

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.—The Roman Catholic bishop while at St. Hyacinthe, will on Saturday next inaugurate a capitular form of government in that diocese.

THE CHURCH IN B. C.—Of a population of 30,000, in the Diocese of Vancouver, British Columbia, 5,400 are Catholics, who possess 11 churches or chapels, 1 school for boys, 2 schools for girls, 2 orphan asylums, 2 convents, and a hospital finished in June, 1876.

THE SAINTS OF AUGUST.—The calendar for August is very rich in festivals. On the 2nd of August St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, is commemorated. On the 4th of August St. Dominic, the founder of the Order of Preachers, is commemorated. On the 6th of August the Transfiguration of Our Lord. On the 10th of August the great martyr, St. Lawrence who was roasted on a gridiron. On August 15th falls the festival of the Assumption. On the 19th of August St. Joachim, father of the Blessed Virgin, is remembered, and on August 20th St. Bernard, Doctor of the Church. On the 24th is St. Bartholomew's day. The 25th, St. Louis, King of France. St. Augustine's day is August 28th, and St. John the Baptist's on August 29th; while St. Rose of Lima, the first canonized saint of America, is remembered on August 30th.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP McCABE.—The consecration of the Right Rev. Mgr. McCabe, as Bishop of Godara and coadjutor of the Cardinal-Archbishop of Dublin, took place with grand ceremonial on the 18th ult., in the beautiful Parish Church of Kings-town. His Eminence Cardinal Cullen officiated, and the church was densely crowded. Mgr. McCabe has toiled untiringly, but unostentatiously, in the vineyard of his Master. He filled, for years, a curacy in Clontarf. From Clontarf he was transferred to the Church of St. Nicholas, French Street, as parish priest, and from Francis Street, on the death of Canon Kavanagh, some time since, to Kingstown. His career in Kingstown, says the *Dublin Freeman*, is best known by the affectionate veneration with which he is regarded by all classes amongst the inhabitants of the town. Father Burke preached the Consecration sermon.

NEW CARMELITE CONVENT, NOTTING HILL ENG.—The foundation-stone of a new Carmelite convent at Notting Hill, was laid on Monday, the 13th inst., with all due ceremonial. At four o'clock his Eminence the Cardinal-Archbishop, assisted by the Very Rev. Father Rawes, O. S. C., D.D., and accompanied by Fathers Butler, Kirwan, MacDonnell, R. Collins, and Tasker, Oblates of St. Charles, appeared on the ground. There were present also with them the Very Rev. Father Stanton, of the Oratory, and the Cure of the Madeleine, who is the ecclesiastical superior of the convent of the Carmelites in Paris, from which house the religious will come who are to occupy the prospective building. The Rev. Father Palmer was master of the ceremonies, and among those who watched the proceedings with the keenest interest were his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, the Duchess of Norfolk, the Marchioness of Bute, and Lady Howard of Glossop.

CARDINAL MANNING ON THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.—“Never,” said his Eminence Cardinal Manning on a recent occasion, “never since the Church was founded was it so widespread as it is at this hour. Never since the unity of the apostles was the Church more solid in its unity. Never in the history of the episcopate were the bishops of the whole Church so closely united to their Head, and so inseparably united one another. Never in Christian history can we find a time when the priesthood of the Church was so united to their bishops. Never at any time, in all the records of the Church, can it be found that the people were so united to their pastors. The unity of the Church without and within, the unity of faith, the unity of fidelity, is greater at this hour than it has ever yet been before. The blows of the hammer which were aimed to disintegrate and to destroy have only welded together in a more indissoluble mass the unity of the Catholic Church.”

A GREAT FESTIVAL.—A Great Festival was celebrated at Toulouse, on Sunday, on the occasion of the solemn inauguration of a beautiful statue of Sainte Germaine Cousin, the holy Shepherdess of Pibrac, who was canonized at Rome about ten years ago. The statue has been erected by the contributions of upwards of 60,000 subscribers, amounting to 82,000 francs, and is the work of two citizens of Toulouse, M. Pujol, architect, and M. Fauguiere, sculptor. It is placed in the Place St. Germain, in the very centre of the city. On Sunday afternoon a grand procession, consisting of all the city parishes started from the cathedral to the statue, where an eloquent address was delivered by the Archbishop of Toulouse. The inauguration then took place in the presence of an immense assemblage. The city was brilliantly illuminated in honor of the occasion. Nearly every house was decorated with hanging flags and orillames. Perfect order was preserved throughout the whole of the proceedings.

EXPULSION OF SISTERS OF CHARITY.—The Netherlands-American Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Maas* arrived at the Pavia dock, New Jersey, on Tuesday the 14th inst., making the run between Rotterdam and New York in fourteen days. Among the passengers were twenty-two Sisters of Charity, who had emigrated from Koetsfeld, Prussia, in compliance with the edict of the German Government expelling certain religious orders from the empire before October of the present year. There is much of sameness in the lives and conduct of the sisters and the chief officer of the steamer could only say pleasantly that “they never gave any trouble and were good passengers.” They felt, as many others who have come from Prussia before them have felt on account of this edict, that it is hard to be expatriated; still, their experience is no new thing in political differences. The sisters fully realized this point and were sensibly coming to a country not yet affected by the ailments of age, where they could think and do as they pleased. Some of them went over to Brooklyn, but most of them were whittled off to Cleveland and Covington, Ohio, where they will find anxious friends awaiting their arrival. During the next two months quite a large emigration of the same order is expected.

REUNION OF COADJUTORS PARISHES.—An important decision has just been given with respect to the status and rights of coadjutor priests after the death of their respective parish priests, at least within the diocese of Limburg. The Government contended those clergyman were mere personal helpers of the parish priests, whose powers ceased with the death of the official personage to whom they were attached, and that they had no official existence apart from the parish priests. But it was shown that in the diocese of Limburg the Bishop had always appointed those coadjutor priests—“chaplains” is their local designation—wherever the size or population of the parish made the services of two priests desirable. The “chaplain” was not a mere personal nominee of the parish priest appointed by him, and dismissed at pleasure. Of course the parish priest was always free to avail himself of the services of any priest having faculties within the diocese; but such a person would not be a “chaplain.” This latter was always subordinate to the parish priest; but with due regard to such subordination he was commissioned *ex officio* to perform all ecclesiastical functions, even marriages and interments. It was plain that such a commission did not expire with the death of the parish priest; for the chaplain had an independent authority subordinate to the parish priest. The court accepted this contention, and decided accordingly. If a similar decision would be given in other provinces it would be good news indeed for many a desolate Catholic parish.

IRISH NEWS.

A DRAP FAILURE.—Gavazzi has been on a starting tour in Ireland, but has proved a dismal failure. He has not been able to kindle one solitary spark of anti-Popery, and finds that O'hellio's occupation is gone. In vain he resorted to the old stage tricks and the clap-trap of former times, but they fell flat, and met with no response save the dull echoes of empty benches. Even the *Daily Express* has no encouraging word to this “heaven-sent” minister of the Word. This is as it ought to be, and the game of insulting Catholic Ireland in Catholic Ireland no longer pays. —*Catholic Standard*.

FEARFUL MILL ACCIDENT AT STROKESTOWN, LONGFORD.—An appalling accident occurred at Mr. Constantine Maguire's mill Rooskey. A young girl named Margaret Cox with a female acquaintance went to have a look at the mill, when the girl Cox incautiously put her head close to the main shaft to look into some receptacle, and it is supposed a portion of the hair adhered to the greasy matter with which the shaft is lubricated. The effect was frightful; the unfortunate girl was whirled round and round for some seconds, and then, to the horror of those present, the scalp was torn completely off, and with it the two ears and a portion of the skin of the face, leaving the poor victim's head a terrible spectacle. Dr. Shanley of Strokestown, who luckily happened to be in the locality, was immediately sent for, and used every means in his power to alleviate the sufferings of the poor patient. She has since been removed to the Longford Infirmary; but Dr. Shanley states there is little or no hope of her recovery.

AN INTERESTING RELIC.—At the meeting of the Archaeological and Historical Society, held in the Butler House, Kilkenny, lately the Secretary announced the receipt of some books and periodicals from various associations. Mr. Day, of Cork, had written to him stating that he intended to exhibit a very ancient relic of antiquity, which was found when making the tunnel through the Phoenix Park last year, for the Dublin and Wicklow Railway. It is a coat of mail, made of chain armor, and in a very fair state of preservation. It bore on its breast a silver badge with a red hand, the armorial insignia of the O'Neills of Ulster. The Secretary said it was certainly the most interesting piece of ancient armor yet discovered, and must have belonged to some of the chieftains of the O'Neill clan. He was surprised that it should have been found so near Dublin, for in the raids of the O'Neills they hardly ever came so near the city as the Phoenix Park. Certainly, some of them were prisoners in the Castle, but “they were never able to push their folly so near Dublin,” as the Phoenix Park. He showed the meeting a portion of similar armor which was dug up somewhere in Ballymena, in June 1842.

THE LATE SIR COLMAN O'LOUGHLIN, M. P.—On the 25th of July the remains of this much-lamented gentleman were conveyed by the nine o'clock train from the Midland Great Western Railway terminus to Athenry, en route for Ennis. The hearse left No. 18 Warrington Place, the residence of Mr. Michael O'Loughlin, shortly after eight o'clock, and was followed by mourning coaches containing some of the relatives and friends of the deceased. Amongst those who attended were Mr. Michael O'Loughlin, B.L.; the Right Hon. the Master of the Rolls, the Hon. Judge Flanagan, Master Coffey, Mr. John O'Hagan, Q.C.; Mr. S. Lynch, Mr. T. O'Brien, Mr. Edward Fox, J.P.; Mr. John O'Loughlin, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Corbally, Mr. J. O. Byrne, B.L.; Mr. E. A. Ennis, solicitor; Mr. D. Molloy, Secretary Great Southern and Western Railway Company; Mr. George Perry, B.L.; Mr. Bradley, solicitor; Mr. John Dowd. Many friends of the deceased assembled at the King's Bridge Terminus under the impression that the remains would be forwarded by the Great Southern line, and they were not undeceived until it was too late to witness the departure by the other route.

VALUE OF LAND IN WESTMEATH.—In the matter of the estate of Joseph Tuile, Esq., the following estates recently offered for sale in the Landed Estates Court, but not sold, the prices offered not being considered sufficient, were put up in the court-house, Mullingar, as advertised: The competition for each of the lots was very sharp. Lot 1—Part of the lands of Cullen, otherwise Cullenbeg, in the barony of Moyashel and Magherademane, and County Westmeath, containing 97 acres and 17 perches, statute measure, held in fee; Griffith's valuation £9 11s. per annum. Sold to Mr. Thomas Reddy, Farrs, for £2,850. Lot 2—Part of the same lands containing 242 acres 2 roods, and 26 perches, statute measure. The interest in this lot was the life estate of the owner, Joseph Tuile Esq., now aged 48 years, and the fee subject to the life interest of his wife, should she survive him; Griffith's valuation, £188 9s. per annum. Sold to the same purchaser for £4,103. Lot 3—Part of Balrol in the barony of Moyashel and County Westmeath, held in fee, containing 192 acres, 3 roods, 33 perches, producing a net yearly rent profit rent of £142 12s 6d. The interest in this lot was the life estate of Joseph Tuile, Esq. Sold to Alderman Harris for £1,600. Mr. W. Whitton, of Middle Gardiner Street, had the carriage of the proceedings. The gentlemen from the Landed Estates Court expressed themselves highly satisfied at the prices obtained by the Messrs. Coffey, which was considerably more than those offered in the Landed Estates Court. Mr. William Farrell, of Mullingar, may be mentioned as one of the principal bidders.

The *Belfast Morning News*, in a most interesting article published a couple of years ago, gave some curious particulars as to threatening letters in Fermanagh. We quote the following extract:—“The public at large are acquainted with the Fenian proceedings of Head-Constable Talbot. There may be difference of opinion as to those proceedings, though we think there are not many who would like to play Talbot's part. But there is an episode in the life of that eminent spy that is not at all so well known to us, and we may as well tell it. It is how Talbot treated Dr. Arcey Irvine, Esq., of Castle Irvine, in the County Fermanagh. Mr. Irvine was a good, kindly man, with more than average intellectual ability, and more than average accomplishments. But he had strong feeling and a somewhat wild imagination. He wrote many things in condemnation of the Government, and wrote them in the strange, strong way that attracted attention. Well, he was persuaded to believe that his life was in danger from the Fenians, and to employ Talbot at 3 shillings a week to be a sort of game-keeper and body-guard. After Talbot (who had then finished his notorious Fenian affair) came to Castle Irvine, Mr. D'Arcy Irvine was continually receiving threatening letters. He was continually telling us about them and we often asked him if he had the envelopes. No; it happened somehow that he had none of the envelopes; and it happened also that the letters themselves (this is our belief, generally disappeared after doing the work of annoying the recipient. Mr. D'Arcy Irvine introduced us one time to his protector, Mr. Talbot, a fine-looking fellow, but we declined his acquaintance, and warned Mr. Irvine against him. He did not attend to the warning, and he was driven mad—we believe by Talbot, the Government spy. He had to be arrested as a dangerous lunatic, and he soon died in the strange confinement. A gentleman of Fermanagh, who had a peculiar right to feel interested in the matter, remarked to us some time after: ‘If that honest fellow in Dublin had not shot Talbot, I'd have gone up and done it myself.’ No one in Fermanagh, who understands anything of the circumstances, doubts that Talbot maddened Mr. D'Arcy Irvine. Who incited Talbot to that course of conduct?”

WAR NEWS.

UNFOUNDED.—The reports that the Russians are advancing from Arichan on Oldi are unfounded.

LOSS.—The Russians officially acknowledge the loss of 14,459 killed and wounded up to August the 9th.

NUMEROUS.—Twenty-seven thousand four hundred Turkish prisoners have passed through Roumania.

NISICS AGAIN.—The Prince of Montenegro has been obliged to raise the siege of Nisica to march against Turkish troops endeavoring to enter Montenegro.

ASSUMING COMMAND.—A despatch from Poerdo says Gen. Gourko has gone to St. Petersburg, to resume command of the Guards, who are coming here, for the siege of Rostchuk is virtually raised.

MOBILIZING.—At the request of the Grand Duke Nicholas, the mobilization of two more divisions of grenadiers and one cavalry division has been ordered.

TRANSPORT.—The railways from St. Petersburg to Kischeneff are now carrying 12,000 men daily. It is reported that one of the piers of the railway bridge at Barboschi has given way, causing great delay.

THE GREEKS.—The Greek volunteer movement is increasing. A further detachment of 120 started yesterday for Greece. The authorities detained sixty volunteers intending to leave on the ground of their being subjects of the Porte.

WHOLESALE SLAUGHTER.—The massacre of Christians on the southern slope of the Balkans by the Turks appears to have been understated. The Christians are fleeing *en masse* from Janina, a province of Southern Turkey.

DEMIRED.—The former reports of an alliance between Roumania and Servia, and of warlike preparations in Greece are denied. The latter may be changed, however, if the report of the sinking of a Greek vessel by a Turkish man-of-war prove true.

EVACUATED.—A special from Adrianople states that the Russians have evacuated Elena and Bebrova, and nearly all the country up to Tirnova. Suleiman Pasha's advance guard is close to Gabrova. He has received heavy reinforcements from Constantinople.

LEVY EN MASSE.—An Imperial decree calls to arms all hitherto exonerated. Those who have already served, but not yet attained their fortieth year, will be divided into national guards, who may ultimately be sent to the seat of war, and national guards for protection and internal security.

MINISTER RISTICS.—Immediately after being appointed President of the Council, Ristics informed foreign representatives that no change in the policy of neutrality was intended. The army would not be mobilized at present, and the calling out of militia was merely intended to protect the frontier.

RUSSIAN DEFEAT.—The *Herald's* cablegram says Gen. Melikoff attacked the Turkish advance posts at Erzerum on the 13th August, but was compelled to withdraw. The Kurds defeated the Russians twice at Ardahan. In the second engagement the Russians lost 600 killed and wounded.

RUSSIA STILL PREPARING.—The correspondents at Bucharest say every detail of the preparations shows that the Russians have made up their minds for a long war, and are preparing great depots of firewood. The Roumanian Government is also asking tenders for the supply of great quantities of clothing and stores.

SERBIAN LOAN.—The finance law orders the Serbian loan of 76 to be fully paid up. The full amount is 12,000,000 francs; only 2,752,215 francs have been paid. The 27th of October and 1st of January have been fixed for compulsory calling in the balance. Frontier districts which have suffered on account of the war are exempted.

BAD ROADS.—A Slatova despatch says rain of less than 12 hours' duration has rendered the roads here over which Russian supplies are transported, a sea of mud, with gaping holes of unknown depth at frequent intervals. This forcibly illustrates the impossibility of a Russian campaign in Turkey after the rainy season has begun.

ALARMING STATE OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—A despatch from Bucharest says the fever epidemic in the Russian army in Bulgaria is increasing. The troops are also in want of food, and refuse pay unless in the coin of their own country, and threaten to surrender to the Turks unless paid in the coin demanded. The present state of affairs in the army is very alarming.

CHANGE IN HEADQUARTERS.—An official telegram from the Grand Duke Nicholas shows his headquarters now at Gornj, Stoudene, probably the same as Studen, twelve miles south of Slatova. The telegram states General Gourko's entire loss from July 14th to August was ten officers and 181 men killed, thirty-seven officers and 708 men wounded, and fifty-one missing, but Garian Legion lost twenty-two officers and 600 men.

UNRASY.—The *Times* cable says the Czar repents of declaring war, and is ready to conclude peace after the first decisive victory. He is doubtful of the success of the campaign across the Danube. He constantly fears assassination, and is troubled by a prophecy that he will not live to see his sixtieth birthday, April the 29th, 1878. The Czar has retrograded his headquarters to avoid being cut off in case of defeat.

SERBIA'S PART.—A despatch states that the question of Serbia's taking part in the war has been discussed in the Serbian Cabinet, and that there has been a difference of opinion in regard thereto. It is announced to-day that all the Ministers had tendered their resignations. Prince Milaa has accepted only those of Terkoba, President of the Council and M. Milokovitch. M. Ristics has been appointed President of the Council.

NISICS.—The correspondent with the Montenegrin army telegraphs from Aluga, August the 11th:—“Our outposts report a Turkish army, consisting of 12 battalions, regulars and several thousand irregulars have begun a movement in Drobnick. The Montenegrin force, which is utterly inadequate to oppose them will fall back for protection of inhabitants until reinforcements. The Turks are probably acting for the relief of Nisica.”

THE BALKAN CAMPAIGN.—The Balkan campaign is not over. The Russians are entrenching in the Shipka Pass. Two corps of Russians are stationed near by as support to the former. Against these the Turks are advancing from three different points, and a severe engagement may be looked for. The Russians have been largely reinforced, but sickness among themselves and the arrival of Turkish reinforcements from Asia have placed the combatants on an equal footing.

PREPARING.—Reinforcements are flowing steadily through Roumania. It is expected both guard and grenadier corps will be in Bulgaria by the first week in September. It is calculated that reinforcements of 180,000 are on the march. The next battle about Plevna will be decisive; hence the delay, for the sake of insuring success. The Fourth Cavalry Division has been detached on an independent expedition for the purpose of stopping Turkish communication with Sofia, and blocking the Orchodjik Pass, the main thoroughfare and easiest marching route over the Balkans. This should have been done earlier, but if successful now, will still have good results.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PRINCESS LOUISE.—Princess Louise (Marchioness) and the Marquis of Lorne left Kensington Palace on the 16th inst. for Germany.

THREATENED STRIKE.—A strike is imminent throughout the entire South Staffordshire coal fields, in consequence of the masters' endeavor to increase the working hours. The masters gave notice terminating all contracts.

THE COLORADO BEETLE.—A despatch says the Colorado beetle, despite energetic attempts to stamp it out, has spread over 25 acres at Langenriedenbach near Torgus, Germany. The principal destroying agent applied at present is benzoline.

PASSED OFF QUIETLY.—Considerable apprehension was felt Saturday night that there would be a collision between the Emerald Association and the Young Britons, who were on the street parading at the same time, but everything passed off quietly, the members of the different organizations fraternizing in instances. The Emerald's picnic was quite successful. —*Telegram from Guelph*.

STUDENT DRAGMANS.—The Foreign Office has organized a scheme for the appointment of some new officials to be called “Student Dragmans.” The intention is that these gentlemen shall ultimately proceed to those Eastern countries with which we cultivate friendly relations, and remain there to act as interpreters and intermediaries between consuls and the native authorities.

WEALTHY BEGGARS.—At the Exeter police-court the other day the chief constable, in opposing an application by an application by an Italian to play “music” in the city, said a day or two ago Italians were sent to prison by the bench for begging. They gave up £10 and £5 respectively, but when changing their clothes for the prison dress one of them was found to be wearing a belt in which were concealed forty-seven sovereigns.

A MOUSE'S STRATAGEM.—Not long since the writer witnessed a strange sight in the *Recorder* office. Our attention was attracted by several lustrous squeaks from the inside of a pail, almost full of water, into which a half-grown mouse had fallen. The alarm had hardly died away, when four or five more mice appeared on the scene, and began clambering to the top edge of the pail. For several moments after gaining the top of the pail and catching sight of the mouse in the water a squeaking confab was held. First one mouse and then another would cling to the rim of the bucket with his hind legs, and while almost touching the water with his nose, squeak out their consolation or advice to the immersed; but while all this was going on, the swimming powers of this unfortunate mouse in the pail were rapidly giving out. At last a happy thought seemed to strike the biggest mouse in the crowd, and almost without a squeak, he firmly fastened his fore feet on the edge of the pail and let his body and tail hang down. The drowning mouse saw it, and making a last desperate effort for life, swam to the spot, seized the tail of his brother mouse, and amid squeaks of delight from all the mice present, was hauled high and dry out of the water and over the edge of the bucket. —*Corinne (Utah) Record*.

FROM A NEWBORN TO A CABINET MINISTER OF GREAT BRITAIN.—In the House of Commons, on August 5th, the appointment of Mr. William H. Smith, one of the Joint Secretaries to the Treasury, as the successor of the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt, First Lord of the Admiralty, deceased, was announced officially. Right Hon. William Henry Smith, the new First Lord of the Admiralty, or Minister of Marine, is about fifty years old, and began life as a newsboy. By industry, integrity and economy, he worked his way up in the world until he finally built up an enormous business as a news-agent, publisher, bookseller and railway book stall proprietor. In November, 1868, he was elected to the House of Commons as a Conservative for Westminister, Mr. John Stuart Mill being his unsuccessful opponent. He made a great reputation in the House of Commons as a debater, and at the general election of February, 1874, was re-elected for Westminster. He was then selected by Mr. Disraeli for the position of Financial Secretary of the Treasury, one of the most important positions under the Government outside of the Ministry, with an annual salary of \$10,000. He now enters the British Cabinet as the head of the Naval Department at a time when England is probably on the eve of a great war, in which she will be obliged to depend almost entirely on her navy for whatever glory or profit may result.

THE HOLY WAR.—The *al Jawaid* of Constantinople says that the following speech was made to the Circassian contingent by Muhammad Ghazi Pasha, son of Schamyl, on his arrival at Trebizond:—“Praise and glory are due to the Creator of the heavens and earth, and blessing rests upon our Lord Muhammad, who stirred up the Faithful to contend against their enemies: also upon his family and companions who risked their lives for the maintenance of the faith! You are doubtless aware that the Russians submitted to our Government certain proposals, the acceptance of which would have lowered its dignity and led to our destruction as a nation as well as to the downfall of the Muslim sovereignty. The said proposals originated in their own crafty intriguer, which gave rise to certain outrages. These they most unjustly attributed to the Porte, which was guiltless of them. But the Russians are notorious for treachery and unfair dealing, for lying and the stirring up of strife, at which they are consummate adepts. On the rejection of these proposals by the Porte they proclaimed war against us, and proceeded to invade the frontiers of the Muslim Government. Under these circumstances our exalted Sultan, Murad 11, vowed upon the Koran and the al Fatihah, to organize a resistance and a gihad on the part of the defenders of our conspicuous and established religion and law, and despatched them to encounter the invaders. It is our duty, therefore, to repair with all speed to the frontier, there to fight with the edge of the sword and the point of the lance in defence of our faith and our homes, sparing neither our lives nor our property in so holy a cause; for the land is already red with the blood of the martyrs who have fallen to stay the progress of the enemy and to prevent him from wresting it from us. I hope, therefore, that you will exhibit your wonted courage and valiant heroism in the support of our faith, and for the preservation of the glorious Muslim Khalifate. My efforts will be joined with yours in defence of the supreme Word of God, whereby we hope to triumph over our unscrupulous foe, who, as is admitted on all hands, has compassed our destruction by the basest intrigues. Know further, that his Imperial Majesty, relying upon the divine aid, and invoking the spiritual succor of our conquering Prophet, will spare neither men nor money in defence of God's holy religion. If we live we shall be among the number of the baptized; if we are slain, we shall die as martyrs, thus dying in our zeal or living in honour. He who lives in dishonour is a calf of the meanest class; but he who lives having preserved his honour is reckoned among the most noble. Be it ours, therefore, to defend our religion and our homes, looking to God for his divine assistance, under the protecting shadow of our august Sovereign, ‘Abdu-‘l-Hamid Khan.’ This speech is reported to have been received with outbursts of applause, and it was followed by addresses to the same effect by several of the Circassian chiefs present on the occasion.”

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

FOOD OF ANIMALS.—Linnaeus states the cow eats 576 plants and refuses 218; the goat eats 440 and declines 126; the sheep takes 387 and rejects 141; the horse likes 282 and avoids 212; but the hog, more nice its provisions than any of the former, eats but 72 plants and rejects 171.

OWLS AS VERMIN DESTROYERS.—Owls are of immense service as vermin destroyers. An English gamekeeper found an owl's nest with one young bird in it. He visited it for thirty consecutive mornings, and in that time removed from it one hundred and five rats, forty-nine mice, eleven shrew-mice, two robins, and an sparrow. This was, and well it might have been, over and above what the owl's consumption demanded.

THE ORIGIN OF PETROLEUM.—A new theory, based chiefly on chemical considerations, is propounded by Professor Mendeleeff, regarding the formation of petroleum in the interior of the earth. From the fact that in Pennsylvania petroleum occurs in the Devonian and Silurian rocks, it appears to him highly improbable that the fluid hydrocarbon should be the result of the decomposition of organic remains, for but little organic life could have existed in those ages. This theory, starting with Laplace's hypothesis of the formation of our globe, assumes the existence of great masses of iron, and, along with it, of inorganic carbon, in the inner parts of the earth. The water which, from the more exterior regions, penetrates to the molten metal, is decomposed; its oxygen goes to the iron, while its hydrogen unites, under the influence of great heat and pressure, with the carbon, to form the varieties of hydrocarbons which make up petroleum.

TORTOISE AND THE WEATHER.—According to M. Bouchard, the precaution taken by tortoises against coming cold—in days or season—may give useful indications to farmers and others. For some years he has been guided by such indications in the management of his conservatory. At the end of autumn, when the winter is going to be severe, the tortoises bury themselves deeply, so as to be wholly concealed. Before a mild winter, on the other hand they bury themselves only a few centimetres, just protecting the apertures of their carapaces. In January last they ventured even to walk out, but, on approach of the late cold of February they encased themselves anew. One day in March, the thermometer being at 10 degrees C., M. Bouchard noticed his tortoises bury themselves; that night the mercury fell to 2 degrees above the zero. Again on the 1st of April, the thermometer being at 40 degrees in the sun, his most sensitive subject went into the ground; on the 2nd there was hoar-frost.

HUMMING BIRDS' NESTS.—Burroughs, in his charming little book “Wake Robin,” says it is an event in one's life to find a humming bird's nest. The event happened to me one day on my effort on my part. Looking up from a seat in the grove, I saw the ruby-throated drop down on its nest, like a shining emerald from the clouds. It did not pause on the edge of the nest, but dropped immediately upon it. The nest was situated upon an oak twig, and was about the size of a black walnut, and from where I sat it looked more like an excrescence than a nest. It was situated in the fork of two twigs it was firmly fixed at the base to the lower twig, but was not fastened to the upper one. I waited for the tiny occupant to leave the nest, and then, with the aid of a step-ladder, had no difficulty in looking into it. I found it contained two white eggs, about as large as medium-size peas. Sometimes the male would drop on the nest when the female left. I never disturbed them while they were sitting upon it; but often before I could get away, when I thought them out of sight, the male would suddenly appear, and greater demonstrations of anger than I ever saw manifested by any bird. He would ruffle up his tiny feathers, and seem nearly twice as large, and slash into my face, making a squeaking noise—scolding and threatening until he had driven me quite a distance. He soon learned that I was very much afraid of him; so he turned tyrant, and often drove me from my seat in the grove when I had not been near his dwelling. I always submitted to the tiny tyrant, for what business had I to be prying into his domestic affairs? When the young were hatched they were not larger than bumblebees, but in a week they had flown, I cut the twig off, and found the nest was composed of a soft, downy substance, but it was matted so closely together that it is almost as firm as the softer kinds of felt; it is a marvel of skill and beauty, and is completely covered externally with lichen.

THE MONKEY WHICH RETIRED.—That poor Mrs. Nichol, who has been gliding a hand-organ around the Soldiers' Monument for the last year, had got to believe that she owned the sole right to play “Capt' Jinks” and “Growing Old” in this town. The other day came along a double-fisted, heavy-weighted, big-voiced Italian who had a brand-new organ and a heap of fresh tunes. She ground, and he ground, and he wasn't half an hour beating her into the middle of last week. She realized that he was taking in all the cash while she was receiving all the pity, and she put her little organ on its little cart and drew it home. Something must be done to recover her lost prestige and a share of the public currency, and she sent to Toronto for a monkey to make faces at the public and hand around the tin cup. A monkey would offset the new organ, and the monkey's antics would offset the Italian, and he'd have to pack up. Poor Mrs. Nichol came out yesterday morning with the monkey for the first time, and it wasn't ten minutes before her fond dreams were being realized. Boys and girls and adults gathered around, her sagacity was applauded, and big coppers and little pennies and bogus nickels darkened the air as they flew to her cup. The boys soon discovered that the monkey was fond of anything and everything except old iron kettles and rusty joints of stovepipe, and they brought him candy, peanuts, apples, and other appealing diet. In the midst of the era of good feeling a young fiend came down Monroe Avenue. He was about twelve years old, and in his hand he carried a big ball of pitch which he had taken from a barrel where a gravel-roofer was at work. The crowd drew him to the monkey, and as he saw the little beast devouring whatever was thrown to it, he conceived a wicked plot. Waiting his chance, he tossed the ball of pitch at young Darwin, and in half a second the monkey was trying to swallow it. It was a big dose. No horse in town could have gulped it down without starting the tears. It began to sicken up as the monkey gulped and swallowed, and in the course of a minute he had a bad job on his hands. When he realized it he made a jump into the air, fell back, and then ensued such a scene as no Turk ever dreamed of. Poor Mrs. Nichol shrieked and grabbed the beast by the tail and held him up and thumped him around. The old folks fell back the boys yelled, and innocent children shed tears of heartfelt sympathy. “Water!” cried a man. “Campor!” shrieked a woman. “Police!” howled a peanut boy. And the monkey spit and gurgled and gulped and pawed and contorted till he was all tied up, and his owner turned pale and shouted and cried, gesticulated, and the big Italian with the new organ, smiled complacently, and remarked that “Providence always had a care for the fatherless and destitute.” That monkey may have swallowed that pitch or this, but he hadn't got it half way down when Mrs. Nichol grabbed him, and made a run for home, leaving the organ unwatched on the street. What the moral lesson will be no one can tell. She will either beware of monkeys, or that monkeys will beware of boys; or that boys will beware of pitch; or that monkeys will, in future, prefer strawberries.