

Some hope in friendship ; others in the incertitude of riches ; others in arms and strength of soldiers ; others in the esteem and veneration of the world. In their advancement towards the attainment of the gift which it holds out, each of these meets with a thousand intricacies to embarrass them ; a thousand slips to throw them back ; a thousand pit-falls to impede their progress. And if after much difficulty and labour, they chance to arrive at the summit of their hopes they are not satisfied. They are not yet without hope ; still, like alps on alps, new hopes arise. He who hopes to gain himself friends, and gathers to his costly board revellers from far and near—after lavishing upon them his whole fortune—finds that they were only flatterers of the festive hour, heartless parasites of present cheer. He who hopes in riches, and makes gold his God, ever counts and recounts his glittering heaps ; still digs the mines for silver ; for hoards are wanting still. The warrior who puts his hope in conquests and chained monarchs ; who beholds his conquering eagles flying over a prostrate universe, still seeks for the triumphal wreath ; still sighs for other worlds to conquer. Nor does he who hopes in fame osterer behold the realization of hope—and if he does, he must almost regret the labour it cost, and feel in his success the regret of disappointment. The verdure of the literary garland is obnoxious to every blast of accident, and must ultimately fade by time. Oh, yes, in vain the marble column seeks the skies ; in vain the canvas glows even beyond nature warm ; in vain learned records teem with adulations ; volume, pillar, pile, cannot defy the all-destroying scythe of time, or secure an immortality of fame ! Let us then turn our gaze from worldly hope, and fondly cherish in our bosoms religious hope. Let us hope and rejoice in God alone, who will strengthen our hopes and bless them with reality. “ Mihi adherere Deo donum est, ponere in Domino spem meam.” P. 72.

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### General Intelligence.

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#### PORTUGAL.

LISBON, FEB. 4.—On Sunday last a Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in the Italian church of the Loretto, by his Excellency the Internuncio, in honour of the election of his present Holiness. After the loathsome abuse that, in public and private has been heaped on the Holy See, since the commencement of the revolutionary vertigo, it was gratifying to witness this public mark of respect towards the common Father of Christendom. The solemnity was attended by the Princess D. Isabel Maria, the Ministers of State, the diplomatic body, and most of the principal nobility. Lady Howard de Walden was present, and evinced that becoming respect in the temple of God which is by no means remarkable in the conduct of many English

Protestant ladies on the Continent. Lord Howard himself very judiciously kept away. Had he appeared there, no doubt, as the *fete* was on a Sunday, he would have been charged with doing for a Catholic church what he never does for a Protestant one—that is, of crossing the threshold. —*Correspondent of the Tablet.*

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#### FRANCE.

CONVERSION OF AN ARAB CHIEF.—The *Revue de Paris* announces that the marriage of the celebrated Arab Chief, Russuff-Bey, Colonel of the Spahis, with Miss Weyer, grand-niece of General Guilleminot, is to be celebrated in Paris on the 27th inst. Last week he abjured Islamism, and embraced the Catholic religion at St. Thomas d'Aquin, in presence of the relatives of his wife and of a few friends. On Friday he received the sacrament of baptism, and had for his godfather M. Gentz de Bussy, former civil intendant of Algiers, and for his godmother, Madame Gentz de Bussy. Yussuff is a Turk by birth, and thirty-six years of age. After his marriage he is to be promoted to the rank of Major-General, and invested with the military command of Oran.

In the course of the year 1844 there were so many as 124 abjurations of Protestants embracing Catholicism in the single diocese of Cambrai, France.

The city of Paris has just voted a sum of 41,600 francs for the execution of painted glass, to be placed in the churches of St Germain L'Auxerrois, St Gervais, St Eustache, and St Laurent.

For the third time within the two last months (says the *Ami de la Religion*) the Barnabite Fathers of the Mouclari, near Turin, have received men of great merit into the church. On the 5th of January, the prior of that house received the abjuration of a Methodist of high rank, Mr Wesley, and conferred on him a conditional baptism—his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy acting as godfather.

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INCREASE OF CATHOLICITY IN LIVERPOOL.—Notwithstanding the opposition that has been offered in various quarters to the extension of Catholicity in Liverpool we regret to hear that it is sadly on the increase. In addition to the introduction of a nunnery and the erection of additional chapels in the town and neighbourhood, three others are now in the course of construction, viz.: St Mary's, St Anne's, and St Francis Xavier's. St Joseph's (late All Saints) was dedicated, with the customary ceremonies, on Thursday, and mass was performed there for the first time.—*Liverpool Mail*, (Tory paper).

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On Friday thirteen converts were publicly received into the Roman Catholic communion, by the Rev. Mr. Cunningham. The ceremony, which is