

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

There are 8,000,000 of Roman Catholics in Russia.

Father Damen, S.J., is engaged in missionary work in New York city.

REDEMPTORIST MISSION AT FALL RIVER, MASS.—The Redemptorist Fathers are conducting a very successful Mission at Fall River, in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Father McCabe, Pastor.

JESUIT MISSIONS.—Rev. Father Coghlan, accompanied by Rev. Fathers Niedercorn, Buige, and P. McQuaid, S.J., having given the Mission at St. Teresa's Church, N.Y., which closed on Tuesday, January 30th, went to Troy and opened another Mission at St. Mary's Church, Troy, on Sunday, Feb. 4th.

Miss Lucie W. Perry, Bardstown, Ky., was received into the Catholic Church in Lebanon, quite recently. She was formerly a Presbyterian. At the same time Miss Amelia Crawford, a young lady of Marion county, who had formerly been a Baptist was received into the same Church.—*Nelson County Record.*

Archbishop Blanchet, of Oregon, is now in his eighty-second year. His Grace is the oldest of all our American prelates, and he will be known in history as the "Apostle of Oregon," having toiled beyond the Rocky Mountains for nearly forty years. He labored in that wild region even before Father De Smet, and to-day he continues his labors.

The Christmas ordinations at the Grand Seminary of Montreal last Christmas were the largest that has ever taken place on the American continent. The entire number of ordinations was: Priests, 26; deacons, 8; sub-deacons, 43; minor orders, 40; tonsure, 11. Monsignor E. C. Fabre, D.D., administered the orders on this vast number.

The results of the Mission at St. Teresa's, New York, speak for themselves. 11,300 persons approached the Sacraments, and 38 converts were received into the Church. It was truly a glorious Mission; and the over-crowded houses that heard the pay lectures for the liquidation of the church debt prove the eagerness of the people of St. Teresa's to hear Father Coghlan lecturing on the true Church, and also on "the life and legends of St. Patrick," after the Mission had closed.

Father Genin, writes of the Indians of Dakota to the *Missions Catholiques*:—"Several hundreds of these wandering Indians have been baptized by me in the plains of Dakota." A tribe of Catholic half-breeds, who formerly lived at Duluth, but have since retired to the border of Montana Territory, are said by Father Genin to be Catholics. They numbered in all 3,500 persons. The Assiniboines, who live in their neighborhood, are also Catholics. They are about 4,000 in number.

THE MISSION FOR THE COLORED PEOPLE.—The Rev. Fr. C. Vignerot, well known in Louisville, now enjoys perfect health. He recently wrote to a friend of his, that since the Fathers of his order had taken charge of St. Peter's colored church at Charleston, S. C., about two years ago, they had baptized 117 adults, and brought back more than 100 persons to the practice of their religious duties. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Lynch is well pleased with them, and does not allow them to suffer because of the poverty of their colored people. Good Father Tardys is doing splendidly at Beaufort.—*Catholic Advocate.*

Rev. Eugene Jychowicz, 37 years of age, who but lately came to this country and cannot speak a word of English, started lately from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to go to Toledo. On the train his ticket was stolen, and when he could not produce it the conductor put him off. The weather was intensely cold, the poor priest could find no place of shelter and as he had on only cloth shoes, both of his feet were frozen so stiff that when he was brought to the hospital it became necessary to amputate them. Unfortunately the name of the conductor is not known. The pillory would be too good for him.—*Id.*

The Pope, replying to the address presented to him by the officers of the Pontifical Army a few weeks ago, reminded them of the fate of those who, having put their hands to the plough, turned back. He knew that they persevered in the right way, and he could not offer them better wishes at this season than that they might continue in it, and so render themselves worthy of the Divine protection. He bid them be deaf to the insidious voices which might tempt them to change their flag, and to remember the counsels of Ulysses, who ordered his sailors to stop their ears in order that they might not fall into the snares of deceivers. The Divine Master had said to Peter, "What is that to thee? Follow thou Me," and their hearts and consciences would tell them "to me sequere." When conferring the Benediction, the Pope said: "I bless not only yourselves, but those afar off, who, from their different countries, send me letters and addresses full of respect and love, and declarations that, like you, they are always ready to brandish the sword when God wills."

THE HOLY FATHER AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILI.—The Holy Father has written an identical letter to Senator Don Anibal Pinto, President of the Republic of Chili. The *Independiente* of Santiago de Chili, publishes the following reply of President Pinto: "Annibal Pinto, President of the Republic of Chili, to His Holiness, Pope Pius IX., Sovereign Pontiff of the Catholic Church."

Most Holy Father:—"The autograph letter dated July 20th, of the current year, which Your Holiness has deigned to address me, and which I have had the honor of receiving, has informed me that Your Holiness, in manifesting a paternal good will, and an affectionate interest for the welfare of the faithful of this Republic, has been pleased to appoint Mgr. Cesare Roncetti, Archbishop of Selencia, Internuncio and Envoy Extraordinary of the Holy See to the Emperor of Brazil, that he may take such initiatory steps as may tend to the advancement of the Catholic religion, the defence of the rights of the Church, the observance of ecclesiastical discipline, and all that may conduce to the spiritual progress of the Catholics of Chili. In giving Your Holiness the assurance of my most heartfelt co-operation in favor of these exalted designs of the Holy See, I take pleasure in offering my respectful adherence to its most worthy chief.

ANIBAL PINTO.
JOSE ALFONSO,
Given at Santiago, on the 18th day of November A. D. 1876.—*V. J. Freeman's Journal.*

PROGRESS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SCOTLAND.—The Scotch Catholic Directory contains, as usual, an immense amount of valuable information as to the position and progress during the past year of the Catholic Church in Scotland. The book, which is a godly-sized volume, and of nearly 200 pages, contains, besides the directory containing the Masses proper for every day in the year, particulars as to the churches, schools, convents, and other institutions in each of the three districts, names and addresses of the clergy, statistics of the baptisms, confirmations, and marriages for the past year; ordinations and appointments, obituary notices, &c. There is also a civic calendar containing every information given in such publications. It appears that there are in Scotland 253 priests, 253 churches, 124 congregational schools, and 22 convents. Of these the western district, which contains by far the largest Catholic population, has 146 priests, 122 churches, 49 schools, and 8 convents. The number of priests ordained during the year 1876 was 14, and of these 9 were appointed to missions,

in the western, 3 in the eastern, and 2 in the northern district. It may be permitted to us say here, that the immense increase in Catholicism within so very short a time is due in some measure to the zeal and liberality which have distinguished Scotch converts to the Church; and, without mentioning names, we would point to such examples as the beautiful institutions at Lanark.

USE OF THE LATIN LANGUAGE IN THE LITURGY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.—Rev. D. O'Donoghue, of St. John's Church, Indianapolis, Ind., delivered a lengthy and very interesting sermon on the use of the Latin language in the liturgy of the Catholic Church. The following is a brief outline of the discourse:—"The Church, the speaker said, came into existence at a time when the greater portion of the civilized world spoke the Latin tongue. This was the language in which the scriptures were read to the people, in which the dogmas of faith were proposed and the prayers at public service recited. It was employed in the administration of the sacraments and in the offering up of the sacrifice of the Mass; it was the language in which the decrees of councils and the laws of the Church were written and promulgated, and in which the early Christian writers, such as Origen, Cyprian, Ambrose and Augustine, defended the faith and refuted the errors of the time. Afterwards, when the Latin language ceased to be spoken by the people, the Church, notwithstanding the inconvenience that might be thought to arise, still retained it as the language of its public service. This was done in order that exact unity and identity of faith and worship might be preserved for all time to come. The beginning of Christianity was in the golden age of Latin literature, and the language has since undergone no change. It is the same now as it was in the time of the apostles; the student who wishes to acquire a knowledge of it reads yet the orations of Csesar, and the poems of Horace and Virgil. This immutability is a characteristic which no modern language possesses. All of these undergo changes; new words are added and old ones lose their significance they originally had. The English language, for example, is quite different now from what it was in its first years. Even the classic plays of Shakespeare, familiar as they must have been to people who lived in the time of the great poet, can hardly be read now satisfactorily without a glossary. When languages began to multiply the Church did not deem it prudent to discard the ancient and unchanging tongue in which her dogmas and prayers were recorded and handed down, and substitute in its stead a medium of communication subject to continual change. The inconvenience which might appear to arise from the use in public services of a language not generally known to the people is much less than is oftentimes imagined. Exact translations of all the prayers authorized by the Church can be found in books of devotion. The liturgy of the Church is translated into every modern tongue; but the original is always preserved side by side with the translation, in order that errors or unwarranted changes may be carefully guarded against. The advantage on the part of the people of having a perfect uniformity in public worship far outweighs the inconvenience arising from the use of a language no longer spoken. Wherever a Catholic may go he will always find the ceremonies of the Church and the wording of its prayers the same. He will see the same vestments worn by the minister at the altar and will hear the accompanying prayers recited in the same language as in the country from whence he came. Thus the faith once delivered by the apostles is preserved unchanged, not as regards its meaning only, but in the very words in which it was first handed down.

THE ORANGEMEN AND THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.—On the 15th ult., John Rea, the well-known attorney of Belfast, issued the following notice:—"Most Urgent Notice.—As Hon. Secretary of the Queen's Island Shipwrights, I hereby convene a public meeting of the Orange and all other Protestant Shipwrights of Belfast at seven o'clock on Tuesday evening, the 16th inst., in the Music Hall, for the purpose of forthwith taking all such steps as may appear requisite to support the Right Hon. Baron Cairns, Lord High Chancellor of England, in his efforts to prevent the proposed appointment of James Anthony Lawson, Esq., to the office of Lord Chief Justice of Ireland."

CATTLE DISEASE.—The executive committee appointed in the Mallow Union under the Cattle-Diseases Act met on Friday week in the board-room of the Mallow workhouse, Mr. H. V. Spratt, J. P., presided. The inspector and valuer were ordered to proceed to Churchtown, in order to carry out the duties imposed upon them under the act on the farm of Mr. Chowy on which it appears there are some diseased cattle at present. The clerk was directed to forward circulars and notices to each parish priest, with a view of informing the people on Sunday at the different Masses of the steps to be taken under this very important measure.

HONOR TO MR. BUTT.—At the last meeting of the Drogheda Corporation, Town Councillor T. Brady gave notice that at the next quarterly meeting he would move that the freedom of the town be conferred on Mr. Isaac Butt, M.P., for gaining for them their long-lost honor of being empowered to elect their own sheriff. Councillor Nicholas Leech proposed, and Alderman Simcocks seconded, a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, that the valuable and massive gold chain at present, in the custody of the Corporation, which had been formerly worn by the sheriff, be formed into one, and presented to the high-sheriff, to be worn by him during his term of office.

The Marquis of Waterford annoys English railway managers by always riding third-class, as it diminishes their first and second-class travel. One day the marquis appeared at Waterford Station and bought a third-class ticket to Dublin. The railway men set a sweep down beside him in the car, thinking to drive him out. The Marquis surveyed his travelling companion for a moment and then started for the ticket office. "Give me a first-class ticket to Dublin," he said. They thought they had him sure, but he simply returned to the third class car, and making the sweep a present of the ticket, escorted him and his brushes to the first-class carriage, and leaving him there, returned to his favourite compartment.

ASSASSIN OF CHINE.—At the Maryborough, Queen's County, Quarter Sessions a few days ago there were four trivial criminal cases for sale. The good effect and working of the new Jury Act (says the correspondent of the *Freeman*) was evident from the unusually large number of jurors who were present, which was so great when their names were being called that the court had to be partially cleared for their accommodation. The act seems also to be bringing forward a better class of men to serve as jurors than heretofore. During the hearing of the spirit license applications it was evident that the magistrates were anxious to restrict the sale of intoxicating liquors in future as much as possible. Some of the applicants were entirely refused, and in places where renewal licenses were granted it was made a positive rule that only six-day licenses should be granted, permission to sell being absolutely prohibited on Sundays.

TENANT-RIGHT MEETING.—A tenant right meeting was held on Sunday, 7th ult., after Mass, at Shanbroidge, King's County. Upwards of three thousand persons attended, according to a telegram in *Saunders*. The Rev. Mr. O'Reilly, P. P., occupied the chair. Mr. William Killea proposed: "That the system of feudalism established from the fourth to the sixth century, and still carried out in effect by tyrannical landlords in Ireland, is unjust in principle and detrimental to the best interests of the country." Mr. James Kilmartin, Shralena House, County Roscommon, proposed: "That the arbitrary raising of rents is a power which the landlord should not possess, and we are of opinion that Mr. Gladstone's act should be amended so as to secure to the tenants the fixity of tenure and fair rent, with liberty to sell." At the conclusion of his address Mr. Kilmartin was loudly cheered by the vast concourse, many voices exclaiming, "We will send you to the British House of Commons."

ARREST OF A SWINDLER.—At Drogheda, on the 9th ult., a young man who gave the name of Deady was remanded on a charge of swindling. He was found visiting houses systematically, collecting here for a church building, there for a school, distributing a tract in this house and a scapular in that, suiting his charitable object and his devotion to the peculiar views of those he operated on. On searching his lodgings in an outskirt of the town a medley collection of appliances for his pious fraud were discovered—evangelical tracts, "The Converted Slave-woman," "A Poke Behind for Lazy Sinners," etc. The *Sunday Magazine* and kindred publications were brought into connection with scapulars and beads, "Key to Heaven," and "Paths to Paradise," so that he could accommodate all sides of the question. A bank receipt was found for a lodgment of £88 in a bank in Longford, showing that the hypocritical rascal has been cultivating the vineyard very successfully in the midland counties. £5 in cash was also found on him.

DRUNKENNESS IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND.—The alleged increase of drunkenness in Ireland has lately been the theme upon which many English public men and English newspapers have preached eloquent sermons, and it is unfortunately too true that the consumption of intoxicating liquors in Ireland is not decreasing—"we own it; we deplore it; we condemn it"—but it is at least some consolation to know that we are not so bad in that respect as some of our neighbors. During the year 1875 it appears that no less than 203,989 persons were apprehended for being "drunk and disorderly" in England—a far greater proportion of the population than the same class of unhappy people in Ireland. It is also stated that 450,000 out of the 600,000 paupers in England have become pauperized by excessive drinking, and that 2,500,000 men, women, and children are recorded as being members of drunkards' families. The number of gallons of

pure alcohol contained in the liquor consumed in England is estimated at 84,000,000 gallons, which is valued at £130,000,000! Besides these tremendous figures the statistics of drinking in Ireland appear, by contrast, almost insignificant. The latest return gives the number of gallons of spirits consumed in Ireland as 6,176,801.—*Irishman.*

LOSS OF A DUBLIN SHIP AND ALL HANDS.—The brigantine *Jada*, of Dublin, on her return with coal from Whitehaven, was wrecked on Langness Point, near Castle town, Isle of Man, on the 10th ult., during a terrific gale, and all hands drowned. There was no possibility of saving any of the crew, as the ship went to pieces almost instantly. Their names are as follows:—Ezekiel Stewart, captain; John Gallagher, James Shannon, Patrick Mooney, John Shearson, Patrick Slane, and Patrick Owens all of whom were married, and belonged to Dublin. The vessel was owned by Mr. William W. Robinson, Westlandrow, Dublin.

THE MICHTELSTOWN EJECTMENTS.—At the Clonmel Quarter Sessions on the 5th ult., there were twenty-one adjourned ejectments at the suit of Nathaniel Buckley against the tenantry on his estate, entered for hearing.

EJECTMENTS IN CAVAN.—At the Cavan sessions, recently, seven good rent paying families were sought to be capriciously evicted, for no visible reason except the unsustainable one that the landlord required the farms for himself. These ejectments were defeated on a point of law.

SMALL-POX IN NEWRY.—A patient, aged 22, was lately admitted to the hospital of the Newry workhouse, suffering from small-pox. He had been vaccinated, and the mark is perceptible on his left arm. He came from Camlough, and there was no other case of the kind in that village.

HOME RULE MEETING NEAR COOKSTOWN.—An important Home Rule meeting was held near Cookstown on the 8th ult. Vigorous and patriotic speeches were made by Messrs. Donagh and McKernan, of Cookstown, and an imposing procession with green banners paraded at the close of the meeting.

FIVE MEN DROWNED AT QUEENSTOWN.—The boarding boat belonging to T. Curran and Company, clothiers, Queenstown, with five boatmen in her, capsized off the harbor on the 15th ult., and all hands were lost. The names of the men are—John Flynn, Dan Feeny, Pat and John Hayes, and John Keefe.

THE FLOODS IN LIMERICK.—By the inundations of the Shannon large tracts of the low-lands adjacent to Killaloe and Castleconnell have been flooded, and in some instances the riparian cottiers have been obliged to abandon their homes.

VALUATION OF LAND IN KILDARE.—In the Landed Estates Court, recently, there was sold part of the town and lands of Ardellis, otherwise Rathconnell, held by lease for lives renewable forever, 116a. 2r. 20p.; net yearly rental, after deducting head rent, £22 5s. 10d.; Government valuation, £48 10s. Sold to Mr. Phillip Newton at £60.

AT THE RECENT INVESTIGATION by the local Taxation Commissioners at Lurgan, it was stated that in the year 1841 Lurgan was the sixty-seventh best town in Ireland, and at the present time it is the fourteenth best town in Ireland. In the year 1841 the rateable property of Lurgan was £7,075, and now it was £18,000. In 1841 the population of the town was only 4,677, and now it was 10,638.

HONOR TO MR. BUTT.—At a special meeting of the Tralee Town Board recently, Mr. W. Coffey in the chair, Mr. P. Hayes proposed, and Mr. M. L. Lyons seconded, a motion to the effect that an address of welcome should be presented to Mr. Butt on his expected arrival in the town on Tuesday, February 3. Mr. T. O'Rourke and the chairman each produced a draft address. Mr. Long, editor of the *Kerry Vindicator*, who was present, was requested to amalgamate those documents, and the address so prepared was unanimously adopted.

THE MASSIVE GOLD LINK added to the civic chain by Mr. J. F. Walker, ex-Mayor of Limerick (says the *Irish Times*), is a "multum in parvo" of local history. During his year of office it records that the tower, with bells, of the Redemptorist Church was laid, the expenses of which—about £4,000—will be borne by Alderman Quin. It also records that the Oranetic Literary Institute was open—and that the corporation, for the first time in its official life, exercised the electing the city high sheriff in the person of Mr. T. E. O'Brien, partner of the aforesaid Alderman Quin, under the Municipal Privileges Act.

THE DUNDEE ADVERTISER publishes a statement which shows that in that town and the district at the present moment there are 23 jute works standing idle which formerly employed about 5,450 hands. On some of the farms on the higher ranges of the Tammernochs there has been a heavy loss of sheep, not so much from the recent snowstorms as from the floods by which these were precluded. At Priestly alone nearly 100 sheep were swept away into the Fastony and drowned, despite the utmost exertions of the shepherds.

THE LATE CAPTAIN MACKINLAY.—*Appropos* of the sad death of Captain Mackinlay, 94th Regiment, Colonel Lord John H. Taylor, in the Regimental Orders, says:—"A more perfect soldier and a more kind-hearted gentleman never wore her Majesty's uniform. He was beloved by all ranks, and his loss to the regiment is simply irreparable." Out of respect to his revered memory, the officers of the regiment are to wear mourning for the space of thirty days.

The other day, in pulling down an old house in Yorkshire, England, the following bill was found:
1787—Sept. 7. Beef, 6 lb. 7 oz. 1 9
" 15. Do. 15 lb. 3 8
Oct. 2. A beast's head. 1 0
6 5
Showing that beef was then about 3d. per pound. Now it is 1s. to 1s. 2d.

A SON SHOOTING HIS FATHER IN GLASGOW.—A young man named Walter McDonald was apprehended in Glasgow on the 6th ult., on a charge of shooting his father, a dairyman and grocer. It is stated that on Sunday night the prisoner on going home found his parents quarrelling, and that he fired a pistol at his father, the shot passing through his arm and lodging in his body. The father is said to be in a dying state. The affair has created great excitement as the parties concerned are very respectable.

The demand for American fresh meat in England greatly exceeds the supply. Messrs. Sharman Brothers, who were the chief instruments in introducing the meat to Sheffield, were altogether disappointed in their supply for yesterday. They purchased in another town, however, a large quantity of English beef and mutton, and offered it for sale at only 4d per pound more than the American meat—prime joints 9d per lb. The effect was that their shop was besieged the whole of the day, the crowd at times stretching half-way across the road.

VISCOUNT MILTON eldest son of Earl Fitzwilliam, died on Jan. 10 at Rouen in the thirty-eighth year of his age. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and he married, 10th August, 1867, Laura Maria Theresa, second daughter of the late Lord Charles Beauleok. He leaves a son, George William, born in Canada, 25th July, 1872, and two daughters, Laura Mary, born 1st February, 1869, and Mabel Florence Harriet, born 14th July, 1870. He was a magistrate for the West Riding of Yorkshire, the Southern Division of which he represented in the Liberal Interest from 1865 down to June 1872, when he resigned, owing to ill health. He also held a commission as Captain in the West Yorkshire Yomanry Cavalry. It will be remembered that, in co-operation with Dr. Cheelde, he published several years ago a highly interesting account of a journey across the continent through the Yellow Head Pass.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—THE SESSION OPENED BY HER MAJESTY IN PRISON.—LONDON, Feb. 8.—The session of the British Parliament for 1877 was opened by Her Majesty in person. She left Buckingham Palace shortly after one o'clock in the royal state carriage, attended by a brilliant suite. The royal escort was composed of a detachment of the Household troops. Her Majesty alighted at the Peers' entrance of Parliament Building, where she was received by the Deputy Lord Great Chamberlain, Lord Aveclaud and the great officers of State, and conducted into the House. The Prince and Princess of Wales were present with a brilliant assemblage, including Foreign Ministers, Chinese and Japanese Embassies. The Earl of Beaconsfield carried the Sword of State before the Queen. The Marquis of Salisbury was not present. After Her Majesty had taken her place on the Throne, the Lord High Chancellor read the Royal Speech.

MR. BRIGHT ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—A number of letters are published by the *Jewish World* in favour of the abolition of death punishment. They include communications from Mr. Peter Taylor, M. P., and Prof. Newman, together with two from Mr. Bright, who writes as follows:—"I beg to thank you for sending me your article on death punishments. I take your view on this subject. I believe with a different mode of punishment we should have fewer murders, and therefore life would be more secure. I have from time to time read all that has been urged on both sides of this question, and am convinced that those who are against capital punishment outreason their opponents. I understand that a bill is to be brought into the House in the course of the next session for the abolition of the death penalty. Should that be the case, I shall have pleasure in voting for it, as I have done on former occasions." In the second letter Mr. Bright expresses a wish that the public attention could be roused on the question. "I believe," he goes on to say, "Mr. J. W. Pease, M. P., for South Durham, will bring the subject before Parliament during the coming session. As for my views upon it, I have always condemned our law in regard to it as un-

christian and unphilosophical, and have spoken upon it, in that sense, in the House of Commons. If you can turn to the second volume of my published speeches you will find, under date of May 3, 1864, what I said on capital punishment in one of the debates on Mr. Ewart's motion for their abolition. I wish our professed Christian writers were as Christian as you are on this sad subject. The hangings of the past weeks has been shocking to me, and I marvel at the insensibility of my countrymen."

GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. Adrian Stephens, the inventor of the steam whistle, died on Christmas Day in England, at the age of eighty-one.

London papers of 13th January report that the floods have subsided in most districts. The inundation fund has reached £7,000.

Speaking of the Canadian meat trade, the *London Times* says the new venture appears to have conferred a boon on the working classes.

A handbill, signed by a Rev. Mr. Baxter is being extensively circulated in London, England, announcing the approaching translation to heaven of 144,000 Christians without dying.

The *Weekly Review* says that it is expected that Mr. Gladstone will lead a movement during the next session of Parliament for the disestablishment of the Church of England.

The gold cross of the Order of the Tahova has been conferred on Miss Pearson and Miss McLaughlin, in recognition of their services with the sick and wounded during the late campaign in Servia.

The *Standard* says there is "not the shadow of a foundation" for rumours which have been in circulation that Mr. Gathorne Hardy is about to retire from office, and that Sir Michael Hicks Beach is to take his place at the War Office.

The *Dumdee Advertiser* publishes a statement which shows that in that town and the district at the present moment there are 23 jute works standing idle which formerly employed about 5,450 hands.

On some of the farms on the higher ranges of the Tammernochs there has been a heavy loss of sheep, not so much from the recent snowstorms as from the floods by which these were precluded. At Priestly alone nearly 100 sheep were swept away into the Fastony and drowned, despite the utmost exertions of the shepherds.

THE LATE CAPTAIN MACKINLAY.—*Appropos* of the sad death of Captain Mackinlay, 94th Regiment, Colonel Lord John H. Taylor, in the Regimental Orders, says:—"A more perfect soldier and a more kind-hearted gentleman never wore her Majesty's uniform. He was beloved by all ranks, and his loss to the regiment is simply irreparable." Out of respect to his revered memory, the officers of the regiment are to wear mourning for the space of thirty days.

The other day, in pulling down an old house in Yorkshire, England, the following bill was found:

1787—Sept. 7. Beef, 6 lb. 7 oz. 1 9
" 15. Do. 15 lb. 3 8
Oct. 2. A beast's head. 1 0
6 5

Showing that beef was then about 3d. per pound. Now it is 1s. to 1s. 2d.

A SON SHOOTING HIS FATHER IN GLASGOW.—A young man named Walter McDonald was apprehended in Glasgow on the 6th ult., on a charge of shooting his father, a dairyman and grocer. It is stated that on Sunday night the prisoner on going home found his parents quarrelling, and that he fired a pistol at his father, the shot passing through his arm and lodging in his body. The father is said to be in a dying state. The affair has created great excitement as the parties concerned are very respectable.

The demand for American fresh meat in England greatly exceeds the supply. Messrs. Sharman Brothers, who were the chief instruments in introducing the meat to Sheffield, were altogether disappointed in their supply for yesterday. They purchased in another town, however, a large quantity of English beef and mutton, and offered it for sale at only 4d per pound more than the American meat—prime joints 9d per lb. The effect was that their shop was besieged the whole of the day, the crowd at times stretching half-way across the road.

VISCOUNT MILTON eldest son of Earl Fitzwilliam, died on Jan. 10 at Rouen in the thirty-eighth year of his age. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and he married, 10th August, 1867, Laura Maria Theresa, second daughter of the late Lord Charles Beauleok. He leaves a son, George William, born in Canada, 25th July, 1872, and two daughters, Laura Mary, born 1st February, 1869, and Mabel Florence Harriet, born 14th July, 1870. He was a magistrate for the West Riding of Yorkshire, the Southern Division of which he represented in the Liberal Interest from 1865 down to June 1872, when he resigned, owing to ill health. He also held a commission as Captain in the West Yorkshire Yomanry Cavalry. It will be remembered that, in co-operation with Dr. Cheelde, he published several years ago a highly interesting account of a journey across the continent through the Yellow Head Pass.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—THE SESSION OPENED BY HER MAJESTY IN PRISON.—LONDON, Feb. 8.—The session of the British Parliament for 1877 was opened by Her Majesty in person. She left Buckingham Palace shortly after one o'clock in the royal state carriage, attended by a brilliant suite. The royal escort was composed of a detachment of the Household troops. Her Majesty alighted at the Peers' entrance of Parliament Building, where she was received by the Deputy Lord Great Chamberlain, Lord Aveclaud and the great officers of State, and conducted into the House. The Prince and Princess of Wales were present with a brilliant assemblage, including Foreign Ministers, Chinese and Japanese Embassies. The Earl of Beaconsfield carried the Sword of State before the Queen. The Marquis of Salisbury was not present. After Her Majesty had taken her place on the Throne, the Lord High Chancellor read the Royal Speech.

MR. BRIGHT ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—A number of letters are published by the *Jewish World* in favour of the abolition of death punishment. They include communications from Mr. Peter Taylor, M. P., and Prof. Newman, together with two from Mr. Bright, who writes as follows:—"I beg to thank you for sending me your article on death punishments. I take your view on this subject. I believe with a different mode of punishment we should have fewer murders, and therefore life would be more secure. I have from time to time read all that has been urged on both sides of this question, and am convinced that those who are against capital punishment outreason their opponents. I understand that a bill is to be brought into the House in the course of the next session for the abolition of the death penalty. Should that be the case, I shall have pleasure in voting for it, as I have done on former occasions." In the second letter Mr. Bright expresses a wish that the public attention could be roused on the question. "I believe," he goes on to say, "Mr. J. W. Pease, M. P., for South Durham, will bring the subject before Parliament during the coming session. As for my views upon it, I have always condemned our law in regard to it as un-

UNITED STATES.

Rear Admiral Alden, of the United States Navy, is dead.

A raid is to be made shortly on illicit distillers in North-West Georgia and South Carolina by mounted infantry.

The *Chicago Post* has reduced rates of composition to 30 cents. New men are largely taking frames. It is rumored that the other papers will also reduce.

The Apaches are reported to be on the war path in South-eastern Arizona, and are plundering and murdering the settlers in that district.

Jean Baptiste Henry Vandervelen and his wife have been brought to New York from Indiana, charged with having forged the name of a wealthy nobleman in Belgium to an order for 500,000 francs, payable out of his estate after his death.

Ex-Governor Wells, of Louisiana, while under examination by the House Committee on Powers and Privileges, refused to make any answer to a question as to whether the return in certain parishes were altered in favour of Hayes.

President Grant explains the concentration of troops at Washington on the ground of apprehension that destitute negroes of the district might make a raid upon the Treasury and also as being demanded by political exigency.

The death rate among the Catholics of Cincinnati shows that more than one-half are Catholics, and as they do not die faster than Protestants, this proves that they have over one-half of the population of the city.

It is said that the majority of the United States Silver Commission will report in favour of making a double standard, recommending that silver be made legal tender for all debt except on duties and imports.

STEAM STREET CARS.—A Philadelphia paper of the 4th inst., says:—"A long line of steam street cars for the Market Street Company arrived in this city to day. They are to be put on the tracks in a few days and the fare will be 5 cents."

FORGERS OF RAILROAD BONDS.—John C. Thomas a member of the gang of forgers who operated extensively in bonds of the Central and Erie roads, pleaded guilty and was remanded for sentence. The other members of the gang are either awaiting trial or in prison.

The farmers, who usually complain that their class is denied adequate representation in legislative bodies and that the lawyers monopolize all power and honor, have no cause for such complaint in Maine at least. A majority of the members are farmers, merchants and manufacturers. There are only two lawyers in the Senate and nine in the House. Seven Senators out of the thirty-one and seventeen Representatives out of 151 are college graduates.

The Alabama Legislature appears to be doing its best to bring the State up to a higher plane of enlightenment and prosperity. It has put aside politics and is working apparently for the public good. The lower branch lately appropriated, in addition to the trust funds, \$150,000 per annum for the public schools, instead of \$100,000 as last year. The finances of the State are improving under the new administration, and the schools are about the first public institutions to get the benefit of it.

During the examination of Wells, Field called attention to the fact that while the Returning Board, by throwing out 10,000 votes cast for Tilden electors, gave the electoral votes for Hayes, Wells omitted to account for their act of thus giving the latter three or four hundred majority. In response to questions by Mr. Lawrence, Wells said the Board gave to the Hayes ticket only such votes as it was entitled to receive; that they took no votes from the Democrats contrary to law.

One of the reasons advanced by President Grant in favor of immediate return to specie payments by the United States Government is his assertion that the exports for 1876 exceeded the imports for 1876 by some 138,000,000. Senator Kelly replies to this statement that it is delusive, inasmuch as it omits a large export of coin-bearing bonds. The president omits the fact that the United States pay \$280,000,000 annually in coin in foreign markets before they approach the question of commercial exchange.

AMATEUR ROPE-WALKING.—One of the greatest displays of amateur rope walking ever seen in this world occurs daily in laying the foot bridge on the wire ropes over the East River. The narrow flooring is laid in sections of twenty feet in length. The man carrying the outer end of the section to be laid walks backward on a single rope until the inner end joins that already laid, when he steps down, places it in position, and steps from the rope on to the walk. This, at the height of 270 feet, is said to be the most dangerous part of the great work of building