

## THE SHOEMAKER OF HAGENAU.

The dealers in indulgences had established themselves in Hagenau, in 1517. The wife of a shoemaker, profiting by the permission given in the instruction of the Commissary General, had procured, against her husband's will, a letter of indulgence, and had paid for it a gold florin. Shortly after she died; and the widower omitting to have mass said for the repose of her soul, the curate charged him with contempt of religion, and the judge of Hagenau summoned him to appear before him. The shoemaker put in his pocket his wife's indulgence, repaired to the place of summons. 'Is your wife dead?' asked the judge. 'Yes,' answered the shoemaker.—'What have you done with her?' 'I buried her and commended her soul to God.' 'But have you had mass said for the salvation of her soul?' 'I have not;—it was not necessary; she went to heaven in the moment of her death.' How do you know that?' 'Here is the evidence of it.' The widower drew forth from his pocket the indulgence, and the judge, in the presence of the curate, read, in so many words, that, the woman who had received it would go not into purgatory but straight to heaven. 'If the curate pretends that a mass is necessary after that,' said the shoemaker, 'my wife has been cheated, and the curate is deceiving me.' There was no reply to this defence, and the accused was acquitted. It was thus that the good sense of the people disposed of these impostures.—*D'Aubigne.*

## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF NEWS.

**COLONIAL.**—We rejoice to find our excellent Governor justifying the hopes reposed in him as the enlightened friend of freedom, and the determined foe of legalized oppression. The recent resignation of his Council, whilst it has freed his public movements from an aspect of anomalous incongruity, has proved how little some men have learned from their past experience, and what might be expected from their restoration to power, and their unchecked administration of our colonial affairs.

**EUROPE.**—The Queen of Spain has passed her initiative by attending and enjoying to the full, that Spanish luxury, a *bull fight*—the proceeds of the exhibition going to the erection of a church!

Ireland and Europe are anxiously waiting the results of the state trial of the Repealers. The Irish continue peaceful and calm, obeying to the letter, the oft reiterated advice of their sagacious leader. A compromise is spoken of, in some quarters, betwixt O'Connell and the Government, but no credit seems due to the report.

## POETRY.

## "THE OLD YEAR'S NIGHT."

This night, the Old Year's night,  
I will not share your mirth,  
With cup, and laugh, and song, to hail  
A New Year's birth.

This night, the Old Year's night,  
I sit alone, by choice,  
To listen to the mutterings  
Of its departing voice.

For I had rather hear  
The Old Year to me speak,  
Than wait to watch the lie of hope  
Upon the New Year's cheek.

The Old Year to me speak!  
Oh! mean I not more years than *One*?  
Now old! yes, every, every year,  
Which o'er my hear, hath gone.

"Unto you were we born!  
And us you should have shap'd to good,  
For your own sake, that we  
Close by you in adversity,  
Your keepers might have stood.

"You did neglect us all!  
And one by one we died,  
The sad mementos only  
Of your passions and your pride."

ANON.

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