

consequently year after year steadily advancing in legitimate independence. We must recognize, we must admit facts like these, examples like this—

MELANCHOLY TRAGEDY.—Sir.—The following appalling occurrence took place within eight miles of this town last night. A cask of paraffin oil was set in a room above the shop. The fenders, thick with soot, took it to a house to have it divided. A fire was kindled, and the stuff of a candle fell into it, and in a moment the house with all its occupants (a crowd of men and women) were simultaneously in a sheet of flame. The house was soon burnt down, and one young boy was burnt to a cinder sixteen persons were fearfully burnt, three have already died, and the recovery of the others is most doubtful.

THE AKESTON OUTRAGE.—It was rumored during the week that Sub-Constable Doyle, who lies in a very dangerous condition from the wound which he received on the evening of Thursday, 30th ult., at Akeston, had died; but on enquiry we learn that, though his condition is painful, he yet lives, attended by Dr. Murphy and that hopes are entertained of his ultimate recovery. As yet there has been no trace of the assassin who fired at Doyle and his comrade McConaghy, and who discharged a third shot, it appears as he walked leisurely away, after doing as terrible a deed of blood as any that has disgraced the country for a long time. There has been much to do the aloneness with which the police of the place are said to have arrived at the scene of the outrage, after the shots were fired; and after they were warned of what had happened. We believe that this has already formed the subject of investigation, or that inquiry will be made into the allegation; and we trust that the police may be able to show that there was no absolute neglect on their part under the circumstances. It is said, indeed, that if active steps had been taken on the instant to secure the assassin, there could be no difficulty in so doing. This, however, like many other matters that have been mentioned in connection with the fearful outrage, remains to be seen. The Rev. James Hickie, the energetic parish priest of Akeston, referred to the daring and appalling outrage on New Year's Day after its perpetration from the altar of his parochial church; and in language that called on the Almighty through every heart, he called on the Almighty to visit with His vengeance the wicked man who had imperilled the lives of two policemen, who had given no offence to their intended murderer, and who were merely standing in the butcher's stall awaiting the arrival of the Trilce mail car. The rev. gentleman prayed the wrath of the God of Justice on the head of the assassin who had stained his hands with blood and his soul with a crime which cried to Heaven for vengeance. His words awoke a sympathetic echo in every breast. We have heard that the rev. gentleman received a letter of a most extraordinary character a few days after, purporting to come from the person who shot the inoffensive and unoffending police constables, and bearing the 'Limerick—Akeston' post-mark. The letter, we believe, contained violent threats, and professed to come from one who cared nothing for the law of God or man. It stated the shot did not reach the person for whom it was intended, &c. We have no wish to amplify details, which can have but one effect, that of casting a deep shadow over our country's detentions, and affrighting the peaceably disposed and the well inclined.—Limerick Reporter.

A meeting of the Council of the Irish Tenant League was held yesterday afternoon, Mr. H. J. P., in the chair. Mr. Butt, Q. C., delivered a long address on the origin of the Ulster Tenant Right. He traced it to the evasion of the landlords, who ought to have given their tenants sixty years tenancy but who made encroachments on their rights and demanded fees on the renewal of their leases, until at last the tenants rose in insurrection. They were tried, but juries in the North and even in Dublin refused to find them guilty, and then the fines were no longer demanded and the Tenant Right of Ulster became confirmed. In the North of Ireland, he said the landlords had not the penal laws and the weight of dominion which they possessed in Munster to crush the Tenant Right. It became established in Ulster by the sympathy of the juries, but in Munster the juries were composed of a different class from the peasant, and there the Tenant Right failed. He observed that Tenant Right, as it exists at present, is limited and vague, and if an attempt were made to legalize it an unsatisfactory measure would be introduced, and no greater misfortune could befall the country. He moved the following series of resolutions, which were adopted:—'That it is necessary to point out that any legislation on the Land Question which would not secure to the tenant continuous occupancy, at fair rents, would be as far as the provision of Ulster is concerned, a derogation from the rights of the tenant under the ancient custom of that province. That, while we deeply regret to believe that of late years this custom has been gradually encroached on to such an extent that, without some legislative protection, the property held under it is no longer secure, any measure which would deal with the Land Question without giving full and ample protection to that property, instead of being a redress of grievances, would be robbery and wrong. That the entire people of Ireland, in common with the inhabitants of Ulster, are entitled to a security of tenure equal to that which the strict observance of the ancient custom of Tenant Right conferred upon the tenants of estates on which that custom was most fully observed.'

ORANGE REVENGE FOR THEIR CRIME.—The Rev. James Godley, the good rector of O'Connell, and his kind lady, spent two days previous to Christmas in ornamenting and decorating their church with holly and ivy, in honor of the festival. When the congregation assembled, and divine service had commenced, some of the leading Orangemen of the parish left the church, and after consulting together for some short time outside, they rushed back to the pulpit, calling on their brother Orangemen to show colours and to tear down the green. To satisfy these infuriated Orangemen who became rabid in the right of the green, Mrs. Godley, the rector's kind and charitable lady, told them that it cost her a great deal of expense and trouble to ornament the church, and that they did not put it there to be torn down to any, but in honor of the great festival.

No; notwithstanding all her appeals, they tore down the holly and ivy which she had so tastefully arranged in Scriptural mottoes, and threw it out into the churchyard. For this offence the Rev. Mr. Godley summoned some of the leaders of the party—namely, Sam Rosemond, Carrigallen; Thomas Bree, junr., Aughavilla; George Wood, Kivey; and Wm. Morrow, Kivey. On Sunday, the 2nd of January, when the Rev. Mr. Godley commenced to preach, the men above named left the church, together with their confederates, to the great annoyance of the congregation, for which offence Wm. Morrow, Kivey, was summoned for the second time, but before the court day came on the whole party summoned made an ample apology to the Rev. Mr. Godley for their disgraceful conduct on both occasions, which apology the Rev. Mr. Godley has kindly accepted. Nothing I ever witnessed grieved me more than to see the house of worship made the arena of such disgraceful and so ruffianly conduct by an infuriated Orange mob.—Correspondent of Anglo Celt.

Threatening letters and notices warning tenants not to pay rent are exciting alarm in Westmeath and other counties. The attempt to intimidate is not confined to landlords and agents, but is extended to other classes. A few days ago a member of the Inner Bar, who also holds a judicial office, received a letter threatening him with the same death as his client if he ventured to argue a question pending in the superior courts between a landlord and a tenant. In many instances persons who receive threatening letters conceal the fact, lest their friends should be needlessly alarmed, and from a belief that there is no use in giving information to the police.

THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF IRELAND.—The Post points out that in the midst of the present agitation on the Irish land question and all the other agitations that have preceded it, we have lost sight of the fact, or at least have not sufficiently appreciated it, that from the time of the famine there has been a steady advance in the wealth of the country and the prosperity of the whole people. The total poor-law expenditure of Ireland for last year was £276,603, which is raised to a total of £318,577, by the expenditure under the Medical Charities Act and some other items. Now, compare this with the total expenditure for England and Wales in 1868, which amounted, in round numbers, to eleven millions and a half, of which seven millions and a half were expended in relief of the poor only.—Taking the last mentioned we have more than eight times the expenditure for less than four times the population. Yet Ireland is essentially a poor country with a net annual value of rateable property amounting only to £3,000,000. A comparison between Ireland and Scotland is just as striking in respect of expenditure, and more so as regards the number of persons relieved. To state the case of Ireland by itself the latest returns show a decrease of poor by more than one-seventh compared with the preceding year; a decrease of £30,000 in expenditure, and an increase in round numbers of £42,000 in the net annual value of rateable property. The decrease in the number of paupers may be traced to two main causes. In the first place Ireland has been free from financial disaster. The cattle plague did not touch her, and as she was a poor country, without manufactures, and with comparatively little trade, the greater plagues of famine—gambling and bubbling speculations—has no chance of reaching her. What little trade Ireland possesses is sound, and on the increase. And this material prosperity has not been unaccompanied by moral progress. With the exception of political offences and agrarian outrages—certainly a large and most deplorable exception—the criminal and judicial statistics for 1868—the latest return—reveal a state of society highly satisfactory. The number of criminals, other than vagrants and tramps, is less than half the number in England, and though there were more assault cases than in an equal number of the population here, there were fewer attempts to shoot, stab, and otherwise do bodily harm, and fewer cases of manslaughter. On the whole, therefore, we have before us a picture in which there are many pleasing and hopeful features, and which prove that in legislating for Ireland we have not to treat an almost desperate case by a kill or cure remedy.

Religious movements in Malabar are becoming more lively. Mr. Munster arrived on Monday evening, and made his public entry into the town with great pomp. He was met at the station by his agent, about forty electors, and a large crowd. His carriage was preceded by the town band and followed by a train of five or six cars. His friends express great confidence in his success. He issued his address last evening. He will vote for a good land measure, an amnesty for the political prisoners and denominational education. Major Knox made a house-to-house canvass, and it is said received numerous promises of support. A strange affair is reported to have happened on Monday evening. A band from Cork paraded the streets, preceded by a banner, on which were the words 'Amnesty for the Political Prisoners,' when the standard-bearer was assaulted by the mob, and the flag torn down. A riot was expected to follow, and the traders shut up their shops lest the windows should be broken, but the excitement was only momentary, and quiet was soon restored.

THE NORTHERN WHIG reports a renewal of party rioting in Lurgan on Saturday night. An Orange drumming party entered the town from one of the rural districts around, and after staying for some time in the Orange hall and the usual places of refreshment proceeded homewards through the Roman Catholic quarter, despite of earnest remonstrances. The result was a collision. They were attacked with stones, and returned the assault. Windows were smashed, heads broken, and one of the combatants had his eye literally knocked out on his cheek by the blow of a stone. The police with great difficulty interfered and arrested some of the rioters.

GREAT BRITAIN. IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—LONDON, Feb. 8.—The second session of the Eight Parliament was opened today by the Royal Commission, composed of the Lord Chancellor, Earl De Grey and Ripon, Lord Sydney and the Earl of Beaconsfield. Only a few Peers and Peeresesses were present.

At 2 o'clock the members of the House of Commons were summoned to the House of Lords. Lord Cairns then read the Queen's speech, at the conclusion of which the Marquis of Huntley, who was in full Highland costume, moved an address to the Queen, and the motion was seconded by the Earl of Fingall. The address refers almost solely to the Irish question. An appeal is made to the House of Lords to face the question generously and justly, and to content the tenants and give peace and prosperity to the population. The Lord Chancellor said he regretted the absence of the Queen, and hoped she would soon be well. The relations of Great Britain with foreign powers were satisfactory. It was unfortunate that the Queen's speech made no allusion to the affairs of the Colonies; their well-being not being a matter of indifference. He also regretted the absence of any reference to the distress prevailing in Ireland. It would have been well to have told the sufferers their case was understood and sympathy felt for them. Reference to a national education was commendable, but he was amazed to see that Scotland and Ireland were left out of the scheme. After commenting briefly on other topics of the speech, the Lord Chancellor gave way to a motion for adjournment. Earl Grey rose and congratulated Lord Cairns on resuming the leadership of his party in the House of Lords. He then went into a vindication of the Government in Ireland. That policy was already producing the best effects. The Government had been unremitting in its efforts to establish order. Sully's case was outrageous and was universally reprobated. He justified the course pursued towards

Madden who refuses to serve as Sheriff and ended by deprecating the presence of the party feeling in the discussion of the Land Question.

Earl Grey feared that the action of last session has persuaded the Irish that the House was intimidated; nothing was left but rigor in the maintenance of order.

The Duke of Marlborough deprecated any forbearance; the remedial measures of the Government were a failure, and our visionary hopes were rampant.

Lord Monck replied to Earl Grey by quoting the speech made by him in '46 when he expressed his preference for remedial to coercive measures. Lord Monck thought the Ministerial plan was effective.

With this speech the Debate closed and the address was agreed to. Lord Redesdale was re-elected Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords. The House then adjourned.

In the House of Commons many new members were sworn in, and a new Writ of Election for the Dublin University was issued.

Mr. Gladstone, on entering the Chamber, was vehemently cheered. One of his first official acts was to give notice that he should move for the expulsion of the member for Tipperary, because he was under sentence of penal servitude, and the seat was consequently vacant.

Notices were also given of the introduction of the Irish land bill, the education bill and bills for the abolition of compulsory pilotage and for the repeal of minor clauses in the Reform bill.

In accordance with arrangements previously announced, Capt. Francis Egerton, member for east Derbyshire, moved a reply to the Queen's speech, and supported his motion with a few remarks. He said the programme was most satisfactory; the royal speech was marked by its great care and ability. The measures promised were sure to be framed with care and prudence, and debated without faction; and he was confident they would have the approval and confidence of the House.

Charles Wentworth Dilke, member for Chelsea, seconded the motion. He declared the programme of the Government was the most elaborate ever laid before the House. The country required that they should carry the measure proposed, including the abolition of university legislation; he hoped for legislation also on trades unions, and other social questions. He was confident of the justice and fairness of the ministers in all things.

Mr. D'Israeli then rose to speak and was heartily cheered. He thought the succession of important topics of much moment ultimately; he would only refer briefly to Ireland. The Government tardily admitted that the state of that country was unsatisfactory, and made reference contingent on the future laws. Ireland was full of disaffection, murder and secret societies, and the Government was bound to interfere. Old excuses of partiality like that of the Irish Bureau, were now inadmissible. Loyalists were repressed and insulted. Catholic priests heartily supported the Government; and trade, in this agitation, was made desperate by the Whig policy. Fenian influence, which had originated in America, and which had been checked by the Marquis of Abercorn, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, was now reviving. The land tenure still remained unchanged, and therefore could not be held responsible for the troubles unless Ireland had bodily gone mad. She certainly cherished hopes suggested by the Government which would be impossible to realize.

Mr. Gladstone replied that he admitted the difficult position of the Government. Their opponents, indeed, admitted the gravity of the situation, to remedy which the present may be the last opportunity. He complimented Mr. D'Israeli on the moderation of his motion. This Government, he declared, desired to try further remedies. He ascribed the tone of Mr. D'Israeli's speech to a wish to satisfy extremes and a craving for coercion. He eulogized the Catholic clergy for their loyalty and good sense, and the present Government he declared was misunderstood in Ireland. He proceeded to answer a series of charges made by Mr. D'Israeli and concluded with declaring that he was conscious of having fulfilled his intention of seeking in all frankness and fairness conciliation rather than opposition. After desultory speeches from the new members and others the House adjourned.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—In the House of Commons today, writs were issued for elections in Southwark and London, to fill vacancies caused by the appointment of Mr. Layard, as Ambassador to Spain; and Mr. Dowse, as Solicitor General for Ireland. Mr. Bruce, Home Secretary, promised to introduce a bill enabling aliens to acquire and hold land in England.

An address in reply to the Queen's speech was agreed to, and the House adjourned.

An Act of Parliament is proposed to protect foreign inventions sent to the Workmen's Exhibition, to be held here.

The merchants of Cork complain of loss of prestige to that city, by the transfer of the shipment of foreign mails, save one, to channel ports.

The newspapers this morning comments on the Queen's speech, and the debate thereon in Parliament yesterday.

The 'Times' thinks the weak point in the Ministry is the ill-timed policy on the Irish question. Though this is somewhat redeemed by the courage displayed in the matter of the Fenians, and the promise to urge vigorous legislation.

The 'Daily News,' Radical, only refers to the speech and the debate which followed to urge ballot as the panacea for the national grievances.

The 'Standard,' Conservative considers the Government responsible for violence in Ireland. Yet it has failed to protect life and property there.

The text of the 'Lancet's' statement with regard to the health of the Queen reads as follows:—'The Queen, we regret to say, has been suffering repeatedly during the past few months from neuralgia, affecting different parts of the body, and severe enough to seriously interfere with rest. Her Majesty has just recovered from a recurrence of the neuralgia, attacking the face severely. The attacks have been attributable to disturbance of the nervous system, due to exposure, worry, or excitement.'

The 'Times' has an editorial article on the present depression in the cotton trade. The writer ascribes the causes to the dearth of the raw material and the superiority of American manufactures and thinks the true remedies for the distress are—1st, greater intelligence and skill on the part of workmen; and 2nd, a reduction in the price of coal.

ment Bill on primary education is prepared, and that, although he is not at liberty to divulge its provisions yet, he thinks it will become law this year. He also believes that the plan, when brought forward, will command the assent of almost all those whose real and chief object is the education of the country. The intention of this phrase may have been perfect, but its expressions are certainly incomplete; for, after all, systems of education are only means to an end, and something higher and better than any career in this world must be the 'real and chief object' of every Christian. But Mr. Forster relies on public opinion and says that public opinion will not allow dogmatic differences to be an obstruction to a National system of education; and yet says also that public opinion will not allow the State to prevent the teaching any more than the preaching of religion—all which is rather vague and unsatisfactory. Still, as it is quite clear that no Act of Parliament can diminish the strength of Catholic dogmas, we must hope that the proposed National system will be so arranged as to allow those dogmas to have their full legitimate effect. There is ground for encouragement in another part of the speech; for, after reminding his hearers that Mr. Dixon believed it would require ten years to carry out the views of the Birmingham League, Mr. Forster distinctly intimated that a scheme must be adopted which can be carried out forthwith; from which the natural conclusion is that the Government Bill does not embody the views of the Birmingham League. A weekly contemporary has mentioned a rumour that Ministers propose to meet the difficulties of the case, and to endeavor to content all parties, by proposing to introduce the D. nominal system into Ireland and the secular into England; the idea of course being that Catholic influence is important in Ireland and must be consulted there, while the Dissenting bodies are powerful in England and must be propitiated here. Whether there be any good ground for this report we do not pretend to know; but it is abundantly evident that the present is the right moment for us to strain every nerve to make the Government and the Legislature feel that we Catholics of England have also a right to be heard; that our claim to our fair share of educational grants of money cannot be denied by Mr. Gladstone's Administration; and that any measure which would tend to hinder our confiding the education of Catholic children to our Catholic clergy could not be anything less than a denial of justice and, in spite of Mr. Bright's hasty assertion, an intolerable Catholic grievance.—Tablet.

WHEN THE FENIAN PRISONERS WILL BE RELEASED.—The Vice President of the Privy Council Mr. Forster in addressing his constituency at Bradford, said:—'Many persons say we have not succeeded in stopping every manifestation of dissatisfaction in Ireland. We never expected to do so. There are some men who have so committed themselves by hostility to English rule that Mr. Gladstone and Parliament could not have made them cease to be dissatisfied. But we are taunted because these men show their disaffection. My reply is, that these men know well that before long their trade will be taken from them, and that if they are not dissatisfied now, with the legislation we have begun, there is little hope of something dissatisfied hereafter. [cheers] My reply to the Tory taunt is, that the Fenian leaders could afford to wait while you were in power, but they cannot afford to wait now that Mr. Gladstone is in power. [cheers] But let not any one suppose that any of these sad attempts exaggerated as they are and have been, but still to some extent existing, to keep up the spirit of disaffection, will make the Ministry or the House of Commons, or the country, swerve for one moment from its determination to pursue its policy of justice to Ireland. [cheers] I cannot tell you the details of the Irish Land Bill that will be brought forward but I am sure that neither the principles nor the details of that bill will be affected by anything that has happened in Ireland. Although I cannot say what measures the Ministry will bring forward I venture to say that the English nation desires on this matter: that no lawless deed by the Fenians shall cause the House of Commons for one moment to diminish its efforts to improve the land laws. The promise to do so must and shall be kept. That no agrarian outrage shall make us cease to strive to improve the relations between the landlord and the tenant in Ireland, but that in Ireland, as in England and Scotland, outrage shall be punished. As in the last session, so in the next session, I believe the majority of the House of Commons will determine to carry out the true principle of union between England and Ireland. And what do I understand that union to be? I have often said it, both here and in the House of Commons I consider that idea to be an absolute disregard of all distinctions between England and Ireland when imperial interests are concerned, the utmost regard and consideration for Irish feelings, Irish wishes, and Irish interests, when Irish affairs alone are concerned. While we are determined to carry out the principle of that idea of the union for the future as in the past, yet that union must and shall be maintained. [loud cheers] One word more. We Englishmen do not like to have political prisoners—we wish to open the prison door and to let the Fenian prisoners go free; but order must and shall be kept. We know full well that no civil community can disregard that principle of self-defence which applies to communities as well as to individuals, and that no civil community can consider an attempt to cause civil war under any other form than as a crime, but we trust and believe that such is our policy towards Ireland, and such will be our policy in time to come, that very soon we shall take from every man in Ireland the motive to commit crime. [cheers]—and so we can afford to say that we will keep the Fenian prisoners in goal as long as the safety demands—[loud cheers]—and no longer [renewed cheers].'

THE PRESENT STATE OF JUDAISM.—Some little time ago the two Abbes Lemann, two brothers, priests and converts from Judaism, published a remarkable pamphlet addressed to their converted brethren, and entitled, 'La Question du Messie et le Concile du Vatican.' Struck by the extremely conciliatory spirit and 'even tenderness,' as they say, of its authors, the directors of the 'Univers Israelite,' have undertaken to reply to it. Their position is that the Jewish religion is in a most flourishing condition, and that Catholicism is very sickly. To this M. M. Lemann have published a rejoinder, and satisfactorily prove that the pretence of immobility of Judaism is, in reality, nothing else but decomposition. They observe that the three great exterior characteristics of Judaism which are still possible after the dispersion, are the laws of meats, the Sabbath observance, and the use of the Hebrew language. By the confession of the 'Univers Israelite' itself they show that the Jews of the present day are struck with a grisly sickness, that they suffer as Israelites from a moral consumption. The Sabbath is already forgotten, so are the laws respecting ailments, and all that make the Israelite an Israelite. The same impartial authority writes us to the dissent of the Hebrew language: 'Out of ten young people of fifteen years of age, nine are ignorant of the rudiments of Hebrew. And if the Council of Public Instruction had not rendered the study of M. Duruy's little Sacred History obligatory, they would have in complete ignorance of the existence of our Scriptures. We are not speaking of the Bible; scarcely any one reads it.' According to the 'Archives,' another Jewish publication, the rite of circumcision is no longer universally practised. Sixty-six Jewish physicians of Vienna have published a manifesto against it, and the Rabbinical Congress of Philadelphia has resolved that the small child of a Jewish woman is, even if uncircumcised, to be the very fact of his birth, a member of the Jewish Community. What then remains? argues the M. M. Lemann—nothing distinctive but the belief in the Unity of God. 'And as we believe in this too, they are justified, they say, in asserting that the wall of separation is broken down, and that many of their

unconverted brethren are no longer so far off from them as before.—Tablet.

UNITED STATES. A seasonal preacher in Iowa conducts Sunday services in a billiard saloon, opening church with beer all around and closing with a treat for the crowd.

A poor negro woman in Virginia has been subject to great annoyance by the police. She had a way of ennobling her strawrag bed with babies of her own which she aspired for that purpose.

Jack Reynolds, who the other day wastefully murdered Townsend, on being told of the horrible nature of his crime, said he knew all that—but, hanger for murder, yer know, boss, is played out in New York.

The Augusta (Maine) Journal relates that an advertisement of a small sewing machine, for one dollar, was answered by a young man in the rural districts, who received in return for his dollar a shoemaker'sawl worth about fifteen cents.

A New York writer says that the Custom House authorities, being suspicious of a quantity of cedar planks which arrived from Havana, seized and had the lot examined. The planks were ten feet long two inches thick. The officials found that the planks were dug out and closely packed with cigars—41 boxes in all containing 24,000 cigars, valued at \$150 per 1000. A great many cigars have been smuggled by this old Liverpool device.

CUBAN BELLIGERENCE.—New York, Feb. 10.—Senator Sumner is strongly opposed to the recognition of the Cuban as belligerents. He expects that Cuba as well as Canada will be annexed within ten years.

Washington, February 10.—A resolution reported some time since from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, calling on the President for information concerning the imprisonment of American citizens in England for political offences, came up for discussion this morning. Mr. Wool addressed the House on the subject, taking strong ground against the British Government.

The Legislatures of Iowa, Kansas and Wisconsin, have each elected a woman as Engraving Clerk.

THE STAGE AND THE PULPIT.—The interest returns show that in this city about seventy thousand dollars are expended every week at places of amusement, as theatres, circuses, and these places are only divided in number among which that large sum is divided. This is a larger sum, by at least three times, than is paid weekly to all the evangelical clergy of this city for giving religious instruction to the people. Paris, with a population twice as large as New York, supports only the same number of theatres and these receive but \$30,000 a week, while ours receive within \$21,000 as much, showing plainly that New York in proportion to her population, pays far more for theatrical entertainments than Paris. And it is not denied that New York has reached a depth of moral debasement in her stage plays and shows, that Paris painted like Jezabel as she is, would blush to behold. If the Church and means of grace; if the preaching of the Word; if the ministers of God; are the grand agencies to save society from moral corruption, it is plain that we are not doing half our duty to stem the tide of vice that is the natural offspring of many of our public amusements. It is admitted on all hands that the 'legitimate drama' does not 'pay.' Theatres, therefore must offer something lower or be closed.—N. Y. Observer.

Abortion or Feticide is now the great national crime of the United States. Judge Johnson, of Michigan, in passing sentence on a Dr. Shannon for causing the death of a married woman, seventeen years of age, whose husband compelled her to submit to the operation, said:—'This crime which resulted so fatally to the life of the young wife, when you and I were born and tenderly watched over and reared by maternal kindness, was almost unknown in our land, and only heard of here and there at long intervals, and but to brand the authors and abettors with universal detestation; and if by a medical practitioner however skilled, to consign him to merited neglect and contempt, but has now grown into a widespread menacing evil and is already producing disastrous effects upon society, morally, and with its attendant vice, is rapidly working the destruction of our people, promoting amongst the youth of both sexes licentiousness and brutality, instituting in the place of the delicacy, refinement and modesty of American maidens, unblushing effrontery, unchastity and utter heartlessness and in later life robbing our women of their crowning glory—the most refined, ennobling of all the attributes of humanity, motherly instinct, to be replaced by what? The heartless, sorrow-worn, devoted devotee of passion, and the pursuit of momentary and giddy pleasures and indulgence. In fact its tendency is to blot from American society its happy home, the strong pillar and prop of our country—to rob our homes of prattling infants, happy and affectionate youth or worthy and affectionate fathers and mothers, to sacrifice the future of our country, to impoverish our race by the sacrifice of all that nobles and elevates man and woman and for what? For the sake of a few years of uninterrupted rest and the heartless indulgence in fashionable amusements to be followed by a greatly diminished, diseased and degenerated offspring, and to purchase for the guilty themselves in advanced life, when pleasure has palled, a cold and cheerless existence, ungladdened by the great full affection and endearing intercourse and kind care of grateful children, willing to bear with and tolerate their infirmities and smooth the pillow of death and bid it with the tears of tender affection. This terrible and prevalent evil, unless arrested, will speedily darken and poison our whole community, when its deadly pall cannot be lifted. Then will have perished in one miserable and appalling wreck all that is valuable in society, all that is dear in domestic life. We witness as an evidence of the popularization of this practice already in communities, that fatal premonition from the mouth of hundreds, 'all do so, all physicians are alike.'

While the newspapers gloat daily over the details of the last case of murder or seduction mere mention has been made of an incident which occurred last week at Scranton, Penn., and which seems to us to contain the elements of the most terrible tragedy. The story is as old and hackneyed as the tragedy almost as common as death itself. A young man goes wandering about the country, the son of respectable and wealthy people; well-educated himself, a generous, affectionate, good fellow, of whom no worse name can be said than that he was 'a little fast.' Just at the age, too, when the broad road of life has the fullest daylight upon it; when all chances of power, and brilliancy, and love, are waiting to be conquered by the stepping brain and ready hand. Just at this age, this boy stops short, looking; it would seem, with a certain steady, coolness, at his own future, and finding that for him, early as it is, there is no chance. The 'devil of early' has its grasp on him, soul and body, and is sucking the life from both. He tries his own strength, and finds it too weak to shake it off. Afraid to go home, ashamed to look his fellow-men longer in the face, he writes a boyish, artfully good by to father and brothers, and then quietly puts a pistol to his head and ends it all. There is something beyond the pathos of words to us in the last message to his brothers, the other boys he had left at home: 'Caution, Willy, mother, not to follow in my footsteps. Let me be buried in a plain box, and I do not wish to have any but relatives at my funeral. Keep Henry out of harm's reach, as if he is not checked, he will be ruined also.' He sends a thousand kisses to little Julius and Clarence; and tells Julius that he must forget me, as I am not worthy of remembrance from the meanness of my living. N. Y. Tribune.