

Kirwan in the Field.

We are happy to learn that a new Series of Letters is about to be published by the celebrated Kirwan, on some aspects of the Catholic question, different from those which were so ably discussed in his former series.

Concise Reply of the Duke of Wellington.

The "gallant Duke" lately met a young clergyman, who, being aware of his Grace's former residence in the East, and of his familiarity with the ignorance and obstinacy of the Hindoos, in support of their false religion, gravely proposed the following question:—"Does not your Grace think it almost useless and extravagant to preach the gospel to the Hindoos?"

Perversion.

Lady Harris, a very beautiful young widow, perverted last year to Popery, has given over to the Jesuits her beautiful estate of Seaciff, in East Lothian, her prospects of £10,000 a-year from an old uncle (Mr. Sligo, of Carmylie,) and all the treasures collected in India by her late husband, Sir William Cornwallis Harris.

The Baptist Home Mission Record mentions the death of a Baptist minister in California, who had gone there with the hope that he should be able to better his circumstances, and devote himself more exclusively to the work of the ministry.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, Xenia, O., under the ministrations of Rev. Asbury Lowrey, presents, in many respects, an example for imitation to others. The members are regular class attendants; the Sabbath school is punctually attended; the prayer meetings do not lack for zealous disciples; and the ordinances of the Church are followed with obedience and delight.

Poland is one of the loveliest countries in the world—its name being derived from a word which signifies a plain. It is almost an unbroken and unvaried level. Its population is about 15,000,000. It is remarkably adapted to the raising of grain, its annual exports being about sixteen million bushels.

There are twelve Protestant, three Roman Catholic, and two Jewish Churches in San Francisco. The evangelical ministers of that city are said to be able and zealous, and the churches generally well attended.

Athenæum of the Sons of Temperance.

On Tuesday evening, 6th inst., a second lecture on the Topography, Public Buildings, Fine Arts, and other objects of interest and curiosity in Modern Rome, was read by S. L. Shannon, Esq., at the Reading Room of the Athenæum, Temperance Hall. The lecture was exceedingly animated and well written, abounding in graphic illustrations and sketches, chiefly obtained from personal observation, and gave great satisfaction to a numerous and highly respectable audience.

The Season.

Yesterday, being Good Friday, divine service was held in the Wesleyan Churches in this city, as commemorative of the crucifixion and death of the World's Redeemer.

To-morrow, being Easter Sunday, services will be held, at the usual hours, in the Wesleyan Churches of this city, adapted to the joyous festival, when prominence will doubtless be given to the necessity and importance of the Resurrection of Christ, and to the beneficial results accruing therefrom to the Church and the world.

Industrial Exhibition of Nova Scotia.

[The Commissioners of the Industrial Exhibition of Nova Scotia have made through the British North American their statement and appeal, a document too lengthy to admit of our inserting it entire in one issue. We shall continue to give such portions of it, as our space will justify, until the whole be published.]—EIA. WES.

PATRON.*

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*His late Excellency, Sir John Harvey, was the Patron.

Recipes.

VIRGINIA EGG BREAD.—Dissolve one table spoonful of butter in three and a half parts of milk; add one quart of Indian meal, half a pint of wheat flour, a little salt, and two eggs well beaten; mix all well together, and bake in a buttered tin.

A DEEP BURN OR SCALD.—Apply the inner rind of the elder well mixed with fresh butter.—When this is bound on with a rag, plunge the part into cold water. This will suspend the pain till the medicine heals. Or mix lime water and sweet oil to the thickness of cream, and apply it with a feather several times a day. This is a most effectual application.

ROSE INSECTS.—If our lady readers are desirous of keeping their rose bushes free from the small green vermin that so frequently infest them, the following remedy will be found a most effectual one: To three gallons of water add one peck of soot and one quart of unsalted lime. Stir it well—let it stand for twenty-four hours, and when the soot rises to the surface skim it off. Use a syringe for applying it.

STOP MOUSE HOLES.—Stop mouse holes with plugs of common hard soap, and you will do it effectually. Rats, roaches and ants will not regard it.

Interesting Extracts.

THE POWER OF LOVE.—Quintyn Mantys, the celebrated Flemish painter was bred a blacksmith. The occasion of his changing his profession was as follows:—While pursuing his calling as a blacksmith, he fell in love with the daughter of a painter, and on applying to her father for leave to marry her, he received a repulsive answer that none but an artist should ever receive her at his hands. Piqued at this reply, he laid aside his hammer, and took up the pencil, studied diligently, travelled into Italy, and in a short time returned to Antwerp, and entering the cathedral privately, he painted upon a picture of the fallen angels by Frans Flore, a large fly, as in the act of sitting on the eye of one of the angels.—The father of the young lady with whom he was enamoured, had charge of the pictures of the church, and in going in some time after, saw the intrusive insect, took out his handkerchief and attempted to brush it off. Astonished at the deception, he inquired for the author, and hearing it was Mantys, he sent for him, and freely gave his consent to the desired union with his daughter. This picture, with the painted fly is still to be seen in the Museum at Antwerp.

EMBLEMATIC NAMES.—Among the parish ministers in the church of Scotland at present, we find the following emblematic names:—Nine Youngs, an Elder, an Auld, a Fyfe, six Bells, a Barr, two Orrs, a Chrysal, a Bracks, a Black, six Browns, six Grays, ten Reids, five Whytes, and a Dunn; a Booth, a Bower, a Broomfield, two Hills, a Greenhill, a Dale, a Moore, five Parks, a Craig, two Burns, a Burnside, three Woods, a Blackwood, an Underwood, a Kirkwood, and a Kirke; a King, two Clerks, five Cooks, four Brewsters, three Gardeners, six Taylors, a Webster, a Glover, a Cooper, three Wrights, a Massan, a Cutler, two Turners, and twenty-one Smiths; two Falconers, two Fishers, a Fowler, and two Hunters; a Cannon, and two Speirs; a Swan, a Cock, two Craiks, a Robin, a Sanger, and four Martins; a Herdman, with a Hogg, a Kidd, and two Lambs; a Leitch, and a Tod, Fairweather, and Rainy, a Moon, with two Raes, and two Somers, two Flemings, seven Scotts, four Welshes, a French, an Ireland, four Irvines, a Leith, a Mearns, a Moffat, two Paisleys, and two Stirlings; a Glegg, a Sharpe, one Smart, one Strong, one Hardy, a Griere, two Hopes, and a Jolly; one Playfair, a Duguid, and a Proudfoot; a Home, fifteen Grants, and a Freeland; five Roses, and a Lillie; a Hay, a Honey, a Horn, a Bain, a pair of Batons, a Baird, and a Bust; a Wight and a Spark; four Littles, a Lang, three Lows, two Myles, and one Mair; eight Laws, a Laidlaw, a Monilaw, a Whitelaw, a Wordie, a Story, and two Lees; a Begg, a Robb, a Steele, and a Seller; a Touch, a Trull, a Waddell, ten Walkers, and four Cruikshanks.

INCREASED AVERAGE DURATION OF LIFE.—Professor Buchanan, in an interesting lecture before the Mechanics' Institute of Cincinnati, makes the following observations upon the average duration of life, the effect in part of the improvements in medical science. He says that in the latter part of the sixteenth century, one half of all that were born died under five years of age, and the average longevity of the whole population was but 18 years. In the 17th century, one half of the population died under twelve. But in the first 60 years of the 18th century, one half of the population lived over 27 years. In the latter forty years, one half exceeded 32 years of age. At the beginning of the present century one half exceeded 40 years, and from 1835 to 1845 one half exceeded 45. The average longevity at these successive periods has been increased from 18 years in the 16th century up to 43.7 by our last reports.

These facts are derived from the medical statistics of Geneva. Applied to this country, such an improvement as is here exhibited from 1500 to 1845, would make a variation in our bills of mortality of nearly half a million, or 1500 deaths daily.

A WEEKLY FAMILY PAPER.—If the head of every family could but realize the actual benefit which may accrue to himself and his children, by the perusal of a well-filled weekly journal, no man would be without his paper. Every one can afford to take a two-dollar newspaper. In the course of the year, he cannot avoid learning something in its varied columns that must be worth twice or thrice that sum.

One of the most striking advantages of a newspaper in a family of children is a constant stimulus, which the facts and statements it contains, give to the acquisition of historical, scientific, and geographical knowledge. Who, then, that is a

father, will be so penurious, not to say unnatural, as to refuse the tender objects of his affections and responsibility, such an important aid to their advancement?

CHEMISTRY.—Chemistry brings its aid to medicine—points out the evil and recommends the remedy; teaches how to fix dyes and colours; how to temper iron and steel; to mix and perfect the different regulations of the chandler, the glass maker, the refiner of metals, of sugar, and of all other substances; enters into every ramification of the labours of the living, and is sometimes called to lift its torch of light over the grave, to see if the stealthy hand of crime has added no drug to hasten the departing hour of the dead. It is, therefore, not a confined art, but a universal agent. It has not a limited field for its operations, but an unbounded plain. In short, its usefulness extends to all the wants of man, and its boundaries are co-extensive with nature itself.—Professor Morfit.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY FOR SEANERS.—Mr. Thomson, surgeon R. N., the inventor of the naval telegraphic lights, has submitted a plan to the Lord's Commissioners of the Admiralty, by which candles and oil may for ever be dispensed with, many thousands of pounds annually being saved to the country, and yet ten times more light secured to every ship afloat: this is accomplished by a simple and a very ingenious method using the slush from salt meats, now of no use. Their lordships have approved of the invention, and, since the order was given by the Admiralty, her Majesty's flag-ship Impregnable, Devonport, has been lighted from stem to stern on this plan.—The men in each ship, in place of having one dip of thirty-four to the pound, have now a light for six hours equal to sixteen dips, and from which, by the aid of a parabolic reflector, they are enabled to read thirty feet off. This candle-tube may be filled with water, yet it can be instantly expelled and the light fully maintained. The grease is so locked up that it cannot well escape, so that the lamp may be rolled about the deck.

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.—To tell a man to his face to mind his own business would be considered about equal to knock him down, or as the Frenchman said, "horizontalising his perpendicularity." And yet it is one of the simplest rules of right conduct and the most useful that mankind can adopt in their intercourse with each other. There is a great deal of the Paul Pry spirit in the human heart, or wonderful acquisitiveness in regard to the personal and private affairs of friends and neighbours. This spirit makes more mischief in the community than almost any other cause, and creates more malice, envy, and jealousy than can be overcome in a century. Let every man mind his own business, and there will not be half the trouble in the world that there is at present.

NEW SUBSTITUTE FOR OIL.—A new illuminating fluid has been developed, which will in a great measure, supersede spirit-lamps, as soon as the patent Office can settle its doubts. Large manufactories of benzole, a hydrocarbon, which has the property of producing an excellent illuminating gas by being dissolved in moist air, are going up in New York and Brooklyn. The substance is manufactured from tar or mineral coal, and while it can be afforded at half the price of "burning fluid" per gallon, it will yield indefinitely more illumination. The use of it would require a gasometer and gas fixtures in each house, but the cheapness of the consumption will put moveable lamps of every kind nearly out of use.

THE EXACT TIME OF DAY.—The latest development of the electric telegraphic system is at once useful and beautiful. It is a plan for distributing and correcting mean Greenwich time in London and over the country every day at noon. Every holiday maker knows the ball which surmounts the Royal Observatory, and has watched with interest its descent as the clock gave the first stroke at noon, thereby telling the seagoing men in the river the exact state of the chronometers which were to become their guides over the pathless waters. Such a ball is to be raised on a pole on the telegraph office near Charing cross, and at noon each day is to drop by electric action simultaneously with that at Greenwich—both balls being in fact liberated by the same hand—and, falling on a cushion at the base of the pole, is to communicate standard time along all the telegraphic wires of the country. At the same instant, the bells will ring out noon at the most distant places—Hull, Holyhead, Aberdeen, Harwich, and Devonport. The great metropolitan clocks, such as the Horse Guards, the Exchange, and the New Palace are to be regulated on the same principle. It is said that all the railway companies have agreed to avail themselves of these means of obtaining an exact uniformity of time.—Ita.