

News of the Week.

CONFERENCE.
A conference for considering the federation of all the Australian colonies will assemble in Melbourne in February.

The American Legation at Constantinople has decided to demand the trial of Mousa Bey for the murder of a missionary.

A detachment of soldiers, with a full complement of officers, has been dispatched from Berlin for Zanzibar, to augment Major Wiseman's command.

At the Armagh Convention, on Thursday, a letter was read from the Catholic Primates, approving the organization and objects of the Tenants' League.

Frederick Krupp, the head of the great metal and gun foundry, at Essen, Germany, has established a fund of \$100,000 to enable his employees to build their own houses.

Colonel Gibbons Booth, chief of staff to the commander of the Salvation Army, has been arrested at Geneva for infringing the decree by which he was expelled from Swiss territory.

Senor Bocayuza, the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has cabled to the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs at Lisbon a formal recognition of the Brazilian Republic.

Roeltinghoff, the treasurer of the Socialist club, declared on the witness stand, at Elberfeld, Germany, that in the Socialist club he had acted as a spy for the police and had betrayed the secrets of the Socialist movement.

The courts of Alaska have sentenced 348 young Alaskians to terms of imprisonment of six months each for seeking to emigrate to America, their desire to leave the country being construed as an attempt to evade military duty.

A committee of the Irish landlords, who are about to hold a convention, waited upon Lord Salisbury in London, and urged that the Cabinet ought not to decide upon a land bill for Ireland until the resolutions adopted by the convention are known.

A member of the Plantation Company in Berlin has received a letter from Dr. Peters, written during his march into the Somali country. The letter refers to a treaty with the Somali emissaries. It is believed this treaty lured Peters to his doom, and that the emissaries were spies.

The German Reichstag, by a large majority, has approved the motion to repeal the law which gives the Government authority to expel from the country any clergyman who, having been officially deprived of his clerical charge, yet persists in the performance of his clerical duties.

The Shah of Persia has ordered his ministers to form a commission to study the laws of European countries, with a view to forming the draft of a new civil and criminal code. He expressed a willingness to accept many of his personal prerogatives in the interest of his people.

The enormous collieries and furnaces in Staffordshire, England, employing thousands of men, are combining with the Shelton Iron and Steel Company, employing many thousands more, in a common enterprise designed to control the trade in iron, steel and coal, and have invited the co-operation of several other firms and companies.

A Zanzibar despatch says: "The German under Lieutenant Schmidt attacked Buhiri men were killed, and the others escaped unhurt. There is no news to-day from Emin. Emin's people have sailed to Mombasa to await at that point the arrival of the steamer sent by the Khedive to take them through the Red Sea."

Despite the amnesty declared in Crete twenty Christians were recently brought before the authorities there in chains and beaten with canes. The amnesty does not include offenders already condemned by court martial, the leading promoters of the disturbances or common law criminals. The Cretan chiefs at Athens are organizing a general uprising which the Cretans will welcome.

It is reported that the Emperor of Austria has signed a decree investing his brother, the Archduke Charles Louis, with the imperial power in the event of the Emperor's regency being unable to resign from any cause, or in case of his absence from the empire. This is a natural sequel to the death of Rudolph, the Crown Prince, Charles is the oldest living brother after the Emperor. He is a cavalry officer.

Japanese envoys will be sent to Europe to negotiate treaties with the maritime states on a very liberal basis. The points proposed will be that all Japanese ports shall be opened; that the tariff shall be reduced to 12 per cent; that a consular tribunal shall be established; and an empire court created composed of the Europeans sitting upon it shall be in the majority.

The ex-Empress of Brazil has received a telegram from Rio de Janeiro informing her that all her jewels have been stolen, and that the police are investigating the case. The jewels comprised the finest Brazilian diamonds in the world. If the republic should decline to continue Dona Pedro's income the loss of the treasure will be severely felt, as they were looked upon as the chief immediate resource of the family.

The captain of the "Alaxos," which conveyed the ex-Empress and party to Lisbon, in accordance with instructions from the Brazilian Government received by cable, hoisted the new federal flag, thereupon the maritime commandant at Lisbon, the republic declined to continue Dona Pedro's income the loss of the treasure will be severely felt, as they were looked upon as the chief immediate resource of the family.

Mr. Morley, in an address at Dundee, Monday night, spoke in favor of reform of the House of Lords. He favored the plan of allowing all peers who may resign their seats for life to contest seats in the House of Commons, while he said that any more useful work than is possible for men of talent in the Upper House. The London Daily News says the only real result of such a course would be to leave the House of Lords with all its present powers after every man of sense and spirit had withdrawn from it.

Archbishop Walsh addressed a meeting of the Tenants' League in the Rotunda, Dublin, Monday last. The Lord Mayor of Dublin presided, supported by Mr. Shaw Lefevre and others. The Archbishop warned his hearers against the proposed land purchase scheme, or extension of Lord Ashbourne's act, which would give the tenants no guarantee whatever against wholesale extortion. The state, he said, would take good care of the landlords. The league must guard the interests of the tenants.

Referring to Senator Call's proposal in the United States Senate regarding Cuba, the Madrid Epoca says: "This is a mad idea and it cannot be that any one in Washington should seriously. Even if a republic were established in Spain she would not consent to the separation of Cuba. Spain is resolved at all hazards to maintain the integrity of the national territory and political divisions do not exist there." Senor Castellar believes the example of Brazil will be followed in Portugal sooner or later, but not in Spain because the Queen Regent during the King's minority is a liberal minister in office and has allowed Sagasta to establish universal suffrage.

AMERICAN.
The Western Union Telegraph Company's net earnings for the quarter ending December 31 are estimated at \$2,000,000.

The First National bank of Abilene, Kan., has suspended. The liabilities are placed at \$116,000, and the resources at \$300,000.

By a nitro-glycerine explosion at Butler, Pa., a nitro-glycerine magazine, two miles south of Butler, Pa., James O. Wood and Wm. Med II and their workmen and teams were blown into fragments. The larger part of the factory

buildings were demolished. Woods' shoulder and right arm have been found twenty rods away. A small part of Medill's trunk was taken from the top of a tree.

All the leather factories, in Woburn, Mass., have shut down except one. About 1500 men are out. In four shops the men were locked out.

William Bailey, aged 25, eloped from Waterford, Mass., with Salis Wallace, aged 9, and married her at Bolivar. Both parties were arrested.

Great damage has been done in California by the raising of the water in the Sacramento river. Larrea have broken, washouts have occurred, and bridges have been washed away.

The Executive Committee of the Western Union Telegraph Company at New York have decided to pay an extra dividend of 2 per cent, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 14 per cent.

E. B. Hemmingway, druggist and private banker at Whitney's Point, N. Y., who assigned Monday and has not been seen since the Saturday previous, is an embittered to the extent of probably about \$75,000.

It is reported that the steamer "Michigan" has been wrecked off the coast of Puget Sound. The "Michigan" sailed from Portland for the Sound ports a few days ago. She had a full cargo, and was valued at \$60,000.

The Commissioners of Accounts in New York, who investigated the Dock department, are of the opinion that \$700,000 or \$750,000, which was paid out for dredging, was never used to defray these bills but was part of a pool, and that some persons came in on the "divide."

A large land deal has been practically closed by which M. B. Harrison, of Duluth, Minn., sells to a London syndicate over \$1,000,000 worth of city property. Among the Londoners are T. P. O'Connor, editor of the London Star, and Spencer Balfour, cousin of the Irish Secretary.

Francis Bonen, a Frenchman, who was born in St. Valentine, Quebec, died at New Bedford, Mass., on Wednesday at the age of 165 years and 9 months. He was twice married and was the father of eighteen children. He survived both of his wives. He went to the United States twenty-six years.

It is reported that ex-President Cleveland and Joe J. Cannon have purchased the island in Waikiki, Hawaii, one of the largest in Massachusetts, located in South Sandwich. The spot is most picturesque, and is admired by a great many summer visitors to Cape Cod, the water affording excellent fishing. They will erect a commodious club house on the most central of the islands.

The Merchants' Association banquet at Boston was attended by over 400 persons. The special guests were Ex-President Cleveland, Andrew Carnegie, Henry W. Grady, and W. L. Putnam, of Maine. When Mr. Cleveland rose to speak he was greeted with long continued applause, shouts and cheers, the entire assembly rising and waving handkerchiefs and cheering again.

A colony of twenty Russian families have decided to leave Dakota for Dunmore, Man., in the spring.

The fortifications in and around Halifax, N.S., are being thoroughly examined and strengthened.

Mr. Pearson was elected mayor of Winnipeg Wednesday by a majority of 1239, the vote standing: Pearson, 1941; O'Donnell, 702.

A Protestant school census of Winnipeg just taken shows that there are 4518 children of school age in the city, and that \$558 of these attend school.

The financial statement of the estate of White & Potter of Toronto shows direct liabilities of \$86,000, and indirect liabilities of about \$1,500. The assets are put at \$30,000.

Donald Fraser, ex-M. P., and a prominent Liberal-Conservative of Pictou county, N.S., died Thursday last. He was one of the contractors who built the International railway.

Arrangements have been completed for a direct service during the winter between Halifax and Glasgow. The first steamer, the "Colina," will leave Halifax about the 10th of January.

At the Conservative convention at Macon, Ont., yesterday, A. E. Wood was again selected candidate for the seat of M. P. for the riding of Toronto. A unanimous vote was passed in the leadership of Mr. W. R. Meredith.

On the west shore of Lake Memphremagog a rich galena vein has been discovered. An assay shows it contains 70 per cent of lead and 15 per cent of silver. The property, which contains over 200 acres, is controlled by Messrs. McDonald Bros., of Sherbrooke.

Archbishop Walsh, in presenting the certificates awarded the Catholic pupils at the mid-summer departmental examinations for teachers in the Diocese of St. John's, Toronto, praised the growing efficiency of the parish schools and pointed out that their existence was necessary in the interests of Catholic morality and religion.

George F. Baird, M. P., has returned to St. John, N.B., from New York. He has engaged on time charter the steamship "Portia" to go on the route between St. John and the West Indies as provided for by the Federal subsidy. She will make her first trip on the new route about the last of this month.

The following gentlemen have been elected officers of the Quebec Board of Trade: President, R. Turner; first vice-president, Chabert; second vice-president, H. M. Price; treasurer, S. S. Bennett; council, Thomas Brodie, Colonel J. B. Fecray, J. G. Gaudin, N. Garneau, E. B. Garneau, J. E. Martineau, O. Migner, Dr. E. Morin, Wm. R. Verret, E. H. Wade, and F. X. Berliquet.

George Horeley, living near Elmiston, Ont., was shot on Wednesday, and representing himself to be James Ward, a farmer, living near Ellengowan, attempted unsuccessfully to negotiate forged promissory notes for large amounts. In the evening he was arrested, but was permitted to occupy a room in the Windsor Hotel during the night. Thursday morning, going to take Horeley for his mistress, his quarters on the floor of his room. He had strangled himself with his muffler.

The schooner Adele, Captain Hansen, arrived in outer harbour, Victoria, B.C., late on Saturday night. She is the German schooner which left for the north in September last, and was reported about to raid the rookeries of Behring Sea. Members of the crew say that she has been cruising in Behring Sea prospecting for new sealing grounds, and captured about six hundred fur seals. The Victoria sealers are indignant that the Adele, belonging to Yokohama, should make a raid, and it is believed that the Victorians will be blamed for her piratical action.

WAS THE PROPHET ELIJAH.
The Alleged Candy Poisoner's Hallucination—Testimony for the Crown.

St. John, N.B., December 11.—The Rev. Donald Shaw was summoned this morning. Rev. Mr. Shaw, the first witness was followed by Mrs. Fannie Shaw, who testified to the circumstances connected with the box left at her house. James L. Tison, a clerk in the Post Office, testified to seeing a package in the Post Office on the evening of October 1st, addressed to the Rev. Donald MacRae. He testified the box produced in court as the same one he saw in the Post Office. W. F. B. et al., analytical chemist, produced pieces of paper cut from the wrapper received from the detective and compared them with a piece from the MacRae box. He had tested them and found the papers identical in color, texture and appearance under the microscope. On cross-examination he said he did not think the paper would be materially changed by being carried in the pocket. He found a few crystals of strychnine in the bottom of

the box, which he thought had dropped from the candies. He knew no perceptible difference between American and German strychnine crystals. Frank Bellis said he had known McDonald since the day the latter walked into the market stall. He had heard McDonald say afterwards, at G. B. Barker's house, that he had to do this, as he was the prophet Elijah and could walk across the slip.

A good deal of progress was made before adjournment this evening. Dr. Steeves, superintendent of the Insane asylum, testified to the prisoner being in that institution from October 29, 1895, to July 4, 1899. When admitted McDonald was suffering from a form of mania, and was depressed, at times restless, and occasionally excited, self-absorbed and suspicious. He was troubled with insomnia and sometimes disturbed the wards at night. He was not a typical maniac. As he improved he became more sociable and attended religious service, though very unwillingly. He spoke with contempt of religion. When discharged his symptoms of insanity had disappeared, and to an ordinary observer he was well. But Dr. Steeves was not satisfied that he was entirely sane. H. W. Barker described the finding of the comb that had been in the boxes in which the poisoned candy was sent.

A JOHNSTOWN CALAMITY.
Ten Persons Killed and Eighty Injured in a Theatre Panic—Weak Women Trampled to Death by Strong Men.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., December 10.—During a performance of Uncle Tom's Cabin at the Opera house here to-night, a cry of fire was raised resulting in a terrible rush for life down the narrow stairs.

Ten persons were instantly killed and many terribly injured. Seventy-five in all are injured.

The names of all the killed and wounded cannot be ascertained at once. Among the killed are Mrs. Nester and Geo. Fischhorn, the latter a resident of Baltimore.

It was found necessary to turn a stream of water on the crowd from the engine standing near before the dead and wounded could be taken out.

People rushed from the outside up the narrow stairs and were crushed by the crowd forcing its way to the street.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., December 11.—The Opera House horror of last night is fully as shocking as the first reports made it. The number of dead positively known is ten and five of the injured are reported to have died this morning at their homes in various sections of the town. The number of injured is about eighty. None of those now surviving are seriously injured, being merely bruised and shocked. The doctors say the most remarkable feature of the accident is that no single bone was broken, either of those killed or of those injured. The following is a correct list of the killed:—

George Sionaker, aged 23, teamster.
Miss Lizzie Claycomb, domestic, aged 17.
John Miller, colored, waiter.
Isaac Toler, aged 68, coal miner.
Mrs. Westey Burns, aged 40, of Somerset county.

Miss Clara Burns, aged 19, daughter of the above.
George Horner, aged 11, jumped from the top gallery thirty feet to the parquette; neck broken.

Mrs. John W. Nester, aged 25, of this city.
Eddie Brugler, aged 9, Conemaugh.

There were eight hundred people in the house. Two hundred and forty of these occupied chairs in the parquette. Possibly two hundred more were in the circle and aisles of the parquette. In the first gallery all the seats were occupied and the aisles packed. In the second, or top gallery, all the benches were occupied and many people were standing. The cause of death in every instance was the rushing at the doorway leading to the street in the frantic efforts of the people to get out of the building.

THE AWFUL PANIC.
The cry of fire was sounded from the top gallery when the last act of the play was within a few minutes of completion. Instantly upon the cry being raised the audience made a break and a plunge for the narrow exit. Those in front were thrown forward and upon them the whole mass of people tumbled headlong, climbing over them, and causing a jam right at the street door. The scene at this time was horrible. A great crowd at once gathered in the street and pushed up a closely against the theatre entrance that the police could not keep them back. To drive them back it was found necessary to turn a stream of water out from a fire hose. All this time the yells and cries of both those inside and out of the theatre were terrible to hear and were heard for squares. The cause of the fire alarm was smoke issuing from the chimney of a kitchen in the rear.

Two or three of the injured will die. It is probable that the officials will close the opera house. Had the crowd kept their wits about them not one would have been hurt. An unknown man in the gallery, who is known as "nigger heaven," did a great deal in keeping the people from jumping from the third story windows and doubtless saved many lives. Blame is put on the fireman who rang the Johnstown fire bell, because the fire was in Kernville, but he was not at fault. It was over two hours after the jam before the hall was cleared and some of the injured and dead were lying in the building hours after the crush. The excitement during the night was intense. There are several persons missing, all women, but owing to the confusion their names could not be ascertained.

A large number of saloons were open till 12 o'clock and there was a great deal of drinking. Had not the hose been turned on the people it is hard to tell what would have been the result. The house is a small, three story brick building, fronting on Main street. It had but one small exit from the second story by a narrow pair of stairs to the street and had no fire escapes.

LIST OF THE INJURED.
The following is a list of those seriously hurt, some of whom will likely die. Probably fifty others sustained slight injuries:—

Albert Owens, Charles Vaughan, Stewart Blackburn, Richard Worthington, Edward Stauffer, Wesley Burns, James Clausen, Mrs. M. McGarry, Clarence Engle, John Welsner, Martha Owens, John Devine.

The building in which the theatre was situated was condemned some years ago. The morning where the dead were laid was visited by thousands of people to-day. The accident is an illustration of the highly nervous condition of a large number of the people of this city.

There has been a disposition to draw conclusions from the Conemaugh calamity, and it has fastened itself upon the women, young folks and many excitable middle aged people. Some of these went through the terrible experience on May 31. It has been no uncommon thing to hear such remarks as "Well, I wonder what will happen next?" "You can expect anything now." "We've had flood, now look out for fire." "Johnstown is under a curse." There has been more or less disposition to go to the theatre whenever there

was a chance in order to try to forget the horrors of last spring. Other amusements have also been eagerly sought for the same purposes. These were some of the reasons for the large audience at the theatre last night. Those who first started out of their houses went from curiosity to see where the fire was, but they did so excitedly, and the instant effect was a panic.

The ball which struck the alarm was so close to the theatre that it seemed to be sounding in the building itself. The two crowds fought against each other at the theatre doors. Strong men sprang upon the backs of those in front of them without regard to sex, and jumped on heads and shoulders as though they were highway planks or stairs. The ferocity of the struggle by some of the foreign mill workmen was as revolting as it was disastrous, but began as an attempt to get out of the street changed into riot, bruised, delicate women and saw two men stop to fight when both had an opportunity to escape. One exclaimed, "It's my life or yours," and he knocked his antagonist down in a furious manner. The theatre will not reopen. The city officials are seriously criticized for permitting the use of the building as a theatre. The alleged clucking of the police during the panic will be investigated.

A RICH LAWYER'S SUICIDE.
Franklin B. Gowen, of Philadelphia, Unaccountably Shoots Himself Dead in Washington.

WASHINGTON, December 14.—Franklin B. Gowen, the well-known railroad officer and lawyer of Pennsylvania, formerly president of the Reading railroad, shot himself a few moments before half past two in his room at Wormley's hotel and died almost instantly. Mr. Gowen came to Washington on the 9th instant and registered at Wormley's and has been there ever since. He was engaged as counsel in some very important cases which have been on hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

PHILADELPHIA, December 14.—The news of Franklin B. Gowen's death in Washington caused a great sensation here. F. T. Gowen, a nephew of the ex-railroad president, left for Washington immediately for the purpose of bringing the body to Philadelphia. Mr. Gowen's family consists of his wife and daughter, who live in a handsome suburban residence at Mount Airy. Financial difficulties are not suggested as an incentive for the deed. Mr. Gowen has been estimated as worth between \$200,000 to \$300,000. The announcement that he had committed suicide caused great surprise in financial circles. When the confirmatory despatches began to arrive, Mr. Gowen's friends stood dumbly before the news. Mr. Gowen was well-known on the stock account of his former position as president of the Reading railroad, and the universal comment of financial people was, "Well, he was the last man I thought would commit suicide." Surprise was manifested at the fact of Mr. Gowen having a revolver in his possession. He was always opposed to carrying firearms, and during the "Molly Maguire" prosecutions at Pottsville he refused to carry a pistol for his own protection.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15.—The remains of Mr. Gowen arrived here this morning and were conveyed to his late residence at Mount Airy, near Germantown. It is the desire of the family that the funeral, which takes place Tuesday, shall be extremely private.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS BANNER.
Sacredness of Property—The Mercier Government—Philosophy of Jesuit History—The United States.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:
Sir,—Passing along Sparks street on the ever memorable fifth, I had a soliloquy too good to be left to die stillborn. On seeing the banner, "Equal Rights to all, special privileges to none," I put to myself the ancient question—

Which is a more logical proposition, that a man is a metaphysical chalk mark for classifying or distinguishing one thing from another, which counts no quality, attribute or property of the thing denoted. Hence savants assure us—"There's nothing in a name." Had it not been any room for doubt about the magic of a name to conjure with, we would unhesitatingly pronounce this selection most felicitous.

EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL.
attracts recruits from every point of the compass, comprises among its disciples the best and most humane of our race. It has been, as it will continue to be, in all ages and nations, the school of every great benefactor of mankind. All races and creeds could securely and peacefully peep under its ample folds. The platform is universal as space, illimitable as Divine love. The conception of the millennium constitutes the realization of equal rights to all. But never has the truth of the aphorism "being in a name" been so clearly illustrated and demonstrated as in the case of the banner on the banner with the glorious emblem in the van—the consecrated symbol of the most intolerant faction which the convulsions and corruptions of society have ever brought from its lowest depths to float a noxious carcass on its surface. The cry of hope—has they have burned a new law—is ruthlessly dashed from the lips ere yet uttered, when the objects, the mission of this Equal Rights Association are contemplated.

SACREDNESS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.
Methinks, sir, with all their ingenuity in devising a new set of equal rights folk, with their pitiful allies and investigators, have all this time been

BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE.
their fire-spun resolutions, vigorous protests and imaginative rhetoric to the contrary notwithstanding. It will, I presume, be conceded by the most turbulent and communicative of the leaders that the inviolability of the rights of property forms the chief corner-stone of the social edifice as at present constituted. I am not now discussing whether or not this is the best and wisest human ingenuity could devise. Whoever he be monarch, government, legis lature or mob, lays violent hands on this institution, or wrongly, whether according to law or not, appropriates the fruits of others' industry without compensation, is as much a communist and anarchist as the bomb-throwers of Chicago or the levellers of Germany. There are only three possible ways of acquiring property, that is, having an interest in it—1st, by labor; 2nd, by gift; 3rd, by theft. The most extravagant of the advocates of the Quebec minority will scarcely contend that it was by the first method, labor, nor yet by the second gift, so that it is by the third method, theft, that the property in dispute belonged to the Jesuits, acquired through the lawful method of labor and gift, nor yet will it alter or modify the issue that the Jesuits are this, that or the other thing. The confiscation of these estates was a gross violation of the fundamental laws of property, which the Jesuits claim merely on high moral grounds, but on the common plane of justice, equity and honesty, are entitled to full restitution; and no lapse of time nor change of circumstances in the slightest degree invalidates their claim. If the Jesuits have voluntarily, without undue pressure or coercion, been content to compromise their claim, and taken a much less sum than the market value of the property, that is their business, and the apparently aggrieved public, if it has sought to say in the matter of the settlement, should be thankful that the compromise results to its advantage. If, on the contrary, the Jesuits or their repre-

sentatives were coerced into an unfair settlement by holding in terrorism over them that their claim was outside the law and irrevocable by the modes called legal, which are not always just, they are as badly wronged as in the original confiscation, have good cause of complaint for unfair dealing, and a valid claim for further compensation hereafter.

A BRIEF TO PROTESTANTS.
Where, it may in a name of common sense be asked, is the whole transaction to come in the claim of the Quebec Protestants to a share in the spoils? Why should they get sixty thousand out of the Jesuits' estates? Where is their title? What was it intended for? Was it an attempt to corrupt or placate? Why should a settlement with the Jesuits involve a sacrifice to Quebec Protestants? Where has the money come from? Evidently either from the Jesuits' estates or the Provincial treasury. If from the former, then have the Jesuits been cheated out of so much. Were the Jesuits consenting parties in making a gift of that part of their property to the Protestants? If the money has come out of the consolidated exchequer, then in all fairness the Catholics should get a proportional amount for their sacrifices, and this is a sorely vexing question. These questions, I quote answers; nor will it do to say that the Jesuits got the money for sectarian purposes. They got it simply and solely as any other owner, as compensation for a very valuable property; and they are at liberty to make such use of it as they think proper, as would any other individual or corporation who made over his title, where it is an analogy for an endowment. Protestants for sectarian purposes contrary to the correct principle of entire separation between Church and State?

THE MERCER GOVERNMENT.
There is, in my opinion, just cause of complaint against the Mercer Government, not in the settlement of this vexed question, but in the conduct to that arrangement; but the complaint should come from the other side. The complaints should be the Catholics of Quebec, for they are the aggrieved and outraged parties. Mr. Mercer and his agents with a flourish of trumpets claim how generous has been his government to the Quebec minority by handing over to them public money for sectarian purposes. But they forget to tell that it has been at the expense of the majority, and has not even the pretended virtue of relieving Peter to pay Paul. A man can—and it may be profitable too—be sometimes generous with his own money, but a public man has no right to be generous with public funds, of which he is only a temporary custodian or trustee, or divert them from their legitimate use, no part of which is the endowment of a university. Such diversion is not generosity, but public robbery; and he who practices it should receive reprobation instead of applause. It is a robbery, and this robbery is not the least done it is an intended robbery, without withdrawing the banner, a shakedown, which citizens like a shakedown, and all their high-sounding resolutions, like Lord Abner's assurance once at the time of their capture, or wash themselves in the blood of the innocent. What would be the result of the Mercer Government if in settling such a legacy belonging to any Protestant association, they complied with it? It is the Papers of Ontario for sectarian uses even under the dense guise of educational? They would be literally riddled on a rail. Yet this is precisely what Mr. Mercer has done. What a sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander.

THE JESUITS.
A word in conclusion about the much abused Jesuits. The existing charge amongst others of their opponents is their expulsion from every European country and their suppression in every European country. Nothing possibly could so strongly commend them to my mind as these very incidents in their history. What good incident has been noted in the suppression or persecution of European Monarchs? What project for the amelioration of mankind has not encountered the determined opposition of the governing classes of these nations? What scheme can European aristocracies farther as theirs for the diffusion of knowledge and the growth of freedom among the masses of the people, nor they (the ruling classes) done all in their power to stunt and mutilate human progress all over Europe?

TO RETURN.
In that word every eye, every ear, every heart is turned. The cause of the times all animals contain.

These suppressions and expulsions should be the Jesuits' highest titles to favor, esteem and honor instead of reproach. Does it ever occur to the sagacious heads of the French and English to account for the anomaly that instead of being expelled or suppressed they are cherished and regarded as one of the great props of enlightenment and constitutional freedom, one of the most potent civilizing influences in the United States, the home of democracy, the citadel, if not the cradle, of civil and religious liberty.

Perhaps the United States is not orthodox enough for these equal rights.

J. L. P. O'HANLY.
Ottawa, 8th November, 1899.

JESUITS AMONG THE INDIANS.
Gen. Carrington Gives an Account of his Visit to their Schools in Montana.

Gen. Henry B. Carrington, U. S. A., is now on official duty at the Flat Head Agency, Montana. The appended excerpts from private letters will interest our readers. What a suggestive contrast between the fair and honest expression of the patriotic soldier, Protestant though he be, and the cowardly insinuations against Catholics, made by men of the Rochester stamp! "How can Catholics teach morality?" asked the Dorchester. General Carrington's letter is an effective answer to the insinuating questions:

"My home is in the Christian family of Major P. de Rozan, who has for thirteen years been the agent for the Flat Head Indians. I hope he will be continued for many years more in the trust."

"A week ago, on my arrival, I attended Mass at the chapel, and heard a delightful sermon from Father Jerome d'Aster, the Superior of St. Ignace's Mission, and for twenty years the untiring friend and adviser of the Flat Head tribe. The sermon was afterwards given in Indian, as the majority do not understand English. The thought that impressed me was this: That the missionaries and scientists might study God's works and yet fail to see God while the childlike faith of the most humble white or red man would so make the Holy Spirit into the soul as to make the Heavenly Father, the 'Great Spirit,' the every-day companion, friend and support of the believer." My interpreter, Michelle Ravair, a blind Indian, led the singing. I watched his face as he sang distinctly the 'Gloria' and the 'Apostles' Creed.' His face was a rapt expression of joy and true devotion that recalled the last hours of the martyr Stephen.

"I want to tell you about my trip to St. Ignace's Mission. I have not time even to speak of the faithful laborers at the mission, in detail at present. Father d'Aster, the Superior, is one of the successors of Fathers Ravell and De Smet, whose work is beyond human appreciation, for its wisdom, self-sacrifice and devotion. To know him is to love as well as honor him. His chief assistant is Father Paquin, who combines dignity, genial manners and business tact, in the practical management of the farm, the shops and the school, in large measure. He is the major-domo, or general wretcher, and seems to lack nothing required for so great a trust."

"But to some incidents of my visit: At evening prayers, just after my arrival, a choir of sixteen Indian girls sang with rich melody and distinct articulation worthy of imitation



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in Boston. When I entered the music room at seven o'clock nearly a hundred boys, with bright and happy faces, arose and saluted, and the band of twenty-four pieces played "The Star Spangled Banner," "Red, White and Blue," etc. A short talk to them was received with enthusiasm. On Thursday I visited every class of both the boys' and girls' departments, heard reading even up to the S. N. Reader, put