

here amidst the roar of foaming torrents, under the dark shade of towering crags, or gracefully leaning, as in the present instance, on high over their terraced roofs, these female figures, with the long white veil (which overhangs and partly conceals the "horri") widely streaming in the breeze, had at once a wild and mystic effect, highly in accordance with the surrounding savage scenery, of which at first glance they might be mistaken for the tutelary spirits. Whatever we might have thought of them, these daughters of the hills were much amused with the novelty of our appearance; cordially returned the salutations and inquiries after their health, and seemed quick in their repartees to the several jokes which Master Giorgio appeared to indulge in at their expense, which, from the boisterous merriment they elicited, were no doubt well applied and much to the point.—*Colonel Napier.*

THE HUDSON RIVER

I think it an invaluable advantage to be born and brought up in the neighbourhood of some grand and noble objects in nature; a river, a lake or a mountain. We make a friendship with it; we in a manner ally ourselves to it for life. It remains an object of our pride and affections; a rallying point, to call us home again after all our wandering. "The things which we have learned in our childhood," says an old writer, "grow up with our souls, and unite themselves to it." So it is with the scenes among which we have passed our early days; they influence the whole course of thoughts and feelings; and I fancy I can trace much of what is good and pleasant in my own heterogeneous compound to my early companionship with this glorious river. In the warmth of my youthful enthusiasm I used to clothe it with moral attributes, and almost to give it a soul. I admired its frank, bold, honest character, its noble sincerity and perfect truth. Here was no specious smiling surface, covering the dangerous sandbar or perfidious rock; but a stream deep as it was broad, and bearing with honourable faith the bark that trusted to its waves. I gloried in its simple, majestic, even flow; ever straightforward. Once, indeed, it turns aside a moment, forced from its course by opposing mountains, but it struggles bravely through them, and immediately resumes its straightforward march. Behold, thought I, an emblem of a good man's course through life; ever simple, open, and direct; or, if, empowered by adverse circumstances, he deviate into error, it is but momentary: he soon recovers his onward and honorable career, and continues it to the end of his pilgrimage.—*Washington Irving.*

NECESSITY OF PAIN.—Pain if affirmed to be unqualified evil; yet pain is necessary to our existence: at birth it rouses the dormant faculties and gives us consciousness. To imagine the absence of pain is to only to imagine a new state of being, but a change in the earth, and upon it. As an inhabitant of earth, and as a consequence of the great law of gravitation, the human body must have weight. It must have bones, as columns of support, and levers for the action of its muscles; and this mechanical structure implies a complication and delicacy of texture beyond our conception. For that fine texture a sensibility to pain is destined to be the protection: it is the safe-guard of the body; it makes us alive to those injuries which would otherwise destroy us, and warns us to avoid them. When, therefore, the philosopher asks why were not our actions performed at the suggestions of pleasure, he imagines man, not constituted as he is, but—*if he belonged to a world in which there was neither weight nor pressure, nor anything injurious, where there were no dangers to apprehend, no difficulties to overcome, and no call or exertion, resolution or courage. It would, indeed, be a curious speculation to follow out the consequences on the highest qualities of the mind, if we could suppose man thus free from all bodily suffering.*—*Sir Charles Bell's Expression in the Fine Arts.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The Synod of the Church of Scotland, in this Province, has settled the question of disruption, as far as they are concerned as a body, by a majority of 39 Ministers and 17 Elders, in favour of continued connexion with the Established Kirk of Scotland. The minority, 21 Ministers and 19

Elders. We do not know whether the minority intend to secede. Doctors Black and Mathieson, of this city, are amongst the majority.—*Courier.*

THE POPE'S BULL AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE IN AMERICA, AND THE CIRCULATION OF THE BIBLE.—Most of our readers are probably aware that a society was formed in this city two or three years ago, having for its object the diffusion of Christian knowledge in Italy. It is called "The Christian League." Besides the Bible, it causes to be distributed some other books of standard merit, such as D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation; and choice tracts adopted to the state of the public mind in that benighted country. The Pope, it seems, has taken the alarm, and fulminated a Bull both against this Society and Bible Societies in general. On the principle of reciprocity, we don't see how his Holiness can complain, since he, or the Societies under his control, is sending missionaries by the hundred to this country, building churches, establishing schools for the education of Protestant children, (he is not so particular about educating his own) and in every other practicable way promoting the extension of Romanism among us. The following is his Bull, fresh from the mint, being dated May 8th, 1844. It is addressed to the Romish Clergy all over the world:—

"Venerable Brothers, health and greeting Apostolic!—amongst the many attempts which the enemies of Catholicism are daily making in our age to seduce the truly faithful, and deprive them of the holy instructions of the faith, the efforts of those Bible Societies are conspicuous, which, originally established in England, and propagated throughout the universe, labour every where to disseminate the books of the Holy Scriptures, translated into the vulgar tongue. You are but too well aware, my reverend brethren, to what the efforts of these societies tend. They only care audaciously to stimulate all to a private interpretation of the divine oracles, to inspire contempt for divine traditions, which the Catholic Church preserves upon the authority of the holy fathers. In a word, to cause them to reject even the authority of the Church herself. It is long since preachers found themselves necessitated to turn their attention particularly to the versions current at secret conventicles, and which heretics laboured at great expense to disseminate.

Hence the warnings and decrees of our predecessor Innocent III, of happy memory. Amongst the sectarians of whom we are speaking, deceived in their hopes, and in despair at the immense sums which the publication of their Bible cost them, without producing any fruit, some have been found, who, giving another direction to their measures, have betaken themselves to the corruption of minds, not only in Italy, but even in our own capital. A vast number of members of sects in New York, in America, have formed a new association, which will take the name of the Christian League (fœderis Christiani) a league composed of individuals of every nation, and which is to be further increased in numbers by other auxiliary societies, all having the same object, viz: to propagate amongst Italians, and especially Romans, the principles of Christian liberty, or rather an insane indifference to all religion. This society strains every nerve to introduce corrupt and vulgar Bibles, and to scatter them secretly amongst the faithful; at the same time their intention is to disseminate worse books still, or tracts designed to withdraw from the minds of their readers all respect for the Church and the Holy See.

These books and tracts have been composed in Italian, or translated into Italian from other languages, and amongst these books should be particularly cited 'The History of the Reformation.' Wherefore, having consulted some of the Cardinals of the Holy Romish Church, after having duly examined with them every thing and listened to their advice, we have decided, Venerable Brothers, on addressing you this letter, by which we again condemn the Bible Societies, and the aforesaid Society called the Christian League. Let all know then the enormity of the sin against God and the Church which they are guilty of who dare to associate themselves with any of these societies, or abet them in any way. Moreover, we confirm and renew the decree recited above, delivered in former times by Apostolic authority,

against the publication, distribution, reading, and possession of books of the Holy Scriptures translated into the vulgar tongue. Given at Rome from the basilica of St. Peter, on the 8th of May, of the year 1844, and the fourth of Pontificate. (Signed) GREGORY XVI., S. M.,—*N. Y. Journal of Com.*

CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

DREADFUL STORM.—A most violent storm passed over this city on Sunday afternoon, occasioning, we regret to say, great damage to property, as well as loss of life. It commenced shortly after two o'clock, and continued with unmitigated fury for upwards of an hour. At the commencement, the lightning descended on a house and barn belonging to Mr. Valois, situated a little below the village of Longueuil, both of which were immediately afterwards in flames—About the same time, the spire of a small Episcopal Church, situated in the same village, was struck by the fluid and destroyed. We believe, however, that no further harm was done to the edifice. At Longue Point, the effects of the storm were felt still more severely. The wind, which blew a perfect hurricane, overwhelmed a house in the village and occasioned the death of two children. The steeple of the church was also struck and carried into the water—the bell which was inside, falling to the ground. In every direction, and on both sides of the river, a large number of barns have been blown down, and in many places great injury done to the crops. In fact, such a storm has not been experienced for a long time, and we very much fear that worse accounts have yet to be received.—*Montréal Transcript.*

PHILADELPHIA RIOTS.

Thursday Night, 11 o'Clock.—All is quiet—there is much excitement among the people in consequence of the continued presence of the military. Kensington seems to have been fanned into a flame, and considerable alarm is felt for the peace of the District.

Several Native American meetings were held tonight—they were numerously attended, particularly the one in High Street Ward, held at Dugass's, in Sixth Street, below Arch. Two companies of soldiers were present as spectators.

From the United States Gazette, of Saturday.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS.—Everything remains perfectly quiet; all the bustle is about the Girard Bank, where the troops congregate in great numbers. They paraded on the other side of the Schuylkill yesterday, and passed through a number of the streets of the city, attracting much attention, and eliciting praise.

Elijah Jester, who was wounded on Sunday evening, expired at the hospital last night. He was shot in the throat.

From the Philadelphia North American.

STATE OF AFFAIRS.—The city continues tranquil, so far as action is considered, but we cannot say that excitement has abated. Troops from the country continue to arrive, and the vicinity of their Head Quarters is crowded with curious people. Nothing is divulged of the intentions of the Governor, or his advisers. We care not to repeat the surmises which are uttered at every corner. A day or two will certainly show the end of this painful business, and we hope to see the city restored to absolute tranquility, which no malcontent will dare to disturb again.

THE WOUNDED.—We learn that Colonel Pleasanton is rapidly recovering from the effects of his wound. Captain Scott, too, is doing as well as could have been expected from the nature of his wound. Major Hastings, and Lieutenant Vance, also, have quite recovered from the injuries they received on Sunday night in vindicating the majesty of the law, and upholding the order, honor and dignity of the Commonwealth.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—It appears by a return made to the House of Commons, that in 1838 the Lords of the Treasury limited Mr. Barry's remuneration, as architect of the Houses of Parliament, to £25,000, to be paid at intervals in proportion to the advance of the works.

A letter dated Lima, May 11, states that a report was current there that the French and English were in difficulties at the Society Islands, and that when the vessel that brought the report left, they were about to commence hostilities. The French had imprisoned the English Consul.