

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

IRISH NEWS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

FIRESIDE READING.

OPRANS BAZAAR.—The Bazaar in aid of the St. Patrick's Home, Ottawa, has been postponed till Tuesday, the 20th. It will be held in Hon. Mr. Skead's Building, Sussex street, Richard Devlin, Sec.

PRESENTATION.—The Rev. Father Hog, who was recently removed from the charge of Millingville, Scotland, was lately presented by his former parishioners with a handsome gold watch, as a mark of the love and esteem in which he was held by them.

BALTIMORE.—A handsome life-sized statue of St. Vincent de Paul, to be presented to the church of that name by the sodality, has arrived in Baltimore from New York. It represents the good saint clad in a cassock, and bearing a little orphan in his arms.

EDINBURGH CATHOLIC INSTITUTE.—The first of the present session course of lectures was given in the hall of the Edinburgh Catholic Young Men's Society, on Wednesday, 17th Oct., by Mr. Campbell, of Skerrington. There was a crowded audience, and the chair was occupied by his lordship the bishop. The subject of Mr. Campbell's lecture was "The Catholic Church in Relation to Population."

PONTIFICAL REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LATE FATHER D'ARCY.—On Wednesday, 17th ult., a solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. John's Church, Portobello, for its late pastor, Father D'Arcy. Father Smith, the present parish priest, sang the Mass, and was assisted by Father Corcoran, of St. Mary's, Edinburgh, as deacon, and by Fathers Geddes, of St. Mary's, and Brady, of St. Patrick's, Edinburgh; and Maginness, of Dundee. Miss Bennet, of Leith, presided at the organ.

THE POPE'S BACK PAY.—The Pope's annual income of \$645,000, allowed by the Italian Parliament, has annually since December, 1870, been tendered him in a single bill engraved especially for that purpose, and as regularly been declined. The bills were then placed on deposit in the Bank of Italy at the Pope's order, being conveyed into Italy at five years' intervals without their being claimed. The two first have thus returned to the nation, but whenever the Pope dies his heirs will find \$3,225,000 awaiting their disposition.

SCOTLAND.—CLERICAL CHANGES.—His lordship the bishop has made several changes in the location of the clergy of the diocese. The Rev. Dr. Smith has been relieved of the charge of the Perth congregation, and has gone to Inverleith. This change has been made, as is understood, to enable the rev. and learned doctor to complete the second volume of an able and valuable theological work. His successor at Perth is the Rev. Joseph Holder, late of St. Mary's, Dundee. Father Holder's place in Dundee is taken by the Rev. Mr. Wialahan, who was assistant at Perth to the Rev. Dr. Smith.

NEW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN GREENOCK.—On the afternoon of Saturday, the 14th Oct., the foundation stone of the extensive new Catholic schools which are being erected in connection with the congregation of St. Mary's, Greenock, was laid by the Most Rev. Archbishop Eyre. It was felt that a work of such magnitude and significance undertaken in the cause of religion could not be more fittingly inaugurated than by having the solemn blessing of the foundation-stone. Accordingly the building committee fixed Saturday the 14th for this function.

EDINBURGH CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.—The occurrence of the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the Edinburgh Catholic Young Men's Society, was lately made the occasion of special anniversary services. In the early morning, about 600 of the members assembled at the hall of the Institute, St. Mary's-street, and marched thence to St. Patrick's Chapel, where they heard Mass and received Holy Communion from the chaplain, Father Hannan, who briefly addressed the brothers. The day was fittingly closed with Vespers and solemn Benediction in the church, and with an appropriate sermon by Father O'Donnell, O.M.I., Leith.

EDUCATION IN GLASGOW.—On Sunday the 20th Oct., the Most Rev. Archbishop Eyre confirmed about three hundred and eighty persons, mostly children, in St. Francis' Church Glasgow. The children presented a remarkably neat appearance, most of the girls being dressed in white and wearing veils whilst the boys wore sashes and rosettes. After Confirmation His Grace and the clergy adjourned to the large boys' school adjoining where an address was presented to him. His grace the archbishop, in acknowledging the presentation, remarked how much pleasure it gave him to meet the children of St. Francis' Schools; he also thanked them for the beautiful works of art they had given him, which he would treasure as a memorial of their affection and attachment. After encouraging them to take advantage of the excellent education provided in these schools, his grace bestowed his blessing upon those assembled.

EPISCOPAL VISITATION.—On Wednesday of last week the most Rev. Archbishop Eyre made the episcopal visitation of St. Patrick's Scotland, Dumfries. Before the religious portion of the ceremony commenced, his grace received a deputation of the leading heads of families in the mission, who were introduced by the Rev. Father Carmichael, pastor of the locality. After listening to an address, in which in the name of the congregation, they thanked His Grace for the interest which in many ways he had shown to their mission, the archbishop in reply remarked the pleasure it gave him to be so heartily welcomed by the heads of families in Dumfries. His grace thereafter addressed the children of the mission, who were assembled in the church, exhorting them to regularity in attending school. He had learned from her Majesty's inspector that the examination which had just been concluded had proved satisfactory, and trusted they would correspond with the efforts of their teachers and pastors. His grace then bestowed his blessing upon the children and upon the whole congregation.

SCOTLAND.—PRESENTATION TO HIS REV. E. J. HANNAN.—The members of the choir of St. Patrick's Church, Edinburgh, of which the Rev. E. J. Hannan has been for sixteen years the pastor, met lately at the chapel-house, for the purpose of presenting the rev. gentleman with a testimonial. The article presented was a massive and handsome timepiece, of considerable value in itself, apart from the feelings which dictated the purchase for the purpose in view. Upon a gold plate, attached to the clock, words recording the date and donors of the gift were neatly engraved. Father Hannan, in returning his thanks to the choir for this proof of their appreciation of his efforts for the congregation and for themselves, was visibly affected. He had, as they well knew, been now for many years a priest in their midst, and he need not assure them that he had during all these years done the best he could for the spiritual and temporal welfare of those under his charge. The church and congregation of St. Patrick's had been his first, and he had no objection, but rather hoped it might be his last, love (applause). But in a more particular manner, the choir had been the object of his love and care, and during all the time he had been in St. Patrick's, he had never found himself able to give up its charge to another. He would maintain that personal charge of the choir as long as he was among them, and hoped that the pleasant relations which had so long existed between them would ever be kept up (applause).

PRESENTATION.—The cathedral of Kilkenny lately received a handsome pair of holy water fonts from a member of the congregation.

MISSION.—A Mission conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers O'Neill and McLaughlin of Bishop Eton, in Liverpool, has been opened at Brandon, and is producing many spiritual blessings.

BROKEN INTO.—St. Peter's Chapel, Lurgan, was broken into last week, and four candlesticks, value £6 12s., stolen. The police are on the alert, but the parties are still at liberty.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held in Dublin on Thomas Farrell, a miser who died possessed of great wealth. It was shown that deceased died from sheer neglect, and he was found after death to have £17,700 in cash and in Bank and Railway shares.

INDIAN FAMINE.—Two gold rings were found amongst the money subscribed at a church in Ireland for the Indian famine. Canon Smith, of Derry, received an anonymous donation of £40 for the same object. Charity has indeed been much moved by the Indian suffering.

RETURN OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT TO FERMOY.—H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has returned to Fermoyle to resume the command of his Regiment, the 1st Battalion of the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade. He has been on leave since the beginning of last month.

FLOUR FOR RUSSIA.—It is stated that one of the largest firms in Limerick have entered into a contract with the Russian Government to supply 1,000 tons of flour for the use of the troops engaged in the war against Turkey. Five hundred sacks were forwarded yesterday to London for transmission to the seat of war.

DEATH OF THE REV. FATHER BROWNE, O.S.F.—We regret to have to announce the death of the Rev. Charles Browne, O.S.F., which took place at half-past eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning at the Franciscan Convent, Broad Lane, Cork, to the community of which he had been attached for many years.—*Cork Examiner.*

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.—Lately a woman named Ellen Ferris was buried in Shankhill Graveyard, Lurgan, having died at the ripe old age of 102 years. The deceased had been walking about until within the last few days. A man named Douay lives in the same place, and is in good health, at the present time, though 101 years of age.—*Correspondent.*

STATISTICS OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN IRELAND.—Table showing, for eight large town districts, the annual rate of mortality per 1,000 inhabitants represented by the number of deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, October 13, 1877, the total number of births and deaths registered during the week, with the number of deaths at certain ages and from several causes, &c.

ADDRESS.—A preliminary meeting of the tenantry of the Earl of Limerick on his Estates was held lately in Limerick for the purpose of taking steps to present his lordship with an address and piece of plate on the occasion of his marriage. The Hon. Hugh Massy presided. A subscription list was opened, and sums amounting to £120 were handed in.

A FENIAN SECRET HISTORY.—The Academy states that Messrs Kegan, Paul & Co. are about to publish "The Secret History of the Fenian Conspiracy." This history, we are assured, is from authentic sources, and has in a great measure been drawn from the personal narrative of some who were closely connected with the chief agents in that conspiracy. It will throw much light on the career of Stephens, and on such occurrences as the plot against Chester Castle and the Clerkenwell explosion.

DEDICATION.—The new Church of St. Patrick's, Newtownards, was recently dedicated by his Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Dorrinan. It will be recalled that the new Church has been built at the sole expense of the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry. The congregation was extremely large, and admission was secured by tickets, which were issued gratis. The dedication sermon was preached by the eloquent Jesuit, the Rev. Father Clare, London.

THE INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.—His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop has just published the returns of the subscriptions received for this fund at the churches and chapels of the Diocese of Dublin. The total amounts to a little over the two thousand pounds, which I mentioned last week as the probable sum received. His Eminence has already forwarded most of it to the Most Rev. Dr. Finnally, of Madras. The Lord Mayor has sent to the London Mansion House Fund additional sums, making in all a total of £10,000 forwarded through his lordship from Dublin.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—In accordance with the request of his Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese of Belfast, a collection was taken up recently at all the Masses in the various Catholic Churches in town in aid of the sufferers by the Indian famine. In St. Malachy's, where the Most Rev. Dr. Dorrinan presided, his lordship himself announced the collection, and urged upon the congregation to contribute generously to so worthy an object. We have not yet learned the amount realised by the several collections, but feel sure that it will reach a large sum.

THE MEMORIAL TO THE LATE SIR JOHN GRAY, M. P.—I had yesterday an opportunity of inspecting the life-size model of the statue of Sir John Gray, about to be erected by public subscription in our city. The likeness is an admirable one, and the pose of the figure graceful and expressive. The statue, when finished, will be in white Sicilian marble, and is sure to look remarkably well. Mr. Thomas Farrell, M.R.H.A., is the sculptor, and has proved himself in the model equal to the brilliant reputation he has already acquired by his statues of the late Most Rev. Dr. Murray, Archbishop of Dublin, of Captain Boyd in St. Patrick's Cathedral, of Smith O'Brien, &c., &c.—*Tablet Correspondent.*

IRISH PRIESTS IN ROME.—On Wednesday, Oct 3rd, Canon Coghlan, of Cork, and the Rev. Messrs. O'Neill and Burke, had an audience of the Pope. On the 6th of October Mr. Kirby, Rector of the Irish College, Rome, presented to the Holy Father the sum of £123, being an offering from Lady Emily and the ladies of Limerick on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Pope. His Holiness expressed his gratification at this demonstration of the final affection of the ladies of Limerick, and sent them his Benediction. Mr. Kirby also presented the sum of £36 from the Rev. J. Magee, P.P. of Stradbally, and his parishioners.—*Roman Correspondent of the Tablet.*

ADDRESS TO MR. JOHN GEORGE MACDONALD, M. P.—On Tuesday, 18th Oct., a large meeting of the members of the Catholic Young Men's Society was convened for the purpose of presenting a congratulatory address to Mr. J. G. MacCarthy, M. P., on his recovery from his illness. There was a large attendance, and amongst those present were: Rev. Messrs. Slattery, O'Byrne, O. S. A., Willard, O. P., Deely, O. P., Hayes, rector of Upton Reformatory; Dr. O'Connor, T. Brennan, vice-president; James Scanlan, James Hayes, T. O. Samuel Thomas, J. J. Ryan, P. Hegarty, J. McDermott, &c. The address was made by Mr. MacCarthy's reply, which was frequently interrupted with bursts of applause from the large assembly, will be found elsewhere in our columns.

FRANCE.—The census of 1876 gives the population of France at 36,995,788.

WAR.—The official estimate of Russian losses to the 1st inst. is nearly 65,000.

QUEBEC.—Mr. Tonnageau, N. P., has been chosen to oppose Mr. Laurier in Quebec East.

WAR.—The Bay of Tunis is about to forward a reinforcement of 5,000 men to the Sultan.

THE POPE.—It is believed Christmas is the time fixed for the Pope to issue apostolic letters re-establishing the Catholic hierarchy of Scotland.

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.

LONDON.—The Mayors of London, Liverpool, Southampton, Portsmouth, Canterbury, and Taunton, England, are all Jews.

PONTIFICAL.—The pilgrimages projected for the winter are postponed until next spring in order that there may be celebrated the Holy Father's having exceeded in years the Pontificate of St. Peter both in Rome and in Antioch.

STATISTICS IN BERLIN.—The imperial office of statistics in Berlin has just published the latest census table of the population in the German empire. At the end of 1875 it was 42,797,360. The greatest increase was in Prussia proper; Alsace-Lorraine lost three per thousand.

IRISH CATHOLICS IN THE UNITED STATES.—In the United States, of the ten Archbishops four are Irish, and of the 66 living Bishops 29 are of the same nationality; while of the 5,200 priests in the United States no less than 3,000 belong to the Irish race. The same proportion is manifested in the laity, who are officially returned at 6,500,000, and of whom 4,000,000 have been supplied by Ireland.

A PATRON SAINT OF JOURNALISM.—The *Unita Catholica* of Turin has proposed to petition the Pope to nominate a patron saint of Catholic journalism, and to choose as such the new doctor of the Church, Francis de Sales, in the same manner, as Benedict XIII. appointed as patron saint of University students St. Aloysius of Gonzaga. The *Voces del Veritas* supports this proposal as most salutary and opportune.

THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.—The Empress of Russia and the Duchess of Edinburgh will shortly visit the hospitals in the south and on the Black Sea coast, but the idea of meeting with the Emperor of Roumania seems to have been abandoned. In a few days the youngest of Emperor Alexander's sons, Grand Duke Paul, will leave for the front, having at last gained the consent of his mother. He is only seventeen years of age, but has had the nominal command of a regiment for several years.

PROSPECTS OF TWEED'S RELEASE.—The *Times* states that another effort will be made for the release of Tweed. Under the incoming Attorney General, under a clause in the revived statutes relative to debtors' imprisonment in civil cases, creditors with claims amounting to two-thirds of the indebtedness may secure a debtor's discharge from imprisonment of his property; in the present case the only creditor of consequence is the people, represented by the Attorney-General, and it is expected he will take action to release Tweed.

COMMUNISM.—It strikes us that it is an insult to American intelligence to call "Communism" "Republicanism," and sympathize with it as akin to our own glorious, though fading Republic. Communism means the rejection of all hopes of immortality, the concentration of all human desire upon bodily pleasure and what will buy it, of all human aversion upon what stands in the way of our enjoyment of it. It inculcates the absolute authority of MEN over MEN; the right of Government to dictate family relations, wages of labour, diet, recreation and sleep; hatred of the rich who claim their property; of Government which maintains their claim, of Jesus Christ, who pronounced the poor blessed; of the Catholic Church which continues His teachings. It is a hideous system—hell-born—and as alien from American Republicanism as darkness from light.—*American Paper.*

GROWTH OF INSANITY.—On all sides we hear surprise and wonder at the alarming increase of insanity in this country. It is easily accounted for. Those who plant briars will not cut flags. It is not crime alone that results from the absence of religion, but intellectual insanity. If vice flourishes where faith declines, insanity prevails where the confessional is neglected. The converse of this is undeniable. It is impossible for a man to open his mind frequently to a prudent Confessor without betraying the germs of insanity if he lurks in his moral system. The mind, like the body, requires inspection. Where that inspection is frequent the seeds of latent disease are almost certain to be detected, and when early detected may be readily eradicated. Hence it is that in Catholic countries insanity is far less prevalent than in Protestant nations. The howling maniac is equally common in modern life, and on the modern stage. The frightful multiplication of madhouses in the world is one of the most appalling consequences of the rejection of Catholic faith. The most awful, and at the same time the most frequent punishment which God inflicts on those who neglect His Church is insanity. Insanity rages where Catholicity disappears. The healing action of the true religion, precisely like the presence of its Divine Founder, has the effect of casting out the devils of raging madness. This terrible punishment is equally just and appropriate, as it is from ungovernable pride of reason that individuals and nations become heretical and atheistical. They use their reason to assail the Church, and God reduces them to lunacy to punish their rebellion and awful misuse of His gifts.

THE HOME RULE LEAGUE AND NATIONAL CONFERENCE.—We did not say anything in these columns last week about the preliminary meeting of Irish Home Rule members, as we prepared to wait for the larger meeting of the Home Rule League; the report of which did not reach us till after we had gone to press. The resolutions passed at the first meeting may be summed up thus: (1.) The party is to follow Mr. Butt's leadership in Irish questions; (2.) In Imperial or non-Irish questions its members may act independently; but (3.) not in such way as to discredit or discredit or disorganize the party. To these decisions, as we understand them, both sections of the party may give their formal adhesion without very materially altering their tactics. At the meeting of the League it was decided that a National Conference should be held between the 18th of December and the 20th of January, and the principal subject of debate was who should attend it. One gentleman proposed that magistrates should be excluded—a proposition that was promptly negatived—and Mr. Butt proposed to limit the representation of the Home Rule Associations out of Ireland to six delegates, but Mr. Sullivan moved and carried that the number should be fixed at fifty; and it was settled that the Conference should consist of members of Parliament, clergymen of all denominations, magistrates members of corporations, Poor Law Guardians, Persons who have been at any time members of the original Home Rule Association of the Home Rule League, the representatives of local kindred associations, and trade societies, and the nominees of Home Rule members who were candidates at the last election.

SPECIFIC GRAVITY OF WOOD.—The woods which are heavier than water are Dutch box, Indian cedar, ebony, lignum-vite, mahogany, heart of oak, pomegranate, vine. Lignum-vite is one-third heavier, pomegranate rather more. On the other hand, cork, having a specific gravity of 24, and poplar, of 383, are the lightest woody products.

CHARMING AN OCTOPUS.—A very ludicrous incident, but one not altogether unattended with danger to the principal actor in it, occurred at Brighton Aquarium the other day. A man who professed to be able to charm the octopus, and make it rise to the top of the tank when he chose, and was allowed to experiment upon the creature. By the aid of a musical instrument of some kind he did induce the animal to do this, but in his eagerness to see the success of his efforts, the unlucky individual leaned over the side of the tank, and losing his balance by some means or other, was precipitated head foremost into the water. The octopus immediately rushed upon this intruder into his domain, and, throwing its numerous feelers round the man's head and neck, would no doubt have speedily strangled him, had not the attendants come to the rescue.

THE "BEAR CURE"—OR KILL.—The "bear cure" is a favourite with the peasants of Roumania, especially for rheumatism and fevers. When attacked by these illnesses, the peasants send for gipsies, who are always moving about with bears half tamed and led by chains. On the arrival of the bear, the sick man lies down on the ground, and the bear is made to tread upon and over him, the man, as the bear passes, pulling out a hair from the animal. This hair is worn on the bosom of the patient. Previous to this simple operation, however, a mystery has to be performed; otherwise the cure will not be complete. A gipsy leads the bear round in a circle, and causes the animal to perform all sorts of strange antics to the wild music of a species of tambourine, played by a second gipsy. After this incantation the spirits are propitiated, and the "bear cure" is proceeded with.

JUPITER AND SATURN.—The old theory that the planets are very much like the earth we inhabit, having the same conditions of being, has been exploded by modern science in a number of cases. Notably is this so with respect to Jupiter and Saturn. Some eight or nine years ago an intelligent observer put forward the theory that we did not see those planets at all, they being heated and intensely heated bodies, surrounded by an atmosphere at least a thousand miles in depth. Quite recently, further observations have been made, and this theory has been fully confirmed. Two eminent astronomers, in two places and without knowing of each other, have reported seeing two satellites of Jupiter through the outer atmosphere of the planet. This indicates very clearly that the atmosphere surrounding the planet must be some two thousand miles in depth, and the planet itself is in a very heated state.

PETROLEUM.—In August, 1859, Colonel Drake discovered near Titusville, in Pennsylvania, a large stream of petroleum at a depth of 70 feet from the surface. Though this discovery was made only eighteen years ago, it is estimated that the quantity of petroleum obtained in the interval is 2,802,500,000 gallons, of a total value of £40,000,000. At first the wells did not yield more than 180 gallons of oil a day; but the average rapidly increased, and in 1861 a well at Petroleum Centre yielded 11,000 gallons a day. At a place called Tar Farm a spring produced no fewer than 105,000 gallons a day. Six years after Colonel Drake's initial discovery there were no fewer than 1,003 wells in existence, yielding 130,000,000 gallons a year; but the progress has been still more rapid within the last nine years. In 1867 the number of wells at work was 1,133, each with an average yield of 103,500 gallons per annum, and in 1875 there was 3,272 wells, each yielding upon the average 91,000 gallons a year.

POTATOES.—As an article of food, the potato is of especial value, on account of the potash and phosphoric acid it contains, and it is of the first importance that the potash salts should not be lost in the process of cooking, for it is to these salts potatoes owe their antiscorbutic properties. Potatoes steamed with their skins on lose very little potash and scarcely any phosphoric acid; while, if steamed after peeling, they lose 7 and 5 per cent. respectively. Similarly, potatoes, when boiled with their skins on, lose a little more than 2 per cent. of their potash and about 1 per cent. of their phosphoric acid; but, if they are boiled after peeling, they lose as much as 33 per cent. of potash and 23 per cent. of phosphoric acid. Hence it follows that, if potatoes must be peeled, they should be steamed, not boiled; and if they must be boiled, they should at least retain their jackets while undergoing the operation—the best way of all, from a scientific point of view, being to steam them before peeling, or to bake them in their skins.

SAND SHOWERS IN CHINA.—Every year witnesses curious sand-showers in China, when there is neither cloud nor fog in the sky, but the sun is scarcely visible, looking very much as when seen through smoked glass. The air is filled with a fine dust, entering eyes, nostrils, and mouth, and often causing serious diseases of the eye. The dust, or sand, as the people call it, penetrates houses, reaching even apartments which seem securely closed. It is supposed to come from the great Desert of Gobi, as the sand of Sahara is taken up by whirlwinds and carried hundreds of miles away. The Chinese, while sensitive to the personal discomfort arising from these showers, are resigned to them, from a conviction that they are a great help to agriculture. They say that a year of numerous sand-showers is always a year of large fertility. The sand probably imparts some enriching elements to the soil, and it also tends to loosen the compact alluvial matter of the Chinese valleys. It is possible that these showers may be composed of microscopic insects, like similar showers which have been noticed in the Atlantic ocean.

NATURE.—If the undevout astronomer is mad, as has been alleged, so also is the undevout naturalist. No theory which does not admit that infinite intelligence, operating through a system of fixed laws, controls all the operations of nature, can rationally explain the order and regularity by which they are characterised. The periodic movements and changes which take place in the animal and vegetable kingdoms are palpably the results of immutable laws. They never vary either in time or manner. Precisely at the same seasons, year after year, the birds of passage perform their pilgrimages, and the migrants of the sea are equally punctual. The swallows are always true to time—the shad, herring, and mackerel, never disappoint us. Thehibernating mouse could not "turn in" and "turn out" with greater regularity if it consulted the almanac, nor the ermine and the sable put on and took off their cold-weather coats with a stricter regard to dates if they were subject to army regulations. Insects appear or disappear without fail, rain or shine, green buds, plants flower, seeds ripen, leaves fall, as if by the calendar, and it has been said that if an observant naturalist, who had long been shut out from the light of day and from the society of men, without any means of measuring time, were suddenly brought into the fields and woods, he would be able, from the notes of the birds, and the colours of the flowers, to discover the exact period of the year.

What must be the potato bug's opinion of the humanity that goes around all day putting poison on the victuals of humble insects?

Very many dog-catchers have been bitten in New York. It is necessary to say that public safety requires that they be prowled at once.

A BALTIMORE belle, just from Vassar College, when told by the waiter that they had no gooseberries, exclaimed, "What has happened to the goose?"

"Is that your offspring, madam?" asked a Missouri judge of a woman who had hold of a snub-nosed boy's hand. "No, sir, she replied; this is my oldest boy."

A TRAVELLING circus exhibits a horse that has no hair, mane, or tail. It is not true that an opposition concern intends to exhibit some hair, mane, and tail that has no horse.

When a man advertises himself as "auctioneer and appraiser," the last world is simply superfluous. Who ever knew an auctioneer who wasn't a praiser of the goods he had to sell?

There was once an eclipse of the sun, and Jack Laird and Jean, his wife, were sitting at the fire, thinking the world was coming to an end. Says Jean, "If we had only the pig and the two key-stell, I wdna have cared."

AN AMERICAN MAN, after dining at a London restaurant, paid his bill and was about leaving, when the waiter suggested that the amount did not include the waiter. "Ah!" said the man, "but I didn't eat the waiter!"

A MARKET-STREET lady purchased a nice new doormat the other morning, with the word "Welcome" stamped thereon in glowing letters, and the first to come along and plant his number eleven on it was a book canvasser.

Two COUNTRY attorneys overtaking a waggoner on the road, thinking to break a joke with him, asked him why his fore horse was so fat, and the rest so lean. The waggoner, knowing them to be limbs of the law, replied: "That fore horse was a lawyer and the rest were his clients."

"I came for the saw, sir." "What sawer?" "Why, the saw, sir, that you borrowed." "I borrowed no sawer." "Sure you did, sir; you borrowed a saw, sir." "I never saw your sawer." "But you did; there's the saw now, sir." "Oh, you want the saw! Why didn't you say so?"

A CERTAIN First Lord of the English Admiralty on his first trip down the Thames in a rather leaky vessel, observed the men working at the pumps. "Dear me!" he said; "I did not know you had a well on board, Captain; but I am really very glad, as I do detest river water."

A BROOK with a heavy handle was sent as a wedding gift to a bride, with the following sentiment:—

This trifling gift accept from me,
It's use I would commend;
In sunshine use the brushy part,
In storms the other end.

A HACKSACK man was last midnight creeping softly along the bedroom floor on his hands and knees, and was feeling tenderly under the bureau for something he had hidden there the evening before; but his wife awoke, and said, "Peter, what are you doing?" "Dear," said he, "I am walking in my sleep and dreaming that I am plucking water lilies from the soft blue bosom of the lake." How to get that flask out of there before she got up in the morning was what worried him more than the water-lilies did.

GRADUAL REFORM.—When Lord Muskerry sailed to Newfoundland, George Rooke went with him as a volunteer. George was greatly addicted to lying and his lordship, who was well aware of it and on intimate terms with George, said to him one day, "I wonder, George, you will not leave off your abominable habit of lying." "I can't help it," said he. "Pooh!" said his lordship, "it may be done by degrees; suppose you begin with uttering one truth a day."

TAKING THE WILL FOR THE DEED.—A Judge of the Irish King's Bench, in giving his dictum on a certain will case, said "he thought it very clear that the testator intended to keep a life interest in the estate to himself." The bar did not laugh outright; but Curran soon rendered that consequence inevitable. "Very true, my lord," said he, "very true! Testators generally do secure life interests to themselves; but, in this case, I rather think your lordship takes the will for the deed!"

OYSTER PLANTING.—A man named Horter lived out in Colorado a few years ago, but as his health was bad he was ordered to spend a year or two at the seashore. He was born in the far West, and had never seen an oyster in its shell. He bought a cottage at Atlantic City, and went there to live last spring. A few days after his arrival he saw a man going by with a cartload of oysters, which Horter mistook for stones. Stones are mighty scarce at Atlantic, and as Horter wanted some to make borders for his flower bed, he asked the man what he would take for his load. It struck Horter that the price was high, but he bought the lot and had them dumped by his gate. The next day he stuck eight hundred of them in the sand in his garden, around his beds, and when the job was done he thought it looked uncommonly handsome. A week afterwards there were three or four warm days, and Horter remarked that the sea-breeze smelled very strong, and he told Mrs. Horter that he thought there must be a dead whale lying somewhere down on the beach. The next day the smell became more offensive, and Mrs. Horter said that it was an outrage that the authorities didn't clean up the street and remove the garbage that poisoned the air. On the following day the weather was extremely hot, and the stench became perfectly terrific. Mr. Horter said there must be a dead rat somewhere in the weather boarding, and he got the carpenter to come and remove some of it. But he found nothing, and upon going away he remarked to Horter that that sauer kraut they were cooking for dinner was the deadliest sauer kraut for smell that he ever encountered. The stench grew stronger all that night, and on the next morning a committee of neighbours waited upon Mr. Horter to say that if he would kill that polecat he would confer a personal favour upon them and upon the people of the country generally. Then Horter told them how perplexed he was about the matter, and said he would only be too glad to have the cause of the trouble detected. So the committee made a tour of inspection, holding their noses. When they got into the garden they perceived the oysters all gaping wide open, and evolving an awful smell; absolutely in fumes. One of the committee men, grasping the fact that Horter planted these oysters, imagined he was crazy, and suddenly climbed over the fence and went home. The others remained and asked Horter what on earth he meant by laying those oysters around in the garden in that manner. "Oysters!" said Horter. "Oysters! you don't mean to say those are oysters? Well! well! that beats all! I was wondering what made all those stones split even down the middle. I couldn't account for it. And so those are oysters? Why, I thought oysters always came in cans. This afternoon he buried the shell fish deep in the sand, and the smell ceased! Then he sold out this cottage and moved to Long Branch. He told Brown, his next door neighbour, that he knew they were oysters all the time, and wouldn't force a joke; but he moved because the stench seemed to get too awful for him. —*Philadelphia Bulletin.*