

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

PAPAL JUBILEE.—The Bishops of Galway, Elphin, and Achonry have gone to Rome.

ROME.—The receipts from the Pope's Jubilee were six and a half million lire, gold, exclusive of valuable presents.

THE JESUITS.—The Jesuits have established themselves in Providence, R. I., and taken possession of St. Joseph's Church.

A DENIAL.—The *Voce del Verita* denies the report that the Pope has conferred an Order on President MacMahon.

BIRMINGHAM ADDRESS.—A special address was presented by the Duke of Norfolk for the venerable Bishop of Birmingham.

THE JUBILEE IN IRELAND.—The Pope's jubilee was celebrated in Ireland with great solemnity. Religious processions passed through the streets in several cities.

PROGRES.—The Pope on Thursday, received several deputations of pilgrims, including one from New York; he praised the faith displayed by the pilgrims in this sceptical age.

CATHOLIC UNION ADDRESS.—The Duke of Norfolk presented among the other addresses on the 10th, the address of the Catholic Union, written in excellent Latin by Mr. Allies.

A CATHOLIC CHURCH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—A Catholic church in Wiesen, Grand Duchy of Posen, was struck by lightning on Sunday, May 27, during service. Six persons were killed and about seventy seriously injured.

ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE, WARE.—The address of St. Edmund's College, Ware, dated May 1, 1877, and beautifully engrossed, was signed by Monsignor James Laird Patterson, Rector; John Rouse, D. D., vice-Rector; Clement Dunn, Decanus Clericorum, and James Lund, Decanus Lalorum.

CONVERSION.—Five converts from Protestantism, having been previously instructed, were baptized in the church at Whitworth in the Diocese of Salford, England, on the eve of the festival of Pentecost, and three received their First Communion on the following day.

THE PAPAL DELEGATE.—His Excellency Bishop Conroy visited the different Catholic educational establishments in Ottawa on Thursday. It is said that he is going to Toronto to consult with Archbishop Lynch. There is no truth in the rumor that he was formerly a class-mate of Lord Dufferin.

MISSION.—The mission of Bornish, in the Island of South Uist, Western district of Scotland, has been divided into two, the southern portion, including Daliborg and the island of Erlska, having been erected into a separate mission. The new mission has been placed under the charge of the Rev. Alexander Forbes, whilst Rev. A. Campbell continues in charge of Bornish.

RELIGIOUS RECEPTION.—On May 14th, at the Convent of St. John of God, Wexford, the Most Rev. Dr. Warrin, Bishop of Ferns, celebrated Mass, and received the solemn vows of Sister Mary Agnes Pearson, Sister M. Evangelist Kavanagh, Sister M. Austin Doyle, Miss Barry, Rollen house, county Wexford, called in religion Sister M. de Sales, received the white veil and habit.

PICNIX AND THE LITTLE SCOTCH BOY.—At the reception by his Holiness of the Scotch pilgrims on the 2nd June, among those presented was a bonnie little boy of about seven, dressed in the Highland plaid and kilt. The Holy Father stooping down, drew him to his breast, encircling him with his arms, and then, laying his sacred hand on the child's head, said: "Dio ti benedica, mio caro figlio Scozzese" (God bless you, my dear Scotch son).

NEW CHURCH AT GOVAN.—A new church for the mission of Govan, near Glasgow, has just been commenced. Up to the present the accommodation provided for this large and flourishing congregation was extremely inadequate. The site of the proposed church is one of the best in the town, being situated on the principal thoroughfare, and in the centre of the congregation. The number of sittings provided being 1,200, or over, whilst the contracts do not exceed £6,000.

JUBILEE PRESENTS TO THE POPE.—The nuns of St. Catherine's Convent, (Eastern District of Scotland) sent to Rome a box containing an address to his Holiness, tastefully illuminated upon vellum, a brass bookstand, candlesticks, bell, and other ecclesiastical furniture selected from Hardman's, Birmingham; portable boxes containing all requisites for the administration of the sacraments to the sick and dying; holy water font; also altar linen, embroidered altar cloth, lace alb, bourse, and a number of other articles worked by the sisters and young ladies under their charge.

SYMPATHY WITH THE POPE IN IRELAND.—GREAT LIMERICK MEETING.—On the 17th ult., the diocese of Limerick held its meeting for the purpose of addressing the Holy Father on the occasion of his attaining his jubilee. The meeting was held in St. John's Cathedral, Limerick, and was in character and composition most influential and representative. Ladies and gentlemen filled the sanctuary; behind in the nave thronged the humbler classes of the city, and the altar was crowded with representatives of the clergy and gentry. On the motion of the city high sheriff (Mr. T. E. O'Brien), seconded by Mr. H. Connelley, D.L., the chair was taken by the Most Rev. Geo. Butler, D.D., Lord Bishop of Limerick.

BIRTHDAY OF PIUS IX.—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. John Lateran, a *Te Deum* was chanted in celebration of the birthday of Pius IX., who completed his eighty-fifth year, having been born on May 13th, 1792. Twenty Pontiffs have attained or passed the age of eighty-six, among those who have passed the age of eighty-six may be named Gregory IX., who died aged nearly one hundred, in 1241, after a reign of fourteen years. John XXII. died in 1334, aged ninety years, after a reign of eighteen years. Celestine II., also reigned his ninety-second year. It is customary to remind each Pontiff at his election that there is little chance of his Pontificate lasting twenty-five years. *Non videtur annos Petri*. Indeed, of the 259 Popes eight only have retained it for a longer period than twenty years. It is singular that the Popes who have reigned the longest were Pius VI. and Pius VII., the first twenty-four and the second twenty-three years.

THE BENEDETTINE ORDER.—The Benedictine Order is restored to Scotland after an exile of three hundred years. From the far north Dom Jerome Vaughan, O. S. B., had travelled to Rome to represent the new college and Monastery now in course of erection at Fort Augustus, and associated with him were Dom Basil Hurworth and Dom Wolstan Richards. The elevations of these noble buildings were inspected by the Holy Father shortly before his entrance into the great audience hall. He admired them exceedingly. The sight of them filled his heart with joy, while he had blessed a thousand times all who had been co-operators in this great undertaking. The Holy Father, in spite of the many claims upon his sacred person, has deigned to express a wish to receive to special private audience Dom Jerome Vaughan, Dom Wolstan Canon Richards, Dom Romuald Canon Riley, Dom Ambrose Cotham, Dom Basil Hurworth, Dom Placid Whittle and Dom Francis Fleming—all members of the English Benedictine Congregation—who will present the Holy Father with an address in the name of the English monks, together with a purse of some £200. Bishops Scarsbrick, O. S. B., of Port Louis, and Bishop Hedley, O. S. B., of Newport and Milnoia, are also in Rome.

IRISH NEWS.

BOILER EXPLOSION.—Three men were killed and several injured by a boiler explosion, near Belfast, recently.

THE BUTT TESTIMONIAL.—The diocese of Limerick has already contributed £1,500 to the Butt Testimonial fund.

ACCIDENT TO DR. RUSSELL.—On May 16th, Very Rev. Dr. Russell, President of Maynooth College, whilst riding, was thrown from his horse, receiving a severe shock thereby and some slight scratches, but was not seriously injured.

NEW MAGISTRATES.—The following gentlemen have been appointed to the Commission of the Peace for the county Wicklow:—John MacDonnell, Esq., J.P., Aubrey House, Loughlinstown; Robert Howard Brooke, Esq., of Castle Howard, Avoca.

THE POTATO CROP IN ARMAICH.—In some parts of both Armaigh and Down the potato rot is assuming very extensive proportions. This is attributable to the wet weather, and in one farm, in the County Armaigh, no less than three acres of potatoes will have to be re-planted.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF ORKNEY.—At two o'clock on the 10th ult. the Earl of Orkney died at Glenmore, Templeberry, where he had a picturesque fishery residence. He was in the seventy-fourth year of his age. He will be succeeded by his eldest son, Viscount Kirkwall, born 6th of May, 1827.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Information wanted of Daniel Ryan, a native of Keeper Hill, County Tipperary, late of the British navy, and discharged in 1862. Any information will be thankfully received in care of Mr. Lee, Newport, county Tipperary, for Con Ryan, his brother.

PRESENTATION.—On May 17th, the Fermoys friends of the Rev. Wm. Canon Fitzgerald, P. P., Connors, proceeded to his residence, where they read for him an address expressive of their friendship and regard, and presented him with a purse containing 155 sovereigns.

A POINT-BLANK DECISION.—The Court of Common Pleas in Dublin, has decided that any Catholic priest making charges from the altar against members of his own congregation was not in any way privileged, but, on the contrary, he was violating alike the law of England and the law of his own Church.

PARTY EXPRESSIONS AND ASSAULT.—On the 10th ult., Alexander McAlister, of Antrim, a middle aged man, was charged with having made use of party expressions by cursing the Pope, and also with having assaulted Sub-Constable O'Brien, who took him into custody in Boundary Street. The prisoner was consigned to the charge of Captain Keogh for three months.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.—Michael Butler, of Mullaunbrack, near Thurles, died on May 13th, having arrived at the extraordinary age of 105 years. Strange to say, he never became bald, nor even partially so, nor did his hair ever lose its original black color. He was an honest, upright farmer, a sound practical Catholic, and died full of virtue as he was of years. He was from youth a staunch teetotaler.

RESTORED TO PROFESSIONAL STATUS.—Through the exertions of Mr. Butt who appeared as their counsel before the Medical Council of the United Kingdom, at the annual conference in London, Drs. Meehan and Sheehy, of Limerick, convicted nearly three years ago of a conspiracy to defraud an American Insurance Company, and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, which they suffered, and whose names were struck of the list of qualified practitioners, have been by the unanimous vote of the Council, restored to their professional status.

HIRING LABOURERS.—On May 10th, the great annual hiring fair of Cavan took place, and the town was thronged throughout the day with servants of both sexes engaging with new employers for the ensuing half-year. Able-bodied men-servants received from £7 to £9, with board till November next; lads from £3 to £4 10s.; and females from £3 to £5. This class has greatly improved of late, and many of those at the fair were already re-engaged in their old places, and merely came in to enjoy the fair.

RESCUED FROM DROWNING.—On the evening of the 11th ult., as the Dublin steamer was leaving for Holyhead, a man named Michael Corcoran, who had been standing on board, fell into the water and sank immediately, as he rose, a life-buoy and a rope were thrown to him, but in vain, for he was too drunk to avail himself of the assistance offered. As he was sinking for the third time, Police Constable Thomas Hegarty gallantly sprang into the water, and brought the man ashore, amid the cheers of the large crowd that assembled.

SALE OF DISEASED CATTLE.—Mr. Christopher Newman, diseased cattle valuator under the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union, was prosecuted at Blanchardstown Petty Sessions on the 30th ult., for having sold a diseased cow to a Patrick Street butcher, to be sold again to the public as food. Dr. Cameron, the city analyst, pronounced the disease to have been so far advanced in the animal before death, was the worst he had ever seen. The defence was that the diseased cattle inspector, Mr. Murphy, had verbally told the defendant that the animal was fit to eat, but Mr. Murphy not being present, the case was adjourned.

THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—The Secretaries of the Society for the preservation of the Irish Language request insertion of the following:—

CRAIGMOORE, CO. CLARE. SIRS—Would you kindly inform me if the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language is regularly formed—that is, are subscriptions received by it? If so, I shall be glad to become a subscriber and will send the amount immediately. I think after a little time we could establish in this locality following the laudable example of Father White, of Milltown-Malbay. There is scarcely any one of the peasantry of 16 years and upwards who cannot speak Irish, so there will be little difficulty in working the thing here. I am sure if an Irish paper were established, as well as supporting it myself I could get many to become subscribers. I believe fifty years ago there were no such thing as a Welsh periodical, and now they are as numerous as English ones. Why can't we in Ireland do the same for our mother tongue? Yours faithfully, J. W. SPODDETT.

TRAVERS, CO. WATERFORD. GENTLEMEN—I hail with enthusiastic gratitude your praiseworthy and most patriotic project of forming a society for the better preservation, cultivation, and expansion of the Irish tongue—that grand, copious, and magnificent form of human speech used by our fathers for so many centuries and by ourselves till within a recent period within the islands. I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to assure you not only of my cordial sympathy but of my earnest co-operation with the objects of your undertaking, to which as a true Irishman I feel that all due assistance should be afforded from every part. I have the immense advantage of living in a Gaelic-speaking county and I have patiently acquired a knowledge of that time-honored language, which is in some measure similar to what is practised in Wales, ought to become part of our future day's written and spoken and on some future day this literary idiom specially distinctive of this kingdom of Ireland. I remain with fervent hope for ultimate and durable success, your obedient servant, NAPOLEON BONAPARTE WYSE.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE BISHOP OF BRISLAU.—The Prince Bishop of Breslau, Dr. Forster, has from his exile at Johannesburg, Momvvia, issued a Pastoral to his flock on the Pope's Jubilee. Like everything that comes from his pen it is most eloquent, although short.

CONVERSION OF A FORMER HANOVERIAN CHAMBERLAIN.—The Baron von Weghe, formerly Chamberlain of the King of Hanover, has been received into the Church by Mgr. Jirsik, Bishop of Budweis, Bohemia.

PRESS PERSECUTION.—The Silesian Paper the *Katholik* has at present the whole of its editorial staff in prison, on account of various offences against the Press laws, in connection with Catholic affairs.

REPUBLICAN ROMANCE.—In consequence of President MacMahon's recent action Italian republicans have placarded the streets of Rome with notices of a great demonstration at the Apollo Theatre, to declare that Rome can never again become the Rome of the Popes.

EMIGRATION.—Sir Julius Vogel, the Agent General in London, has been instructed by the New Zealand Government to send out 5,000 emigrants during the next five months, consisting of domestic servants, ploughmen, farm labourers, shepherds, bricklayers, and carpenters.

CONVERSION OF A GERMAN HISTORIAN.—The *Univers* states that Onno Klopp, the eminent German historian, has become a convert to the Catholic faith. Herr Klopp was received into the Church by Mgr. Jacobini, the Austrian Nuncio Apostolic, at the Archiepiscopal Palace, Vienna.

PRESIDENT MACMAHON TO THE POPE.—It is stated that President MacMahon has sent an autograph letter to the Pope expressing confidence that in the serious position in which France now stands His Holiness would continue that benevolence he had always manifested.

DISBURSED SPANISH CHURCH.—This church, which still retains a circular Gothic window, is in the Piazza Navona, Rome, and attempts have recently been made on the part of some Protestant sect to get possession of it. It is dedicated to St. James of Compostella. The Holy Father himself has become the purchaser of it to prevent the intended desecration.

SPAIN'S RELIGIOUS DIFFICULTIES.—The Spanish government has decided to forbid pilgrimages or religious manifestations which may form a pretext for Carlist propaganda, and in view of the antagonistic attitude shown by a section of the Episcopal clergy toward it have made representations to the Vatican to use its authority to dissuade the recalcitrants from creating embarrassments.

VOLE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE ENGLISH CABINET.—A resolution expressing unabated confidence in the foreign policy of her Majesty's Government, and stating that their conduct of the diplomatic negotiations on the Eastern question had been decided and consistent, and such as deserved the approbation, support, and admiration of the whole of the English-speaking race was carried at a meeting of the Dewsbury Conservatives recently.

VICTOR EMMANUEL WRITES TO THE HOLY FATHER.—The *Times* special states that King Victor Emmanuel has written to the Pope congratulating him on the anniversary of his episcopate. The Pope has sent a reply thanking the King, and taking occasion to beg him not to permit the Italian government to despoil parishes and confraternities of their property; stating that otherwise he should be constrained to protest. The King has made no reply to the Pope's missive.

DEATH BY TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.—An inquest at Liverpool on the body of a man who died after having had some of his blood transfused to another person, has resulted in a verdict of "Death by misadventure," to which was added an expression of opinion by the jury that sufficient inquiry had not been made by the medical men who performed the operation as to the deceased's habits and physical condition, and that he had not been sufficiently cautioned as to the risk he ran.

A DELICATE ATTENTION.—It may be remembered that Mgr. Baudri, the assistant Bishop of Cologne, celebrated lately the jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. The Government, with a delicacy which is fully appreciated by the Catholics of Cologne, selected the vigil of the celebration for his examination before the police magistrates, in order to give an account of the alleged disappearance of some books and documents belonging to the office of the Vicar-General of the diocese.

A SLANDEROUS CHARGE.—The parish priest Heintzen, of Leidingen, in the district of Treves, has been summoned before the police court of Saarbrücken, on a charge of making away with monies received by him in his official capacity. The fact is, that the parish priest made a collection for the Pope and transmitted the proceeds to a central committee at Treves. He did this contrary to the desire and direction of the Landrath, who ordered him to disburse the amount into the parochial coffers. There have been legal decisions upholding the legality of a collection for the Pope; but no one can ever be sure with regard to such matters in Prussia.

CHINESE TREATMENT OF PLAGUE.—Mr. A. Davenport in his account of the recent Yunnan Mission, states that the ancient city of Yunnan-fu and also Tai-fu have also, since the Tai-ping rebellion and invasion, been cursed with an endemic disease resembling the plague. It is called the symptom disease, in consequence of the critical enlargements of the lymphatic glands at the armpits. Sometimes it attacks one side only of a street. It first kills animals, and then the population, if they have not profited by that warning. The treatment consists in supplying the patient with a jar full of water to drink, and leaving him quiet in his state of stupor, only rousing him once a day by poking him with a long pole through the window. But, notwithstanding "treatment," the people say that this and other similar novel diseases have caused as great a loss of life as the rebellion itself.

THE CRISIS IN FRANCE.—The situation writes the Paris Correspondent of the London *Tablet* does not look quite cheerful. Marshal MacMahon is preparing to play a game that may have extensive results. In five months, and perhaps sooner, it may happen that the chief of the State may be compelled to quit his post by enemies who are laboring night and day to accomplish his fall. The Paris residence of M. Thiers is the focus of this agitation, and it is confidently stated that the late President would have no objection to return to power. Another rumour is that M. Gambetta will very shortly be proposed for chief of the State. M. Thiers has however, by far the best chance of success should such a competition arise—a contingency perhaps too remote to enter into our present calculations. Thanks to the energetic attitude taken up by Marshal MacMahon we hope to be very soon liberated from the night-mare of Revolutionary ascendancy, which has weighed upon the country for this long time past. In explanation of what I remarked above, about administrative reform I observe that the *Journal Officiel* publishes a list of 63 Departments in which that reform is already at work; 38 Republican prefects, recently appointed by Jules Simon, have been removed, and the Conservative officials, their predecessors, have been restored to office. It thus appears that the Duo de Broglie and his Cabinet are resolved to lose no time in carrying out those measures which they believe to be imperatively called for in the interests of the country.

WAR NEWS.

ARCHANGELS CUT TO PIECES.—A special despatch received in Paris from Constantinople asserts that 1,000 Archangels have been surprised and cut to pieces by the Russians.

CIRCASSIAN INEBRIGATION INCREASING.—Later despatches from Vienna state that the revolt among the Circassian regiments in Roumania is spreading and threatens to assume serious proportions.

THE TURKISH ARMY.—The Turkish army along the river line of defence consists of 172,500 infantry, and 7,200 cavalry the total force, including fortress artillery and engineers, being estimated at close upon 200,000.

THE SULTAN IN ARMS.—It is now stated that the head of the faithful will join the army sometime next month and take part in the field operations, so that both the Crescent and the Cross will be defended by their natural champions.

PROFITING AUSTRIA.—In order to avoid hurting the susceptibilities of Austria the proposed interview between Prince Milan and the Emperor Alexander, which was to have taken place at Plocejesti, has been abandoned.

ANOTHER TURKISH VICTORY CLAIMED.—An official report received at Constantinople Wednesday from the Governor General of Herzegovina confirms the reported defeat of the Montenegrins and Herzegovines on the 4th inst., in the defiles of the Krivotoes, with heavy loss, by Suleiman Pacha.

PUNISHING MUTINEERS.—A court martial is about to try the Circassian regiments in the Russian service who mutinied and refused to serve against their Moslem co-religionists. It is expected that a severe example will be made of the Circassians as a lesson to other possible mutineers.

THE DANUBE FALLING.—The water in the Danube is rapidly falling, and at the present rate the river will soon have fallen to its normal level. The Russians will then be able to attempt the crossing with good prospects of success, if they intend crossing, about which there is some doubt.

GERMANY WANTS TO KNOW.—The German officers attached to the Russian headquarters have received orders to report fully on the condition of the Russian army and the operations of the campaign. They are also to give the Russian views on the progress of the operations.

AUSTRIAN PREPARATIONS.—The military commander at Agram has issued orders forbidding any man belonging to the reserve from leaving his district. This is looked on as an indication of a warlike policy on the part of the Austrian Government. Large trains of ammunition are reported to have passed through Pesth on the way to the frontier.

THE CZAR WITH THE ARMY.—The arrival of the Emperor Alexander at the headquarters of the Russian army caused the greatest enthusiasm among the troops. In the evening the town of Plocejesti was brilliantly illuminated and whenever his Majesty appeared he was tendered an enthusiastic reception. His Majesty was accompanied by Prince Gortschakoff, Baron Jomini and Privy Councillor Hamburg.

PATRIOTIC GREECE.—All Greece is united in support of the government for the first time in the history of the country. There is no opposition and all parties are united under one strong Ministry, at the head of which is Canaris, a veteran of the war of independence. There is great exultation among the people over this happy condition of affairs, for it is looked upon as a good omen of the complete regeneration of Greece. The soldiers and sailors especially are in high spirits, as there is a general belief that Greece will take part in the war.

SLAUGHTER OF A TURKISH COLEMAN.—A correspondent at the Ostrok, who draws his information from reports sent to the Prince of Montenegro, telegraphs under date of June 5, as follows:—"The Turks today attacked the position of General Metrovics, on Martinizan soil. They fell into a trap and were completely repulsed, leaving over 1,000 dead. The Montenegrins lost about fifty killed. The number of wounded is not yet known. The Ostria block-house, commanding the entrance to the plain of Nicosie, was evacuated this afternoon, most of the garrison escaping to Nicosie."

THE FIGHT AT MALJAT.—A telegram from Ragusa, dated Tuesday afternoon, gives the following account of the fight at Maljat:—"The Turkish attack on Montenegro from the Albanian side has commenced. Ali Saib, with the whole of his forces advanced from Spuz up the Zeta Valley, the object being to reach Danilograd. The Montenegrins met the attack on the hill of Maljat. The fighting is still raging, but up to noon the Turkish assaults were repulsed. Five hundred Turks had been killed. The Montenegrins fight against enormous odds, there being 35,000 regulars and irregulars against them on this side alone."

THE MONTENEGGIN CAMPAIGN.—Perplexing contradictions relative to Ali Saib's operations on the Southern frontier of Montenegro continue to be received. The Vienna *Political Correspondence*, which is usually well informed, publishes a special despatch from Cattaro stating that Ali Saib was defeated at Maljat and lost 700 men. A Ragusa telegram supports this view. Ali Saib, on the other hand, has telegraphed to Constantinople a most circumstantial account of his successes, according to which he has occupied the heights commanding Danilograd.

MUST ENGLAND FIGHT.—The London correspondent of the *Scotman* telegraphs as follows:—"In Ministerial circles there is a renewal of the uneasiness which prevailed when Russia declared war as to the part this country will be called upon to take. The feeling has been strengthened by general conviction of high military authorities that Russia will be completely successful and, so far as Turkey is concerned, be able to dictate her own terms. At one or two regimental dinners last week officers of the highest rank expressed fears that England would be at war and that so far little has been done to prepare for the evil. A belief is also growing that our government will be left to carry out and defend its own policy, that Austria, which is the only probable ally, cannot be depended upon, and therefore it would be wiser and fairer if the Premier and Cabinet will frankly declare what they will do if the Russian troops directly threaten Constantinople either in Europe or Asia."

A RUSSIAN VIEW OF ENGLISH POLICY AND PROSPECTS.—The non-official Russian press is getting rather violent against England. The *Russk Mir* declares that Lord Beaconsfield as Mephistopheles and Lord Derby as Faust are doing their best to ruin "Margaret, the unfortunate Christian martyr of the East." And it adds the following significant warning. "England," it tells us, "ought to remember what passed directly after the Crimean war. The Muslim population of India rose against the English immediately after the services rendered by the latter to the Turks, and the dream of the Muslim mission of England in 1854 was cruelly dispated after the mutiny of the Sepoys in 1857. Lord Derby is committing the blunder of defending the Mahomedan idea at the Bosphorus, and leaving behind him the dangerous fragility of the British idea in India. It is very possible that it will be from India that the fatal warlike signal will come: at the very moment in which the English Ministers are seriously occupying themselves with the destiny of Constantinople."

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

COAL IN THE POLAR REGIONS.—Excellent tertiary coal was discovered in 83° N. by the recent Polar Expedition, and impressions of leaves were brought back proving that a luxuriant forest, numbering no fewer than fifty or sixty different species of trees, once grew near Disco, and on what is now a sea of ice.

THE VAMPIRE BAT.—This animal has been accused of destroying men and animals by sucking their blood; "but the truth" says Curvier in his *Regne Animal* "appears to be that the vampire inflicts only small wounds which may probably become inflammatory and gangrenous from the influence of climate."

THE VINEYARD.—A vineyard is by no means so pleasing an object as our ideas of beauty and plenty would lead us to imagine. In France the vines are trained upon poles seldom more than three or four feet high, and are a little more pleasing in appearance than raspberry stocks in England. In Greece and Italy their luxuriance is seen to better advantage, but it falls short of the vineyard of poetry and romance.

SALEBRITY OF THE SEA COAST.—Trees, plants, &c., rarely flourish in the vicinity of the sea; but the cause of their decline is little understood. It is attributed to the atmosphere containing a portion of the muriates, or salts of the sea over which it has passed, and which is pernicious to vegetable life. But these properties are favorable to animal life; and it has even been maintained that the air best adapted to vegetation is unpropitious to animal life, and vice versa. It is doubtful however if nature has fixed any general rule; since daily experience proves that different species of animals—even different races of the same species—are variously affected by the same air. On this account the salubrity of the sea air is by no means universal, as it is commonly thought to be.

THE LION AND LIONESS.—Edgar Quinet in his journal tells how one day he went with the naturalist, M. Geoffroi de St. Hilaire, to the *Jardin des Plantes*: "In one of the cages were a lion and lioness together. They were standing up, quite motionless, and seemed not even to see us. Presently the lion lifted up his great paw, placed it slowly and softly on the forehead of the lioness, and both continued in the same attitude as long as we remained before them. What was intended by the gesture? A painter who should have desired to represent calm grief and the deepest compassion could not have invented anything more striking. 'What does it mean?' said I to Geoffroi. 'The lion whelp died this morning,' replied he. 'Then I understood what I saw; pity, good-will, sympathy—all these sentiments might be read in those fierce countenances.'

THE TOBACCO-PUFFER FISH.—In the remarkable fishes known to zoologists as squalidae, the snout is greatly prolonged, as in the centricide or spike-bearing fishes, and it bears the mouth at the end of a long tube. The body is long and snake-like, and there is no long spine to the dorsal fin. One of the most singular members of this family is the tobacco-puffer fish; it is found in many parts of the tropical Atlantic. The body is without scales, and the tale fin is deeply forked, the two central rays being sometimes united and prolonged into a lengthened filament, and at other times being separate, but still elongated. The outer edge of the tube is either smooth or very slightly notched. The colour is greenish-olive, and the upper parts of the body are marked with blue streaks and spots. In some specimens of this curious race, the back takes a reddish-brown hue.

ANIMAL INSTINCT.—It is curious to note what affection animals display for the place of their birth. Cats, it is said, prefer the house to the company; fish will return to the same streams they left when fry; and birds are frequently found to come back to the scenes of their early days years of absence. In the last swan-hopping season on the Thames a curious fact was noted by one of the City swan-keepers. A pair of swans have for many years regularly reared a brood in the London Docks, secure from molestation, amid the great traffic and crowds. In 1874 the female swan was taken away by the men in August to the Thames about Sunbury, and there turned down with several others; but, as springtime came on, she was missed. She turned up, however, in the London Docks to greet her old mate; and they brought up a brood once more. In August last year she was again taken away, this time as far as the City jurisdiction at Staines; but, true to her natural instinct, as the next time came on, she again repaired to the London Docks, and with her old mate brought up a brood.

A MURDEROUS SEA FLOWER.—One of the exquisite wonders of the sea is called the opellet, and is about as large as the German aster, looking indeed very much like one. Imagine a very large double aster, with ever so many long petals of a light green, glossy as satin, and each one tipped with rose colour. These lovely petals do not lie quietly in their places, like the aster in your garden, but wave about in the water, while the opellet clings to a rock. How innocent and lovely it looks on its rocky bed! Who could suspect that it would eat any anything grosser than dew or sunlight? But those beautiful waving arms as you call them, have use besides looking pretty. They have to provide for a large open mouth, which is hidden down deep among them—so hidden that one can scarcely find them. Well do they perform their duty, for the instant a foolish little fish touches one of the rosy tips he is struck with poison as fatal to him as lightning. He immediately becomes numb, and in a moment stops struggling; and then the other beautiful arms wrap themselves around him, and he is drawn into the huge, greedy mouth, and is seen no more. Then the lovely arms unclose and wave again in the water, looking as innocent and harmless as if they had never touched a fish.

EXTRAORDINARY ENCOUNTER BETWEEN A LITTLE GIRL AND A SNAKE.—The *Bullard Courier* relates an extraordinary encounter between a little girl and a large snake. It states that on the 11th March, a little girl, ten years old, daughter of Mr. Twiss, of Blackhill, was leaving her father's farm to go to Haddon a distance of three miles, she espied two large snakes enjoying their dignified leisure under a fence. Native-like, she prepared for battle by arming herself with a stout sapling, and in a short time sent one out of harm's way. The other, however, instead of making tracks, as is usually the case, stood by, as it were, to see fair play, and on seeing his companion in arms bite the dust, prepared for action by standing almost erect on his tail. Our little heroine, nothing daunted, aimed a desperate blow at the spinal cord of his snakehood; but, missing her mark, and seeing the enemy intent on showing fight, she thought herself of the old adage about "discretion" &c., and beat a most orderly retreat. The snake, however, apparently determined on revenging the loss of his comrade, followed up the retreat, and pursued his now discomfited enemy at a tremendous pace, until they reached the vicinity of Fox's public-house, a distance of something over two miles from where the chase began, where he managed to catch hold of the poor little girl's frock. Her pluck never left her till then, and she allowed a scream to escape her, which reached the ears of a bullock driver near the hotel. On seeing her difficulty, he told her to hit it, which she did with stick, with which she had despatched the other, and then held it till the man came up and killed it. It measured six feet long and five inches in girth.