

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLICS IN CHINA.—The population of Honan, China, is 23,000,000, of which 5,000 are Catholics, attended by nine missionaries and three native priests.

VISITATIONS.—It is proposed to establish systematic visitations in New York city among Catholic residents, to secure contributions towards the "Propagation of the Faith" in America. The sums contributed last year were very meagre indeed. The school-children are to be made collectors for this fund.

DEPARTURE.—The Observatore Romano announces the departure for Peru of Mgr. Mocenni, who was consecrated Archbishop of Heliopolis, by his Eminence Cardinal Franchi, on August 12. This Prelate goes in the capacity of Apostolic Delegate and Envoy Extraordinary to Peru, Ecuador, Chili and Bolivia. He will reside in Lima.

MONTH'S MEMORY.—On August 22d, the Month's Memory of the late Colman O'Loughlin was celebrated in the Catholic church of Barefield, the parochial church of Drumcondra, the family residence of the deceased baronet, and was attended by a large congregation of clergy and laity. The Rev. J. Vaughey, P.P., Barefield, made a short and appropriate address on the occasion.

CONVERSIONS.—The Germania, of Berlin, in almost every issue chronicles conversions to Catholicity in the countries of the North. It now announces the return of the Baroness de Berling, of Copenhagen. This lady, on the day of her adoration of Protestantism, donated the Catholic community of the Danish capital over one million in real estate, which will be devoted to Catholic uses in Copenhagen.

RECEPTION.—On August 22d, the most Rev. Dr. Warren, received, in the church of St. James, at St. Catherine's convent of St. Louis, at Ramsgate, the following ladies:—Miss Hannah Curran, of Ballygamban, Cappoquin, in religion Sister Mary Francis; Miss Fisher, New Ross, in religion Sister Mary Agnes; Miss Emily Murray, Dundalk, in religion Sister Mary Louis; Miss Eliza Furlong, Lough, in religion Sister Mary Bernard; Miss Catherine Rannon, Dublin, in religion Sister Mary Patrick; Miss Statia Culleton, Cullinstown, in religion Sister Mary Clare.

MISSION AT CRATLOO.—On August 26th, the Franciscan Fathers of Limerick commenced a Mission which was to last two weeks at Cratloa. Besides other objects, this Mission was intended as an act of reparation for a crime unusual in Ireland in later days, for the wanton robbery and sacrilegious outrage by which, on last St. Patrick's day, or night, a chalice, the most sacred vessel in a Catholic's estimation, was taken from Kiltinan church, in the parish of Cratloa. Claro does not forget the labors of the Franciscans in that country in past ages, for the dismal ruins of the once splendid Abbey of Quin, of Clare Castle, of Ennis, still attest their zeal and the persecutions and confiscations they underwent in the past for their faith and their religion.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, DUNLEWY, COUNTY DONEGAL.—Another of the many evidences seen almost daily of the extension of Catholicity in the North-west was given in one of the widest, most inaccessible, but most romantic of the numerous mountainous districts of the county Donegal, on Wednesday, August 29th, the Feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist. In a little valley at the base of the rock-crowned Erigal, beside the dark waters of Dunlewy lake, within about three miles of the famous Gweedore Hotel, with the Slieve, Slaght mountains surrounding amphitheatrically on the south and east, and through which the Glady flowed on its meandering way to the sea, was gathered on the occasion an assembly such as is rarely found in the more recognized centres of society. There were present dignitaries and clergy from many parts of the county, and from many miles distant, as from all the surrounding districts the laity congregated in very large numbers. The event which attracted so large and so respectable an assemblage was the dedication of the new church of the Sacred Heart, Dunlewy. The parish of Gweedore is of considerable extent, and those of the parishioners living in its eastern part were compelled to travel from six to nine miles every Sunday morning to hear Mass at the chapel in Darrybeg. Such discomfort was of course deeply felt, but the expense attendant on the erection of a new chapel where it was so much required was a burden beyond the powers of those affected by the want to bear of themselves.

FATHER MAILLARD.—This remarkable priest, whose irreproachable life, zeal and labors, have reflected such great credit on the Foreign Missions, was an object of confidence and respect on the part of the Acadians and of the Micmacs. For thirty years he devoted himself to their salvation, visiting all the missions scattered over the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and doing good to all. Miramichi and Labrador were the two places in which the Micmacs of those countries used chiefly to assemble. Every year Father Maillard went from village to village, although he had fixed his principal residence with the Micmacs of Labrador. He learned their language thoroughly, wrote all their prayers and canticles, gave them Hieroglyphics, which he made them understand and transcribe, reduced their idiom to regular principles, and which ought to cause young missionaries to tremble—he declared, at the end of one of his last books, that he was frequently obliged to deal with them at random, on account of not being sufficiently acquainted with their character. After the conquest of Canada, the Micmacs sharing in the dissatisfaction which the Canadians and Acadians felt for having passed under the English dominion but less moderate and enlightened than these two nations, thought they could indemnify themselves for their subjection, by laboring for the destruction of the English. On this principle the Micmacs of Nova Scotia began to lay violent hands on them wherever they could surprise them. Scarcely could the citizens of Halifax get out of the city but they fell into some ambush. Those murders became of such frequent occurrence, that the Government determined to adopt strong means by which to resist or prevent those deadly assaults. But how to get hold of savages who, no sooner perpetrated those deeds, than they darted into the woods? The Government instead of attempting to repel force by force, came to this wise conclusion. It was to attach F. Maillard to themselves, to treat him well, and use his influence over the Micmacs, that they might put an end to their acts of violence. This was done; F. Maillard was invited to take up his residence in Halifax. The Government paid him an amount of two hundred pounds sterling. At a time when the hatred of the English Government towards the Catholic religion knew no bounds, F. Maillard had a church in that capital. His Indians followed him there, and it was no longer a question of the murders which, before desolated the city. The Acadians themselves, odious to the same Government, and dispersed, as we know, were allowed to gather around the missionary, and to practise under his protection, in Halifax, their religion as long as he lived. F. Maillard enjoyed in Halifax the highest consideration. After a sojourn of a few years, he was taken dangerously ill. An Anglican minister kindly offered him his service to prepare him for death. F. Maillard made him an answer worthy of a Catholic priest, and died without the sacrament, but full of confidence in the goodness of God, whom he had served so faithfully, leaving nothing but his mortal remains to the Protestants, who honored his memory with magnificent obsequies. (J. O. P. Journal de la Mission, etc., 1872, etc.)

IRISH NEWS.

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—It is the intention of His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin to issue a pastoral letter, directing a collection at the church doors of the diocese on Sunday week, in aid of the fund for the relief of the suffering millions of India.

RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC LIFE.—Alderman Peter Paul McSwiney, who was twice Lord Mayor of Dublin, and who held that office during the year of the O'Connell centenary celebration, for his part in which the Pope made him a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory, announces his retirement from the Corporation.

DEMONSTRATIONS POSTPONED.—It has been determined not to proceed with the public demonstrations in Ireland in favor of the Obstructionists members of the Home Rule party, pending the assembling of the National Conference on the question. This determination has been arrived at in consequence of representations made by influential leaders of Irish opinion to the Central Committee for the purpose of carrying out the demonstrations.

MILITARY RIOT AT THE CURRAGH.—An emeute of rather a serious character has just taken place at the Curragh Camp. The troops with whom it originated were men of the 19th Hussars. It would seem that the regiment had been ordered to do some military duty which the men considered rather severe, and as a result more than a hundred of them broke from barracks, and took shelter in a village some couple of miles distant. They were met by some of the officers, who, after some time persuaded them to return to barracks. The matter is to be the subject of a court-martial, but everything is now quiet and orderly at the camp.

THE CROPS.—The farmers of the Wicklow district are somewhat alarmed at the state of agriculture, owing to the continuous downpour of rain and severe frosts at night. The potato crop may be reckoned at half the yield of last season, but very inferior in quality—the stack almost gone—with the old enemy—blight. Oats a fair yield, and should fine weather set in, will be secured without loss. Wheat is safe as yet, and only requires sunshine to be saved. The hay crop suffers materially, and want of hay barns sadly felt, as fully half the crop is damaged. Mangolds and turnips up to the average of other years. Should wet weather still continue it will harden previous prices of provisions.

MISSION AT PALLASKENY, CO. LIMERICK.—A very successful mission was brought to a close on Sunday, Sept. 2, in Pallaskeny, Co. Limerick. It had been given by Fathers McLoughlin, O'Neill, and Frohn, C.S.S.B. The Bishop of Limerick assisted at the closing service. Mr. Waller, who is at once an extensive landlord Protestant clergyman, conducted an opposition mission in the Protestant church of Pallaskeny. Mr. Waller is known everywhere as the greatest proselytiser in the South of Ireland. He employed two ministers, each as bigoted as himself, to help him in the work of his mission. His mission, however, was a ridiculous failure. While thousands and thousands flock to the Catholic church, one wagonette (and not an over large one) was sufficient to contain Mr. Waller, his two proselytising associates, and the five persons who formed the ordinary congregation—eight in all. On no occasion did the congregation reach the modest number of twelve. The discourses did not deserve a larger audience.—From a correspondent.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY ON IRISH POLICY.—Mr. Mitchell Henry has written a letter in which he tells some unpleasant tales about the ways of Irish members in Parliament. He gives great credit to Mr. Parnell for his most useful and humane action in so calmly watching and so fastly improving the Prison Bill of last session, and thinks that Mr. Butt has not candidly dealt with the policy with which Mr. Parnell's name is closely associated. He says distinctly that the Irish Home Rule party in Parliament give but little evidence of sincerity in their work, and treat Irish questions with indifference, if not with absolute contempt and ridicule. He says that they do not look like a party that intends to win, and that honest, vigorous action by a couple of members is sure to be "repudiated" by others of the party, who drop into the house for "a flying visit between a convivial dinner party, and a noisy adjournment to the smoking room." He denies Mr. Butt's statement that the Home Rule party have done good for Irish questions, and maintains directly the opposite. He concludes a graphic but gloomy picture of our representatives by adding that Mr. Parnell and some others are hated by the English Press, and by many English members, because they deem them formidable inasmuch as "they are not likely to be bought by office, or by what is quite as fatal, by personal sattery." He quite agrees in the need of a National Conference to decide and direct the Irish Parliamentary policy of next session.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.—On Monday September 3d, H. R. H. Prince Arthur Patrick, Duke of Connaught, Lieutenant Colonel of the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade (1st Batt.) left Fernoy for Scotland, en route for the 3rd inst. to the 8th prox. During his stay of nearly a month at the Fernoy garrison, he has been particularly partial to the new and fashionable game of Polo, and the seat of the Earl of Listowel, on the Blackwater near the village of Ballyhooley, has been many times frequented by him, where fishing, boating and shooting are easily accessible. He has established himself firmly in the hearts of the people even in the short time of his sojourn. The corps of which he is in command is a model for the best corps in the English, or perhaps the Continental service, and this stage, so nearly approaching perfection, has been gained, not so much through rigorous discipline, as through kindly encouragement to the nine or ten hundred of the rank and file. Several entertainments are expected in the station during the dull winter months, and if they be as successful in their way as the late athletic sports more can scarcely be desired.—Cork Examiner.

RAILROAD OPENED.—On Monday, Sept. 3d, the new line connecting the Great Southern and Western Railway with the London and North Western Company's depot at the North Wall was formally opened for traffic. The extension works have been open for a long time in progress, but the undertaking, it is long since remembered, was one of great magnitude, and it has been carried out on a scale commensurate with the great interests involved. The connecting line leaves the Great Southern Railway at a point nearly opposite the Wellington Monument in the Phoenix Park, runs through a tunnel under the park to the Midland line, over which it passes to the North Wall quay. Here a fine terminus has been erected, and elaborate arrangements have been made for the convenience of passengers and the despatch of business. The Holyhead boats of the Company have their berth alongside the terminus, so that the passengers from the South of England are saved the trouble of driving across the city. The facility for goods traffic is, of course, equally important, and the influence which such a system, when it reaches its full development, must have on the commerce of the country cannot be overestimated. Although the formal opening took place yesterday morning a regular system of goods traffic has been going on for some time over the new line, and in the respect alone the advantage which the extension confers have already made themselves apparent. The first passenger train departed from the North Wall at 11.15 a.m. and arrived at the North Wall at 11.45 a.m. The train was composed of a first class carriage, a second class carriage, a third class carriage, a luggage van, and a water van. The train was driven by the engine of the Great Southern Railway, and was accompanied by a large number of officials and passengers. The opening of the line is a great boon to the commerce of the country, and will greatly facilitate the communication between the South and the North of Ireland.

WAR NEWS.

SURRENDERED.—Goransko has surrendered to the Montenegrins.

DECREASE.—The billion in the Bank of England has decreased £143,000 during the week.

REASSURING.—It is learned that the Porte assures Greece that the parties who attacked the Greek Consulate at Larissa will be punished.

NOT CONFIRMED.—There is no confirmation yet of the rumour that the Turks had crossed the Danube opposite Siliestria.

THE GESHOFFS.—Lord Derby tells Manchester's Mayor that the case of the Geshoffs is a serious one, but he hopes that his representations to the Porte may prove effectual in their behalf.

BLOODY REPULSE.—Private telegrams state that the Russian centre attacked Plevna on Tuesday, and were repulsed with a loss of 7,000 and of four guns.

FURTHER GERMAN REMONSTRANCE.—Germany will renew her remonstrances to the Porte against the breaches of the Geneva Convention in a more pointed manner.

TURKISH OUTRAGES.—The condition of Thessaly is terrible. The Turkish regulars plunder men and outrage women. It seems as if Turkey is resolved to drive the Greeks to despair.

RETREATING.—It is announced that in consequence of the large concentration of Russian troops and the difficulty of obtaining supplies Mehemet Ali on the 21st commenced retreating to his former positions on the Kara Lom.

ITALIAN ENQUIRY.—A despatch from Athens reports that an Italian gunboat arrived at Volo to enquire into the misdeeds of the Bashi-bazouks. The Italian Vice-Consul at Volo will go to Larissa to enquire into the outrages against Italians there.

SICK BUT HAPPY.—A correspondent with the Czarewitsch's army telegraphs from Caikoi that fever is prevalent and dysentery has increased much with the bad weather. The spirit of the troops is unchanged, they are always cheerful and undergo hardships without a murmur.

WAR NEWS.—A Russian official despatch issued at Gorney-Student says that on the 22d about ten thousand Turkish infantry from Sofia, supported by artillery, forced their way through our cavalry, posted to intercept them, and entered Plevna. All is quiet around Rutchuk and in the Balkans.

AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY.—In the Reichsrath to-day, in replying to interpellations, Prince Adolf Auerberg, President of the Council, declared that the Government maintained the policy of perfect neutrality regarding the contingency of Serbian participation of the war. He said the Government could not declare its policy in anticipation of the event.

RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN ENDED.—DISCONTENT WITH THE RESULT IN THE BALKANS.—A despatch says the Russian campaign is considered ended for this season and that heavy rains now falling on both sides of the Black Sea preclude any serious injury to the Russians by the Turks. Dissatisfaction is reported in Russian ranks at the course and result of the campaign.

MONTENEGRO VICTORIOUS.—At Goransko the Montenegrins took 300 regular prisoners and captured three cannons and 500 rifles; the Montenegrins have also occupied Piva, captured Fort Cakvoia and now hold the whole territory as far as Foischa; they have totally burned Bilek and the surrounding villages after sending the sick, wounded and non-combatants to Trebinge.

SERVIA AGAIN.—Serbia is about to demand the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the Serbian frontier. A similar demand preluded the war last year. Two million francs have arrived from Russia, the final instalment of the loan. The mobilization of the troops continues. Russia insists on Serbia speedily finishing the work of mobilization, and complains that the Serbian hesitation has enabled the Turks to relieve Plevna.

RUSSIAN DISCOMFORTS.—A Constantinople special says there is a rumour there that Suleiman Pasha intercepted the communications of the Russians between Shipka Pass and the town of Garnova. The Turks have also cut off the retreat of the Russians, then on all sides. Osman Pasha also is reported as having repulsed the Russian attack on the Eastern redoubt at Plevna, the Russians losing 8,000 men and four guns.

THE RUSSIANS DISCOURAGED.—A correspondent at Zagallance reports great discontent and discouragement in the Russian army. There is scarcely an officer who does not regard success hopeless. Fourteen thousand Turkish wounded are reported in Plevna, whom the Turks are unable to remove. The Turkish losses seem as heavy as the Russian. A despatch from Bucharest says the discontent in the Russian army is very great on account of the incapacity evidenced by the personnel at headquarters.

AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK.—An unsuccessful attack on the second Grivitzia redoubt may be the foundation for the despatch from Constantinople stating that the Russian centre attacked Plevna on Tuesday and was repulsed with a loss of 7,000 and four guns. A Bucharest correspondent on Wednesday makes no mention of the attack but says the Rumanian trenches have been pushed within 50 yards the redoubt. An attack must therefore have been imminent.

MEHEMET ALI'S POSITION.—The retirement of Mehemet Ali behind the Kara Lom seems to indicate that the Turks will be satisfied to maintain present advantages and depend upon time to force the Russians back across the Danube. A Schumla special says the retrograde movement was partly because recent rains rendered it difficult to bring up supplies, and partly on account of the Russians massing considerable forces on the Lom. It would appear from this that the idea of holding the country between the Lom and the Jantira is abandoned by the Turks. This it once more becomes possible to force the Russians to isolate and blockade Rutchuk. The army has probably been supplied for winter during the past month. Mehemet Ali's right will again be about Kasanlyk with Rasgrad as a base, while his left will extend as far as the defiles south of Osman-Bazar, being within easy support from Shumla.

THE POLICY OF AUSTRIA.—In the Hungarian Diet to-day Prime Minister Tisza, replying to an interpellation on the Eastern question, said the foreign policy hitherto pursued had resulted in the fact that now no danger whatever threatened the interests of the monarchy. He denied that the Government had exercised neutrality in a way unduly favourable to Russia, or that the policy pursued by the Government was contrary to the opinion of the people. If Serbia broke the peace, Austria and Hungary would not impede Turkey's action against her. The three Emperors' alliance did not exist in the sense that the three Powers had entered into engagements with each other upon the Eastern question. The Emperors and their Governments had only agreed in the interest of European peace to proceed in harmony, but not in common on any great question which might arise. The fact that the war had not become an European one, is partly due to their amicable relations. The fact that one of the parties to the alliance had entered upon war contrary to the views of the two others, threw no responsibility upon those others. He denied that the Government wished the dismemberment of Turkey. Relative to the Salzburg interview, he said that Austria's relations with Germany remained very good, as they had been for a long time.

MISCELLANEOUS.

APPOINTMENT OF A RECORDER.—Mr. Elzear Dery, advocate, of Quebec, was on the 26th inst., appointed Recorder of Quebec by the Local Government. Mr. Dery is a young lawyer who was admitted to the Bar in the year 1860, and has consequently been in practice for eight years.

LORD DUFFERIN'S SUCCESSOR.—The *Mail's* Ottawa correspondent says that there is a rumour current in that city that the Marquis of Lorne will succeed Lord Dufferin as Governor-General of Canada. The name of Sir James Ferguson, ex-Governor of New Zealand, has been mentioned for some time past in connection with the Vice Royalty of Canada.

BRASS.—The settlement of Stoneham in the County of Quebec has been visited by a number of members of the Brain species of late. Two of them were captured in traps by two different farmers of the settlement only a few days ago, and during last week, a large bear sat in the way of an approaching horse and cart on the Lake St. John road, and refused for several minutes to get up and relinquish possession of the right of way.

ROTSCCHILD.—It appears that Baron Edmund de Rothschild is to marry a Rothschild, not of Berlin, but of Frankfurt. Mr. Labouchere gives her name as "Adelaide, daughter of Baron Willy de Rothschild," and thus "explains" the relationship: Edmund de Rothschild's father, Baron de Rothschild, married his own niece Bette, the daughter of Baron Salomon de Rothschild, and now her son is going to marry Baron Willy's daughter.

VOTING AT THE FABRIQUE STREET BAZAAR.—Voting was continued again yesterday at the bazaar of the Ladies of the Good Shepherd for the most popular gentleman. Exclusive of the votes polled on the previous day, the following were deposited yesterday:—For Hon. H. Langevin 71, for Mayor Murphy 34, for Mr. Jas. Malouin, advocate, 40, Sir J. A. Macdonald 10, Hon. Mr. Mackenzie 11, H. G. Joly Esq., 3, and for several other gentlemen, one vote each.—*Quebec Paper.*

SCENE IN A RESTAURANT.—Mr. Labouchere says he observed lately the following little scene in a restaurant at the seaside. Two gentlemen had a tolerable good dinner and were looking at the bill. There was a mistake in it. In lieu of two bottles of champagne which had been consumed the waiter had charged for only one. "Shall we point out the thing?" says one, probably the most scrupulous. "Well," replied the other, after a moment of doubt, "we had better not; the waiter would be sure to be scolded, poor fellow!"

FRESH SNOW ON THE MOUNTAINS.—The scenery south from the Divide yesterday morning was more glorious than ever. The storm, which came fitfully here and left nothing but discomfort and disgust there, seems to have swept gloriously along, lighting up the mountain tops with the sparkle of the snow and leaving thereon a touch of heavenly beauty, till it is hard to tell where earth ends and heaven begins, so perfect is the blending of the two. The view makes a man long for wings, which would, after all, doubtless dispel the illusion, was the beauty of which distance is so prolific and set heaven in the hollow overhead, just as far from there as here or anywhere else.—*Virginia (New) Enterprise, 26th inst.*

WHO IS HE?—In 1850, when England was going mad about the question of "Papal Aggression," the interest of Londoners was centred upon Cardinal Wiseman, who had just been created Archbishop of Westminster. One day a portly gentleman, who much resembled the newly-titled ecclesiastic, hailed a West-end bus, and got inside, whereupon a controversy in an undertone arose between the driver and the conductor as to the identity of their passenger, the former treating with contempt the assertion of the latter that it was Dr. Wiseman. In order to settle the point, the conductor descended from his perch on to the step, and with a touch of his hat, apologetically addressed the stranger: "Beg your pardon, sir; but me and my mate has a bit of a dispute about you; are you Cardinal Wiseman?" The old gentleman being a staunch Protestant, and, withal, troubled with a rather short temper, met the conductor's inquiry with a storm of oaths, and consigned him to a place where he certainly would not be in danger of catching cold. As soon as the passenger's vocabulary began to fall, the bus cad civilly touched his hat: "Thank you, kindly, sir," and then called out in a loud tone to the driver, so that everybody in the vehicle could hear, "Drive on, Jim; it is the Cardinal!"

INTERVIEWING GENERAL GRANT.—A letter from Edinburgh to the *New York Herald* contains an interview with General Grant, in which he says Mr. Motley was removed for disobeying instructions relative to the Alabama affair. In connection with the displacement of Sumner from the Chairmanship of the Foreign Commission, General Grant said that George W. Curtis requested him to have Sumner re-instated, but General Grant told him that he never interfered with Senators. He further said: "I told Mr. Curtis that I proposed to prove to him that his friend Mr. Sumner had not told him facts, and that he made these statements knowing them to be falsehoods." The result of the enquiry was that General Grant's accusation was established, and Curtis said it was remarkable. Regarding the Civil Service, General Grant said: "I do not attach much importance to that matter, and do not believe it will succeed, though I wish it would in some practical way. Take Schurz for instance; he is making a business of Civil Service reform, but he is a humbug, and Mr. Hayes will soon find him out. General Grant said he would stay away from home until after the exciting election that will surround the test of Hayes's policy; for if he were at home he would be charged with every kind of political manoeuvring. He could say for every thing, however, that if he were at home he should exert his influence, as far as he could in aid of Hayes's plan of reconciliation."

THE WAR SITUATION.—In the present campaign in Bulgaria the contestants seem evenly matched. If the armies are not handled as well as were the opposing armies in the Franco-German campaign, it is certain they show as much spirit, pluck, and courage. The country, cut up as it is by numerous rivers running down from a mountainous country, is not favorable for dashing military operations. There have been two surprises for the military critics. The first was the ease with which the Russians forced their way to the Balkans and established themselves in Bulgaria. The second was the astonishing vigor, vitality, and boldness the Turkish army has shown since it was reorganized under Mehemet Ali. There have been mistakes on both sides, but actual war is not carried on with the symmetry that belongs to a fine theory. The actual work of the campaign has not covered very many weeks, but it has included a large number of bloody battles and engagements. There have been really four battles at Plevna, since Osman Pasha occupied it in July. In the first two the Russians were repulsed. In the third, Aug. 30, the Turks were the attacking party and they were repulsed. In the fourth or grand attack the Russians were repulsed. Within the time covered by these battles the Turks were defeated in a battle at Lovatz, and in a series of engagements at Shipka Pass, and the Russians were defeated in two battles of the line of the Lom. All of these were stubbornly contested struggles. At Shipka Pass the Turks in twelve days made one hundred and four separate assaults on the Russian position, and yet did not succeed. They persisted, however, and it is now reported that they have captured the fort on Mount St. Nikola, the highest point in Shipka Pass.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

SOLAN GEESE AND HERRINGS.—In one hour a solan goose, will eat no fewer than fourteen full grown herrings; and, as there are millions of solan geese, all of which, no doubt, indulge in a herring diet, some idea may be formed of the number of fish destroyed by these voracious birds.

THE TURTLE OF THE AMAZON.—According to the late Professor Agassiz, the turtle of the Amazon swam to such an extent as to form an important article of food, and he laments the destruction of millions of their eggs by the natives, who make a sort of butter out of the oily matter in the yolk.

THE HIGHEST POINT REACHED BY MAN.—Baron de Humboldt is surpassed. The celebrated traveller, in making the ascent of Chimborazo, attained the highest point ever reached by the foot of man. Mr. Charles Wiener, who is charged with a scientific mission by the French Government, has just ascended Mount Illimani, in South America, a height of 20,112 feet, while Chimborazo measures only 18,000 ft. Mr. Wiener, exercising a right consecrated by custom, has given that point on which he was the first to set foot the name of the Peak of Paris.

A CANARY TRAINED TO SING.—Piping bulfinches are no longer novelties, but a canary trained to sing a definite tune is a decided rarity. A Transatlantic bird fancier has taught a canary to sing "Home Sweet Home" in a clear, distinct tone. Instead of instructing the bird by means of a bird organ, the owner hung its cage opposite a mirror, and placed underneath it a musical box, which continually played the desired tune. The bird, seeing its reflection in the glass, concluded the music came from one of its own species, and speedily imitated and acquired the notes.

GREAT CATARACT IN INDIA.—Where the River Shirhawi, between Bombay and Cape Comorin, falls into the Gulf of Arabia it is about one-fourth of a mile in width, and in the rainy season some thirty feet in depth. This immense body of water rushes down a rocky slope, 300 feet, at an angle of 45°, at the bottom of which it makes a perpendicular plunge of 850 feet into a black and dismal abyss, with a noise like the loudest thunder. The whole descent is like a thousand feet, or several times that of Niagara; but the volume of water in the latter is somewhat larger than the former.

INTEREST HEAT AND COLD OF THE DESERT.—Among crystalline bodies, rock-crystal, or silica, is the best conductor of heat. This fact accounts for the steadiness of temperature in one set district and the extremes of heat and cold presented by day and night on such sandy wastes as the Sahara. The sand, which is for the most part silica, drinks in the noon-day heat, and loses it by night just as speedily. The influence of the hot winds from the Sahara has been observed in vessels traversing the Atlantic at a distance of upwards of 1,100 geographical miles from the African shores by the coating of impalpable dust upon the sails.

A NEW WAY OF CATCHING RATS AND MICE.—A correspondent writes—"I do not think it is generally known that rats and mice will go into a trap much more readily if a piece of looking-glass is put in any part of the trap where they can see themselves. They are soocial little creatures, and where they see any of their tribe there they will go. I am quite sure of the effect the looking-glass has, as I properly baited my trap for the whole week without being able to coax one of the deplorables in; but the first night after putting in the looking-glass I caught two—one very large and one small rat; and, every night since this device has caught one or more."

IMPORTANT MILK DISCOVERY.—Professor Beadeler, with a view to arrive at certain results, has analysed the milk of a healthy cow at different periods of the day. The professor found that the solids of the evening's milk (13 per cent.); exceeded those of the morning's milk (10 per cent.); while the water contained in the fluid was diminished from 89 per cent to 86 per cent. The fat matter gradually increases as the day progresses. In the morning it amounts to 2½ per cent, and at noon 3½ per cent, and in the evening to 5½ per cent. The practical importance of this discovery is at once apparent: it develops the fact that, while 16 ounces of morning's milk will yield but half an ounce of butter, about double the quantity can be obtained from the evening's milk. The case is also increased in the evening's milk from 2½ to 2¾ per cent, but the albumen is diminished from 0.44 per cent, to 0.31 per cent. Sugar is least abundant at mid-night (4½ per cent) and most plenty at noon (4½ per cent). The percentage of the salt undergoes scarcely any change at any time of this day.

A MOUSE'S STRATAGEM.—Not long since the writer witnessed a strange sight in the Recorder office. Our attention was attracted by several lusty squawks 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 climbing 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 squeals of delight from all the mice present, was hauled high and dry out of the water and over the edge of the bucket. *Courtesy of the Recorder.*

ESSENTIAL REQUISITES.—The expense of maintaining the camel is remarkably little; a cake of barley, a few dates, a handful of beans, will suffice, in addition to the hard and prickly shrubs which they find in every district but the wildest of the desert. They are particularly fond of those vegetable productions which other animals would never touch, such as plants which are like spears and daggers in comparison with the needles of the thistle, and which often pierce the incautious traveller's boot. He might wish such thorns eradicated from the earth, if he did not behold the camel, contentedly browsing upon them; for he thus learns that Providence has made nothing in vain. Their teeth are peculiarly adapted for such a diet. Differing from all other ruminating tribes, camels have two strong cutting teeth in the upper jaw; and of these grinding teeth, one on each side in the same jaw, has a crooked form; they can bite teeth of which they have two in the jaw, are very strong, and in the lower jaw the two external cutting teeth have a pointed form, and the foremost of the grinders is also pointed and crooked. They are thus provided with a formidable apparatus for cutting and tearing the hardest vegetable substance. But the camel is, at the same time, organized so as to graze upon the finest herbage, and browse upon the most delicate leaves for his upper lip being divided, he is enabled to nip off the tender shoots, and turn them into his mouth with the greatest facility. Whether the sustenance therefore, which he finds in the coarsest of the desert kind, is equally prepared to be satisfied with and enjoy it.