace sentenced him to pay a fine of £20. Mr. M'Even appealed to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and that body were engaged from eight o'clock on Monday evening to three o'clock on Tuesday morning in considering the case. The facts were held to be proved, and sentence of deposition was passed.

**ANTI-IRISH RIOTS IN HOLYHEAD.**—Our Kingstown correspondent informs us that the works on the Bangor and Carnarvon Railway have been suspended for the present, in consequence of a combination entered into by the English and Welch workmen and labourers, against the Irish who have been employed on the same works. Pursuant to the requisition of a large body of the respectable inhabitants of Holyhead, the war

steamer Lucifer, with a strong marine force on board, has been ordered on the Holyhead station, and was expected to arrive in the harbor on Saturday evening. The presence of this vessel, with the well-disciplined and effective force on board of her, will ensure protection to the Irish workmen against the rude and inhospitable gang of English and Welch operatives and laborers, who have even threatened the lives of our poor countrymen, with the view of driving them from the works.

**A BRUTAL SCHOOLMASTER.**—At the Marylebone Court, on Thursday, Mr. James Dawes, the master of a school in connection with the Salisbury-street, Portman-market, chapel, was charged with having committed a violent assault upon an infant, named Elizabeth Reynold, *ævo* years of age, by beating her with a strap. The mother showed some marks which clearly indicated that the beating, which took place more than a week ago, must have been extremely severe. One of the marks was just below the left eye, and another on the left arm. The defendant produced a leather strap about half a yard long, and an eighth of an inch thick, and admitted having struck the infant with it on the head. "He felt that he was bound to maintain his authority as a master while in the presence of eighty or ninety pupils." Mr. Elphy, the master of a Sunday-school connected with that which defendant keeps, came forward to give him (defendant) a "good character." Mr. Long (the magistrate) expressed his surprise that any person should, after the admission which defendant had himself made, come forward to justify him in any way whatever; he should inflict a penalty of 20s and costs!

**CRUAEIOUS ACT.**—At the Surrey sessions on Thursday, James Crawford, a young gentleman connected with a family of some distinction residing at Norwood, was found guilty of having removed two danger signals attached to a railway train on the London and South Coast Railway, thereby endangering the lives of the public. The sentence of the Court was that he be imprisoned in Brixton House of correction for nine months with hard labor, the sentence seemed to greatly surprise the prisoner and his friends, who confidently relied on a penalty being inflicted.

One day last week, a horse and cart stopped at the baths in Wolverhampton, and a dirty-looking fellow, in a lachrymose tone of voice, requested permission to baptise two females accompanying him. "He was an officer of the holy church of the Latter-day Saints, and that denomination immersed their members previous to receiving them into their body." The request was of course refused, and the baffled Mormons retired with ejaculations of mortification, expressing their determination to consummate the ceremony "in the waters of the nearest canal."

"Must we abolish committals to prison?" asks the *Daily News*; one would almost say so, on reading the following entry of the chaplain of the Liverpool prison:—"May 17. Two boys sent here, one for obstructing a foot path while playing at marbles; the other for stopping his wheelbarrow to look at him." "We should very much," says our contemporary, "like to see in a separate cell, living on water-gruel, the Liverpool *Dogberry*, who committed those boys."

*Punch* gives a lady's reason for liking the great Exhibition.—My dear, it is so very agreeable. You cannot tell how amusing it is! It is much better far than going a-shopping. The whole place is full of some of the prettiest things in the world—laces—silks—brocades—and such lovely jewels—and the beauty is you may look at them ever so long, without being expected to buy a single thing!"

**ROOFING THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE.**—A singular and novel process is at present being carried on with respect to the Britannia tubular bridge. In consequence of the upper surface of the tubes receiving and being acted on by the wet and atmosphere action, it has been deemed advisable to roof the top of the tubes; and for this purpose a complete ridge has been placed over both the tubes, having a walk down the centre, and the framework has been completely covered over with cloth impervious to the rain.—Upwards of 7,000 yards of this prepared cloth are required to accomplish the undertaking, which has been taken by contract. The large hotel which it has been determined to erect closely adjacent to the bridge will contain no fewer than 500 beds, and will be connected with the tubes by a covered walk, and surrounded with appropriate gardens and pleasure grounds. The works for the erection of this hotel are in full operation; large bodies of laborers are employed levelling the ground and forming the foundation, and no time will be lost in the completion of this adjunct to the Chester and Holyhead and Carnarvon lines.

## UNITED STATES.

**HORRID TRANSACTION.**—On Saturday last a stranger who said that his name was Edmund Daggott, and that he was from Hope, in Maine, called at the house of Dr. Cummings, in Roxbury, and requested to be permitted to stay there over Sunday. He said that he was subject to fits, and he was apprehensive that he was about to have one of his fits. Dr. C. permitted him to remain, and subsequently towards evening, Dr. Cummings being absent, the stranger complained that he felt sick, and asked Mrs. C. to give him something. He appeared so violently affected, rolling his eyes strangely, that Mrs. C. was alarmed, and ran to a neighbor for assistance. On her return she found that the stranger had seized her little daughter, four years of age, and with a razor in his hand was about to cut her throat. Mrs. C. interfered, and attempted to seize the child, but the man persisted, telling her it would be of no use as he must kill her. He succeeded in cutting the child's throat from ear to ear, and attempted to cut that of Mrs. C. She, however, escaped from him, with the child in the agonies of death, having received a severe cut in her hand. The man then aimed a blow at his own throat, and inflicted a wound, of which he died in half an hour.

A man named Haudin, together with a colored man, were executed by Lynch law at Milton, Florida, on 30th ult., for murdering a person named Smith. They were apprehended soon after the time and immediately hung by the populace.

A school mistress in Macomb, Ill., recently hung a little girl by the neck because she would not confess the larceny of a piece of money. A nice woman.—*Boston Pilot*.

**HEARTLESS ROBBERY.**—The St. Louis *Union* of the 20th says, that on the preceding Sunday there came down on board the steamer Editor from Pittsburgh, a very respectable emigrant from Ireland accompanied by his wife and five daughters. On the 19th he took passage on the Dr. Franklin, No. 2, for the Upper Mississippi, and while at dinner his state room was

broken open with a chisel and \$3,500 in American gold was taken. The man was honest and unsuspecting, and had freely talked of his prospects and intentions, and from this must have arose the supposition of his having a large sum of money.

Counterfeit bank notes to the amount of \$35,000 have been found at Patterson, N. J., in the house of Mitchel Cole, brother of Livi Cole, the Westerly bank robber. Many of those bills are said to be well executed.—*Boston Pilot*.

A fracas took place in a Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, on Sunday week, which resulted in the arrest of the Rev. Mr. Bullion, who insisted upon officiating against the wishes of the Congregation. A pretty how-do-you-do this! He was held to bail.—*Id.*

The King of the Sandwich Islands, who is the more tool of the American missionaries, has conceded to refer to the Legislature the question of making further provision for a more perfect equality between Protestants and Catholics. The French are determined that the Catholics shall have full privileges, notwithstanding the efforts of the American missionaries to the contrary. These missionaries have been a curse to the people of the Islands.—*Id.*

We read of a curious proceeding which occurred at Rushville, Illinois, a short time ago. A blacksmith, who was notorious as a drunkard, with a wife and family he did not support, was convicted of inveterate intemperance, and sold by auction for the term of four months' labor. We think this an excellent law in cases where the delinquent becomes chargeable on the community, or danger is apprehended from his vicious example.

## GATHERINGS.

In the month of March, 1847, the garrison of Cape Coast was furnished by a detachment of the 1st West India Regiment, under the command of Captain Augustus William Murray. This officer, having occasion to leave his quarters, intrusted the key of his room to a black servant lad, named Robert Erskine, who reported one morning to the sergeant-major that his master's box had been broken open, and some valuables apparently stolen therefrom. On Captain Murray's return, shortly after, without any further grounds of suspicion than these facts may be thought to imply, Robert Erskine himself was charged with the robbery, maltreated, and locked up in the guard-room without food or drink. The next morning, under the immediate directions of Captain Murray, Lieutenant Stewart, and a Commissary officer named Swain, he was taken out by soldiers, who tied his arms behind his back with a cord soaked in sand and salt water, and then, introducing a stick under the ligature, so tightened it by twisting that the flesh was cut to the bone. This punishment was protracted for three hours, and when the sufferer in his agony cried out for drink, Captain Murray ordered the soldiers to bring him some lime and water, which was mixed for whitewashing. The object of the torture was presently gained, by Erskine's confession that he had stolen the articles, and secreted them in his own apartment; but as soon as he was released, he retracted this avowal, and declared it to have been made under the instigation of torture alone. On this he was tied up again, and subjected to the same treatment, till he again devised some falsehood for the sake of immediate relief—the alternatives of confession—retraction and torture being continued through a space of two days. On the third day the soldiers threw him on the ground, kicked him violently with their heavy boots, scarified his face and shoulders with a rough stone, and finally left him fastened to an upright post in the yard. At midnight they took him down, tied him to a gun in the battery, gave him six dozen lashes, and afterwards tied him to the post again. As the stolen articles were not yet forthcoming, he was ultimately thrown into the blackhole and further maltreated, until, at the expiration of ten days from his first apprehension, he was sent to the hospital still alive. Two days after this, the missing property was discovered in the greatcoat of a private soldier of Captain Murray's own corps, and on the 7th of May Robert Erskine was brought to trial for the imputed offence and acquitted.—*Times*.

**TROOPS FOR THE CAPE.**—The "Megara," 10, iron screw steam frigate, of 350-horse power, is to be commissioned immediately at Sheerness to convey troops to the Cape of Good Hope, and notices have been put up at the dockyard-gate, at Woolwich, for stokers to serve in that vessel. On Wednesday Captain Faddy, with a number of officers of the Royal Artillery, attended at the pond in the Repository-grounds, Woolwich, to test an India-rubber boat, made for the gallant officer by Mr. Corning, to enable the officers or men to cross the rivers in South Africa. The boat weighed only 34lb., and was found not only capable of carrying persons, but on weights being put on board its buoyancy was sufficient to sustain 350lbs., which will render it available for conveying dismounted howitzers across rivers—an object of great importance in the Caffie country. It is the general impression in military circles that a light cavalry regiment will be sent out shortly to the Cape station. It is not perhaps generally known that the men who deserted from the Cape Mounted Rifles have relapsed from Christianity in a body and returned to their original Paganism.

**HURRAH FOR OLD IRELAND.**—It is extraordinary, yet true, but read of any gallant exploit, either by sea or land, of our own or any foreign troops, and an Irishman is almost certain to be named. France, Spain, Portugal, and South America have each in their turn benefited, and praised their gallant Irish volunteers; and by the last mail from China, we find that in the operations of the Spaniards against the pirates of Soloo, Colonel Delamere, an Irishman in the Spanish service, and aide-de-camp to the officer commanding the operations, distinguished himself highly in the destruction of the stronghold of this piratical horde.—*United Service Gazette*.

Two police agents, who had been sent from Frankfurt to the exhibition of London, says the *Constitutional*, were, on their arrival in that capital, relieved by some adroit thieves of all their luggage and papers, amongst which happened to be the description of seven famous German thieves, whom they had been ordered to seek out and observe.