



EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE beg to call the attention of our readers to the fact that the lottery of articles, exposed for sale at the Carmelite Nuns' Bazaar, will take place to-morrow (Thursday,) 21st day of June, instant, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, at the Carmelite Nuns' Convent, Notre Dame Street. The time is short, but we received this information too late for our last issue. We trust the lottery will be well attended.

SO THE SULTAN OF MOROCCO is dead. He was murdered the despatches say. His son, Mulai Abdul, has been proclaimed his successor. We don't envy him the position; he is not in the safest place in the world. He may be *muly and dull* if he likes, but one thing is certain, if he rules with too light a hand he runs the risk of being "removed" as an unworthy Sultan, while if he governs with an iron hand he is liable to assassination as a tyrant. We prefer any other job, even in the backwoods of our own country.

SINCE our last issue a friend has sent us the information asked for by a recent correspondent regarding the battle of Carrickshock. It took place in December, 1831. There were eleven police and a few peasants killed. This is taken from Mitchell's history of Ireland. There is nothing pleases us better than to be asked such questions, as it affords us an opportunity of either giving the information required, or else of learning all about the subjects from our readers who kindly send us the replies. It is a benefit all around; to the one asking for information, to those who are possessed of it, and to ourselves; for we are anxious to augment as much as possible our knowledge upon all matters affecting the religion we profess and the history of the race to which we belong.

THE SUICIDE EPIDEMIC seems to have struck the country again. At different intervals it may be noticed that a wave of suicidal fever seems to sweep over a whole continent. The presence of this plague is a sure index of a weakening morality. If a man or woman, who commits the fearful crime of suicide, is insane at the time, the poor creature is to be sincerely pitied. But if in the full possession of the mental faculties the person must be either very debased or very cowardly. The act of taking one's life is not an evidence of courage—it is quite the contrary. It is easy for a man to work himself into a state of temporary frenzy sufficient to deaden every feeling and to permit of the deed being performed. But that man must either have no faith in hereafter, or else have lost all hope in God's mercy. He is the victim of misfortunes so great that he feels he can no longer bear them; he runs away from his troubles, he has not the manliness to face them, he has not the courage to combat with adversity. We are told that drink, immorality and

crime are the immediate causes of the greater number of suicides. It may be so; but we believe that loss of Faith is the first and all important cause of every deed of self-destruction. Godless teachers, infidel literature, agnosticism, atheism, irreligion, are the fruitful sources of miserable suicides. No man or woman, in whose heart there is a solid Faith, will ever commit that crime. God help the authors of immoral and infidel literature; many a murder do they commit!

HERE is a beautiful thought. It is from the pen of George Macdonald. It is so very sweet that we thought well to reproduce it here.

O Lord, at Joseph's humble bench
Thy hands did handle saw and plane;
Thy hammer, nails did drive and clinch,
Avoiding knot and humoring grain.

Lord, might I be but as a saw,
A plane, a chisel, in Thy hand!
No, Lord, I take it back in awe;
Such prayer for me is far too grand.

I pray, O Master, let me lie,
As on Thy bench the favored wood;
Thy saw, Thy chisel, ply,
And work me into something good.

THE Catholic Sentinel, in referring to the suspension of Rev. Father Walsh's paper, the *Chattanooga "Facts,"* deals somewhat harshly with that organ. For example, the *Chippewa Falls* paper remarks: "It was never much of a paper, and the wonder is that it lived so long." We have no idea what quarrel there was between the editors of these two organs—if there ever was one; but certainly we do not think the *Sentinel* is either charitably Catholic or critically exact. We may not be much of a judge in such matters, still we always read "Facts" with great interest and often with edification. That it suspended, no matter what the cause, we sincerely regret. There is no Catholic paper, however humble, but has an influence upon a certain circle; and be that circle great or small, the loss of the paper is a loss to a number of our co-religionists. We would prefer very much to notice a spirit of mutual encouragement existing in our journalistic world. It would decidedly be more Catholic and more Christian.

WE often hear complaints about the unreliability of Roman despatches; if anything can show how much the reader is exposed to grave mistakes when he puts entire confidence in these cabled pieces of news, it is the inexactness of messages that pass from one part of our own country to the other upon subjects connected with the Catholic Church. In Friday's *Star* we find a despatch from Winnipeg, marked "special to the *Star*," in which it is stated that Father Langevin, O.M.I., is about to be appointed Co-adjutor Bishop to Archbishop Tache. The main part of the news may be true enough, for aught we know; but the fact that "Mgr. Soulier, the head of the Order in France, now there, will officiate," is decidedly wrong. Very Rev. Father Soulier is head of the Order all over the world; he is Superior Gen-

eral of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He is not a Monseigneur, nor has he any episcopal authority—therefore he cannot officiate at the consecration of a Bishop. Some of our journalists—while making stupendous efforts to cater to the Catholic readers—might greatly enhance the value of their contributions and reports by learning something,—even though it be very elementary, about Catholic practice and discipline.

THE New York Catholic Review makes a very good suggestion in the following words:

"If all Cardinals could make a tour of the world after their elevation to the Sacred College to study the condition and the needs of the Church everywhere what a fund of personal information of countries and peoples all future Popes would have!"

It may yet come to this. "Times are changing and we change with them," said Horace. The facilities of travel are so great in our time that it would be much easier for a Cardinal to visit every one of the civilized countries of the world to-day, than it would have been, half a century or more ago, to have visited three or four European nations. Moreover, it seems as if the system of sending out Apostolic delegates to different lands may tend to securing Pontiffs possessed of an extensive personal knowledge of the world. The present Pope, long before it was ever expected that he was to sit upon the Papal throne, had been a great traveller, and all the information he gleaned in the different countries to which he had been sent, has been of incalculable benefit to the Church.

IT APPEARS that Goldwin Smith is back again. Well, that is astonishing. Not long ago—it seems only yesterday—he left Canada forever; he went to reside permanently in England. But he did not remain long over there. Perhaps he found that England had forgotten the great Professor, and that having missed his early opportunities of gaining fame, when he abandoned Oxford, he is content with securing notoriety in a colony. One of our contemporaries says, on this subject, "we have seen it stated that Goldwin Smith returned with no very high opinion of the Canadian Home Rule member, Hon. Edward Blake. This is really too bad, and must result disastrously to the cause dear to the hearts of Irishmen. It is quite possible that Blake's occult power may have had some influence in causing the Professor's brief sojourn; for we know of no surer method of routing an anglo-maniac than by a drastic dose of Irish wit and sarcasm." Perhaps the great celebration—the centennial anniversary—at Stoneyhurst this summer has influenced the Professor in his flight. He might be taken for a disguised Jesuit going over to the convocation. Hence his *Anabasis* and *Katabasis*! Goldwin is a great literary tailor—the best of his epoch. He can dress up the most horrible carcass of bigotry, the most disgusting skeleton of sophistry, in a suit

of the purest, finest-cut English in the world. He is an adept in good grammar and bad logic. His mind is very narrow and it needs the vastness of Canada that it may expand. We are glad to see him back; so is England!

POOR ITALY! When will that unfortunate country learn the lesson that circumstances have been teaching during the past few years? Crispi had to resign; and he then shuffled his Cabinet and came back. It is said that no other man could attempt to rescue the kingdom from its financial chaos. The fact is that no sane man would attempt such an impossible task, and Crispi alone can be induced to fumble with the government of the bankrupt country. A London correspondent, in one of last week's despatches, has the following remark to make. It seems to be based upon good common sense:

"Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier, is said suddenly to have broken down in nerve, and become, all at once, an infirm and purposeless old man, quite incapable of sustaining the part of practical dictator, which he assumed last winter with a light heart. People had forgotten that he was 75, so virile and ambitious and masterful he seemed. But his physical and mental collapse now is privately reported to be at the bottom of this new phase of the general Italian smash. Apparently there is the greatest confusion as to whose task it should be to try and grasp the reins dropped from his hands, and there is no belief in any quarter that an improvement on the existing chaos is possible."

Were Cicero alive to-day he might cry out to the Cataline of Italian political brigandage: "Quousque tandem abutere patientia Ecclesie et Dei!"

WE have not yet heard whether the notorious Bob Ingersoll has accepted or declined the Rev. J. L. Meagher's challenge. It is the opportunity of a lifetime for the great infidel, if he is serious, if he is not sincere of course he is beneath the notice of reputable men. The challenge is addressed to Ingersoll, through the columns of the *New York Sun*, and is dated Cazenovia, N.Y., June 1, 1894, and signed James L. Meagher, manager Christian Press Association. It runs thus:—

"SIR:—For a number of years Mr. Ingersoll has been accustomed to attack all denominations of the Christian religion, destroying faith in God and in the future life by his public utterances. Now we have heard enough of this kind of one-sided warfare, and I challenge Mr. Ingersoll before a New York audience, on any platform, say Madison Square Garden, where before the public we will discuss his theories. Let the matter be confined to religious questions. Let each debater have five, ten or more minutes. Let no personalities be allowed. Let a small admission fee be charged and half be given to any New York charity Mr. Ingersoll wishes, and the undersigned will name another good work to which the other half of the proceeds will be donated. Let every facility be given Mr. Ingersoll to attack the Christian religion with his accustomed rhetoric and eloquence, and the undersigned will be there to reply and show forth the grounds on which all believers in God and Christ rest their faith. Let Mr. Ingersoll choose a party, the undersigned will name another, and these will select a third, and this committee of three will have charge of the whole contest, the funds, etc. Here is now a great chance for the arch-infidel to show forth before the public the grounds on which rest his principles of unbelief. If he refuses now to come forward, as he declined to meet Father Lambert some years ago, it will be a great disappointment to every sincere believer in Christianity."