

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

A letter from Marseilles of the 31st December announces that Madame Rachel, the late celebrated tragedienne, embraced the Catholic faith and received the sacrament of baptism on the 18th November last. It is added that Madame Rachel had been long preparing for this change.

Paris, Jan. 3, 1858.—A deplorable accident took place in the Church of St. Sulpice (in Paris) at half-past ten this morning, during Divine Service in the Chapel of the Virgin. The calorifere which warms the church with hot water burst with a loud noise and scattered pieces of metal and streams of boiling water in every direction. Three persons were killed by the explosion and five others wounded, two of them severely. It is supposed that one of the pipes for conducting the hot water was obstructed by some cause not yet ascertained. The Prefect of the Seine proceeded immediately to the church to instruct the architect to adopt measures to prevent a similar accident in future.—*Paris Correspondent of the Times.*

The Emperor Napoleon was fired at while entering the Italian Opera in the Rue Lepellier, at half past nine o'clock this evening. Some persons in the street were wounded. The Emperor showed himself to the people at the doors of the Opera. The house received him with enthusiastic cheering. He remained till the end of the opera, and on his return home at midnight he was hailed by the enthusiastic cheers of an immense multitude who were waiting in the streets.

The *Moniteur* of the 15th Jan. says, on their majesties arriving at the Opera, three explosions coming from hollow projectiles were heard. A considerable number of persons who were stationed before the theatre, including some soldiers of the escort, were wounded. Two of them were mortally wounded. The hat of the Emperor was pierced by a projectile, and General Roquet, Aide-de-camp of the Emperor, was slightly wounded in the neck. Two footmen were also wounded, and one of the horses in the Emperor's carriage was killed and the carriage broken by projectiles. The latest dispatches say that sixty persons were wounded and three killed by three shells which were thrown at the Emperor's carriage. The conspirators are Italians, and many arrests have been made. The Emperor and Empress suffered nothing from the event, and on the following day they attended solemn Mass, accompanied by the Ministers of State.

The conspirators are Italians; four have been arrested. They came from England, and belong to a secret society of assassins.

In addition to the foregoing particulars it is ascertained that five minutes before the attempt, M. Piétre had arrested close to the Opera an exile of 1852, who had removed to Paris under a false name. On his person were found a grenade, a revolver and poignard. The police of Paris were forewarned on Thursday by the Belgian police of the intended attempt at assassination. Of the sixty persons wounded, eleven are in a dangerous condition. Some have been removed to Priezen Maras. Arrests are multiplying hourly.

A letter from Marseilles reports that the American ship *Adriatic*, which was confiscated by the French Court of Appeals on account of her collision with the steamer *Lyonnais*, made her escape from detention at the port of Marseilles, and put to sea on the night of the 8th of January. A French war steamer went in pursuit of her without effect. It was feared that serious diplomatic complication may arise.

ITALY.

NAPLES.—A Naples letter of the 29th Dec. says: "The Criminal Court a few days ago condemned to death Domenico Luizzo, valet de chambre to the Count d'Aquila, brother of the King, for having in February last attempted to poison his Royal Highness, but on the solicitation of the Prince his life has been spared. The man was tried alone; but it is certain that others were concerned in the crime; in fact, it appears that a plot existed for killing all the members of the Royal Family."

It is stated that if the movement of the earthquake in Naples had been in a contrary direction—that is to say, perpendicular, instead of lateral, a raising and sinking, instead of a rocking to and fro—the capital would have been converted into a heap of ruins.—The proverb which says that it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, was never more strongly exemplified than in the case of this earthquake. One might suppose it difficult that such a calamitous convulsion of nature should bring benefit to any class, but we learn that it has filled the pockets of the barbers of Naples. The Neapolitans are in the habit when anything occurs to shock or terrify them of getting themselves bleached. I am ignorant in what this curious custom originated—whether those who persevere in it can assign for it a plausible reason; but it is certain that after a violent emotion most Neapolitans would consider themselves in peril if they had not immediate recourse to phlebotomy. I know a Neapolitan gentleman who was once sought after by the police for political causes. He was well concealed, and ultimately escaped; but his father's house was searched, to the great alarm of the family, and the *sherrif* had hardly left it when the barber was called in to bleed every member of the household.—Now, it is difficult to imagine a severer shock to the system than that of an earthquake, and we can imagine the dire consternation that prevailed in Naples when, at 10 at night, houses rocked, chandeliers swung to and fro, and furniture was overturned, as described in the letters of your correspondents and others; and accordingly we need not be surprised to learn that the barbers and their lancets were in immediate request, and, in fact, could not meet the demand for their services. It is estimated that 30,000 persons were bled.—*Cor. Times.*

PIEDMONT.—The Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies has resolved, by a majority of 52, "That the use of spiritual means, on the part of the Clergy, to influence the elections constitutes a moral pressure, and which may give occasion for an enquiry." What this means, according to any use of words recognised by mortals, no man knows; but what is meant by those who voted it is not a secret. The Whigs of Piedmont are the genuine disciples of the Whigs of England, and they mean, if they can, to make the Bishops and Clergy repent of the energetic and effectual opposition organised by them at the late election. The Catholic deputies spoke well, and the campaign has opened with spirit.

A Ministerial "crisis" has already occurred, and the hateful Rattazzi has resigned. This was the member of the Cabinet most deservedly obnoxious to the Catholic party; and as the *Times* already claims the late elections in Sardinia as a victory over the Catholic party (though at the time there were Jeremiahs over the success of the Clericals) it will, no doubt, rejoice in this first fruit of victory, the downfall of the conqueror.—*Tablet.*

CHINA.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Shanghai writes as follows:—"There was a reception day some time since at the yamen of the Taotai of Shanghai city. The Roman Catholic bishop had just had his audience, and an uncompromising Protestant of an extreme sect took his place. Now, this Taotai had the reputation of being a clever, a malicious, and a sarcastic man, accustomed to gather all the European scandal of the settlement, and to cast it into the faces of the missionaries—Roman Catholic and Protestant. 'The head man of your Christians is just gone out,' maliciously remarked the Taotai. 'Sir, he is not our head man. He is not a Christian at all; he is an idolator; he worships the cross.' 'And do you not?' asked the innocent Taotai. 'No, I do not.' 'And if I were to lay the cross on the floor of your feet you dare not trample upon it?' 'I would,' answered the unhesitating Christian missionary."

RUSSIA.

The population of the Russian Empire is set down at 70,000,000. The number of persons who are held actually in Serfdom is estimated at 12,000,000. There are, besides, 12,000,000 other peasants—of whom 9,000,000 are located on the Crown domains—who, although not nominally Serfs, are pretty much so in reality. About ten days ago we published a very interesting account of Russian Serfdom, which had been prepared by our Berlin correspondent in as complete a manner as the nature of our information admits upon such a subject. The general survey of the empire which was ordered by the late Emperor Nicholas, and which alone, if honestly prepared, would have enabled us to arrive at accurate conclusions, was never completed. It may be that at the last moment the Sovereign who has tampered with the subject, and toyed with conclusions, as long as those conclusions seemed remote, has shrunk from their realization. We must remember that all Russian organization depends upon this very institution, and that many men would be glad to see it abolished if they did not fear anarchy as the alternative. It must be obvious that any hasty or premature action would be most certainly attended with far greater evils than those it was intended to cure; but still Serfdom must be dealt with. There has been an expectation throughout the empire that something would be done when the present Emperor succeeded to power. The rising murmur was repressed in the days of Nicholas because men said, "Yet a little longer! We must bear the burden for a brief while; this man will die, and then another will rise up who will give us relief." Throughout the empire this cry has gone, and it is supposed that very grave consequences may follow, unless something be done. Pushed, then, by the necessity of the case, as well as by his own private inclinations, the new Emperor has invoked the action of his nobility, and these ukases and this rescript have been the result. The class of Serfs proper—that is, of the first 12,000,000 of whom we spoke above, will be the first whose case will be taken into consideration. Now, their actual position is this:—They are divided into two sections; one section adheres to the soil, the other serves itself out to service on the condition that each Serf shall pay an annual quota to his Lord. It appears that the great bulk of the Serfs who remain in the villages live in communities or villages. Each village or community pays a fixed poll-tax to the Lord of the Manor according to the number of male peasants which it contains. The entire community makes good the shortcomings of any defaulting member. One of the strangest parts of the arrangement, and one which acts, no doubt, as a death blow to anything like a real improvement of the land subjected to this communistic action, is that each household which forms part of the community is shifted about from good land to indifferent, and from indifferent land to that which is the worst, so that each household may have its turn. Of course, under such a system the accumulation of wealth or the improvements of the land is an impossibility.

The second section of Serfs consists of those who are not tied to the land, but who are permitted by their Lord or owner to hire themselves out, but upon the condition that they shall pay to him year by year a sum certain. The balance which they may earn beyond this sum is nominally their own, but one of the fiercest struggles which have taken place with reference to Serfdom is as to the sum at which the obrok or annual tribute should be fixed. Most of the Serfs who are employed in the manufacturing establishments of Russia are said to be Serfs who are out upon obrok. These brief suggestions may afford an idea of the magnitude of the problem which the Emperor Alexander has now taken in hand. Setting aside all considerations, such as those of the dangers which might arise from the sudden liberation of this vast mass of ignorant and superstitious human beings, it must be remembered that the Russian army is recruited from the Serfs as Serfs, not as free men. The manufactures of the country are kept alive by Serfs. The banking system of the country rests upon the Serfs, as at present banks can only lend out deposits upon the security of the land, and it is the Serf who gives value to the land. Again, the organization of the Serf communities, the ill-judged and impolitic as it is, still constitutes the only effectual guarantee for the general quiet of the country. We do not therefore say that Serfdom ought not to be dealt with as a matter of policy as well as of right. The experiment, however, is one of the most delicate nature, and the Emperor Alexander has well nigh as much to fear from the objects of his philanthropic policy as from the landed proprietors, many of whom will consider his scheme as another name for an agrarian law. Nothing could be a greater curse to Russia than precipitate action on such a matter; it would be but the establishment of anarchy; at the same time, the attempt must be made. We of the Western world may heartily wish success to the Russian Czar, as far as this project is concerned.—*Times.*

INDIA.

It is quite right that the Sepoy mutineers should be hunted down wherever they may be, in Oude or elsewhere; but it must not be forgotten that a campaign against Oude is a totally different thing from the chastisement of rebels. The question of the annexation of Oude has never yet been decided, and yet on the justice or injustice of that step depends the right of the Oude insurgents to be in arms; and, in any case, to confound them with the mutineers would be monstrous.—*Tablet.*

The Koh-i-Noor FATALITY.—Few people in England know the pedigree of the Koh-i-Noor, fewer still the superstition concerning it which exists in India—namely, that the race, the dynasty, or the individual who possesses it will infallibly come to destruction. This belief is founded on a curious chain of historic coincidences of which we will give a slight sketch.—When or where the Koh-i-Noor was originally discovered no one knows. The first record of its existence is in the seventeenth century, when Meer Joniah, who himself had torn it from a native Hindoo prince, presented it to Amangzeb, the Emperor of Hindostan. With the diamond, say the Indians, came the curse on the Emperor's house—a curse which, passing over himself, fell on his descendants with irresistible force; but not a crowned head of his whole race after him possessed either malice or common sense. The empire which he had built up and consolidated with so much genius and power, at his death crumbled to pieces; and when Nadir Shah, the "tyrant robber" of Persia, invaded Hindostan, he found but the name of past greatness behind him and the impotence, effeminacy, and disorganization of its then rulers. Nadir Shah's every step was a conquest; and in the year 1739 Mohammed Shah's last act of independence was played out; the Persian took Delhi by storm, committing excesses to which history has no parallel; and after a month's terrible occupation, retired with his slaves and his plunder, among which was the famous Koh-i-Noor. On his way back to Persia Nadir Shah was assassinated by his own chiefs in one of the passes of the Cabul mountains, and his ill-gotten wealth, bloodstained as it was, "looted" among rapine were met and avenged by their like; which, indeed, is the meaning of the superstition connected with the Koh-i-Noor. Ahmed Shah Durrane, the first King of Cabul, who was one of the assassins, took the diamond for his share of the spoil; and the curse passed from Delhi to Cabul. Ahmed Shah Durrane's dynasty lasted to the present day; but under so terrible a law of crime and sorrow, that we can well understand how men like the Hindoos, to whom all life is one manifestation of avenging deities, whose religion is deprecation rather than worship, and who make even murder a sacrifice to their gods—should see in such a fearful history the cruelty of destiny rather than the guilt of man. Not a crime, and not a form of human suffering or passion, is missing in the annals of that doomed house; and neither the mysterious guilt of Agasthus, nor the sorrows of the Manili, were greater than those of the race of Ahmed Shah

Durrane. The last King of Cabul was Shah Shooja. He was exiled, and Dost Mahomed Khan, made ruler of Cabul in his stead. Shah Shooja fled to Runjeet Singh, taking with him the fatal Koh-i-Noor—all that remained to him of his former enormous wealth. Runjeet Singh received the runaway, but, paying disregard to the symbol of the sovereignty of India, was still in his possession, starved and maltreated him until he gave it up. For with the Koh-i-Noor passed the sentiment of supremacy, though with the clinging curse attached. Runjeet Singh left it on his death bed to the idol Juggernaut; but his heir and successors disregarded his bequest, and kept the diamond to themselves. After passing from one hand to the other, dimmed by tears and stained with gore, according to its destiny, the diamond was at length captured, among other spoils, by Lord Dalhousie in his conquest of the Sikhs, and by him presented to the Queen. Later events in India would seem to confirm the fatal character attached to this jewel; but when some years ago, the legend was given to the writer of this paper, not a suspicion was abroad of the trouble that was to come.—*National Magazine.*

The *Calcutta Phoenix*, of the 10th Dec. says of the death of General Havelock:—"It is uncertain on what day General Havelock received the wound from the effect of which he died. It is, indeed, uncertain here in Calcutta whether his death was the result of a wound at all. All that we know of the lamentable and unfortunate occurrence is derived from the telegraphic message received by government from Cawnpore, and dated the 27th November. In that message General Windham merely says: 'General Havelock died two days ago.' The same paper describes the various important events at Lucknow and Cawnpore as follows:—"On the night of the 22d of November, the residency garrison, with the women and children, &c., moved out for the purpose of leaving the city. This movement was covered by Sir Colin Campbell's force and effected in the presence of the whole force of Oude. All was taken away. The King's treasure, amounting to £230,000, the state prisoners, all the serviceable guns—in fact, everything worth removal was removed. Sir Colin's forces then fell back on the Dilkhoosha, following the route by which it had advanced, and ultimately left the vicinity of the city altogether for the Alumbagh some miles to the south of Lucknow. From all this it is evident that at the time of the departure of the Commander-in-Chief's force, the rebels, were in great strength, and held the streets of the town. They are evidently determined to make the struggle a desperate one, and have fought far better against the East India Company than ever they fought for it."

On the 28th of December, Sir Colin Campbell appears to have marched from the Alumbagh for Cawnpore, leaving at the former post a division under Major-General Outram. The chief object was to engage the Gwalior mutineers, who according to some accounts, had secured the native city of Cawnpore, and who, according to the government news, were at least threatening the station.

WINDHAM'S ATTACK AND DISCOMFORT.—"He ordered out the troops, and marching at the head of more Europeans than the lamented Havelock had ever under his command, went down confident of success to attack the rebels. Our troops accustomed to be led to victory, went on with their usual dash, the 64th, one of Havelock's victorious regiments, leading. They charged a battery in the left centre of the enemy's line, and gained it, the enemy yielding to them at every step. By advancing the other regiments to support the 64th, the victory would have been assured; but they were left alone, and the enemy closing on them with their left wing, they suffered severely; they were compelled to abandon the guns they had gained. The want of a general was everywhere conspicuous; confusion reigned on all sides; no distinct orders were issued, and our troops had to beat a hasty retreat, may be called a disgraceful retreat into the entrenchments, leaving standing camp, stores, camp equipment, and the entire station of Cawnpore to the west of the Canal in the hands of the enemy. Our loss was proportionately heavy, and several of our men, and even some officers, fell alive into the hands of the enemy. It was stated in private letters that one of these was forthwith hanged, and a second beaten to death with shoes, and a third tied to a cart-wheel, which in a few successive revolutions crushed him to death.—Our camp and stores they burned, and that same evening advancing close to our entrenchment, they took possession of and burned the whole of the cold weather clothing for our men, which had been stored up at Cawnpore. On the following day, the rebels attacked the entrenchment, commencing with a very heavy cannonade from the right and left of their line. Windham attempted a sortie, in which, after some hard fighting, the Rifles managed to capture two guns, but our right were driven back with much loss. It was the sound of the firing on this day which reached the ears of Sir Colin Campbell; a messenger at the same time arrived with accounts of the critical state of Windham's party. Had the rebels at this time cut the bridge of boats, which affords the only means of communication with Oude, Sir Colin Campbell would have found it a difficult matter to cross the Ganges; but the rebels, not expecting his return, and making sure of Windham's force, were probably anxious to avail themselves of the bridge of boats to crush Sir Colin Campbell. At all events they let it remain, and by so doing were lost."

Cawnpore was threatened, and threatened by a force of such superior numbers, that nothing remained for the Commander-in-Chief but to turn towards it and disperse the army which was attempting to cut off his reinforcements and communications. This Sir Colin Campbell did, and in his usual effective style. He marched, leaving, as we have before mentioned, a division at Alumbagh, on Cawnpore, reached that city, or rather the British intrenchments outside it, perfected his arrangements for the safe conveyance of the women, children, and wounded to Allahabad, and then went out and attacked the Gwalior Contingent and their allies. The men of the contingent are just as good soldiers, if we may apply the term to wretches who murder women and children, as were any of the men of the regular sepoy regiments. The contingent itself consisted of four batteries of artillery, two regiments of cavalry, and seven regiments of infantry, all as highly disciplined as any native troops of any arm of the service.—This force was all that Sir Colin Campbell had to oppose. Amalgamated with it were the remnant of the Dinapore mutineers, the contingents of the ill-disposed rajahs between Gwalior and Calpee, the bad characters, the murderers, the thugs, and dacoits of Central India and all those who dreading the advent of the Madras column to Rewah and the contiguous districts, had pushed north into Oude. This was the description of army which Sir Colin Campbell attacked at Cawnpore. They were routed with but trifling loss; their camp was captured. They were pursued along the Calpee road for 14 miles, all their baggage taken, their munitions of war of most descriptions, and 16 guns falling into the hands of the victors. This is our latest news from Lucknow and Cawnpore.

The following telegram, dated Malta, Jan. 9, 2.30 p.m., has been received from Lord Lyons at the Foreign Office. From Sir Colin Campbell to the Governor-General.—Cawnpore, December 10, 1857.—A despatch has just been received from General Hope Grant, R.M. 9th Lancers; narrates that he came up with the fugitives at Serinighaut, when they were beginning to cross the great over the Ganges. He attacked them instantly with his cavalry and artillery with great spirit, and after half an hour sharp fighting, took 15 guns, including one 18-pounder, eight 9-pounders, three 12-pounder howitzers, two 4-pounder howitzers, and 6-pounder (native), with all their stores, carts, waggons, large quantities of ammunition, bullocks, hucksters, &c. General Grant estimates the loss of the enemy at about 100. He did

not lose a man in the operations, he himself being slightly wounded; I congratulate your lordship on the happy finish of this particular campaign. This telegram, received in a private letter from Calcutta, from an authentic source, arrived at Malta from Alexandria, in the contrast, packet Valenta, yesterday evening. Lyons, Admiral.

Malta, January 8, 2.30 p.m. There are just 24,000 European troops now in the Bengal Presidency.

THE IRISH IN THE ARMY.—In Friday week's *Gazette* there is a "return of killed and wounded, left wing, her Majesty's 53rd Regiment" comprising three killed and forty-three wounded, more or less severely. The regiment is a distinguished corps, even for a British one, having no less than the names of fourteen noted battles inscribed on its colours. It is what would be called an English regiment.—"The Shropshire" being its title—yet, if we may judge of its real nationality by the names of the killed and wounded, it is almost essentially Irish. The names of Twenty-seven out of the forty-six, including two of the killed (whom we print in italics) are O'Farrell, O'Connor, Shaughnessy, Quinn, Cuddy, Cronin, McGrath, Rourke, Spillane, Sullivan, Ryan, M'Burney, Ryan, Vaughan, Costelloe, Curran, Connolly, Cummins, Rice, Flaherty, Foley, Brannagan, Duohoe, McGuire, Farrell, Cullen, Bourke, Lloyd, Pussey, Williams (of which name there are two), Wall, Floyd, Caird, Thomas, and Banks, may or may not be Irish by birth and long descent, and most probably are; but that twenty-seven out of forty-six are pure Irishmen, of "lineage long," is undoubted; and yet the 53rd—"the Shropshire"—is an English Regiment! This proportion would make the Irish nearly three to two in the regiment, and the great probability is that they are two to one. Surely, with this positive fact staring us in the face, it is not too much to affirm that the British army is fully one-half Irish; and we are justified, when looking to such substantial data, in believing that Mr. Sydney Herbert greatly underrated the Irish element when he calculated it at 360 to the 1,000. This official list of killed and wounded (in the affair, perhaps, with the Dinapore rebels in which their commander, Captain Powell, lost his life) is a severe commentary on the boast of the Patriotic Commissioners, that they distributed in Ireland an amount of the Fund greatly disproportioned to the Irish contributions. If they had distributed impartially in Ireland a sum proportioned to the number of Irish who fell at the Alma, at Inkerman, and in the trenches before Sebastopol, Irishmen would not, could not, complain, and they could themselves enjoy the comfort of a clear conscience. And yet this standard, which was the only correct one for measuring the application of the fund, was wholly disregarded; and what is still more surprising, Irishmen are found to beland their application of the fund, though they devoted upwards of £250,000 of the surplus amount to the endowment of exclusive institutions in England, without laying out a single penny upon any Irish institution, Protestant or Catholic!—*Dublin Evening Post.*

THE LONDON CARNIVAL.—Contrast our first day of carnival, "boxing day," with the Florentine. On the gala day of Florence you will find the whole population in the streets; most house doors are open, and strangers enter; a large proportion will be masked; all is gaiety and unrestrained, but from one end of the town to the other it is likely that you will not meet a single drunken man. Could the same be said of a single London parish? We ask the question in full remembrance of the fact that the police report an unusually light number of "cases" arising from intoxication at Christmas. But we have no absolute faith in police statistics. We speak on direct information of those who have known the streets of London for years, and we assert that the drunkenness was more frequent and more wide spread than it has ever been before. Possibly we may find the cause if we go down one of the narrow streets inhabited by the classes who are least wealthy and orderly; and there is a strange spectacle presents itself. Is it Christmas Day, or Boxing Day, or the first Sunday after Christmas? There you see crowds of people, men and women, all come forth from their dull narrow homes to amuse themselves by—standing about. For hours they do it. They have nothing else to do. In some other places they might take a country walk; from this place it is a long expedition to the more borders of "the country." In some places amusements would be open to the listless multitude; here the British museum is not to be opened. At last it is discovered that standing about is "slow," and the gin palace is bright and gay.—*Spectator.*

MR. SOUND DOCTRINE.—What are the antecedents of this "Mr. Sound Doctrine," who offers "an individual superintendence and a mere paternal care over my lads?" Where does he come from? What has he done? What brought him here? Does he pay his bills? Can he write English? Can he even speak? Why does he put on that sanctimonious face to me, and that greasy leer to my small boy? They are both of them unwholesome expressions of countenance, and yet both less than that black scowl of his at poor Mr. Versergrinder, the unrepresentable young man in short trousers, who crossed the passage inopportunely as I entered Do-the-Boys Hall; who looked like an undertaker run to seed, but does (as I have since found) the real teaching of the whole school, and gets more kicks than half-pence for his pains; bullied by the boys, insulted by the servants, sat upon by the master, snubbed by the master's wife.—Letter in the *Times.*

GENERAL SIR CHARLES JAMES NAPIER ON PURGATORY.—"I do not think my balance will be white; no man's is. I try hard to do my duty, but do not satisfy myself; and God will not make me judge my own soul, or I am a lost man. Yet if so, there must be a purgatory, for I could not honestly pronounce myself worthy of heaven, nor altogether of eternal damnation."—See "Life and Opinions of Sir Charles Napier, by Lieut. Gen. Sir W. Napier, K. O. B.," vol. iv., p. 60, 61; London, John Murray.

UNITED STATES.

General Scott has nearly completed the arrangements for the spring and summer campaign against the Mormons. He is soon to be dispatched by the war department to the Pacific coast, for the purpose of organizing a force to operate against the Mormons from that quarter.

YANKERB.—We stated yesterday that a child had been found dead in the arms of a young Irish girl on Friday morning, on which a jury of inquest had been called. The following is the verdict of that jury, composed, as will be seen, by some of the most discreet and respectable of our citizens, and it reflects severely on the brutal conduct of the authorities of North Hadley:—"New-Haven County vs. Town of New-Haven, Jan. 22, 1858.—The undersigned, a jury of inquest, duly impanelled and sworn, to inquire of the cause and manner of death of the infant child of Catherine Hickey, a transient person, found dead in said town, having viewed the body of deceased, and having heard the evidence presented to us, do on our oath say, that said child came to its death from injuries received at North Hadley, Mass., while being with its mother, Catherine Hickey, forcibly ejected (as the jury believe by order of the Select men,) from the Alma House of that place, and by like violence and force used in placing the mother and child in the cars at or near North Hadley, and by consequent exposure and cold. And the jury find that said child died at New-Haven, in the street, January 2, 1858, at about 1 o'clock, p. m., and after arriving in one of the evening trains. Jesse Peck, foreman; A. O. Chamberlain, Amos Thomas, John J. Lyon, F. P. Gorham, Joel B. Foss, William H. Way, I. N. Bull, Noyes C. Mix, Henry S. Parsons, John Healy, Julius

Tuttle. As near as can be ascertained from the story told by the girl, and attending circumstances, who had been made a mother by a young man of North Hadley, who had been compelled to a legal settlement, and she sent to the Alma House with her child. When it was four weeks old, she was taken from the Alma House to Northampton, and forced into the cars against her will, in charge of two men—during which it is probable, the child (which was wrapped to her bosom, in an old shawl), was severely injured—as it did not nurse afterward. On reaching this city, she got out of the cars, with her child, and having but a penny in her pocket, bought with it an apple, and crawling into some nook, spent the night as imagination can easily suggest, and was found with her dead infant in her arms, in the morning. She thinks the intention was to take her to New York and send her back to Ireland, to get rid of the expense of supporting her. Such may be Massachusetts philanthropy, but it is very poor religion.—*New-Haven Register.*

BIGOTRY IN BUFFALO.—The Superintendent of the Poor for Erie County, having their office in Buffalo, refuse to allow a Catholic priest to give gratuitous service to the Catholic poor in the County House, once in each month.

COOK.—The editor of the *Chautauque Democrat*, has the following good bit at some of the New York City papers, which are always about to commence the publication of some old story or at best, an old one revamped. The *Chautauque* man says:—"We shall probably commence the publication of the 'Acts of the Apostles,' in a few weeks (as soon as we can procure a copy.) Now is the time to send in the subscribers. Extra copies can be furnished those who desire to secure this rare publication will receive an exchange by inserting the notice six times, and sending us marked copies of their papers containing it." The editor does not propose to copyright the story.—In this respect his liberality is commendable.

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO, there is a married woman, who holds the office of leaderess in an association of advanced Spiritualists, and lately she had her dangerous type taken, she having only that article of under-dress, which is not considered good manners to name in company. She belongs to a respectable and influential family. At Randolph, Chautauque Co., N. Y., an association of Spiritualists are erecting a building, which is to be an imitation of the human form, with the exception of the legs. The eyes are the sky-lights, the house has its front door and back door, and all the viscera of the body will be represented in the interior of the structure. Several papers which lately, for pecuniary gain, or party purposes, countenanced the Spiritualist movement, are beginning to declaim against the revolting demonstrations which it has led to. There was a time when the Mormons were caressed in the same manner that the Spiritualists were encouraged, and sympathized with by a venal and perverted press.—*Boston Pilot.*

A PRACTICAL LEGISLATOR.—One of our merchants, while sitting in his counting room and cogitating upon the hard times, had his reveries disturbed by the entrance of a gentleman evidently from the rural districts. "Do you want any fast rate brooms?" "No," he replied, "we have got a full supply." "I've got some very cheap," was the rejoinder. "I made 'em myself, and I'm a member of the Legislature." The merchant looked inquiringly at the speaker for a moment, and then with a smile resumed his cogitations.—*Boston Transcript.*

JUST SAVED HIMSELF.—A pious old gentleman, one of the salt-of-the-earth sort, went out into the field to catch a mare that was wont to bear him to town. He moved on the most approved mode. He shook a measure of corn at her; to delude her into the belief that she was glad to get it; but she was not to be deceived by any such specious act. She would come nigh, and then dash off again, until the good man was fretted very badly. At last, he got her in a corner among some briars, and made a dash at her, when she bounded over the wall, and left him sprawling among the bushes. His Christian fortitude gave way at this, and gathering himself he cried, "Oh hell!" The ejaculation escaped his lips before he thought; but immediately conscious of its wickedness, he said, "Amen," and translated the profane word into a note of triumph.—*Boston Evening Gazette.*

PORTENTOUS SIGNS.—The Statesman, the Philosopher, the man who is conversant with passing events, cannot fail to observe the increasing jealousy, and avowed hostility in this republic, against the professors of the Roman Catholic faith. The philanthropic declaration, which, in bye gone days, inspired the Fathers of American Independence to proclaim to the nations of the earth, "that all men are born free and equal," has been amended by, at least, some of their selfish descendants, in such a manner, as to trench on the sacred rights of conscience, acknowledged inviolable, by the sage and patriotic framers of the Constitution. The oppression of all nations were invited, in the comprehensive aspirations of liberty, to flee from oppression and persecution, too commonly inflicted by monarchical despotism, in the old world, to the enjoyment of equal rights and equal laws, in the "land of the free," without any question as to their religious opinions; requiring only the oath of allegiance to the institutions of the country of their adoption. Ireland, trodden down Ireland,—furnished and still furnishes large numbers, who, before, they were enabled to escape rigors of the most unmitigated tyranny, in the place of their birth, possessed the Promethean fire of freedom, and all the requisite qualities to render them useful and efficient members of our fair, prosperous republic. Their adherence to the religion of their fathers had obtained for them the hatred and persecution of apostate and perfidious England—they knew how to submit to the rigors of despotic power, amid wants and privations the most appalling; but they never could be induced to sacrifice the sincere and honest convictions of conscience, though the road of honor and preferment exhibited to them the terminus of their suffering, as the recompense of their recantation. They had hoped to enjoy the blessings of freedom in young America, and, especially the privilege of kneeling without molestation, around the altar of their choice. The sectarian pulpit, and, more fiercely than the rest, the Presbyterian throughout the length and breadth of the land, rang the denunciation the most violent, calumnies the most gross, and bigotry the most withering, until a people, professing to respect the right of conscience, have so warped the minds of the populace to goad them to the perpetration of sacrilege, bloodshed and murder, in the destruction of the temples and the lives of their Roman Catholic fellow-citizens. Well may this be entitled an eventful era in the history of the Republic. It is pregnant with consequences, which, when fully developed, must either place Pantheism on a throne erected on the ruins of the Constitution, and give the lie to the assertion, "that men are capable of self-government," or check promptly, the young hydra, whose thirst for blood and rapine and slaughter has already given evidence of its desolating voracity. Papers have been established for the avowed purpose of preventing Roman Catholics from admission into the country; petitions have been presented in the halls of congress to the same effect: are not these significant signs, sufficiently striking to warn the guardians of our liberty, that the arch-enemy of religious discord is stealthily urging his way into the Idea of our national prosperity? We feel the fullest confidence, that the meditated mischief would be averted by the liberal millions of the grand confederacy, should it assume a proscription attitude, but, you, now, think not of contemplated religious ascendancy; but, "principis obsta," crush evil in its incipency, is a wise and salutary admonition, which should not be overlooked by those who are entrusted with the preservation of the paladium of our sacred rights.—*Cor. of N. O. Catholic Standard.*