

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

CONVERSIONS IN THE WEST.—Four adults were received into the Church last week at Punpant, Ste. Genevieve County, Mo. More converts, principally Americans, are under instruction.

ORDINATIONS.—His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of New York, conferred Tonsure and Minor Orders on Mr. William Henry Hoyt on the 11th ult., and on the following day the same gentlemen received Sub-deaconship from the hands of the Cardinal, in the private chapel of his Eminence, at his residence at Madison Avenue.

PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY IN THE WEST.—Seattle, a place in Washington Territory, on Puget Sound which was founded only three or four years ago by the Rev. Father Prefontaine, a Catholic priest from Quebec Province, has now a population of 5,000, with a daily paper, four district schools, and seven churches.

CATHOLIC GERMAN CELEBRATION.—At a meeting of all the officers of the German societies of Louisville, Ky., at St. Boniface Hall, it was resolved to celebrate the 3d of June, the golden episcopate of Pope Pius IX., with a grand procession. Mr. Eurbin Shingee was appointed Grand Marshal.—Louisville Advocate.

DEATH OF A SISTER OF MERCY.—Died on Easter Saturday, Mother Augustine Hickey, for many years Superioress of Doon Convent, a most excellent lady in every particular, and deeply and deservedly regretted. Her obsequies took place on the 3d ult.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CASHEL.—His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Cashel and Emly presided on the 3d ult. at the Easter Conference of the Clergy in Thurles Cathedral, when the statutes of the National Synod of Maynooth were promulgated. On the 5th ult. his Grace presided at the Conference of the Clergy of Emly, etc., in Tipperary.

NEW CHURCH AT SALISBURY, N.Y.—The Catholics of Salisbury, Herkimer County, N.Y., are rebuilding St. Bridget's Church at Salisbury Corners. The building was destroyed two months ago by being crushed in with snow. The Protestants offered to contribute a handsome sum to the Catholic society if they would purchase the Presbyterian Church and convert it to their use. To this Bishop Mc-Nierney was opposed, and now the cost of a building will be borne by the congregation of St. Bridget's Church alone.

PROVINCIAL SOCIETY IN SAN FRANCISCO.—A San Francisco correspondent of the Toronto Globe says, in reference to a British Provincial Association which has been formed at the former place:—"The President of the Association, Mr. McKinnon, is a member of the firm of Preston & McKinnon, at the head of the lumbering business of the Pacific Coast. That he is a Catholic in religion is an indication that sectarian prejudices have no weight with the Canadians of California. Mr. McKinnon did not seek the office, it came to him."

LIMERICK CATHEDRAL.—An appeal is being made for assistance to carry on the work of restoring the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, which dates from A.D. 1172, and is a fine specimen of early Irish architecture. It suffered much during the great siege from Cromwell's batteries, and though partial attempts at restoration have been made from time to time since 1859, much remains to be done. The estimate for the contemplated restoration is £4,000, and some additional necessary and substantial repairs will involve a further expenditure of £3,000. The subscriptions already promised amount to about £2,165, and the Earl of Limerick has expressed his desire to undertake some special portion of the restoration work.

NEW CONVENT IN HARTFORD, CONN.—It has been decided to erect a convent on the corner of High and Lafayette Streets, the building to be of brick, three stories above ground, and about seventy feet square. Proposals for building are now ready, and the work will be begun immediately. The small wooden building standing on the ground at present will be sold at auction in a few days. St. Mary's Church Society own this ground, which is in the immediate rear of their church property. It was optional with the church here whether they should build another church or a convent, so we are told.—Hartford Times.

A YEAR HENCE AT ROME.—It has been remarked that next year Pius IX. will, if happily preserved to Christendom, attain the thirty-second of his Pontificate, a memorable epoch, seeing that, according to St. Gregory the Great and Eusebius, St. Peter was the visible Head of the Church during thirty-two years, including the six years that he governed the Church of Antioch. But, as the Roman correspondent of the Morning Post remarks, calculating from the period at which our Saviour first named Peter as Head of the Church would have been thirty-eight years, which forms another anniversary for Pío Nono to look forward to; nor adds our Protestant contemporary, is it at all out of the range of possibility for his Holiness to attain the year 1894, considering his robust constitution and the traditional longevity of his family.

INFORMATION.—Catholics who propose to travel in Germany or Switzerland this summer will be interested in hearing that confessions are heard in English in the cathedral of Cologne, by the Rev. Alphonsus Bellesheim, D. D., and in St. Gallen, Switzerland, by Rev. Canon Otto Zardetti at the cathedral.

CONFISCATION OF CHURCH PROPERTY.—The Italian Government has introduced a Bill to sell the estates of the parochial confraternities and benefices. The sum expected to be realised by the sale is about 380 millions gross, or about 300 millions net, after all deductions. The parishes will receive an annual re-ignition on the public Treasury (equal to their average receipts prior to conversion). If the sales produce a larger sum than would be sufficient to produce the average in past years, then the surplus of interest will be applied to benefit poor incumbents to a certain extent, and afterwards the surplus will be given to the municipalities for schools.

THE COMING PILGRIMAGES TO ROME.—There have already been registered 25,000 pilgrims for the eventual 3d of June. The garrison of Rome will be doubled during the Papal Jubilee; ten days before the commencement of the solemnities two regiments of infantry and one of bersaglierie will arrive in the capital from the province of Alexandria, by which means the garrison will consist of six regiments, instead of three, with proportionate cavalry and artillery.

CERLICAL SOCIETIES.—The Bishop of Marseilles states in a recent Pastoral that he is happy to be able to testify to the existence of a fact in his own diocese, which is by no means singular in that respect, namely, the tendency of many good priests to form themselves into clerical societies, varying indeed in the details of their organization, but all having similar objects in view; namely, fraternal union with one another under a superior, and the adoption of a rule relating to the interior life, and a perfect practice of the virtues and duties of the ecclesiastical state. In view of the fruits of association, which have flowed from these holy associations, the Bishop commends them to the attention and piety of his clergy.

CARDINAL LEDCOWSKI.—It was stated, and reported confidently by the Popolo Romano, that the Prussian Government had ordered its representative in Rome to demand the extradition of his Eminence Cardinal Ledcowski. The Italian Government some time back allowed itself to be the medium of

servng the Cardinal with certain legal documents—namely, the summons and process which emanated from the Prussian tribunals. An usher of one of the Italian courts was employed to give these documents to his Eminence, who then resided in a house near the Vatican. Some of the Catholic newspapers contradicted the rumours concerning the demand for the Cardinal's extradition alleged to be made by the Prussian Government. It is thought that it is to guard against contingencies that the Pope has now given apartments within the Vatican itself to his Eminence Cardinal Ledcowski. But the Vatican would be no safe asylum for the Cardinal were the Italian Government disposed to banish him or surrender him to the Prussians. The Pope only is inviolable, according to Signor Mancini. The Cardinals and Bishops have no peculiar immunities in the eye of the Italian law.

ASSEMBLY OF THE CATHOLICS AT PARIS.—Under the title of an "Assembly of Catholics," a designation invented and prescribed for them by the police authorities, the general annual meeting of the Catholic Committees held its first session on Tuesday evening, April 3. The meeting is "private," also by official compulsion, a "public" meeting having been ruled by the Executive to be illegal. The attendance was much more numerous than on any former year. The chair was taken by H. E. the Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris, who was supported by M. Chesnelong, Senator, and President of the Assembly, and there were present a large number of other distinguished persons. The extraordinary attendance and the enthusiasm that characterized the proceedings were evidently, says the French report, the result of the opposition offered by the Government. Prayer having been said, M. Chesnelong read a telegram proposed to be then forwarded to the Holy Father:—"Most Holy Father: The members of the Assembly of the Catholics now met at Paris desire, before beginning their labors, to lay at the feet of your Holiness the homage of their entire submission, and implore the Apostolic Benediction." M. Chesnelong delivered an eloquent address, and was followed by the cardinal-archbishop, who denounced in language of flame the infidel press, which was hurrying the souls of so many to eternal punishment.

THE STRUGGLE IN BELGIUM.—The Liberals of Belgium, that is to say the enemies of the Church, are in an awful way. They are fretting and fuming like anything. Whence this wrath? The reason is not far to seek. Of late these gentlemen have been getting up a subscription called the dernier des écoles, for the promotion of undenominational schools, which in Belgium means schools in which infidelity is taught instead of religion. They called among others on the heir-presumptive of the Belgian throne, the Duke of Flanders, who, being a thorough Catholic, and married to the daughter of Prince Antony, the head of the Catholic branch of the Hohenzollerns, refused to have his name associated with such a cause. Thereupon an immense "row." The Legislature must be moved to have the law of succession altered so as to get rid of this "emissary of the Jesuits." The Water-beggars are active in holding meetings and hatching treason, but all their rage will be spent in vain, for the people are Catholic and so is the Legislature, and there is very little chance of either changing for a long time to come.

PROFESSION OF RELIGIOUS IN GLASGOW.—On Saturday 7th April four novices of the Franciscan Convent of the Immaculate Conception, Glasgow made their religious profession. The Most Rev. Archbishop Eyre was celebrant; Rev A Munro, D.D. acted as assistant priest to his grace; Revs J Glancy, D.D. and W Gallagher as deacons at the throne; and Revs J A McGuire and J Miller as deacons of the Mass. Father Amherst S J how was the preacher chosen for the occasion, addressed the novices on devotedness to Almighty God. At the Communion each sister made perpetual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. After Mass his grace the Archbishop gave to each one in turn the habit of the order; then they prostrated themselves in the midst of the choir, and whilst the Te Deum was being sung, little maidens dressed in white scattered flowers over them. Then the procession was formed and the sisters moved in solemn order round the cloisters, singing the praises of God. The names of the young ladies are: Miss C. Farron, from Newton Stewart, and her sister, Miss M. Farron; Miss Gunn, of Glasgow; and Miss A. Kerrigan, of Dublin.

CONFRATERNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY, TULLAMORE, IRELAND.—"Zingaro," writing to the Weekly News and Nation, says: "The first annual retreat of the members of the Holy Family, Tullamore, was opened in the parochial church of this town on the evening of Monday, the 19th March, by the Rev. Fathers Urbaney and Stokes, of the Order of Redemptorists, and continued during the week. The confraternity, which numbers over twelve hundred, attended almost to a man during the retreat, and I believe there were not half a dozen absent on Sunday evening last at its conclusion, when that large body made a renewal of their baptismal vows. The scene within the church on this occasion was a singularly imposing and impressive one. Twelve hundred tapers threw their light on the upturned faces of that large congregation of serious men, while twelve hundred manly voices repeated the renewal of the vows spoken years ago for them at the baptismal font, and afterwards swelled the measure of an old Gregorian chant. It is, I take it, a suggestive fact that the fathers during the retreat, in their several addresses to the confraternity, applied themselves in a most particular manner to the terrible consequences resulting from one most common sin—the sin of drunkenness—and with the happiest effects. In a town which is not altogether free from the stain of intemperance not one drunken man was to be seen during the week. I should not forget to mention that much of the happy result of the retreat is due to the zeal, energy, and devotion of the confraternity, the Rev. Joseph Flood, C. C., a loved and honored name, which is, indeed, a household word amongst the people to whose spiritual wants he has ministered so long.

CATHOLIC INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS, GLASGOW.—It is frequently to be observed that not only among outsiders, but even among a large number of Catholics, an idea is prevalent that schools and other public institutions are better managed by others than by Catholics. The report of the above schools just issued furnishes another proof among many of how erroneous such an opinion is. Financially, the directors can point with pride to a balance of £102 2s. 4d. excess of actual income over expenditure; the thoroughness of the industrial training is attested by a most interesting tabular statement of the varieties of work and the number of articles made and repaired during the year; the efficiency and success of the intellectual training are attested by the reports of H. M. Inspector; and the care taken of the health of the children is witnessed to by the reports of the house doctor. It may also be mentioned—and this is the surest test of success—that of the 205 inmates discharged during the years 1873-4-5 only six have been convicted of offences, whilst, after deducting those who are dead or unknown, at least 170 are known to be doing well. For the year the total average in the boys' school was 227, and in the girls' school 181. The Catholics of Glasgow may well feel proud of having in their midst an institution which with very limited means, has produced results which compare very favourably with what has been done by other institutions possessed of practically unlimited means and the most influential patronage.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—At a meeting held in Kildare Street, on the 5th ult., of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language, rules were drawn up and unanimously agreed to.

RENTS IN LIMERICK.—Part of the lands of Ballalmon and Garraha, the property of S. F. Dickson, Esq., J.P., were recently let at prices ranging from £7 and upwards per acre, exclusive of auction fees.

SAD RESULT OF INTemperance.—A man named Lyons was recently found dead on the roadside near Listowell. He had been drinking in that village, and was returning home. The verdict in his case was that death was caused by exposure, while under the influence of intoxicating drink.

DEATH OF MRS. BEDELIA BYRNE.—Mrs. Bedelia Byrne, of Tuam, the mother of Mr. Edward Byrne, editor of the Ulster Examiner, died at Tuam recently. She was highly respected by all who knew her, and her funeral was attended by the Archbishop of Tuam and thirty of his clergy.

AN INSOLVENT MAGISTRATE.—Recently, in the Court of Bankruptcy, a magistrate of County Tyrone offered to pay five shillings on the pound on his liabilities. His debts amounted to £7,000, and arose from his having signed bills for Mr. Devlin, of Cookstown, who absconded.

CRISIS FOR THE POPE.—At Belfast recently, a woman named Mary Jane Mann was charged by Sub-Constable Thomas Elliott with having been drunk and disorderly on Peter's Hill. She was disorderly by cursing the Pope. The prisoner, against whom eleven previous convictions were recorded, was sent to jail for a month.

SALE OF CHURCH LANDS.—All the tenants of Church Lands in Killaloe have had notice from the Commissioners of Church Temporalities, that tenders will be received from them within three months from the date of the notice for the purchase of their holdings.

DESTRUCTION OF LAMBS BY DOGS NEAR TUAM.—Recently a serious destruction of lambs took place on farms adjoining Tuam. W. French Henderson had eight lambs killed by a greyhound on his farm at Carranmore, within a short distance of town, and on an adjoining farm, the property of Robert Henry, six lambs were destroyed in like manner.

LAUNCH OF AN IRON SHIP.—A new iron ship, the Slemore, was launched from the Queen's Island, Belfast, recently. After the launch the Slemore proceeded to Liverpool. The Slemore is intended for the East India trade, and her dimensions are as follows:—Length, 250 feet; breadth of beam, 38 feet; depth of hold, 23 feet 6 inches; registered tonnage, 1,667.

DOWNPATRICK AS A MILITARY STATION.—The attention of the Secretary of State for War was called on the 23d ult., to the report on the qualifications of Downpatrick as a military depot centre, and it was asked if it was intended to print the alleged reports. The answer given shows that the Government did not intend to print any of the reports asked for.

BELFAST TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—The second meeting of the Belfast Catholic Total Abstinence Association was held on the 27th ult., in St. Mary's Hall, Belfast, which was well filled on the occasion by the members of the association and their friends who were about to enroll themselves in the society. An eloquent appeal was made by Right Rev. Dr. Dorrian, Bishop of Down and Connor.

THE POLITICAL PRISONERS.—Mr. Mitchell-Henry has obtained a return setting forth the ground upon which nearly 1,000 prisoners were released in India, on the occasion of the proclamation of the title of Empress. I understand that action is to be taken on this document, with a view of bringing out by comparison the alleged lack of consideration shown towards the Fenian prisoners.—Correspondent of Express.

THE O'CONNOR DON AND HIS CONSTITUENCY.—At a tenant-right meeting at Taughmaccannell, recently, one of the speakers, Mr. Kilmartin, referred as follows to the recent action of the O'Conor Don:—"Not only did the O'Conor Don speak and vote against Mr. Butt's bill last year, but he, recently made one of his best speeches against the bill. Did he on that occasion represent his constituents? (No, no). Certainly not. And we would not be doing justice to ourselves or our class if we allowed the occasion to pass without expressing our disapprobation of his conduct on that occasion."

FREE LIBRARY IN BELFAST.—The so-called Athens of the North, if we may judge from a discussion in the local Corporation a few days ago, does not seem to be possessed of that ardor in that spread of knowledge which distinguished the Athens of old. A committee of the council sent in a report advising that steps should be taken for the establishment of a free library, under the act of 1855, and the adoption of the report was duly proposed. But an amendment was then moved postponing action in the matter till full particulars of the cost of the library were obtained, and after some discussion this amendment was carried.

THE GOLD WEDDING RING.—"Our Irish friends have a superstitious reverence for the gold wedding ring," says a contemporary in a short article on the marriage service. The fact is "our Irish friends," especially the ladies (God bless them!) have such a reverence for the gold wedding-ring, that it has become "the charmed circle," by means of which the women of Ireland have ever maintained the proud distinction of being the most chaste and virtuous in the world.—Univers.

LONDON IRISH.—A London paper finds much delight in announcing that the Cockney Volunteer Corps named "Irish" sang the "Union Jack of Old England" on their march to the Easter Monday review. The Home Rulers, says the scribe in ecstasy, would "mourn sadly" if they heard the Irish Volunteers chanting their own shame, though we may question the veracity of the writer of the report. Whatever the officers may be there are some staunch rank and file men in the London Irish who would sing the "Union Jack" in a key that would not gratify the ear of the Colonel of the regiment.

WINTER FLOODS IN LOUGH NEAGH.—On the 30th ult., at a meeting held in Belfast, the following resolution was adopted:—"That a memorial be prepared stating all the facts of the case, and praying that inasmuch as the works done at such a heavy cost to the landed proprietors and cess-payers were done under the supervision and direction of the Government engineer, and have proved ineffective, there should be a Government general inquiry and grant with a view to secure the benefits intended by the original scheme of the Board of Works for the drainage of Lough Neagh and the rivers connected therewith, and the navigation thereof, and the memorial being signed by the chairman, be presented by deputation to the Lord Lieutenant and the Home Secretary.

THE BRIDGE OF SIGNS.—Mr. Bridge, "The wolf of the Galtees" has written a long letter in reply to Mr. McCarthy Downing's speech in the House of Commons. His statement rambles wide of the point at issue, but he concludes his lucubration with a burst of most virtuous indignation against the Christian country in which "an honest man cannot move about on his business, or go to his church without an armed guard." But he says, "The bottom of it all is simply, 'Home Rule is a humbug; consequently, Home Rulers are humbuggers, and some mischief or other must be kept afloat unless their occupation and their seats in Parliament would soon come to naught.' And this is an 'honest' man's opinion! Surely Mr. Buckley's ill used agent ought to be named 'the Bridge of Signs.'"

GENERAL NEWS.

LOAN TO RUSSIA.—It is stated that the Bleichroders, Berlin bankers, have advanced Russia 100,000,000 roubles at 79.

NAPOLEON.—Prince Louis Napoleon is gone back to Chislehurst. The ex-empress is with her mother in Madrid.

RUSSIA WILLING FOR ENGLAND TO OCCUPY CONSTANTINOPLE.—Russia intimates that she will not object to the occupation of Constantinople by England and Bosnia by Austria.

SUBMISSION OF INDIAN CHIEFS.—TUCSON ARIZONA, April 27.—Three prominent roving Indian chiefs have come into Hot Springs Reservation, and accounted for 434 others on their way in.

THE BRITISH NAVY.—The Times states that the dockyard authorities at Portsmouth have received instructions to use all possible expedition in refitting and completing the "Minotaur," "Hercules," "Triumph," "Active," and "Inconstant," for sea.

TURKO-RUSSIAN WAR.—The second day's fighting in the neighbourhood of Batoum is stated to have resulted in favour of the Turks, who were well entrenched and inflicted serious loss on the enemy.

MILITARY STORES.—A firm at Arbroath, Scotland, has just received a very large order for canvass from the British Government, probably for tents; this is supplementary to another recent order.

THE PLACE FOR FIRST COLLISION.—A Vienna telegram says the immediate object of Russia's advance into Roumania is to protect the railway bridge at Barbooshi, where the first collision is expected. If the Turks succeed in destroying the bridge the Russians will have difficulty in procuring supplies.

CANADIAN INDUSTRY.—The Massey Manufacturing Company of Newcastle shipped some horse rakes to British Columbia last week; they have recently received orders for rakes and machines from Russia Germany, Scotland, Austria, Kansas, Manitoba, and New Brunswick; their works are being run to their fullest capacity.

BISMARCK.—Bismarck's double function of chancellor and minister of foreign affairs will be filled during his absence by Von Bulow and Champhausen one secretary of state, the other minister of finance.

LANDLORDS BEWARE.—In Wisconsin a law is in force which enables a guest to evade payment of his hotel bill in case the landlord with whom he stopped has neglected any of the legally prescribed measures for safety in case of fire.

PAPAL ALLEGATE TO CANADA.—Most Rev. Geo. Conroy, Bishop of Ardragh, is now en route from Rome to Canada. His principal mission is understood to be relative to the retirement of Archbishop Lynch. On his way here he will stop at Halifax, to be present at the consecration of Dr. Hannan, the Archbishop elect of that Diocese.

MARRIAGE STATISTICS.—The number of marriages registered in Ireland during 1875 was, according to the annual report of the Registrar General just issued, only 24,037, being 1 in every 221 of the estimated population. This rate which is lower than that for any of the ten years 1865-74, is very much under the marriage rates in other countries, the statistics of which are available.

RUSSIANS EMIGRATING.—A cable despatch was received last week by a shipping agent in New York stating that over twenty thousand Russians might be expected at that port during the summer, and that a large number had already engaged storage passage. Nearly the same number have, it is stated, decided upon going to Australia. While no reason for this sudden exodus is given, it is probable that the cause is the war between Russia and Turkey.

HOME RULE IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.—At last, after years of weary waiting, the long suffering South, enjoys its rightful inheritance of home rule; and the grave of the half hungry carpet-bagger is dug deep in her fruitful soil. The struggle in South Carolina and Louisiana was long and fierce, and well did the desperate marauder plan and scheme for a continuance of his illegal power. But the handwriting was on the wall; the Pioneers at Washington could no longer possibly bolster up a government of straw; and with the withdrawal of the national troops, the thin shells of the Packard and Chamberlain regime were readily broken in.—Catholic Union.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT IN THE GERMAN PARLIAMENT.—In Tuesday's sitting of Parliament the items of war estimates, which had been referred to the Budget Committee, came up for discussion. The increased grant for 105 new captaines gave rise to a protracted debate. Moltke insisted on the necessity of the grant. He said he wished for a long peace, but the times did not permit such hope. On the contrary, the time was not far distant when every government would be compelled to strain all its strength for securing its existence. The reason for this was a regrettable distrust of governments toward each other. France had made great strides in her defence. Uncommonly great masses of troops were at present between Paris and the German frontier. Everything France did for her army she received the undivided approval of her people. She was decidedly in advance of Germany in having her cadres for war ready in times of peace. Germany could not avoid a measure destined to compensate for it. An increased grant for the captaines was then appointed. The Progress Centre and Socialist parties voted against it.

THE MEMBER FOR JERUSALEM IN THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT.—The member for Jerusalem, Youssouf Zia Effendi, was the first deputy who mounted the tribune in the Turkish Parliament and made a set speech. More than that, he was the first subject who peacefully, yet successfully, opposed a decree of the Caliph. Other members had talked from their places; the member for Jerusalem, young and inexperienced though he was, first ascended the rostrum. "The honorable member for Constantinople, his Excellency Ahmed Vefik Effendi, tells us," said he "that he is our president. But," continued Youssouf Zia Effendi, "who made him so? Who made him so?" he reiterated, in a tone of indignation, continuing to speak for twenty minutes in opposition to the motion for the re-election of Ahmed Vefik Effendi to the speakership. Re-elected eventually, however, the latter was upon a division. But, for all that, in the sense of many who heard the speech of his antagonist, the member for Jerusalem had, by his twenty minutes' speech from the tribune, given the first shock to despotic power at Constantinople.

THE EASTERN QUESTION IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords Lord Strathavon asked how far the Government concurred in the statement of the Russian circular that the Czar represented the views and interests of Europe. Earl Derby replied that England is in no way bound by the expression of opinion in the circular. As a matter of fact the Government does not accept or adopt either the conclusion or argument embodied therein. In the House of Commons the Marquis of Hartington gave notice that he will ask on Monday whether the Government intend to issue a proclamation of neutrality. Mr. Howard, on behalf of Mr. Gladstone, gave notice for Monday of a question regarding the prospective policy of the Government. Mr. Bourke, Under-Secretary for the Foreign Department said that Mr. Layard had telegraphed that Turkey is about to issue a proclamation respecting the search of neutral vessels for contraband of war. Sir Stafford Northcote stated that a Russian officer had been allowed to visit the dockyards. He said there was no object present in altering the regulation, nor would there be any so long as neutrality exists.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

ARCTIC INSECTS.—The greater number of the insects collected during the late Arctic Expedition were found near Discovery Bay in 81 deg. 42 min. N. latitude. A most interesting fact is the occurrence of five or six species of butterflies within a few hundred miles of the North Pole, especially when taken into consideration with the fact that Iceland and the large islands of the Spitzbergen group, although in lower latitudes, have apparently no butterflies.

EDUCATING HORSES.—Horses can be educated to the extent of their understanding as well as children, and can be easily damaged or ruined by bad management. We believe that the great difference found in horses as to vicious habits or reliability comes more from the different management of men than from variance of natural disposition in the animals. Horses with high mettle are more easily educated than those of less or dull spirits, and are more susceptible to ill training, and consequently may be good or bad, according to the education they receive. Horses with dull spirits are not by any means proof against bad management, for in them may be found the most provoking obstinacy, or vicious habits of different characters, that render them almost entirely worthless. Could the coming generation of horses in this country be kept from their days of colthood to the age of five years in the hands of good, careful managers, there would be seen a vast difference in the general characters of the noble animals. If a colt is never allowed to get an advantage it will never know that it possesses a power that man cannot control; and if made familiar with strange objects it will not be skittish and nervous. If a horse is made accustomed from his early days to have objects put him on his heels, back and hips, he will pay no attention to the giving out of a harness or of a wagon running against him at an unsuspected moment. We once saw an aged lady drive a highlegged horse, attached to a carriage, down a steep hill, with no hold-back straps upon her harness, and she assured us that there was no danger, for her son accustomed his horses to all kinds of usages and sights that commonly drive the animal into frenzy or fear and excitement. A gun can be fired from the back of a horse, an umbrella held over his head, a buffalo robe thrown over his neck, a railway engine pass close by, his heels bumped with sticks, and the animal take it as a natural condition of things, if only taught by careful management that he will not be injured thereby. There is a great need of improvement in the management of this noble animal; less beating and more education.

WILD BEASTS IN INDIA.—An account has recently been taken in British India of the number of human lives that were sacrificed to the ferocity of wild beasts during the last three years. The figures reached the frightful and almost inconceivable number of 38,248 victims. Of this number 25,664 died from the bite of venomous serpents. The remainder were devoured by tigers—12,554 in three years, or 4,184 a year. In certain parts of the country the tigers have depopulated entire villages. They spring upon and carry away men in open day, upon frequented routes. Where rich and populous villages would otherwise grow up, the ferocious tiger renders habitation and cultivation impossible; and the inhabitants escape from those animals often only to die of misery and famine. Wherever the tiger exists there is war to the death between man and him. One tiger during many weeks completely arrested the traffic upon a certain route, after having put to death more than a hundred individuals. In one instance an officer, at the head of his men, was seized and carried off by a tiger without his being possible to render him any assistance. In another instance, one hundred and eight persons were killed by the same tiger, a father, mother, and three children falling victims together in a single attack; and before the animal was finally killed by the bullets of a company of hunters, he succeeded in destroying seven of his opponents. Nor is the ferocity of the tiger limited to human victims. Flocks of sheep and herds of cattle are attacked; and for every man that is killed, it is estimated that sixty head of cattle are devoured. The loss of domestic animals during the three years is estimated at \$5,000,000. Since the revolt of the Sepoys the inhabitants are not allowed to possess firearms, in consequence of which the tigers have redoubled their audacity and increased very considerably in numbers. Nor does the Government afford the people adequate and reasonable protection, after having deprived them of the means of protecting themselves. It is thus complained that, with "all the improved engines that man has invented for destroying his fellow-creatures, a large number of her Majesty's subjects are exposed, as if it were a natural form of death, to be devoured upon the threshold of their doors by wild animals."

A MEXICAN TIGER.—Mr. Hunter, of Brooklyn, some seven months ago procured from the captain of a sailing vessel a beast which he termed a Mexican tiger. It was young at that time, but was extremely vicious, and Mr. Hunter took the precaution to have its teeth extracted and its claws clipped as fast as they grew, and confined it in a strong wire cage. Recently an owl was added to Mr. Hunter's collection, and was brought into the same room with the tiger. The result was disastrous. The tiger caught one glimpse of the owl, and his cage, which had theretofore been large enough to afford him a genteel promenade, suddenly became too small to contain him. For half a minute or so there was not a part of the interior of that cage in which the tiger was not distinctly visible all the time, and the noise of his snarling overflowed the room and deluged the sidewalk, attracting at once a number of bystanders. Presently after shaking the wires of his cage till they seemed about to give way, he sprang at the door of it, which flew open and gave him egress. At that moment, according to the testimony of a number of eye-witnesses, the air seemed to be full of that one tiger. The room was luminous with his presence, but he quickly focussed on the owl's cage, which he battered wildly in his attempt to get at the frightened inmate. The danger of meddling with the beast was not immediately apparent, as he is not much larger than the largest size of ordinary house cats, and an attempt was made by several to tear him away from the cage and to restore him to his own quarters. It was only a momentary attempt, however, for as soon as he realised it he mastered the situation by selecting the largest of his assailants, a Mr. Baird, and springing on his back, he made his way through the substantial clothing, and went into the flesh beneath it. It would probably be difficult now to convince Mr. Baird that the tiger's claws were ever pared. Mr. Baird is very stout, and does not look like one given to rapid running, but his time from the stove in the sample room to the shuffle-board room below, has never been equalled. Reinforcements arrived immediately, and by throwing a large bag over the tiger, he was captured and put back into his cage, where he spent the remainder of the day in sullen exultation. Mr. Baird was not seriously injured.