

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Ami de la Religion of the 11th Feb. announces that the celebrated and well-known eloquent preacher, the Rev. Father Ravignan, who has done so much towards the revival of Catholic feeling in France, is hopelessly ill. Great grief is felt throughout the religious population of Paris at the prospect of losing such a fervent instructor.

In consequence of the suppression of the Spectateur, all the poor men employed in and about the printing-office of that journal, such as the porters, the folders, &c., were thrown out of employ. The Emperor, compassionating their state of distress through having to remain unemployed during a period more or less long, has sent to each a sum sufficient to support them, until they can procure some employment—that is, their daily wages for three months. This body of men, which is numerous, has addressed a letter of thanks to the Emperor.

The Chambre des Mises en Accusation had decided that Pierri, Orsini, and others concerned in the plot against the Emperor, should be tried before the Court of Assizes; and the trial is shortly expected to commence.

A notice from the British Foreign Office, says—that no person is henceforth to be permitted to land in France without a passport.

Captain Dunham, of the American barque "Adriatic," which lately escaped from the French authorities at Marseilles, has sold his ship either to the Russian government or a Russian firm, and was making his way to England.

The following is from the Times Paris correspondent, dated 18th ult.

Four or five days ago a letter from Paris, published in the Nord, of Brussels, stated, in substance, that it was about to be suggested to the English Government to have any member in the House of Commons, who should in future speak "disrespectfully" of the Emperor of the French, called at once to order. No credit was given to the statement here; it would appear, to be sufficiently explained by Lord Palmerston's remarks on Tuesday night. Certainly the French Government has little reason to complain of want of alacrity on the part of English Ministers. Lord Palmerston was quite right in saying that to require the insertion in the Moniteur of M. Walewski's apologetic despatch would be "absurd." It would be absurd to call on the French Government to stultify itself; one cannot expect it to turn round and tell the French colonels that their ready acquiescence in its own wishes was wrong.

A number of French police agents have been already sent to London, to hunt out, and keep up a surveillance on the refugees. Surely French authorities ought to feel grateful to our Government, who, it is reported, was kind enough to send a person to Paris under whose guidance and care they arrived at their destination.

I alluded yesterday to the accounts from Turin intimating the probability of M. Cavour relaxing a little in the way of concession. The fact is confirmed in private letters received to-day. The Sardinian Government has yielded on certain material points to the demands of the French Government. These points relate to the refugees and other persons in Genoa, who may be considered by the French Government as "dangerous." Powers will probably be demanded for the removing to a distance, or altogether expelling them from the Piedmontese territory; and in the matter of the press that summary measures may be taken against it. Similar concessions will be made by Belgium, particularly with reference to the press. I am not quite sure that the concessions will stop here. The modification, or completion of the law in England, in compliance with the prayer of the French Government, may encourage the latter to increase its demands on Belgium and Sardinia, and will render it more difficult, if not impossible, for either of those small States to resist. If Belgium and Sardinia be reproached with yielding (and few reflecting men will think of reproaching them), they may safely answer that they cannot do wrong when they only imitate, mutatis mutandis, the example of their "big brother."

RUSSIA.

The journals of Moscow contain a list of 501 landed proprietors belonging to the order of Noblesse, who have given in their adhesion to the liberal measures of the Emperor, respecting emancipation of serfs, which it was expected at one time they would oppose.

SWEDEN.

Sweden again affords the strange spectacle of a country conscious that its people have totally lost all faith in the national religion, and that if its persecuting laws are relaxed, there is nothing to prevent their abandoning it in a mass, and yet absolutely ashamed to maintain in face of day its outrageous code. This led, as our readers will remember, to the introduction by the Government of a Bill to mitigate the penal code, which was thrown out last autumn by the House of Nobles and by that of the Clergy. Another Bill has now been introduced. It proposes that every Swede shall still be compelled to belong to the Established Church, on pain of losing all offices and emoluments, and all civil and political rights of every kind, and imposes severe fines and imprisonment upon every attempt, however moderate and argumentative, to make proselytes to any other religion, or to assail that of the Establishment. It is to be observed that this measure is not proposed as a penal law, but as a large and liberal measure of toleration; and so, indeed, it would be in that truly Protestant land. It is, we believe, too liberal to pass. The simple fact is (and it is openly avowed both by lay and clerical speakers in the Swedish Diet) that they would gladly be rid, if they could, of the shame of persecution, but that they well know that nothing else affords the slightest chance of checking the dreaded spread of the Catholic religion. If the Catholic Church could but be kept out, toleration might be established, because the Swedish Protestants really care not a straw either for the established or for any other form of Protestantism.—Weekly Register.

DENMARK.

A letter from Copenhagen in the Gazette de la Liege says:—"Many persons are becoming converts from Lutheranism to Catholicity.—These conversions, which fill with joy the hearts of the children of the Church, are causing a great sensation in Holstein. The chief of one of the first families of the Holstein nobles—Count Hahn de Neuhaus, brother of the Countess Ida Hahn Hahn—has embraced at Talborough."

ITALY.

ROME.—We extract the following from the

Roman correspondence of the Journal de Bruxelles.—The Vicar-General's department has just published a statistical account of the population of Rome for the year 1857. It would appear from this table that Rome has 54 parishes; and that in the capital there are 38 Prelates, 1,351 Priests, 2,931 Professed Religious Men, and 1,930 Religious Women, 936 Seminarists (students for the Priesthood), 273 dissenters from the Catholic Church; among which number is to be included the Protestant foreigners, but this is without including the Jews, who have a quarter of their own; there are 38,926 families, and in all a total of 179,952 inhabitants. There is, moreover, during the winter and until after Easter a floating population, which the last year amounted to 80,000; these, of course, are strangers and foreign visitors. At the time when the Holy See was during ancient political troubles obliged to reside at Avignon (in France), the population of Rome fell to 16,000 citizens.—The Romans will therefore clearly see the downward career which would be likely to happen to their capital if ever the Holy See should be transferred. The inexhaustible charity of Pius IX. has been again manifested on the occasion of the terrible disasters arising from the earthquakes in the kingdom of Naples. The Minister of the Interior has received, through Mgr. Ferri, Archbishop of Sidon, Apostolic Nuncio at Naples, a sum of 3,000 ducats from His Holiness, for the relief of the sufferers. The Official Journal of the Two Sicilies testifies, in very affecting terms, its gratitude for the parental solicitude of the Holy Father, who not only has offered up fervent prayers to Heaven on behalf of the unfortunate people of the provinces of Basilicata and the home principality, but has also assisted the helpless from his private means.—The College for the United States is in a fair way of progression: an authorised agent from the Bishops of the United States is in Rome, and it would appear that now the only question is as to the locality to be selected.

The Campanile of Turin announces the death of Mgr. P. Ravina, Vicar-General, administering the diocese in the name of His Grace the Archbishop Fransoni, who has been for some years past in exile, in consequence of upholding the rights of the Church against the pretended liberal government of Count Cavour. This loss (says the Campanile) will be a severe blow to the exiled Archbishop, who well knew the high qualities of a man to whom he was attached as an intimate and faithful friend. In Mgr. Ravina the Clergy admired a model of the most exemplary life, a lively faith, and an activity constantly sustained during a career of seventy-seven years. Parsimonious towards himself, he exercised extreme benevolence towards the poor, and his charity was as enlightened as it was generous.

INDIA.

The Bombay Standard, of the 5th January, publishes a list of casualties since the commencement of the insurrection. The list includes commissioned officers only—not soldiers, whose number must be legion. It is a frightful array of names, and a glance at it awakens feelings of horror and pity.—420 officers of all ranks, from General down to Subaltern, have fallen since the first outbreak at Meerut to the second relief of Lucknow.

A supplement to the London Gazette, of Tuesday, gives lists of the Europeans, men, women, and children, as well as those not belonging to the East India Company's service, as those who did, who have been murdered by the rebels, or killed in action, or who died in the field against the rebels, or have been wounded. These lists are terrible to contemplate, and it is utterly out of our power to publish them. They fill nearly fifty folio pages, and, on a rough calculation, contain upwards of three thousand names, and a large majority are set down as killed or dead. With this supplement to the official paper before the public, no one, says the Star, can be misled by the consolatory statement regularly appended to the reports of the engagements with the mutineers, in which our losses are set down as "inconsiderable."

At Delhi the course of justice no longer suffers any impediment, so far as the minor agents in the rebellion are concerned. On the 22nd of December the Nawab of Theyghar was hanged. "At an early hour the Chandney Chowk, where the gibbets are erected, was thronged with natives, principally Hindoos, who appeared to take a lively interest in the spectacle. A strong body of Her Majesty's 60th Rifles, preceded by their band, marched up about a quarter past four, and drew across the road on all sides of the gibbets, while the gallant Goorkhas lined the right side. All the buildings in the neighborhood were crowded with European spectators, some females appearing here and there. About twenty minutes past four the cart containing the prisoner appeared, drawn by bullocks, and guarded by a party of Sikh cavalry. The Nawab, a tall, stout, good-looking man, dressed in plain white clothes, with a figured muslin turban, having been pinioned, mounted the platform; his eyes were covered with a cloth, and the hangman having descended, the drop fell, and the traitor was launched into eternity. He struggled for some seconds, and then all was over. The crowd was very orderly, not a sound or sign escaped them during the ceremony; but very few Mahomedans were present. On the morning of the 24th three rebels were hung, one of whom was the leader of the attack at the Hindun, and the plunderer of Georagan. His rank in the rebel army was 'General.' The other two were 'small fry.'—Correspondent of the Daily News.

The Lucknow heroines had arrived at Calcutta, and were received with great enthusiasm, a salute being fired from the fort.

There are no authentic accounts of the enemy in and around Lucknow, but it was considered not unlikely that they numbered 100,000 men.

The following extract, from a private letter written by a gentleman of the highest respectability, at Calcutta, has been communicated to the London Star:—"Nana Sahib was taken by Outram, on the 2nd January. Four British officers (prisoners) were offered in exchange, which the Governor-General said could not be listened to, but no orders as to the disposal of Nana were sent, which may involve another reference."

"The trial of the ex-King of Delhi had been fixed for the 9th, but the prisoner being indisposed, it was postponed till the 13th, and by this time has no doubt been brought to a termination. These are the charges preferred against him by the Government-Prosecutor, Major Harriott, of the Judge Advocate-General's Department:—"COPY OF CHARGES PREPARED AGAINST MAHOMED BAHADOOR SHAH, EX-KING OF DELHI.

"1. For that he, being a pensioner of the British Government in India, did at Delhi, at various times between the 10th of May and 1st of October, 1857, encourage, aid, and abet Mahomed Bukht Khan, Subadar of the Regiment of Artillery, and divers others, non-commissioned officers and soldiers unknown, of the East India Company's Army, in the crimes of mutiny and rebellion against the State.

"2. For having, at Delhi, at various times be-

tween the 10th of May and 1st of October, 1857, encouraged, aided, and abetted Mirza Mogul, his own son, a subject of the British Government in India, and divers other unknown inhabitants of Delhi and of the North-West Provinces of India, also subjects of the said British Government, to rebel and wage war against the State.

"3. For that he, being a subject of the British Government in India, and not regarding the duty of his allegiance, did at Delhi, on the 11th of May, 1857, or thereabouts, as a false traitor against the State, proclaim and declare himself the reigning King and Sovereign of India, and did then and there traitorously seize and take unlawful possession of the city of Delhi, and did, moreover, at various times between the 10th of May and 1st of October, 1857, as such false traitor aforesaid, treasonably conspire, consult, and agree with Mirza Mogul, his son, and with Mahomed Bukht Khan, Subadar of the Regiment of Artillery, and divers other false traitors unknown, to raise, levy, and make insurrection, rebellion, and war against the State, and further to fulfil and perfect his treasonable design of overthrowing and destroying the British Government in India, did assemble armed forces at Delhi, and send them forth to fight and wage war against the said British Government.

"4. For that he, at Delhi, on the 16th of May, 1857, or thereabouts, did, within the precincts of the Palace at Delhi, feloniously cause and become accessory to the murder of 49 persons, chiefly women and children, of European and mixed European descent, and did moreover, between the 10th of May and the 1st of October, 1857, encourage and abet divers soldiers and others in murdering European officers and children, both by giving and promising such murderers service, advancement, and distinctions; and, further, that he issued orders to different native rulers, having local authority in India, to slay and murder Christians and English people whenever and wherever found on their territories; the whole or any part of such conduct being an heinous offence under the provisions of Act 16, of 1857, of the Legislative Council of India.

FRED. J. HARRIOTT, Major, Deputy Judge Advocate-General, Government Prosecutor.

Jan. 5, 1858."

"If these charges are proved the Court cannot but sentence the prisoner to death under the act referred to; but the general supposition, as you know, is that his life will be spared, having been guaranteed to him after his capture, though by whom or by whose authority we are as much in the dark as ever. The Rajah of Bulubghur, another of the state prisoners at Delhi, has by this time followed his brother rebel the Nawab of Jhujhur. The tribunal before whom he was arraigned found him guilty of treason, and he was sentenced to be hanged on the 11th.—Times Correspondent.

CHINA.

The Pekin Gazette, of Nov. 14, contains a document which is regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war against Russia.

The correspondent of the N. Y. Times says, that her Majesty's gunboat "Opposum" arrived from Hong Kong, and reports that the bombardment of Canton commenced at daybreak of the 23th.

The city was on fire in a number of places and the ships were throwing shells at the rate of 30 per day, at which rate they were to continue for three days, when the final assault will be made.

At the time of the "Opposum" leaving at noon, the troops, or a portion of them, were seen from the mast-head marching up the hills in rear of the city, preparatory to storming Gough's Fort; a large fortress on the top of a high hill overlooking the city, manned by Chinese.

Dec. 30, 11 a.m.

Yesterday the two forts on the heights in rear of the Town were assaulted and taken by the combined English and French forces. Only a moderate loss on their side.

The Chinese resisted strongly, using mainly small arms in their defence.

As usual upon assailants entering forts they fled. The British and French entered the city by escalade and met with a stout resistance from 20,000 Chinese, and 5,000 Tartar troops.

At the time of leaving the fighting was still going on; the Chinese suffering defeat in every quarter.

British killed:—Captain Bates, Post Captain in the Royal Navy; and Lieut. Hackett of the same service. Both officers were killed prior to the assault whilst reconnoitering.

The opinion is that the City will be totally destroyed, the death of Captain Bates having exasperated Admiral Seymour.

"COMMON SCHOOLS" AND PROSTITUTION.

(From the New York Freeman's Journal.)

Let no one do us the injustice of thinking that a particle of triumph at the verification of what we ten years ago predicted, is mingled with the pain and horror we feel in penning this article. Our readers know that we abstain, on principle, from copying reports, or even notices, of the crimes and shame that civil and criminal courts are bringing out against so many of the Protestant clergy. The same motives of public decency, and of generous forbearance, have governed our course with respect to repeated instances of outrage in connection with the bad system of State-controlled schools. Some time ago we saw the following paragraph going round the papers, but did not copy it, as it might have been urged that the incident was not chargeable to the system of Public State Schools, but was a singular, lamentable abuse:

"CORREPTION OF PUPILS IN BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The Boston Times says:—"About a week since, one of the monitors of the first class in a Public School for girls at the North End, happened by chance to find a written note on the floor of the school, which she read, and was so astonished at the contents that she handed it to her female teacher. The note was written by one of the pupils to another in the same class, and revealed (in language too indecent for publication) the astonishing intelligence that the writer of the note and five of her school-mates, girls between the ages of 12 and 15 years, had been seduced and were in the daily habit of visiting certain places and indulging in the lowest conduct. The disclosure was most startling to the teacher, and she instantly sent for the mothers of the depraved girls. As soon as they arrived, an examination was made, and the girls made full confession of everything, disclosing the particulars in regard to the manner in which they were first induced to corrupt themselves, and the motives for continuing. As the girls related the deeds which they had performed, the anguish of their mothers was most terrible."

We did not make use of this paragraph at the time, though we might rigorously have argued that, from the constitution of Public Schools, as State institutions, parents have no protection for their children from the danger of such infamous associates. We had, also, the corroborating fact that a similar abomination, affecting three little girls in a Public School in this city, was detected several years ago, and hushed up, through the advice of a Protestant clergyman, and others, "for fear the Catholics would make use of it against the Public Schools."

On the morning of the day on which we are writing this article, we glanced over the columns of the Montreal True Witness, whose editor, a year or two since, was urging Irish Catholics to flee from the United States to that Paradise of the North—Upper Canada. In the last issue of that paper, the editor was now saying:—"Had we the misfortune of being a resident of Upper Canada, we would quite as willingly intrust the education of our children to an ordinary house of ill-fame, as to one of the Rev. Mr. Ryerson's State-supported academies."

As we read this instance, whatever the occasion of it, we felt that it must be an exaggeration; and thought that no good could come of denunciation so unmeasured. Strangely enough, within the next five minutes we picked up the New York Dispatch of last Sunday; and our eye fell on a long article commencing as follows:—"PROSTITUTION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—Oh that we had gone to reside in the backwoods, or been buried among Hottentots, ere we had felt constrained to write that startling caption, and print what will be found beneath it!"

We recollect that, six and eight years ago, the Sunday Dispatch was among the most bitter in denouncing the Freeman's Journal for then maintaining that our public school system, is one more likely to debauch and corrupt than to better the youth of this city. Has it come then to this, that the very promoters and favorers of State control in education, such as the Tribune and the Dispatch, are now the most extreme in their denunciation of results which we showed were inevitable in the system? We, however, applaud to Dispatch for its courage in publishing the article, of which we have just cited the shocking commencement. That paper continues:—"If we are to have our children instructed under the auspices of the abandoned of both sexes; if our very schools are to be converted into instruments of harlotry; if courtizans are to 'teach the young ideas how to shoot,' we had better adopt the creed and practices of Mormons at once. The purpose of these reflections will be more readily comprehended after a perusal of the following communication. We were anxious to disregard it; we have endeavored to force a disbelief of its contents; we have made every effort to convince ourselves that such a horrible state of affairs cannot possibly exist; but all these endeavors have resulted in a conviction that it is our duty to bring the matter before the public. In short, the character of the source from whence the information comes, leaves no room for a doubt as to the sincerity and integrity of the writer."

The following is the material part of the communication given in the Dispatch:—"It appears that the object of some who seek an election to the School Board, is not only to 'raise the wind,' whereby they may live in splendor and fare sumptuously the remaining years of their lives after they had become politically defunct, but also a desire to satisfy their carnal appetites at the expense of the honor of some of the weak-minded engaged in teaching the female youth of the city. Does the public doubt that a School Commissioner or Trustee can succeed in obtaining a mistress from among the many female teachers employed? If so, doubt no longer, because, unfortunately for truth and virtue, and for the frail victims of their lust, they are too often successful! And for what consideration, do these deluded creatures become the willing sacrifice to a scoundrel's beastliness? Ambition. Ay, elevation from the position of a virtuous subordinate to that of a crime-steeped principal. In the ward in which I reside there exists at this time, an exemplification of the truth of my assertions, and the fact is as notorious as that the Commissioner who holds a prominent position in one of the most important Committees of the Board, required all who made application to be appointed teachers, to submit themselves, not to an examination as to the capability of the applicant, but to a personal inspection by his fair innamorata. If the applicant's personal appearance pleased this queen, she received an appointment; if not, the applicant was told that her 'examination had not proved satisfactory and she could not be appointed."

"The remedies that have been resorted to periodically, to rid ourselves of present, and to prevent future, grievances, have proved abortive. Whether because of being improperly administered, or that the reformers needed the greater reformation, I am not sufficiently posted to offer a decided opinion. Yet true it is, should the character of a great majority of our officials be taken as the standard of the honesty, integrity and virtue of our people, New York city would afford the best evidence of the truthfulness in that belief need no longer doubt. Were we, as a community, so hopelessly depraved as we appear to be, the Almighty, should he determine our destruction, would have no occasion to prolong our miserable existence by requiring us to produce the means of salvation if our Saviour must best such a one as he desired the inhabitants of the ill-fated cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to find. There certainly must be one spark of honesty and love of virtue still remaining in the community, and it should no longer be allowed to remain latent, but it should be at once kindled into a flame that would drive the official vampyres before it, and consume them as the prairie grass is consumed by fire.

"I am one of those people who believe that every man and woman too, should do his or her part in reforming abuses and exposing villainies; and I am also one of the class who generally practice what they preach; therefore, as the Committee on Frauds, may have many friends in the Board of Education who 'good graces' they desire to retain, and may decline 'the responsibility,' I constitute myself a Committee of One, and having the means and power to produce the papers, will undertake an investigation as to how the school affairs of the Ward in which I reside have been, and are now being, conducted by the parties to whom they have been entrusted; and as I feel confident that many and grievous sins of commission, that should not longer be withheld from the public, will be brought to light, I shall forward you the result of my labors, and ask your co-operation in exposing these wretches, in all their 'naked deformity,' to the world. ELEVENTH WARD. February 15, 1858."

In the autumn of 1856, a well-known school officer of the Seventh Ward was accused by a young lady teacher of having caused, or threatened, her dismissal because she refused to sacrifice her chastity to his demands. The official thought to save his reputation by destroying that of the defenceless female; so he challenged an investigation, and appeared at a meeting of the Ward officers, accompanied by Mr. Richard Basted as his counsel. It is to the credit of Mr. Basted that, at an early period of the trial, a letter to the young lady being put into his hand, he asked his clients if it was his handwriting, and the latter acknowledging it, Mr. Basted took his hat, apologized to the father of the young lady for having appeared as counsel against her, and abandoned the case, which, little to the credit of the officers of the Seventh Ward, was hushed up among them. It was legitimate for us to have used the transaction at that time, in support of our objections to making education an affair of State control; but we wish to be generous in our controversies, and so we would not charge against the system one such catastrophe. The letter in the Dispatch shows that the forbearance on our part was unmerited, and the outrage not isolated.

The Dispatch may well comment on the "Eleventh Ward" letter, by saying:—"What answer can be made to this charge, or rather these charges? The purity of our children is too sacred a trust to be trifled with in the minutest particular. We could pass in silence the many short comings not only of our present system of city school education, but of the manner in which it is administered. We could, perhaps, forgive the aggregate inefficiencies of many of the Commissioners, and submit in silence to the intilities which are apparent from their incompetencies and rapacities; but we cannot submit for one moment to even a bare suspicion that the children for whose education the inhabitants of Manhattan Island are taxed over one million of dollars per annum, are contaminated by the touch of lewd and lascivious preceptors supposed to be virtuous, or glared at with libidinous eyes by lechers in educational office. The thought that the innocent young girls instructed at these schools may be subjected to these vile influences, is too terrifying

and monstrous to be entertained a moment longer than it can be obliterated by prompt and decided legislative action. What evil could not be effected by the depraved mistress of a Commissioner—a mistress in charge, as principal, of a school of females? How, especially and skillfully she could distill the leoprous poison into the ears of the eldest for the advantage of herself and her official paramour! We shudder as thoughts find utterance."

"Compared with this evil, the ill-ventilation of the majority of the school-houses, the liability of many of them to take fire (we are told that the school-house at the corner of Grove and Hudson-streets has been on fire two or three times within many months), and the inadequacy of the methods of egress in case of sudden panics, caused by conflagrations or alarms, are matters of secondary importance. We are too well aware that nominating conventions who select candidates for Commissioners and Trustees, know more and care more about the Custom House, the Power Mug, the spoils of that victory, and the technicalities of politics, than they do of schools, or the moral and intellectual fitness of those selected to govern them. But we were hardly prepared for the revelations of our correspondent. The whole public school system, as at present represented, we begin to fear, is rotten, and rapidly falling into universal disrepute, and this last charge against it will arouse the people to a sense of the necessity of immediate reform in that system, from root to branch."

When the State "Free-school law" was passed in 1852, we said we would live to see this whole system of usurpation of family responsibility in education fall, amidst the execrations of a plundered and outraged community. We mistake the intelligence and conscience of our fellow-citizens, if many years elapse before this consummation. The Dispatch will well call for "immediate reform in that system from root to branch." That is just the reform needed. It is the root of the system that is corrupt. The family, not the State, must look to the education of the child. The parent, not the office-holder, must employ the teacher. We are ready to join in any fair and judicious method for redressing this terrible wrong.

PROTESTANTISM AND POLYGAMY.

"Puzzle-headed people are apt to confound together" Protestantism as it is in principle and Protestantism as practised in the higher grades of society. They are not at all the same thing, however, nor things equal to the same. The Protestantism of decent society is neither one thing nor the other—it is protestantism with a strong admixture of Catholic sentiment, and in practice governed in no slight degree, though unconsciously, by Catholic tradition and Catholic practices. It is not to be expected that "puzzle-headed people" will come to understand this all at once; yet things occur from day to day which, one might imagine, would make the matter clear, even to the most puzzle-headed.

For instance:—we reprinted from the Guardian the other day a correspondence regarding marriage and divorce lately published by Bishop Colenso in the Natal Journal. It appears that this Protestant Bishop Colenso, of Natal, announced "some time since" his "opinion that"—we cite the Guardian—"in case of a native convert being already in possession of more wives than one, the Christian system did not require, or justify, the repudiation of any of his several wives." And it appears further by the correspondence "that his view is supported by the Archbishop (Whately) of Dublin, and the late Bishop (Hinde) of Norwich." "Puzzle-headed people," says Dr. Whately, "are apt to confound together the making of a contract which is (in a Christian country) not allowed, and the keeping to a contract which, when it was made, was lawful. I hold with the Bishop that a man who puts away his wife, even though he has another, sauteh her to commit adultery."

Here is Protestant doctrine, from which indeed the instinct of every pure-minded Protestant will revolt, as from any other unmitigated heathenism. And yet it is impossible, on Protestant principles, to convict Dr. Whately and Company of false doctrine. Given the Bible, the whole Bible and nothing but the Bible, and there is no proving the polygamists in the wrong. This is worth considering maturely. Doctor Whately may be right and the Christian system polygamist—that is to say, the Catholic principle of marriage not the positive doctrine of Christ's law, for aught that our protestant brethren learned or unlearned, from Norwich to Port Natal, can show to the contrary. And if, on Protestant principles, Doctor Whately be right on this point, what law is it that "in a Christian community does not allow" polygamy? Where is the rightful authority to prescribe it? Is it all a matter of civil contract, allowable or not, as the civil law may determine? And, where allowed, in perfect accordance with the Christian system of—Port Natal?

Doctor Whately goes on further to clinch the argument. "The divorce," he says, "which some of the Missionaries advocate, creates so manifest and great an obstacle to the propagation of the Gospel, that nothing could justify the adoption of such a procedure except its being clearly a point of moral obligation, instead of which it is, as I am convinced, a procedure decidedly immoral."

To found a community of converted heathens, leaving to the second generation the example of their fathers, good Christians acknowledgedly living in polygamy, seems a novel way to begin the establishment of a pro-Christian society. But why not, at all once, bring off the pretence that Protestantism is, any more than it is, a civil system, a political anti-Catholic creed, and advocate a true British "compromise" between itself and the several heathen systems it may be brought to deal with? The sooner it comes to this the better for all parties. Cotton and cottony would go off more readily if, at the same time, the passing off upon the natives of a Brammagen-ware religion were not attempted. This, too, would obviate the uncomfortable necessity to the qualmish Missionary to stretch a point or two of "moral obligation" in favour of "the propagation of the Gospel" in foreign parts. Those points of "moral obligation" are but the last remains of nummery and superstition; relics of old Catholic teaching, which have lost their virtue in this unbelieving age.

But why narrow the application of this Natal doctrine? It is the right moral (or immoral) doctrine, and its teachers, so-called Archbishops and Bishops, are the proper Protestant Doctors of the age and country. The half measure of divorce divulged by Parliament will probably, and very soon, prove insufficient for the requirements of the heathen mass. You have then only to fall back upon the Natal-Norwich-Dublin doctrine, and the "so manifest and great obstacle" which some Missionaries create to the propagation of the Gospel, amongst the heathens at home will at once disappear. As the case stands, who will distinguish for us the nice distinction between Natalism and Mormonism, between the doctrine of Protestant Bishop Colenso and the practice of his interesting clock on the one side and on the other, the doctrine and practice of Prophet Young and his brethren of Utah? The real Protestant hymn of the day is "Going home to Utah!"

But how will those poor "puzzle-headed people," gifted with right moral instincts, reconcile this ecclesiastical Protestant teaching with their own decent notions? Will they rest satisfied with their own consciousness, and not seek, so as to discover, upon what sure grounds the Catholic principle of marriage has been established? The Church will readily enough discover it to them—in a word, that marriage, under the law of Christ, is not only a contract, but a Sacrament also.

The teaching and practice of the Church—the same to-day, yesterday, and the day before—the same from the beginning, so the same unto the end—is clear and unmistakable. Here is but one in-