

VERVIERS AND LUCERNE.

(Extract of a Letter from Rome.)

I have been commissioned by a high and holy personage to ask you to insert the following statement from a correspondent of undoubted veracity and good authority:—

At the meeting of the Lodges of Freemasons in Belgium last year, the question was considered what they should do to put a stop to the progress of the Jesuits, which was found to injure their views so much; and it was resolved that the only effectual steps they could adopt would be to get up disturbances wherever the Jesuits were established, or likely to come, and throwing upon them the credit of creating disaffection and disturbance. The insurrections at Verviers and Lucerne were in consequence of this decision. Strangers poured into the towns, made disturbances, attacked those who were known to be friends, &c.,—but in their ultimate object they failed.

A PERVERT.—George M'Namara, late a priest in the diocese of Killala, and, we understand, suspended by the Right Rev. Dr. Feeney, for refusing to account for the revenues of a parish of which he was administrator in the absence of the parish priest, read his recantation in the Protestant church of this town on Sunday last, preparatory to becoming a minister of the Church by law established.—*Tuam Herald.*

RECONVERSIONS.—The enemies of Catholicity have triumphed in the apostacy of the Rev. Mr. Brosbie. Their triumph, however, has been a short one. Conscience has triumphed in the bosom of the Rev. Mr. Brosbie, and he has thrown himself upon the mercies of that Church he betrayed, ready to receive any sentence it may pronounce, and undergo any penitential course she may assign him, to atone for his awful dereliction, and for the enormous scandal he has given by his rash and inconsistent conduct. To the functions of a priest, we believe, he cannot be re-admitted, at least under ordinary circumstances, but as a repenting sinner he will be received with open arms.—*Kerry Examiner.*

HACKNEY CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—Ash Wednesday.—Mr. Editor,—It must a source of congratulation to all the sincere Catholics in the London District to learn of the progress which is being made in the furtherance of our holy religion in its various localities; and certainly, if one more than another can give such satisfaction, the Hackney Mission will, I think, be most interesting to them. This day the solemn Blessing of the Ashes and High Mass was celebrated, after which a most appropriately affecting sermon was preached, with an edi-

fying explanation of the ceremony of the day.—To those who have been used to the London Circuit only, this was truly a devotional day, and awakened their minds to the happiness which our forefathers must have enjoyed before what is mis-called the Reformation. It is surely much to be lamented that the new church (or chapel) which has been so long talked of for this mission, has not been proceeded with; I know that the Bishop's authority has been given for the purpose.—*Tablet.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC FUNERAL.—An exhibition of a novel description took place at Chelsea on Friday last, which caused considerable curiosity and excitement in the neighbourhood. Mrs. Knight, the lady of the eminent botanist in the King's Road, is deceased lately, and it was on the occasion of her funeral. It appears that it was the wish of Mrs Knight that her remains should be deposited under the altar of the chapel of an extensive building recently erected in the Road leading from Cadogan-terrace into the Marlborough-road, Chelsea, consisting of a convent for an order of Sisters of Charity, schools, &c., which have been built with funds left for the purpose by the late Abbe Voyaux Franons, the chief clergyman for many years at the Catholic chapel, and who was, we believe, the tutor of Sir Robert Peel, by whom he was greatly esteemed and remembered up to the time of his death. A solemn dirge and requiem was performed on the occasion alluded to over the body, and in the present Catholic chapel in Cadogan-terrace, which was attended by nearly all the Roman Catholic bishops and priests in London and its suburbs, to the number of upwards of fifty, with a large number of the usual attendants; after which the whole of the clergy, in full canonical costume, accompanied the body through the public streets to the place of burial, the acolytes, or boys, carrying candles, &c., the whole forming a sight which, though of every day occurrence on the continent, was certainly a novelty to the inhabitants of England, and which would not have been attempted some years ago.—*London Morning Advertiser.*

At Athium, in the palatinate of the Rhine, there lived for many years a Protestant, who had contracted a mixed marriage. As long as his wife lived he regularly went with her to the Catholic church; but after her death he frequented only the Protestant place of worship. During the exposition of the holy robe of Treves he resolved, although seventy years of age, to make that pilgrimage in the company of his children, and accordingly he went; but at his return to his own parish he made the utmost haste to announce to his pastor his firm resolution to embrace the Catholic faith. The minister supplicated him to allow time for more mature re-