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THE VATICAN.

THE HOLY FATHER AND THE POLES.—A telegram in the Times, dated Rome, June 6, says:—

"This morning the Pope gave audience to 700 pilgrims from Poland, who presented an obolo of 150,000f., with a number of gifts of considerable value and great beauty. An address was read by Cardinal Ledochowski, to which his Holiness, in reply, said that among the many pilgrimages he had received in these days this was one of the most acceptable to him, on account of the grave difficulties they had surmounted to accomplish their desire—difficulties caused by the persecution they had been subjected to for so many years. His Holiness stigmatised in forcible terms the policy Russia had employed against unhappy Poland, which he characterised as ferocious and without provocation. Among the pilgrims were Princes Radziwil, Czartoryski, Jablonowski, Counts Starynski, Lubieniski, Golechowski, and many others of the Polish aristocracy."

A PRESENT FROM INDIA.—The deputation from the Vicariate Apostolic of Calcutta, represented by Walter M. Bourke Esq., was received on the 1st of June by the Holy Father. Mr. Bourke presented an exceedingly precious cross studded with 34 diamonds and having attached to it a valuable gold chain. Mr. Bourke is a Mayo gentleman, who now occupies, we believe a judicial position in India.

ROMANIAN MEN AND WOMEN.

Generally the Romanians, and more particularly the Wallachians, have handsome dark faces, eyes full of expression, and beautifully cut mouths, showing, as they smile, teeth of remarkable whiteness:—

"Their hands," writes a war correspondent, "and feet are singularly small, and their wrists and ankles as delicate as those of a Grecian statue. Adroit in body, light and graceful in their movements, they are indefatigable on the march, and support, without a murmur, the most severe fatigue. Their national costume is worn with inimitable elegance, and even the Wallachian shepherd, with his tall cachoula, his broad leather belt, his sheepskin mantle, and full drawers, which recall the Dacian 'brecks' sculptured upon Trajan's column, strikes the traveller as a model of native dignity. The women are graceful personified, with the wide, embroidered chemise, floating vest, many-coloured apron, and hair-net brilliant with gold and sequins, or have adopted modern toilets, they always charm with their perfect taste. Besides this, the Romanian lady adds to her exterior advantages a quick intelligence, a communicative gayer, and a readiness of repartee which has made her the Parisian of the East. It is the women of Wallachia, and not the waters of the River Bucharas, who have given birth to the proverb: 'O Dimbovitza he who has drank from thee, can no longer leave thy banks!'"

DEATH OF AN IRISH M.P.

Mr. John O'Keefe, M.P. for Dungarvan, is dead. The Ulster Examiner, commenting upon his death, says:—

"Death is busy in the ranks of the Home Rulers. Mr. John O'Keefe, who was returned to Parliament by the electors of the little borough of Dungarvan, pledged to the National programme, has just died in Dublin, whither he had come after his too tardy release from attendance at St. Stephen's. This makes no fewer than six deaths amongst the Home Rule party at Westminster since the general election of 1874.—Honest John Martin, Sir John Gray, noble-hearted Bonayne, Sir John Esmonde, poor young O'Callaghan, and now Mr. O'Keefe. Mr. O'Keefe, unfortunately, disgraced his political career by supporting at the last Waterford election the candidate who was the Whig nominee, Mr. Lehman, the stranger who opposed the gentleman professing the same principles as Mr. O'Keefe himself when he was aspiring to senatorial honors. There are no less than four gentlemen named as desirous of entering the field under the Home Rule banner. They are Mr. F. H. O'Donnell, whose retirement in Mr. Gray's favour in Tipperary excited comment in certain circles; Mr. Charles Dawson; late High Sheriff of Limerick; Mr. George Delany, and Mr. Stately, a Bank Chairman, who has published his address to the electors. Then Alderman McSwiney, who is at present in Rome, is named as likely to try his luck again, while Mr. Mathews, Q. C., who formerly sat for Dungarvan, is the Liberal candidate, and the Solicitor-General seeks the seat on Conservative principles. Thus there are seven Richmonds in the field. There can be no doubt of the return of a Home Ruler if the Home Rule interests be not split up."

ANOTHER PASS MADE IMMORTAL BY BRAVERY.

Duga Pass is the Thermopoli of the present war. A correspondent, writing from the spot, says:—

The grandest affair of the Russo-Turkish war has been the defence of the Duga Pass by the Montenegrins against the Turks. The most desperate fighting has been with Suleiman Pasha's forces advancing to succor the besieged posts of Piva, Garansko, and, above all, Nicos, and, as his way has lain through the famous Duga Pass—which may fairly be described as a Turkish cemetery—the losses on both sides have been tremendous. The Montenegrins made a most gallant stand at Krstic, north of the pass, where the fighting is reported to have lasted for fifty-five hours, but they would appear to have been obliged to fall back. When we read that the Montenegrins lost only seven hundred at Krstic, we must remember that this falls on a fighting population of only 25,000, and that boys over twelve take their place in the ranks, and that the sustenance of the army in times like these has

to be raised by the women from one of the stoniest of soils. Prince Nikita undoubtedly meant what he said at the close of the late armistice, when he hoped that Christian Europe would take care of the women and children of the Principality, who would doubtless in this struggle be left desolate. More gallant men never took the field, and perhaps one of the most pitiful signs of the times is that among the soldiering adventurous class in England, it is not they, but the crime-stained Turk, whom they have so often routed, whom volunteers go out to aid. And yet this defence of the Duga Pass—and this is not the first or the sixth—will always remain one of the great things of military history. The Montenegrins alone, of all European peoples and races, have shown how the Turk should be dealt with, and how the "Eastern Question" might long ago have been solved, or, rather, prevented from arising.

THE LOSS OF LIFE IN THE CRIMEAN WAR.

A contemporary reminds us that during the Crimean campaign of one year and a half:— "341,000 men were buried in the district of Taurida, which includes the Crimea. The Russians lost 170,000 soldiers; the English, French, and Turks 156,000; and there were 15,000 Tartar victims. Of this total 354,800 were interred in the Crimea, including 210,000 in the neighborhood of Sebastopol. Those killed in battle were but 30,000, and allowing an equal number for the losses from wounds, 281,000 must have succumbed from disease. The deaths of the sick persons sent away from the seat of war were about sixty thousand more, which makes the number of dead from the Crimean campaign alone 410,000."

FATHER BURKE ON THE DEVIL OF DRUNKENNESS.

In one of his recent lectures, Father Burke thus appealed to his hearers to avoid intemperance:—

"My friends, I don't want you to become talking men. There are too many talking men in this world. I don't want you to become caunting men. The Lord knows I hate cant. But I want you to become silent but eloquent apostles. Oh, my dear brothers, the man who is sober, honest, and upright—the man, no matter how poor he may be, if he is only earning 15 shillings a week, has still that nameless respectability, and I will add influence, and almost nobility, that virtue, and goodness, and faith, and purity give him—that man has influence—that man need never open his lips—that man has only to show the example of his own life to become a most eloquent and powerful apostle in the cause of every virtue. Therefore, I say to you—set your faces against this vice of intemperance. If you have any friend or associate, or fellow-workman, over whom you have any influence, in the name of God, and for the love of Our Divine Lord's Sacred Heart, use that influence to bring that man into the Holy Family, and to take the pledge. Try to get him to be temperate, quietly, calmly, almost silently, and you will have done more for God's glory than perhaps the priest, who labors for many days preaching the very Word of Jesus Christ. Above all—above all, keep your own soul. It is the emphatic admonition of the Holy Ghost, 'O man, hold firmly that which thou hast.' You have your own soul, your own intelligence, your own heart, your own will; and you have, beyond all, the grace of God, enlightening, purifying, and strengthening your intelligence, your heart, and your body. Let every man amongst you, I say, hold fast what you have. There is only one devil can rob you of it all. Let him never come near you. That Devil is the Demon of Drunkenness."

AN INSULT TO THE CRUCIFIX.

The Church in Switzerland has some difficulty to encounter from the free-thinkers. A contemporary tells us that:—

On Sexagesima Sunday at Grimaud, a village in the diocese of Frejus, a crucifix, much prized, was being blessed. A young Freethinker happened to be in the church at the time of the function. He mixed in the crowd through curiosity, or rather through impiety. When the crucifix was lifted up for the veneration of the faithful, the unhappy wretch began to utter sacrilegious blasphemies against the image of His Saviour, crying out, 'Che fa la quell' uomo nudo?' A pious woman who was standing beside him could not help exhibiting her grief and astonishment. The young man went out of the church before the function was ended. But on the following Sunday Our Lord made him feel the weight of His arm in punishment. On the evening before, while the sacrilegious wretch was engaged in his workshop, he fell into a vessel of boiling water. He was at first thought to be dead, but Divine Justice would not suffer this, in order to manifest itself in a surprising and terrible manner. The insulter had to bear in his body the avenging evidence of his crime, a manifest proof to all of the power of that Christ whom he had mocked. And so it happened. His body was stripped and remained thus stripped on his bed, as Christ was on His cross. His flesh was burnt, his skin torn away to shreds. Quest uomo nudo beating about in the convulsions of his agony was the same who had a little before mocked at the sacred nakedness of the Body of Christ. The unhappy wretch died without the Sacraments, and never saw again in this world the image of his crucified God. The tragic deed caused a profound sensation in Grimaud.—Liberia Catholic.

THE IRISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE POPE.

The audience of the Irish pilgrims with the Pope on the 7th inst. is thus described by the special correspondent of the Freeman's Journal. The audience was announced for a quarter before 12 o'clock, and at that hour the gorgeous reception hall was filled with the large and brilliant assemblage who had been privileged

with tickets of invitation for the occasion:—

"At about one o'clock the Holy Father was borne into the room of audience on his golden chair, and the moment he was seen at the entrance there was an instantaneous lull in the buzz of many voices, and a reverential, though unspoken, greeting that came from the deepest depth of every heart in the great throng, and gave evident delight to his Holiness. His Holiness looked well, but bore the marks of the enormous fatigue through which he has passed almost without cessation from the very beginning of the year. The silent, but none the less expressive enthusiasm of the pilgrims became more fervent and intense as the Pope was borne amongst them, blessing them, and smiling down amongst them, and reached its height when his Holiness took his seat upon his throne. He was robed in his white soutane, wore his white zucchetto and cincture, his pastoral cross, glistening with precious stones, and his jewelled sandals. Around him on his throne was grouped a brilliant array of Cardinals, and of Court officials, amongst them being his Eminence Monsignor Franchi, Prefect of Propaganda, Cardinal Pacca, Cardinal Howard, Cardinal Cullen, Cardinal Antonucci, Cardinal Davanzo, Cardinal Sacconi, and Cardinal Catterini, General Kanzler, Chief of the Pontifical Army, was also present, close to the throne, with several officers of the Noble Guard, Monsignors &c. &c. Without much delay, his Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin was conducted to the front of the Papal throne and read a Latin address. "When his Eminence had concluded he presented to the Holy Father the magnificent diocesan offering of 200,000 francs, and introduced to his Holiness the four Irish bishops who were present at the audience, and whose offering to the Peter's Pence reached the fine sum of more than 10,000 francs. His Eminence also presented the Peter's Pence collection (£1,900) from Cork, that from Kilkenny of over £800, and was thus the bearer to the Sovereign Pontiff of more than £10,000, one of the largest of the national contributions given to the Pope. The presentation of the Irish addresses was then proceeded with, and the address from Maynooth College, from the Catholic Union of Ireland, from the diocese of Galway, from the diocese of Achonry, from the diocese of Kilkenny, from the Catholic University, from the diocese of Elphin, and from the Holy Family Confraternity of St. Catharine's, Dublin; from various Convents of the Order of Loretto, &c. &c. were laid at the feet of the Papal throne, and most graciously acknowledged by the Holy Father."

RELIEF FOR THE ST. JOHN SUFFERERS.

The following is a list of subscriptions received for the sufferers by the fire at St. John.

Table with 2 columns: Donor Name and Amount. Includes Dominion Government (\$20,000), Toronto (\$20,000), Board of Trade (\$1,000), Corn Exchange (\$600), Private subscriptions (\$4,608), Hamilton (\$1,500), Ottawa (\$5,000), Sarnia (\$500), Whitby (\$500), London (\$5,000), Brockville (\$500), Carleton County Council (\$500), Renfrew County Council (\$300), Leeds and Grenville County Council (\$200), Guelph (\$1,000), Halifax (total) (\$40,000), Yarmouth, N. S. (\$1,500), New Brunswick Government (\$20,000), Moncton Oddfellows (\$100), London, Eng. Imperial Insurance Co. (\$2,500), Portland, Me. (\$8,000), Chicago/Change (\$6,500), Philadelphia (\$4,222), Boston (\$13,000), Bangor Oddfellows (\$300), Boston and Storrington Line Steamers (\$50). Total: \$160,009.45. To this we must add that of Montreal which is \$10,000,000.

THE CHANCES OF THE WAR.

A writer in Fraser's Magazine, who took part in the Armenian campaign of 1854-6, sketches from personal recollection the chief points around which the interest of the present military operations centres:—

"In his judgment the odds of fortune are now more heavily against the Turks than they were at any time during the two previous wars. While the Ottoman army of to-day is superior to those of 1828 and 1854 in numbers, equipment, and organization, the generalship of Mukhtar Pasha is scarcely better than that of Abdi and Zafir, and the treasury which was full then, is now empty. If adequate reinforcements can be sent from Trebizond or Asia Minor, the loss of the Armenian capital is not yet a foregone conclusion; but if the apathy, corruption, and blundering incapacity which led to the disaster of 1854-5 be repeated, the loss of the whole country from Trebizond to the Zab may be confidently predicted. The writer, who is evidently a Tory after the Earl of Beaconsfield's heart, forecasts the disastrous result of an extension of Russian dominion in Armenia. In his judgment it would simply mean that potential command of all Asia Minor, of Syria and Egypt, and of the Euphrates and Tigris Valleys to the Persian Gulf, with the establishment of a naval arsenal at Bushire. After the fall of Erzeroum, Diarbekir, Aleppo, Modoul, and Bagdad will be at the mercy of the conqueror during the present campaign. The Suez Canal will be threatened, a British fleet will have to be permanently maintained in the Persian Gulf, and the alternative route to India will be closed for all time. He therefore recommends a Sikh army corps be dispatched from Bombay to Bagdad as a sound

measure of precaution likely to limit the area of the Armenian campaign and gratify 30,000,000 of the Indian subjects of the British Empire who reverence the Caliph, quite as much as Irish Catholics venerate the Pope. The writer seems to overlook the fact that such a movement on the part of the British Government would be equivalent to a declaration of war with Russia."

THE ARMY OF AUSTRIA.

The tactics of the Austrian Army have been entirely changed since 1866, when the only notion of meeting the fire of modern artillery and breech-loaders was to thrust men forward into the jaws of death. Happily, the extreme has in this case been avoided:—

"Infantry battalions," writes a military observer, "do not march steadily in line or column to the cannon's mouth, but neither do they hang back to fight only defensive battles, as some theorists would set us to do. It is recognized that to remain in a position will neither win battles nor campaigns. The attack is, therefore, assiduously practised, but always in dispersed order. I am told that one fault commonly prevails. When, at manoeuvres a position is captured the work of the day is too often considered to be at an end, whereas, in truth, one of the most important tactical principles remains to be illustrated. The new order of fighting which is now universal has the inseparable disadvantage of mixing different battalions or brigades in a certain amount of confusion. The Prussians in their real tactical studies, not in the show manoeuvres to which they invite all the world, practice assiduously the rally after the combat. A position taken is almost invariably crowned at once with artillery, under cover of which the mixed troops rally rapidly, while others held in reserve push the advantage home. In England we have up to this time hardly admitted the necessity of submitting to confusion among the troops, and it is therefore logical enough not to practice getting them out of it. The Austrians admit the necessity of the dispersed order, with its inevitable sequel, the mixture of battalions, but they do not seem to practice sufficiently the reduction of confusion to a minimum, or the pressing an advantage when gained over the enemy. All this may seem a trifle to some readers, but when troops are equally matched it is just such trifles which decide the day and fortune goes to that side which has left nothing undone to insure success. As to the men themselves, they have a general appearance of youth, and do not look well fed. The first fault is incurred by time, and the regiments would look very different if their reserves were called to the ranks. The second cannot be remedied without an expenditure which the nation could ill bear. The Austrian army is now, and has been for several years the cheapest in Europe of those that are fed at all. Only in Turkey are to be found men who will fight without pay and march almost without food, thinking where other troops would starve."

THE EARTHQUAKE IN PERU.

FIFTEEN TOWNS DESTROYED.

IMMENSE LOSS OF LIFE.

Papers from Callao, via Panama, give full details of the disastrous convulsion of which the telegraph has given an outline. It appears that at about 8:30 o'clock on the night of May 9th a severe earthquake shock, lasting from four to five minutes, moved the entire southern coast, even reaching down as far as Antofagasta. So severe was the movement that in many places it was impossible to stand upright without support. The first shock was succeeded by several others of less intensity, and then the sea, receding from the shore, seemed to concentrate its strength for the fearful and repeated attacks it made upon the land. Leaving Callao and proceeding southward the first port visited was Pisco, where the damage was not great.

At Mollendo the railway was torn up by the sea and for a distance of 300 feet, since repaired, and a violent hurricane afterwards set in from the south, preventing the approach of all vessels, and unroofing the houses of town. At Ilo the railway was also injured, but not to great extent. At Arica the people were busily engaged in preparing temporary fortifications to repel a threatened assault of the rebel ram Hauscar at the very moment when the roar of the earthquake was heard. The shocks were very numerous and caused immense damage in the town the people flying to the Morro for safety. The sea was suddenly perceived to recede from the beach, and a wave from ten to fifteen feet in height, rolled in upon the shore, carrying before it all that it met. Eight times was repeated this assault of the ocean. The earthquake had levelled to the ground the Custom House in great part, the railway station, the submarine cable office, the hotel, British Consulate, steamship agency, and many private dwellings. Owing to the early hour of the evening and the excitement attendant on the proposed attack of the Hauscar everyone was out and stirring, and the only loss of life reported was that of three children who were overtaken by the water. The progress of the wave was only stopped at the foot of the hill on which the church stands, which point is further inland than that reached in August, 1868. Four miles of the railway melted away like sand before the assault of the water; locomotives, cars, and rails were hurled about by the sea like so many playthings, and left in a tumbled mass of rubbish. The United States steamer Waters, stranded by the bore of 1868, was lifted up bodily and floated two miles north of her old position. The cable buoy was moved a quarter of a mile northward. Merchandise from the Custom House and stores was carried by the water to a point on the beach five miles distant. The damage done was greater than that of the previous calamity, as the new buildings erected since 1868

were of a more costly and substantial class. The next morning the scene was pitiful. The shocks still continued; the sea was yet dreadfully agitated; the only two vessels in the bay, anchored far out, escaped injury, but the launches and boats had been destroyed. The people passed the night on the hills. Plunder had been commenced; the goods scattered along the beach, and the Prefect, to enforce order, was obliged to command his troops to fire upon the thieves. This occasioned a tumult in which several men were killed and wounded. From the interior supplies of food and clothing were sent down. Tacna and the other inland towns felt the shock but slightly. Arequipa, the chosen victim of earthquakes, was this time left intact. Her own special volcano, the Misti, left the honours of the fray to his distant brother on the frontier, for it would appear that the shock proceeded from the Inga, a volcano situated on the southern boundary between Peru and Bolivia, and which has recently been reported in activity.

Iquique is in ruins. The movement was experienced there at the same moment and with the same terrible force. Its duration was exactly four minutes and twenty seconds, proceeding from the south-east, directly from the location of the Inga. The houses, built of wood and cane, tumbled down at the first onset of the enemy. Lamps were broken, and the burning oil spreading over the debris, immediately started a general conflagration. Three companies of firemen—German, Italian, and Peruvian—were instantly at their posts, although it was still difficult to maintain an upright position, shock following shock with dreadful regularity. In order to procure water the two best engines were stationed on the beach, and the work began. Just then the cry arose:—"The sea! the sea!" and the angry waves rushed in—the engines were carried out by the reflux, and the fire continued unopposed. Three elements of destruction busy at one moment:—Fire, water, and the earthquake! The affrighted people gave up all attempts at resistance, and left the city to its fate, flying to the neighbouring eminences. The fire destroyed a large portion of the town; the earthquake levelled nearly all the rest, and the water covers the ruins which it took out in its influx. All the coasting craft and small boats in the harbour were broken to pieces and drifting about in every direction. On board occurred the loss of life alluded to. The Prefect immediately began the work of re-organization. As in Arica, robbery of the goods lying in the streets was attempted, but an urban guard formed of the citizens and such severe measures resorted to that the robbers were speedily checked. It was now discovered that the cable was injured, and the despatches sent to Lima and Arica for help and water principally were detained. The break in the cable is located between Iquique and Arica, and doubtless caused by the movement. Away up on the pampas, eleven miles from Iquique, the splendid nitrate establishment, "La Nueva Carolina," was completely destroyed; the town of Tarapaca, twenty-three leagues inland, and the villages of Pica, Matilla and Canchones more or less ruined. The loss of life is reported as not being great. The sufferings of the people of Iquique were intense; the absence of water and the destruction of the principal stores added to their hardships; tents were improvised along the sides of the hills near the town, and the neighborhood soon resembled a vast encampment. It is estimated that the damage done in Iquique will amount to nearly 4,000,000 of soles. Chanayaya, the little town at the guano loading-deposit known as Fabillon de Pica, with 400 houses, to-day has only two standing. Here, as at Iquique, the earthquake was followed by fire. As fortune would have it there were no fire-engines in the town and so the sea took pity on the inhabitants, came in and extinguished the conflagration but as it retired carried off all that remained of the place. A little chapel was seen floating off on the waves, and afterwards was found broken into pieces far to the southward. In one of the guano cuttings thirty labourers were buried by the falling earth and suffocated. Among the shipping the havoc was terrible. One captain states that the stern of his vessel was lifted from the water by the upheaval at an angle of 45 degrees and he for the instant imagined she was going down bow on.

The shock of earthquake was especially severe at Chanayaya; in some spots the earth opened in crevices of fifteen metres in depth, and the whole surface of the ground was changed. At least two hundred people were killed, bodies were floating around in the bay, and a pestilence is feared. A small steamer, the Ballestar, was instantly despatched to Iquique for assistance, but the condition of that place was such that but little could be afforded. At Huancillo, another guano loading station, the damage inflicted was fearful. All the houses were destroyed; the guano cuts have fallen in, and as at Fabillon all loading must be suspended for at least two months, as that time will be requisite to effect the necessary repairs. At Punta De Lobos two vessels were lost—the Havre (French) and Shanrock (English). Fourteen ships were more or less injured. At Antofagasta the atmosphere was illuminated by a red glare which was supposed to proceed from the volcano of San Pedro de Atacama, a few leagues in the interior. The sea completely swept the business portion of the town during four hours. Mexillones was visited by a tidal wave 65 feet in height; two-thirds of the town is completely obliterated; guano-shoots, wharves, launches, boats, water distilleries, railway station, locomotives, cars and furniture all swallowed up by the insatiable enemy, the sea. At Mexillones six persons were drowned. At Tocopilla—little or nothing remains of the town: A mine called "La Pea Blanca," four miles to the southward, sank in, smothering 200 workmen, of whom forty were Cornish miners. Copija, the principal town on the Bolivian coast, has lost three-fourths of its houses. The wave, thirty-five feet high, swept along the main business street, and left it as level as the desert. Wharves and launches were all carried out to sea. The church spire was knocked over, and even consecrated ground was entered—the cemetery suffering somewhat from the watery foe, all of the towns are in the greatest distress; water is wanted. The condensers being on the very sea shore, were the first overwhelmed by the waves.