

like the Prussian occupation, much as he has benefited by it.

"Many intelligent Frenchmen," says Herr Wickede, of the Cologne Gazette, "now long for the speedy entry of our troops into Paris, being convinced that the peace which they so ardently long for cannot be obtained till then. 'It is painful to have to confess this,' said a very honorable pensioned Staff officer to me at Nancy, 'but I wish very much that the King of Prussia may soon enter Paris as a conqueror, for until that happens the present Provisional Government at Bordenaux will not be put down, and the peace which is necessary at any price for my poor country, if it is not to be entirely destroyed, will not be restored.' After calculating that before the war ends at least a million of Frenchmen will have been killed, and half that number be maimed, Herr Wickede remarks—"Napoléon I. did not lead many more young men out of France to the slaughter. Then there is the enormous number who have died through distress and the inevitable epidemics, and who may be reckoned by hundreds of thousands. There now prevails in many districts exhausted by our troops, a frightful famine. The people perish by thousands, like flies in the summer, and this will terribly increase in the course of this severe winter, when the last remains of the scanty harvest are consumed. Irrespective of the sacrifices of money and property, France will hardly be able to recover in the ensuing decade its enormous loss of life. It is the flower of manhood, on which the vigor of a nation rests, and which is now offered up to the Moloch of war. And all this happens because the French think it contrary to their nationality or pride to cede a small bit of territory—Alsace and a small part of Lorraine, where German speech and manners especially prevail, with hardly 1,500,000 inhabitants—districts which were mostly stolen from us by Louis XIV., and so to restore what they were never entitled to." He regards the present bitter contest as no longer a war of Cabinets, but a war of nationalities, a struggle between the German race and the chief of the Latin races for supremacy in Europe. The French have been wont to yield that supremacy for 200 years, and until Paris falls the majority of them will not admit themselves vanquished.

Each Prussian Corps has two regiments of Artillery belonging to its district, one of which is composed of garrison, the other of field artillery. With the latter only we have now to do. The regiment of field artillery has four Abtheilungen, or divisions, three of them being composed of field batteries, the fourth of horse artillery batteries. A field-battery division has four batteries of six guns—24 guns; so in the three divisions there are 72 guns. The one horse artillery division has generally three batteries, sometimes four, of six guns—18 or 24 guns; total in the corps 90 or 96 guns. In war each corps takes all the cavalry except one regiment has been taken from it to form separate divisions, has a total of 25,750 infantry, including pioneers, and 600 horsemen—total, 26,350 fighting men. It has generally 90 guns, or rather more than three guns per 1,000. This is the normal proportion, but as the war proceeded and men fell in thousands while the guns remained, it is evident that the proportion rose to four, five, and even in some cases six per thousand. It was the fire of this tremendous armament which demoralized the French so much that they were unable to withstand the after pressure of the infantry. The successes of this campaign have been obtained by artillery, as evidently as those of 1866 were by infantry armed with breech-loaders. Here is the Prussian answer to the question "How are breech-loading small arms and intruments to be overcome?" By a disproportionately large number of field guns not tied fast to particular brigades, but acting as a distinct arm to prepare the way for the others."

The Prussian guns are of two calibres—so-called, 4-pounders and 6-pounders, or, according to English military phraseology, 9-pounders and 15-pounders. All the horse artillery batteries carry four-pounders; half the field batteries have six-pounders, the other half four-pounders. It need hardly be said that the guns are rifled and are loaded at the breech. The projectiles used have been, almost invariably, lead-coated common shells with the well-known Prussian percussion fuse. The ranges have been, as a rule, 2,000 paces and under, for beyond that distance there was no certainty of good practice, the eye being incapable of telling exactly where the shell falls, and the curve of the shell's flight being so considerable above 2,000 paces that an accurate range was necessary. Any mistake in the distance would have caused the projectile to pass harmlessly overhead, or strike short and bound over. What, therefore, is the reply to the Prussian system of field artillery? Calibres at least equal, greater velocity, so as to give the shell a flatter path through the air, and instruments for ascertaining the distance correctly; but, above all, plenty of guns and of trained gunners.

Thinking that it might interest your readers I annex a short account of General Chanzy's career. General Chanzy is about forty-seven years old and was born at the small village of Noant, in the department of Ardennes. Whilst a child he was remarkable for his attention to his work and for intelligence. Very early he showed a taste for the career of arms, and at sixteen years of age ran away and enlisted as a cabin boy on board a man-of-war. After a year of this hard life, he was discovered, and having been cured of his taste for sea, was sent to St. Cyr, out of which he came with the highest honors, and was appointed as sub-lieutenant to a regiment of Zouaves. From that time to the breaking out of the Italian war, in 1859, he remained in Algeria, which he left with the grade of chef de bataillon of the 23rd Regiment of the line. For his brilliant conduct during the whole campaign, and especially at Solferino (where he was noted in the order of the day), he was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 74th. During the expedition to Syria in 1860 he acted as political adviser to General d'Hautpoul, being selected for that post in consequence of his great proficiency in Eastern languages. He acquitted himself so admirably of this difficult task that he was promoted to the grade of officer of the Legion of Honor. In 1864 he obtained the colonelcy of the 48th, and commanded the subdivision of Sidjel-el-Ahiss, and became general in 1868, displaying whilst there great administrative abilities. He, also, during this year accompanied the expedition to the South under General Whimpyen, and principally contributed towards its success. Named general of division on his arrival from Algeria, he took a very important part in the battle of Coulmiers. At the battle of Patay he carried at the head of the 16th Corps, the strong positions of the right wing of the Prussian army. The unfortunate events that succeeded these successes placed the command of the second army of the Loire in his hands, and for three days he repulsed the united efforts of Prince Frederick Charles and the Duke of Mecklenburg. He has accomplished his long retreat without losing a field-gun, with the exception of the battery lost at Vendôme, after the fighting was over. This work will be acknowledged hereafter as no slight feat to have accomplished with a young army against 150,000 veterans.—Cor. of Standard.

HORRORS OF WAR.—THE HOSPITALS.

An immense number of shells fell into the adjacent Couvent des Ursulines. The red cross flag was floating over it and over all the hospitals, but no part of the town was spared. One shell burst in a room of the College, which was crumpled with wounded. It took off both legs of a French gentleman, the editor of a religious newspaper, who, as a volunteer hospital assistant, had gone through the whole war, and who

was at the moment engaged in binding up the wounds of a German soldier, whom he had protected and brought in. Then a most affecting incident occurred. The German had seized his benefactors hand, and, sobbing, kissed it repeatedly as the necessary amputation was performed. Alas! the noble spirit of the man, who closed an exemplary life in an act of love for his enemy, passed away in mortal agony. Most of the inhabitants being in the cellars the damage done was principally confined to the roofs of houses, chimneys-pots, &c. About dusk the firing along the line became slacker, and the bombardment ceased. Shortly afterwards a Prussian officer and a few men, accompanying a train of Frenchcoats full of wounded under the protection of the red cross, entered the town, and carried off with them the principal municipal authorities. The night was a very startling one, and the rattle of the musketry never quite ceased. There was also a good deal of desultory firing about the streets by Prussian marauders, who sometimes caught sight of the uniforms of French soldiers who had brought in wounded comrades, and who were endeavouring to rejoin their corps. The whole town was a vast hospital, and there was only one doctor capable of performing amputations. In the theatre alone were upwards of 200 desperately wounded men. It was a scene which those who speak lightly of war should have witnessed. Would that those who hold in their hands the power to make peace could have seen it for five minutes! There was no doctor for many hours in the place. The cold was intense, and many a man's life slipped away from there being no one sufficiently skilled to bind up his wounds. The dead lay thick among the dying, and as the former were dragged out their places were instantly filled. Miserable objects, with broken jaws or faces half shot away, wandered about pointing to their dreadful wounds, and making piteous signals for water, which it was impossible for them to swallow. Officers and men, veterans and boys, all lay in one indistinguishable mass of misery. Every man that the human voice can utter rose from that heap of agony, and the cries of "Water! For the love of God, water! A doctor! A doctor!" never ceased. It was indeed a relief when the surgeon came from other similar scenes, and crying loudly, "Voyons, ce sont les gracieux blessés? Ou sont les amputations?" set to work with determined but kindly energy. It will be a satisfaction to the subscribers to the great English Fund for the Sick and Wounded to know that numbers of wounded French were spared unutterable torture, and owe their lives to the supply of English chloroform, blankets, bandages, and wine which was fortunately forthcoming on that fearful night. The blessings with which they were received can hardly do our nation any harm.

I was standing in the afternoon with an English companion close to the Prussian reserves, watching the wonderful good fortune of a battery of horse artillery, round which the French were pouring a perfect shower of shells, when an officer with the red cross badge addressed me in French—"Sir, there are some of your comrades in this village dying of starvation—wounded men. Why do you not carry them away or give them food?" I replied that I was not more a comrade to the French than to the Germans, and would like to help both; but that I could not transport these men, the Germans having taken all the carts and all the horses; and that I could not feed them, as bread could not be bought for gold, the Germans having seized all the flour at Bouengny. He turned away making some sneering remark to his brother officers about Englishmen, and we entered the village. At that moment the cavalry of reserve were dismounted close by, engaged in cooking. They looked weary and well fed. The first house in the place was a Pension de Jeunes Filles. I don't think that any of the horrors of war depicted by the truthful pens of Echermann-Chatrain have equalled what that house contained. Every room (and there were many), from the cellar to the roof, was crowded with dead and starving men, lying so thick it was impossible to move among them. Some had been there since Tuesday evening, many since Wednesday. It was now Saturday, and not one drop of water, not one atom of food, had yet passed their lips. Many were desperately wounded, yet still alive. There were several officers among them, one tenderly nursed by a broken-legged sergeant of his regiment, who had covered him with his own coat. The windows of the house had been broken, and there was no furniture, and all these days and nights of almost Arctic cold they had been lying on the bare floor with their wounds undressed. The stench was awful. Every house in the village was the same. In some rooms were twelve or fourteen men—many of them corpses! Worse still! One poor lad was lying alone, shot through the thigh. Cold and hunger had in three days made him the most piteous object I ever beheld. His words, "Quel bonheur!" when he realized that a human face was near him, will never be forgotten by those who heard them. That night a kind Urban doctor volunteered to bind up a few of the worst of the wounds, to enable the men to be transported, but he had nothing with him but a pair of scissors and some pins. Fortunately the resources of the English Society did not fail, and most of the sufferers were removed during the night or on the following day to the Couvent des Ursulines at Bouengny. Many, alas! were too near death to bear movement, and an excellent French abbé—himself a martyr to consumption—spent the night with them in prayer, and in performing, with the assistance of an English Protestant soldier, the last sacraments of the Church. Many German red-cross men passed during the night, but they refused to give assistance, being too much occupied in driving in the cattle, donkeys, and dogs they had plundered from the neighboring farms.—Times Cor.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

AN IRISH BISHOP AND HIS FLOCK.—The Lord Bishop of Killaloe has just received from his flock a magnificent testimony of their esteem, veneration, and love. The clergy and laity of the Diocese have presented their pastor with the sum of £812 to recoup him the expense of his attendance at the Oecumenical Council.

THE SUNDAY CLOSING OF PUBLIC-HOUSES.—A most important deputation of influential gentlemen from various parts of Ireland, accompanied by the City Members of Parliament, Sir Dominick Corrigan, M.D., and Mr. Pim, waited on the Chief Secretary for Ireland on the 22nd Dec., for the purpose of urging on Government the necessity of closing public-houses on Sundays. The deputation having been introduced, the Rev. Dr. Spratt read the following letter from His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin—"55, Eccles-street, Dublin, 17th Dec., 1870.—My Dear Dr. Spratt:—In answer to your letter regarding the closing of public-houses on Sunday, I have merely to repeat what I wrote on a former occasion, viz.:—that in my opinion, the law which forbids traffic on Sunday should make no exception in favour of the sale of whiskey and other intoxicating liquors, the abuse of which is so injurious to the public. It cannot be denied that drunkenness is the source of nearly all the crimes that we have to deplore in Ireland, and hence every exertion should be made to check the progress of that degrading vice. But, in my humble opinion, no exertions would produce any good result as long as the doors of the public-houses stand open during the leisure of the Sunday. I wish you, therefore, every success in your present attempt to restrain drunkenness, by removing the proximate occasion of promoting it; and I trust your deputation to the Right Honourable the Chief Secretary will produce a good effect.—With great esteem, I remain your faithful servant, J. PAUL CARDINAL COLLIER."

DEATH, Jan. 5.—The first cases under the new Land Act came before Mr. O'way, Q.C., chairman of the county of Antrim, at the Quarter Sessions of Ballymena, on Tuesday. As the practical working of the Act will depend very much upon the legal interpretation of its provisions, great importance is attached to the decisions of the Land Courts, which are likely to be precedents. Mr. Butt, Q.C., appeared as counsel for Mr. Hill, a tenant on the Glenarm estate of Lord Antrim, who claimed £750 as compensation for disturbance of occupancy. The claim included £400 paid by the tenant on coming into occupation, £100 for manuring 20 acres in 1870, £6 for laying down grasses in 1870, £150 for continuous improvements in 1870, by liming, manuring, draining, fencing, and general cultivation.—Against this demand the landlord had a cross claim of £700 for deterioration of the farm through bad cultivation, general injury to the entire farm, dilapidation of buildings, breaking up old ten ground and exclusion from the possession after the 1st of November last. Mr. Orr, who appeared as counsel for Lord Antrim, raised a point on the construction of the 15th section, which he contended had the effect of exempting demesne lands from the payment of compensation. Mr. Butt argued that such lands were not exempt; that the expression "demesne lands" was used in the clause by accident, and that the general term "holding," which was used in sections 6, 7, and 8, included demesne lands. The point was reserved, and evidence was given of the sale of the tenant-right to the claimant for £400, which Lord Antrim had required him to pay to the outgoing tenant as the value of his improvements; also of the fact that the alleged improvements of Mr. Hill for which he claimed the other sums named, were unexhausted. The case sought to be made on cross-examination was that the first tenant was extravagant and unfortunate in his farming, and that the land had been deteriorated and injured during the tenancy of the claimant. A number of minor questions were raised as to the effect of different crops upon land and the proper mode of cultivating them. A land valuator was examined for the respondent, and gave minute evidence as to alleged deterioration of the farm. The respondent's steward, who accompanied the valuator in examining the farm, gave similar evidence. At the close of the case Mr. O'way announced that he would give judgment at the Land Sessions of Belfast.

In a mercantile point of view, the year 1870 has been favorable for Ireland. The agricultural classes have been benefited by the high prices for all descriptions of live stock, and there is no want of money in the country; credit is sound, and bankruptcies and insolvencies are comparatively rare. Railway traffic, too, has increased in all directions, including the lines in the North, where the dulness in the linen trade was calculated to produce an adverse effect, and several projects for branches and extensions will come before Parliament in the ensuing Session. When some of these proposals shall have been carried out, and it is stated they are partly supported by the London and North-Western Company, there will be unbroken communication by rail between North-South, East, and West, as the principal lines will be then connected together on the north side of Dublin. The scheme of "The Dublin Trunk Connecting Railway Company," which was intended to do this, and to join all with the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford line by a tunnel under the River Liffey, will in effect be carried out, with the exception of the tunnel. It seems also worthy of remark that the port of Dublin is becoming every day more important, and the connexion of the northern and southern lines of railway, now pushing their way down to the river side, as has been long since done by the Midland Great Western, will add to its facilities and consequent value.

An important case was heard at the Kildare Quarter Sessions before Mr. Lefroy, the County Chairman. It appears that Samuel Holt, of Roscarbery, in the county of Kildare, holds a farm of 450 acres from Lord Harberton, on a lease granted in 1844 for 21 years and one life now aged 30; and the rent being less than 14s per acre yearly, the tenant seeks under the 6th section of the Act to have alleged improvements amounting to upwards of £8,000 registered, so that their value might be known in case of disturbance. The landlord's counsel contended that the value of the improvements was not anything like the amount sought for, and that £5,000 claimed for a house was not only excessive, but should not be allowed at all, as the house was built before the lease was granted. They admit liability in all of about £2,000 but this includes the value of a house which they contend they are not liable for at all. The decision was reserved till the April Sessions.

An instance of the salutary effect of the Peace Preservation Act in checking agrarian crime was given a few days ago in the arrest and conviction of a notorious character named Duffy, who is believed to have been a ringleader in Whiteboy outrages in the county of Meath. On the night of the 3d Dec. a party of men visited the house of a farmer, and presenting revolvers at his head, put him on his knees and threatened to shoot him for expressing disapproval of Fenianism. On the same night a police patrol met the prisoner, in company with another man going in the direction of another house, the owner of which expected an attack, and had put them on the alert. He gave a false name when questioned, was arrested on suspicion, and brought before the magistrates on Tuesday. He had been prosecuted before on a similar charge, but made a plausible excuse and was discharged. The magistrates now convicted him, and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment.

The Cork Town Council has passed a resolution condemning the amnesty accorded to the Fenian convicts as insufficient, and calling upon the Government to grant to Ireland its freedom, by restoring its power of self-rule. The provisions of the new Land Act are being tested in numerous proceedings instituted in the Irish Courts. Meetings of sympathy with the Pope continue to be held.

Mr. Donnelly, Registrar-General for Ireland, has issued a circular to the clergy of the disestablished Church, directing them to cease from the marriage registers the words "Church of Ireland," and to substitute the words "Protestant Episcopal Church of Ireland." Many of them have returned for answer a flat, and not over-polite refusal to comply with this order, which they maintain, asks them to falsify the title accorded to the Church even by the Act of Parliament by which it was disestablished.

A large number of persons of the working class assembled at the Catholic Cathedral, at Cork, on Sunday, the 1st ult., at the invitation of the bishop to renew the temperance pledge administered by him on the previous New Year's day. The bishop delivered an address on the evils of intemperance and deplored that the reformation effected at the early part of last year had not been permanent. He appealed to the publicans to assist this good work by forming guilds, and determining not to allow any of their class to sell drink to those who could not take it without ruin, and especially by resolving not to sell drink on Sunday morning. A very large number renewed their pledge.

NARROW ESCAPE OF LORD LURGAN.—On December 30, Lord Lurgan, accompanied by Colonel McDonnell, of St. Martin's, Perth, was out shooting at Raughan, near Lurgan, on his Lordship's estates, when his lordship accidentally stepped on some snow covering an old bog-hole, and fell in the water up to his neck. Colonel McDonnell and one of the gamekeepers at once ran to the assistance of his lordship, who held up his gun that the keeper, but in grasping it, might pull him up the bank; but in doing this the charge exploded, the contents passing

between his lordship's arm and side. Happily, beyond the wetting by immersion, and the shock to the nervous system, Lord Lurgan has not sustained any injury.

Some letters have been received from the political prisoners which express disappointment at the conditions of their release. Mr. Thomas Clark Luby thinks the act of clemency which banishes him for 15 years, after an imprisonment for five years in a quarter which he says was unexampled in severity and humiliation, "might rather be styled an act of cynical cruelty." He states that a document was read to him, upon the ambiguous phraseology of which he passes some criticism, informing him of the probability that Her Majesty's Ministers would advise Her Majesty to grant a conditional pardon, and that a reasonable time would be allowed him to see his friends, and he would be permitted to write any letters he pleased. The document asked what arrangements he proposed to make. He alleges that unless he is allowed to visit Ireland he can make no arrangements. He says he does not want the slightest public display, but he could not think of letting his wife and children come over in this weather to see him. He laments his mother's death, and observes that he could say many things of what has caused his family so much woe, but he thinks it better to leave it to others to characterize it as it deserves. Mr. Denis D. Mulcahy writes to his father and sister to say that he would go to Ireland under any restrictions that the Home Secretary might impose in order to see them, but he could not, in this inclement weather, ask them to visit him. He thinks it "the greatest of all punishments to ask or compel a man broken down in health to go into a foreign land inimical to his constitution, where he has neither relative nor friend." This, he says, and depriving him of the privilege of seeing his poor father, weighs heaviest on his heart. Brian Dillon, of Cork, writes to his mother that he could not leave the prison, owing to the state of his health; that he had been confined to bed for the last three weeks, and was suffering the most excruciating pain in his left leg and that he had not slept two consecutive hours for the last month.

GREAT BRITAIN.

ITALY, THE POPE AND THE ENGLISH CATHOLICS.—The following formal protest of the Catholics of the United Kingdom against the invasion of Rome has been signed by numerous English Catholics—among others, by the Earl of Denbigh, Lord Arundell of Wardour, Lord Herries, Lord H. Kerr, Sir George Bowyer, Sir R. Gerard, Sir Percy Mordaunt, Sir H. Pollen, Sir R. Glendoweryn Gordon, Hon. H. Petre, Hon. F. Petre, Hon. A. Petre, Sir C. Clifford, the Master of Herries, Mr. W. Herbert, of Clytton, Sergeant Bellasis, Hon. W. Stourton, Colonel Vaughan, Major W. B. Whettam, Captain Dashwood, R.N., Mr. Robert Mount, Mr. C. Delabarre Bodenham, Mr. Charles Blount, Mr. C. Noel Welman, Mr. W. Ince Amlerton, Mr. K. H. Digby, M.P., Mr. H. Danvers Clarke, Mr. David Lewis, Mr. Henry Sharples, Mr. F. Vaughan, Marquis de Lys, Mr. William Langdale, Mr. C. R. Eaton, Mr. W. Vavasour, Mr. C. Mousley, Mr. J. Lescher, Major Gordon, Mr. W. Tempest, Mr. L. Arnold, Mr. J. H. Washington Hibbert, Mr. Aubrey de Vere, and many others.—

"We, the undersigned Catholics, have witnessed with indignation the recent perpetration of a great public crime.

"It is, first, as men and as citizens that we protest against the invasion of the remaining States of the Church, and the capture of Rome. As members of the community of civilized nations, we denounce these acts as violations of public law. Without declaration of war, without motive beyond the desire to possess, coupled with the facility of acquisition, more than 60,000 regular troops, with numerous artillery, have passed a frontier, assailed a capital, and dispossessed an ancient and legitimate Government in the full and tranquil exercise of its functions.

"We hold that those who submit to such an event without a protest as solemn and energetic as it is in their power to make, connive at a mortal blow given to the general conscience, and at the corruption of those rudimentary instincts of honor and justice without which security and freedom are impossible, whether for States or individuals.

"We are further alarmed by the maxims which are familiarly on the lips of those who are consenting to this crime. They declare, contrary to every authority on the law of nations, that alleged conspiracy within a State is a sufficient justification for invading it. But supposing that an internal faction had invited this piratical invasion, the fact would remain that for years no labor and no expenditure have been spared to introduce a nucleus of treason, and to foment it within the Roman State. When these intrigues failed, open force has been used; the secret corruption and treachery of years have been completed by the shedding of blood and the mockery of a *Plebiscite*.

"The blow thus struck at public morals and the security of States compels us to the step which we now take.

"Henceforth no State weaker than its immediate neighbors can hope for support from the co-insistence of other Powers. No allegiance for the future can be claimed, no authority hold its own, no treason be chastised, no laws in fact exist, but those of expediency, perjury, and force, if such an outrage do not arouse the slumbering consciences of men.

"It is, secondly, as subjects of the British Throne that we contemplate this event with sorrow and dismay. We fear the avenging hand of Providence. Our country is not without its disaffections, our legislation and history have not been such as utterly to deprive conspiracy and revolt of all palliation. When we shall be in difficulties, domestic treason may assume, by foreign instigation, dimensions far beyond any ever attained in the Rome of our days, and there may be those found too able and too willing to play the fictitious part of liberators, with motives and means such as those as have now prospered against Rome.

"Thirdly, as Catholics rejoicing in the faith and Church of Christ, we deeply feel the peculiar aggravation which attends this crime. It is a sacrilege of deepest dye, and of widest consequences of evil. It is an open blow struck at the cause of His servants. It is a blow struck at the centre whence flows the very life-blood of the Church. The work of evangelizing the world is impeded, and is meant to be permanently arrested at the main source of its action. This is, indeed, outwardly the work of an ambitious and aggressive State; but behind it are the associated enemies of the name and the very thought of God.

"We who believe hereby solemnly record our protest before Heaven, both in order to disburden our own consciences and in order to warn our countrymen of the fatal course into which Europe will enter if she seal this sacrilegious outrage with her approval.

"We declare to our fellow Catholics in every land, and to all men, that we have no part in this event, and we summon all to unite with us in order to its undoing."

A MYSTERIOUS PROCEEDING.—The *Pall-Mall Gazette* hears that the Admiralty has, by telegraph, directed the whole of the stewards of the several vessels of war in harbour at Chatham, as well as those belonging to the Royal Barracks, to be placed under arrest and their books and other official documents taken possession of. A number of officials have also been sent down to examine all the papers of the arrested persons. These extraordinary measures have created great surprise.

We must needs be of opinion that, though the world may be no worse than it was, it is very little

better. We have not outlived the usage of War, simply because we have not outlived the passions in which Wars take their rise. When a period of Peace returns the result will be owing to the partial or temporary settlement of those questions by which nations are agitated. The last great War was succeeded by thirty years of Peace, not because men had grown wiser or Governments more pacific, but because nations had suffered enough from War for the time, and because all the Great Powers except one were tolerably satisfied with the settlement concluded, while the unsatisfied Power was incapable of rebelling against the terms imposed. When such a period recurs we shall have tranquillity again, but otherwise it is hard to discern any promising securities for Peace; nor will it be possible to stereotype any European settlement under the guarantee of all the chief Powers unless those Powers are left for the most part without any adequate motives for disturbing it.—Times.

A HIGH MORAL VIEW OF IMMORALITY.—When it is asserted that France is now undergoing chastisement for her immorality, we must demur both to the statement of fact and to the inference. The immorality with which it is intended to reproach her is, in the first place, immorality of only one kind. If the meaning of the word be extended, London and Liverpool ought to be eating horseflesh and rats, for commercial probity has from time to time been scarce there as what is technically called morality in Paris. Nor has France amid her rapidly growing opulence witnessed anything more scandalous than the period of joint-stock and railway mania in England. The literature of romance which has given France so evil a character was written in Paris and from experience gained in Paris; though it pretended to derive its materials from all France; it was written in a cosmopolitan language for a cosmopolitan crowd of pleasure-seekers; and above all, it was written by one sex and for one sex. English novels are nearly exclusively written by women, and they are always intended to be read by women. French novels were nearly exclusively written by men, and were meant to be read exclusively by men. There is just as much reason (and no more) for supposing that Frenchmen and Frenchwomen spend their lives in breaking the Seventh Commandment as for thinking Englishmen and Englishwomen have no interest in life beyond arranging preliminaries of an engagement.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

SHAM BANK NOTES.—According to the latest information the box of counterfeit sovereigns is only the last of a series of transatlantic swindles on the same principle. The United States' notes were first imitated. Circulars were sent to almost all the business men in the States, offering thousands of dollars' worth of such imitations at a charge of one-tenth of the nominal value. A guarantee was given that the notes would be perfect facsimiles of the real thing, every letter, line, dot, and mark being right. When the dishonest fell into the spider's web and sent his money, he received in due time a mysterious package. The imitation of the notes was perfect, but they were only one-third of the right size, being, indeed, nothing else than photographs of real notes. This business flourished bravely for some time, as of course the victims were not the men to publish their own shame.—*Observer*.

UNITED STATES.

GROWTH OF OUR HOLY FAITH.—We extract the following from an appeal made by William Butler, Secretary of the American & Foreign Christian Union, and directed "To the Pastors, Official Members and Congregations of the Methodist Episcopal Church," which appeal is published in the Methodist organ in this city. Mr. Butler errs only in greatly understating the growth of the Catholic Church and its present numbers. Our Holy Faith, by the best computation from sources likely to mistake, is nearer 8,000,000.—"In the life-time of men now living Romanism was of no account in the United States. In the year 1800 she had 1 Bishop, about 100 Priests and 60,000 adherents; but, to-day, according to the most reliable statistics available, Rome has in this country (as the growth of only 70 years) 7 Archbishops, 53 Bishops, 3,700 Priests, 3,483 Churches, 49 Ecclesiastical Institutions (with 913 Clerical students), 29 Colleges, 128 Monasteries, 286 Nunneries, 134 High Schools for girls, 66 Asylums, 26 Hospitals, 23 Periodicals, (5 being monthlies, 2 semi-monthlies, and 26 weeklies)—11 in German, 1 in French, and the rest in English. She has also 18 Catholic Book Stores, a Publication Society, and probably a little over 4,000,000 of adherents. Such is her strength to-day.

Only 40 years ago the Romanists were to the general population of this country as 1 to 20; to-day they are fully as 1 to 9—and still they come." We were led by these figures to reflect somewhat over the future of the Catholic Church in this country. Mr. Butler mistakes in crediting this increase solely to emigration. Conversion is doing its work steadily and surely. If all the sources of supply were, by partisan and anti-Catholic legislation, cut off, they never can be, and we grow solely by conversion, it would seem altogether probable that having overcome 20 in forty years, we might reasonably hope to abolish the 9 remainder in forty years more. But all things being equal and Mr. Butler's Union not retarding our growth, if we gain 20 in forty years, every two years we gain 1. We have only 9 to overcome;—thus in eighteen years more, according to Mr. Butler, this land will be Catholic from Canada to Mexico and from the Atlantic to the Pacific—"a consummation most devoutly to be wished!"—*Catholic Sentinel*.

Three hundred and thirteen applications for divorce were brought before the New Hampshire Supreme Court last year. Two hundred and seventy-two were decided, a divorce being granted in one hundred and fifty-seven cases.

A Georgia editor says that twenty-four heathen Chinese walked into his sanctum the other day, and through the medium of an interpreter paid for twenty-four subscriptions to his paper. The editor wondered what they wanted of an English paper, and he was informed that they took it for the "pictures" in it, the paper having Coster's rat cut, a catarrh cut, a guano trade mark and an umbrella "picture."

Senator Ross, of Kansas, has been expelled from the Lawrence Typographical Union for setting up type on a newspaper whose compositors were on a strike.

A Cincinnati telegram of Saturday, the 14th ult., says:—"A mulatto woman named Henrietta Wood some time ago brought suit in the Superior Court against Mr. Ward, of Kentucky, to recover \$20,000 damages, on the charge that he was instrumental in having her kidnapped from the State of Ohio in 1853, and sold into slavery, where she remained fifteen years. The case was transferred to the United States Court to day, and promises to be most interesting.

The storm about Chicago, from the 13th to the 15th ult., completely isolated that city from the rest of the world. The snow alternated with sleet, which loaded the wires and broke them in pieces for from seventy to one hundred miles in various directions, compelling the Western Union Telegraph Company to employ 1,000 men to repair the damage. The first news received in Chicago reached there by way of St. Louis and Omaha.

The commander of the Federal troops of Robison county, North Carolina, telegraphed to Washington for more troops. The small number now in the county being unable to cope with the outlaws.