

A PORTION of the American press is becoming alarmed over the increase in the number of suicides. It attributes the cause not to poverty and physical suffering, but to "that misery which is brought on by over indulgence in vicious habits." Early training in semi-infidel schools might be set down as another cause. With all her boasted superiority in education, America gives better training to her criminals in the prisons than to her children in the schools.

THE Brooklyn *Catholic Review* learns that "the Bishop and Clergy of a western diocese have subscribed \$20,000 to promote the cause of Catholic literature." This is an act of generosity in keeping with the cloth. In the matter of practically appreciating meritorious literary works, ecclesiastics, in proportion to their means, have done more than laymen.

THE *Burlington Hawkeye* thinks that, after all, there is not much difference between robbing a train in the west, and keeping summer hotels in the east. Somebody has been discriminating against the western method of doing business.

GREAT things are expected from the deliberations of the Irish convention which opened in Chicago on the 30th ult. As it will consider matters for the good of the Irish people at home and abroad, it is to be hoped that it will produce results in accordance with its object.

By its defeat in the recent trial of Grant vs. Beaudry, Orangism received the severest blow it ever received in any part of the British empire. It will now be in order for that "hundred thousand Orangemen to march to the Boyne" again.

#### OUR BOOK SHELF.

THE veteran publisher, Donahoe, will begin the fourth year of his magazine with the January number. This monthly has been steadily advancing in excellence, and we hope that complete success will ever attend the efforts of its worthy proprietor, the Nimrod of Irish journalists in America.

THE Notre Dame *Scholastic* reaches us as spicy and interesting as ever. It is true that it does not hide its own light "under a bushel," yet it gives full prominence to all that might entertain and instruct the general reader.

ST. LAURENT COLLEGE, Montreal, publishes in book form, a semi-monthly called the *Spectator*. Its articles are contributed entirely by the students, and on that score exhibit a more than ordinary degree of ability.

McGEE's *Illustrated Weekly* continues to increase in interest. It is a valuable substitute for the demoralizing, infidel pictorials that are published throughout this continent and it should receive the support which its enterprise and general good qualities deserve.

VENNOR has issued his almanac for 1882. Its new feature is a particular reference to the United States. Besides the usual almanac matter, consisting of astronomical and chronological tables, weather predictions and meteorological references, it contains many useful and entertaining literary articles. The Almanac has nearly one hundred pages, paper cover, and is sold by the Toronto News Company and the Montreal News Company for twenty-five cents.

#### OUR ADVERTISERS.

MESSRS. DUNCAN & CO. of this city keep on hand a large supply and a great variety of books and stationery. Their stock of Christmas and New Year's goods is large and newly assorted. They also sell Catholic bibles and prayer books very cheap.

MR. L. P. A. GAREAU, of St. Joseph Street, Montreal, a well known and popular clothier, is selling all-wool suits, ready-made, for eight dollars.

MR. THOS. MASON, James Street, Hamilton, has long since established the reputation for first-class and cheap hats, caps, furs and gents' furnishings.

MR. H. R. GRAY, Chemist, 144 St. Lawrence Main Street, Montreal, advertises his dental pearl-line (sanitary tooth wash) which is said to be of excellent quality.

MESSRS. ARLAND BROTHERS, boot and shoe dealers, King Street, Hamilton, exhibit a very large stock. These gentlemen have always been known for the good quality of their wares and the reasonable rates at which they sell them.

THE ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, formed nearly 12 years, has already established a flourishing business. It is a Canadian institution, and is liberally patronized by the prominent men of the province. Its rates are as low as those of any company doing business in this country, and in many respects the inducements are better. Its mutuality consists in a proportionate crediting of the profits to all policy-holders at regular periods; but the annual premium is a fixed rate, so that the insurer will not be called upon to pay a cent more, no matter how great may be the expenses sustained by the company.