

**THE HARVEST**—The Queen's visit and the harvest prospects have given a tone of cheerfulness to the provincial journals, which affords a most striking and gratifying contrast with the deep despondency that prevailed almost universally even two or three months ago. There is, no doubt, still a great amount of destitution, especially in the western districts; but much less is said about it, for hope has come to the aid of the suffering people, and all other classes are influenced by the prospects of plenty.—*Correspondent of the Daily News.*

**THE SISTERS OF MERCY.**—The following very flattering communication, regarding the services of the Sisters of Mercy, has been transmitted to the Right Rev. Dr. Ryan, by the Hon. S. Prendergast Vereker, foreman of the City of Limerick grand jury:—

"City Grand Jury Room, July 11, 1849.  
My dear Lord—I have been requested to transmit to you the following resolution, moved by Mr. White, and unanimously agreed to by the grand jury this day:—

"Resolved—That the highest praise is deserved by the Sisters of Mercy, in this city, from their ceaseless exertions in the cause of charity, and more especially during the prevalence of the cholera here, and that the thanks of the grand jury are hereby given them."

"I beg you will communicate this resolution to those excellent ladies, and assure them it is cordially agreed in by, my Lord, yours very truly,

"S. PRENDERGAST VEREKER."

**THE ROYAL VISIT.**—And now the royal Victoria may visit Ireland. Now she need not be afraid of that ugly spirit of independence. Has all the unflinching determination of the Irish nation been transported with Mitchel and Martin, are her enthusiasm with Meagher, her noble chivalrous spirit with O'Brien and McManus? Under the paternal Whig governor the people have perished not in thousands, but in millions. The survivors are overwhelmed with difficulties quite insurmountable, and in many of them every spark of public spirit is extinguished. With the Dublin Corporation that congratulated their friends, the Whigs, on having subdued the great rebellion, and John Reynolds, its mayor elect; with the Cork Corporation, like abject slaves ready to throw themselves at the Royal feet, and in terms of the most degrading flattery, most humbly thank her most gracious majesty for the honor she does them, with nothing to be seen but loyalty and paupers; and nothing else surely, would Lord John ever wish to see there. Ireland is now in a state fit to receive its sovereign. We hope the different boards of guardians will send a few spare common paupers, that the ministers may be able to judge in what part of the country their starvation policy is best carried out. There will be, no doubt, loyal addresses beyond number; and crowds of the curious and of those who have nothing better to attend to, will crowd round her majesty; and ladies, forgetting their patriotism, in their anxiety will go to see and be seen, and a few cheers from the paupers, well fed for the occasion, will be raised; and white handkerchiefs will be waved by hands that should be better engaged; and windows will be illuminated by lodging-house keepers, to whom the visit will seem a special interposition of Providence; and great guns, of course, will be fired off; and the royal visitor and her ministers will return, congratulating themselves on having exorcised the spirit of Irish independence. And the lying English press will tell the world that the Irish are the most loyal and devoted subjects of her Majesty: but there will be many who will view all this with the disgust that every one must feel who is in truth an Irishman, and will treasure up the memory of it to a day of retribution. Let us hope and strive that that day may not be far distant.—*St. John Freeman.*

**DIED.**—On the 29th ult., at Milltown, St. Stephen, after a lingering illness, which he bore with resignation to the Divine Will, the Rev. John Cummings, Parish Priest, in the 52d year of his age. Strongly attached to the doctrines of the Church of Rome, which he maintained and expressed he had the happy skill to do without giving offence, and his loss is deeply mourned by members of other denominations as by his own people. In his former Parish of St. Andrews, where he resided for many years, he will be long remembered, as one whose house and hand were ever open to the stranger, the poor and the afflicted.—*St. John Freeman.*

**RECEPTION OF FATHER MATHEW IN BOSTON.**

The distinguished Apostle of Temperance arrived as was anticipated, on Monday evening and stopped for the night, in Watertown, at the residence of William A. White, Esq. On Tuesday morning he was received by the several Temperance Associations of the city, and by the friends of Temperance in general, and by them escorted through the principal streets of the city under the direction of the Chief Marshal, Moses Kimball, Esq.

We are obliged to go to press before the termination of the ceremonies, and therefore we cannot give, this week, an account of them. Next week we shall give all the particulars, with the results of the good Father's labors in the sacred cause of Temperance. Father Mathew needs no praise or recommendation from us to aid him in the prosecution of his great work. His praise is in every mouth, and his sacrifices and labors and pious zeal in behalf of his countrymen are known to all. In New York he has already administered the teetotal pledge to many thousands of persons, and we hope and believe that his efforts will be crowned with equal success in Boston. The faults and vice of Irishmen nearly all proceed from intemperance in the use of alcoholic drinks. Let them become temperate, and they become at once the most moral, orderly, and virtuous portion of our population. Who are the most trusty servants of our richmen? Who the most faithful laborers? Who the most industrious mechanics? Who the most honest tradesmen? Who the most retiring and peace-loving citizens? Who the most cheerful and generous contributors to every pious and benevolent work? The answer is one and the same to all. They are temperate Irishmen.

True, our police records are filled with the names and evil deeds of Irishmen. But who are those Irishmen? Trace them to their homes and places of resort. You will find them grog-sellers and grog-drinkers. You will find them brutal husbands, negligent and stupid wives, ungrateful children, unnatural parents.

Welcome, then, Apostle of Temperance! In the name of virtue, and of religion, and of the Prince of peace, we bid you welcome.—*Catholic Observer.*

**FRANCE.**

**RAILWAYS IN A CATHOLIC COUNTRY.**—On Thursday week the railway of Chartres was inaugurated with great solemnity in the presence of the President of the Republic. An altar was erected on the future railway, when two Clergy advanced in procession. The Vicar-General, Bishop-elect of Poitiers, delivered an address on the necessity of attaching thoughts of heaven to things of earth. Afterwards a *Te Deum* was sung in the Cathedral. Then followed a grand banquet, presided over by the President, who, in his speech observed that "it was at Chartres that St. Bernard began the preaching of the second crusade, and society was saved by the Faith; it was at Chartres too that Henry IV. made that famous appeal to conciliation in the midst of parties which convulsed France, and France was again saved." "I drink therefore," said the President, "to the Faith—to the Conciliation."—*Ami de la Religion.*

Mgr. Portier, Bishop of Mobile, U.S., lately spent a few days at Lyons, on his road to Gaeta, whither he proceeds to lay before the Holy Father the acts of the late National Council of Baltimore. The Prelate gave the most gratifying account of the progress of Catholicism in America, and of the charity the Faithful had displayed in the contribution of Peter's pence.—*Ami de la Religion.*

When the Pope reviewed the Spanish troops at Gaeta, the standard of Castile, according to the old custom in the Spanish army, was laid open at the feet of his Holiness, who, ignorant of what was required of him in return, asked the Bishop of Cuenca what he was to do. The prelate replied, that the Sovereign Pontiff being considered God's Vicar on earth, or as the King of Kings, the banner had been so placed in order that he might tread upon it with his sacred feet. After going

through this ceremony, and blessing the troops, the Bishop of Cuenca knelt and made him the following petition:—"Most Holy Father, let me hope I am worthy of receiving a boon from you, which is that you give me the shoes you wear, because, after treading upon the standard of Castile, they cannot touch any but Spanish ground." Another pair of shoes, provided by the Bishop, were then brought, and Pius presented his to that dignitary, who doubtless has thus secured to himself a Cardinal's hat.

**A SCENE ON THE RIVER JORDAN.**

"At 9 o'clock P.M. we arrived at 'El Meshra,' the bathing place of the christian pilgrims, after having been 15 hours in the boats. This ford is consecrated by tradition, as the place where the Israelites passed over with the ark of the covenant; and where our blessed Saviour was baptized by John. Feeling that it would be desecration to moor the boats at a place so sacred, we passed it, and with some difficulty found a landing below. My first act was to bathe in the consecrated stream, thanking God, first, for the precious favor of being permitted to visit such a spot; and secondly, for his protecting care throughout our perilous voyage. For a long time after, I sat upon the bank, my mind oppressed with awe, as I mused upon the great and wondrous events which had here occurred. Perhaps directly before me.—For this is near Jericho, the waters stood and rose up upon a heap, and the multitudinous host of the Israelites passed over—and, in the bed of the stream a few yards distant may be the twelve stones, marking 'the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood.' Tradition, sustained by the geographical features of the country, makes this also the scene of the baptism of the Redeemer. The mind of man, trammelled by sin cannot soar in contemplation of so sublime an event. On that wondrous day, when the Deity veiled in flesh descended the bank, all nature hushed in awe looked on. And the impetuous river, in grateful homage, must have stayed its course, and gently laved the body of its Lord. In such a place it seemed almost desecration to permit the mind to be diverted by the cares which pressed upon it—but it was wrong, for next to faith surely the highest christian obligation is the performance of duty. Over against this was no doubt the Bethabara of the New Testament, whether the Saviour retired, when the Jews sought to take him at the feast of the dedication. The interpretation of Bethabara is 'a place of passage over.' Our Lord repaired to Bethabara, where John was baptizing; and as the ford probably derived its name from the passage of the Israelites with the ark of the covenant, the interference is not unreasonable, that this place has been doubly hallowed.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

*Erin.*—George the Fourth landed in Ireland on the 12th of August 1821.

*Flaccus.*—Santeuil was a member of the celebrated Abby of St. Victor in Paris, contemporary and friend of Bossuet. Many of the Hymns in the Parisian Breviary were composed by him.

*Collector.*—The July No. has not yet arrived, nor can it be expected for some time. The Annals are first published in French at Lyons. They are afterwards published in English at Dublin under the Managing Committee of the Association. We are indebted to a friend for a copy of the July number in French. It contains some interesting accounts of the Catholic missions in Japan.

A zealous Bishop in Corea sends the following list of the results of his administration in a country where it is death to profess the Catholic Faith:—

Confessions,	5246
Communions,	4225
Adult Baptisms,	768
Catechumens,	467
Infants Baptized,	943
Children of Pagans baptized,	1050
Of whom died,	961
Confirmations,	568
Marriages,	300
Extreme Unctions,	53

On the 15th of May last a Bishop, six priests, a subdeacon, a student and four Brothers embarked at Cherbourg on board the Corvette *Chandernagor* for the Mission of Madagascar. Four of the priests and three of the Brothers were Jesuits.

A Teetotaler need not be alarmed. When Father Mathew comes to Halifax he will meet a truly Catholic reception.

*P. Dartmouth.*—The punishment administered in our last we think quite sufficient. Ne scuti.

*Medicus* suggests that that luxurious retreat on the North West Arm called the Penitentiary (because we presume no penance is ever practised or imposed there) should be converted into a Lunatic Asylum or Fever Hospital. A capital idea! With regard to the other subject, the complaints of such unreasonable patients ought to be disregarded. If people were in half such haste to pay a physician, as they are to send for him when sick, there would not be so many struggling sons of Esculapius in the world. Patients should remember that a poor physician has a disease of his own to be cured as well as they

*Pharmaca* das agrotos: aurum tibi porrigit ager. Tu morbum curas illius, ille tuum.

*C. D.*—We are not surprised at the sympathy. The saints know each other. Or rather as the Spanish proverb has it *con un libro no se mata otro.* One wolf never devours another.

*Cemetery.*—We are glad to hear it. Our best counsellors are the Dead. Who knows? And yet, the terrible sentence of our Saviour recurs to the mind. They have Moses and the Prophets, let them hear them. If they hear not them, neither will they believe if one rise again from the dead.

*A Northern.*—No. It was Sir Robert Peel himself in his place in parliament applied the epithet of 'VAGABONDS' to the Irish Orangemen. He ought to know them well.

**THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.**

**THE CROSS.**—This Journal was originated under the auspices of that excellent and pious Institution, the Halifax Branch of the great Catholic Society for the Propagation of the Faith. We again invite the co-operation of our fellow Catholics in this and the neighboring Provinces. We especially court the valuable assistance of the members of the Association for the Propagation of the Catholic Faith. With their powerful aid, our circulation might be double its present amount in the city of Halifax alone; and to bring this useful weekly Periodical within the reach of every one in Halifax, we are anxious that our friends in different parts of the city should assist us in the sale of the Paper. The following have already promised their services in the kindest manner, to promote this religious work, and the Cross can be regularly had from them at an early hour on the mornings of publication Mr. James Donohoe, Market Square.

- Mr. Forristall, corner of Brunswick and Jacob Streets;
- Mr. John Barron, corner of Gottingen and Cornwallis streets;
- Mr. Thomas Connor, adjoining St. Patrick's Church.
- Mr. Richard O'Neil, Water Street;
- Mr. Joseph Roles, Water Street, near Fairbanks' Wharf.
- Mr. Thomas Thorpe, Dartmouth.

The following gentlemen, to whom we tender our best thanks, have kindly promised their valuable assistance, as agents to this Journal:—

- Ketch Harbour*—John Martin, J. P.
- Portuguese Cove*—Mr. Richard O'Neil, Senr.
- Bear Cove*—Samuel Johnson, J. P.
- Herring Cove*—Mr. Edwards Hayes, and Mr. Nicholas Power.
- Ferguson's Cove*—Mr. William Conway.
- Quarries*—Mr. O'Keefe.
- North West Arm*—Mr. Patrick Brennan.
- Upper Prospect*—Peter Power, J. P.

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