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AGENTS.

Mr. E. Pollan is our authorized agent for Huntingdon and surrounding district, and as such entitled to receive subscriptions.

Mr. Alexander McDonald, Teacher, is our duly authorized Agent for Alexandria and

Mr. John Gough is our Traveling Agent, and is fally authorized to receive monies and grant receipts as such.

Mr. Patrick J. Shea, is our agent for St. Thomas and the district surrounding, to whom subscriptions may be paid.

IRISH PAINTING IN ROME.

A correspondent of the Dublin Freeman

savs :-There is at present on view in Cammucci Palace Rome, a magnificent painting by the well-knewn artist, Luigi Ricci, representing St. Patrick preaching Christianity to the pagan Irish. Amongst the figures represented are those of several Druids and the foor kings of ancient Ireland. The painting has been much noticed by the Press in Rome. It is intended as an altar piece for a church in Ire-

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

A Madras correspondent reviewing the actual effects in that presidency of the famine says the registered deaths of the present year to the end of June were three hundred and seventy thousand souls above the average. This probably does not represent more than two-thirds of the actual mortality, and we must add deaths occurring since and not officially reported. The correspondent's conclusion is that not less than 750,000 have fallen victims, and even these will probably be largely in-

AMERICAN EGGS IN ENGLAND.

The trade in eggs between America and this country is rapidly growing. Two hundred and cighty barrels of eggs arrived at Liverpool from the Dominion in one steamer alone a few days ago, and from all accounts I imagine there is a great probability of a regular supply arriving week by week. The importation from France and other countries, it is true, is already large, but the supply is far from meeting the demand in the metropolis and all the chief towns, and there is no doubt a good trade might be done in this branch of food from the other side of the Atlantic.

THE INDIANS IMPARTIALLY CONSIDERED

The following extract is from the letter of a writing on education says:-Catholic priest, treating of the present Indian

"Let these poor Indians be left quiet, and I am sure they will be friendly, at least they will not be hostile. This is exactly the reason, why I contend that if there has been-or if there will be-a war, it is the whites arrayed against the Indians and not the latter against the former. It seems that it is no trouble at all to sacrifice hundreds of people, for the purpose of diminishing and destroying the Indians. But what shall remain to the conqueror of this victory? Nothing else but a mark of ignominy and a few acres of land, which shall have been purchased with blood a thousand times more than it is worth, while it could be got without shedding one drop of blood."

GERMANY.

According to statements received from time to time Germany has not benefited by the enormous indemnity extorted from France. It is singular but it is true that since France has parted with the thousand million dollars, and Germany received that sum, one has become prosperous and the other poor. The following comes from Berlin : -

"Prostration shows no signs of abating, as the misery and destitution among the industrial pepulation is so great that the municipal authorities strive to suppress all knowledge of the actual situation. Failures among business men are unprecedented in number. All branches suffer alike. Paintings can now be bought for less than was formerly asked for chromos. Articles of luxury are now sold for a quarter less than the cost, and old, old firms that dealt only with the wealthy are now in the hands of receivers. Berlin has too many shops, but in reducing the number many must be rulned."

TURKISH PLUCK.

The Daily News correspondent writes of one of the fresh contests around Plevna:-

The attacking brigade now divided into two bodies, which flanked the village on either side but there seemed to be no resistance. It was high time for the three-gun battery to be off, as the Turks were making straight for it, and before long, ere the first of the skirmishers had reached the outskirts of Haidarkeni, we saw the gunners limber up and go off at a gallop. Out upon the plain heavy Russian guns were still firing sullen and desultory rounds to cover the retreat of the retiring columns, but they were overpowered by the combined fire of all the Turkish and Egyptian betteries, which opened along the whole line from the tops of the hills and from the newly won ridge of Karahassan in a triumphant salvo. At the same moment a deafening cheer burst from the troops and the artillerymen around Mehemet All; it was taken up that one of the parties to the alliance had entered to the battalions below, and then spread along the upon war, contrary to the views of the two others, by the battalions below, and then spread along the upon war, contrary to the views of the two others, by the battalions below, and then spread along the upon war, contrary to the views of the two others, particulated up to the 14th inst., 239 officers and 9,482 they more plains of the misery of reflecting that the winter is in this Holy Temple. Contemporately in the Lords is in this Holy Temple. Contemporately in the Lords is in this Holy Temple. Since the 7th inst. Over—the Crescent had triumphed over the Cross. ment wished the dismemberment of Turkey.

THE MARRIAGE OF KING ALPHONSO.

The Lendon Tablet says:-

"Letters from La Granja to the French papers state that the Princess of Asturias informed the Infanta Dona Mercedes, the third daughter of the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier, that Queen Isabel, who is at the Escurial, had given her consent to the proposal of marriage between her and the King, and that the next day the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, accompanied by Dona Mercedes, paid a formal visit to the Queen-Mother. If this be true, the matter may be considered settled, and it is even alleged that the date of the marriage is already fixed for February. The King has been so long worried about this matrimonial question that, young as he is, he must one would think, be rather glad to have it settled in any way. To Spaniards in general, we suspect that the Belgian alliance, though not realisable in any case for some years, would have been more acceptable. But it is rumoured that King Leopold replied to overtures made on the part of Spain that, much as he would have been pleased to have King Alfonso as a son-in-law, the hand of his second daughter was already promised to an Austrian Archduke.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

We clip the following from an exchange:-"In spite of the statements which are constantly appearing in the English and Italian papers, we have satisfactory ground for affirming that the health of the Pope is quite as good as it could possibly be expected to be at his years. And we notice that the Daily Telegraph publishes a confirmation of this information in the shape of an extract from the letter of 'a correspondent of high position,' who writes, 'The Holy Father is looking as well and is in as good spirits as when I left Rome in July. During the whole summer there has only been one day on which he was unable to receive. His great weakness and constant fainting fits are entirely inventions. I saw Dr. Ceccareli yesterday, and he assured me that old age was the only infirmity the Holy Father was suffering from. The audiences take place every day as usual, and a great many people are received in the evening? With regard moreover to the assertions of several newspapers, and especially those contained in the Times of the 8th inst., relating to alleged differences concering the office of Camerlengo, we have authority for stating that they are entirely deviod of foundation. This office and that of the Cardinal Penitentiary—

dinal Pecci, Archbishop-Bishop of Perugia, is to be the new Camerlengo, and Cardinal Bilio, Bishop of Sabina, the new Penitentiary." IRELAND AND CANADA.

vacant by the resignation of Cardinal Panebianco

on account of ill health-were to be filled up in the

Consistory which was to be held yesterday. Car-

The London Tablet of the 22nd September

But we need not travel to the Colonies for slaring contrasts such as that between Canada and Ireland in the matter of educational treatment. The English Educational Act of 1870 as amended, is mainly a denominational, though theoritically a secular measure, so that the tone and spirit of the schools follow the direction of the religious management, irrespective of creed, Catholic, Anglican or Dissent. Any sound and solid series of school books, reading standards, histories or geographies used, the Educational Department, through its inspectors, never busying itself with inquitorial examination of their contents, so that any Catholic series of books may be adopted in the Catholic schools. No Iconoclastic raid is made on the Cross without, or sacred symbols within the schools. No objection is made to the singing of a Catholic hymn out of the hours devoted to secular instruction; nor is there any limitation to Catholic influences in moral correction of faults as they may arise. Then English Catholics have the inestimable advantage, in common with their Protestant fellow-countrymen of all creeds, of admirable training colleges both for masters and mistresses, aided by liberal State grants. These, so far, are contrasts as regards primary education between Ireland and England nearly as striking as those between Ireland and Canada. We have some hope that if timely steps be taken before next session to bring the great question of Irish Education before Parliament in a manner and form becoming its gravity and its difficulty; hostility to Catholic claims may be softened and sympathy won by a clear, full, able and moderate statement of these grievances, with specific remedies for their removal.

HUNGARY AND THE WAR. In the Hungarian Diet to-day Prime Minister Tisza, replying to an interpollation by several influential Deputies on the Eastern question, said that now no dauger whatever threatened the interest of the monarchy. Be denied that the Government had exercised neutrality in a way unduly favorable to Russia, or that the policy pursued by the Hungarian Government was contrary to the opinion of the Hungarian people. The Government's policy consisted now, as formerly, in the protection of the interests of the country without war, if possible, but at the same time in protecting them in every contingency, also in seeing that nothing took place in the East without the consent of Austria and Hungary would not impede Turkey's action against her. As regarded the three Emperor's alliance, that alliance did not exist in the sense that the three Emperors and the three powers had entered into engagements with each other upon the Eastorn question, or upon other concrete questions.
The Emperors and their Governments had only agreed in the interest of European peace to proceed in harmony, but not in common on any question which might arise. They had succeeded in this for several years, and, even now, the fact that the war has not become a European one was partly due to their amicable relations. The three Emperors alliance might again be of service in maintaining peace after the close of the present war. The fact

THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

The Minerve reproduces from the ordinary Roman correspondence of the Monde, a leading French Catholic journal, the following:-

"Letters from Canada recently received at Rome bring excellent news of the success of the mission which the Holy See confided to Monseigneur Conroy. In the ecclesiastical Province of Quebec, which Mgr. has visited with the title of Delegate Apostolic, there were to be deplored among the faithful, dissentions all the more annoying because they lacked foundation. They had for origin or for pretext the name of 'Liberal,' which many Canadians, otherwise good Catholics, take or allow to be given them in purely political questions. Others, too zealous have taken this name in bad part, and, to these those who very innocently avail themselves of it, have applied the condemnations which the Holy See has launched against the real liberals, or revolutionists. There, I repeat, it has to do with the denomination of a simple poli ical party, and it is known that in Great Britain, as in all the English possessions, the name of 'Liberal' is employed in a sense altogether different trom elsewhere. It designates a political party whose tendencies and aspirations have in themselves nothing contrary to the principles of Catholic orthod xy. I like to insist on this well established point, for there are found, even in France, journals which, on this same question, have sinned by excess of zeal or by erroneous information. It is, moreover, in the distinction established above that Mgr. Conroy has placed himself to put a stop to the useless strife of which have I spoken. He has known, by his pru-dence, as well as by his zeal and by his persuasive tal ent, how to pacify min's, dissipate doubts, and draw again among Canadian Catholics the bonds of the surest and most perfect charity. It is opportune to add that in this work of pacification the Apostolic Delegate has had powerful auxiliaries among the most influential members of the clergy and the epis-copate. In short, peace is proclaimed, to the general satisfaction."

MORMON RECRUITS.

We are somewhat surprised to find that Mormonism has received an impetus through the demise of Brigham Young. Our opinion-which we shared with most of the world-was that the system flourished in later years only because of the administrative vigor and ability of its chief. Apparently the assumption was unwarranted, for a Liverpool steemer sailed a few days ago, carrying 200 recruits fot Salt Lake City, and the accompanying "elders" voluntered the statement that proselytes are coming in very rapidly since the "apostle" shuffled off the mortal coil. Perhaps the only comment we need make on this circumstance is that human credulity and human felly are unknown quantities. There is no imposture we can conceive which would fail to entrap victime, and that which has the spacious cloak of religion is invariably the most successful of all. We may remark, however, on the significant fact that the latest contingent deported from our shores is made up of English, Scotch, and Welsh almost exclusively, and that Germany forms to be the only gathering-ground outside the hap; y shores of Christian Great Britain. Let it not be supposed that Ireland has been left uncanvassed. We have the testimony of the gentlemen to whom is delegated the duty of hunting for adherents that the Irish not only decline to become Mormons but manifest a spirit that renders recruiting amongst them personally dangerous. We knew this before we had the candid testimony of the "cider," and we alluded to it last week. It is not surprising Catholics, however careless, instinctively hate the foulness of Mormonism, and resent its approach. It is only the luckly people of Great Britain and Germany, who rejoice in a "pure faith," an "open Bible," and a "beautiful liturgy," that can be coaxed into the abominations of Utab.—Catholic Times.

RUSSIAN LOSSES.

The London Tablet has the following:-

"Blow after blow has been falling on the Russlans in Bulgaria. Before Plevna they have lost, with the exception of the Gravitza redoubt, all that they had gained. While the centre of the Russian army assisted by the Roumanians from the right, who fought well, had captured the large redoubt which it has been agreed to call by the name of the village above mentioned, though it is only one of several in its neighbourhood, troops from the left under General Skobeleff, who distinguished himself in Khokand and at the recent battle of Loftcha, had succeeded after a severe struggle in establishing itself in three redoubts to the south and south-west of Plevna, and between Loitcha and Sona roads. This was on the 11th, and on the morning of the next day, Wednesday, the 12th, Osman Pashu opened furious cannonade upon the redoubts which were in the possession of the enemy. The Russians nuder Skobeleff, who had used up all their reserves in the repeated assaults of the previous day, were of course disorganised and hard pressed, and General Skobeleff sent to General Levitzky for reinforcements. That General however could not or would not send any, and, when another officer sent in the afternoon the remains of a regiment which had suffered severely the day before, it was too late, and the Russlans, at the sixth assault, were driven with very heavy loss out of the southern redoubts. Another Dubnik, on the west of Plevna, with the intention of cutting Osman Pasha from his supports, was also attacked by the Turkish General, it is not quite clear on what day. On Saturday last the Grand Duke Nicholas telegraphed from his head quarters at Poredin an account of the subsequent struggle up to that date, in which he acknowledges a total loss of 300 officers and 12,500 men; the number of killed amounting to about 3,000, though it is impossible, he says, to give the exact figures. As to

RUSSIA'S POLICY.

The following extracts from the "Table Talk of Napoleon the First " are extremely interesting at the present moment:

"One day," Napoleon said, I could have shared the Turkish Empire with Russia; we have dis-cussed the question more than once. Constantinople always saved it. This capital was the great embarrassment, the true stumbling block. Russia wanted it, and I could not grant it. It is too precious a key; it alone is worth an empire; whoever possesses it can govern the whole world." "All the Emperor Alexander's thoughts," said

Napoleon at St. Helens, "are directed to the conquest of Turkey. We have had many discussions about it. At first his proposals pleased me, because I thought it would enlighten the world to drive those brutes the Turks out of Europe. But when I reflected upon its consequences, and saw what a tremendous weight it would give to Russia, on account of the number of Greeks in the Turkish dominion who would naturally join the Russians, I refused to consent to it, especially as Alexander wanted Constantinople, which I could not consent to, as it would destroy the equilibrium of power in

HOME RULE IN THE NORTH.

The following is a copy of the Ulster proclamation :--

TO THE PEOPLE OF ULSTER.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—The ages witness to us that the English Government and Parliament are incapable and unwilling to govern this country in the interests of its reople, and since we are neither permitted to meet in an Irish Parliament or hold an Irish convention, let us meet in conference to fix on our future line of action, and to aid in securing the blessings of Home Rule. Seeing the continued misgovernment of our country, the decay of our population, the decline of our commerce, and the political corruption forced upon Ireland, we, citizens of Derry and Belfast, carnestly desire to be joined in conference by our thoughtful friends over the province.

MAvoiding the recital of past oppressions, we have even now sufficient evidence to prove that the recurrence of such oppressions is not impossible. There remains no hope for the people of this island but in their own enlightened determination.

By rejecting every measure which the inhabitants of this country consider essential to their welfare, the London Parliament has exhibited a fixed deter mination to retard our progress-and not long since we were insultingly told in the House of Commons that Irishmen are not entitled to the same privileges which Englishmen and Scotchmen enjoy. It is, therefore, a solemn duty which we owe to our native land, to conscience, and to God, to meet together, consult, and calmly labour to remove the stigma attempted to be fixed upon us. We expect the assistance of several members of Parliament, and the attendance of representative shade, and through intermediaries, but directly and men from the British Home Rule Confederation. openly. If it scorns aliars, it dreams of mounting Resolutions will be introduced dealing with the on throner. Can it be supposed, in such in emerpresent political situation in and out of Parliament,

and the social condition of the people. Time and place will be announced, and cards of admission will be sent to all who signify a desire to attend.

Derry, 12th September, 1877. JOSEPH R. M'CLOSHEY, M.D., Derry. CHARLES M'DONOUGH, Derry. THOMAS O'HANLON, T.C., Derry. William Monaghan, Derry. JOHN M'LAUGHLIN, Derry. JAMES DURNAN, Derry. JOSEPH G. BIGGAR, M.P. Belfast. REV. M. H. CAHILL, Belfast. JAMES O'KANE, Belfast. TERENCE O'BRIEN, Belfast. John Duppy, Belfast. BEV. I. NELSON, Belfast .- Ulster Examiner.

RITUALISM IN ENGLAND.

There was a scandalous scene in a Ritualistic church in Hampshire, Eng., a fortnight ago. A gentleman going into the church about ten minutes before the service began, was astonished to see on the altar two wax candles, in jewelled candlesticks. a large gilt crucifix and two jars of flowers. Acting on the impulse of the moment, he went into the chancel and seizing the candlesticks and the crucifix, carried them to a pew mid way down the sisle. In a few minutes the curate came out out of the vestry, and looking aghast at the transformation scene on the altar, faced the congregation; but no one spoke. Eventually the sacrilegious offender was pointed out to him. The curate marched down the aisle and the debate opened. Q .- " What have you done with the candlesticks you have taken from the altar!" A—"There they are." Q—
"Then give them up, sir." A—"I shan't." The curate-"I will have you removed." A-" Do so." As the curate passed the altar he bowed and went forward to the vestry, but the choir refused to assist him. Then he returned to the altar steps, and falling down on his knees, he prostrated himself before the empty table, crossed himself more than once, and manouvred in some odd way with his hands and arms. The gentleman in the pew then hissed him. The curate rose, and again bowing tothe altar, went down the aisle, and the dehate was resumed. Q—"Will you leave the church?" A—
"No, I shan't." Q—"You won't? then I will-send
for a policeman. A—"Do so; the sooner you do it the better." When the policeman entered the entrenched position which they had constructed at church the discussion was reopened. The Curato, -"You are breaking the law." A-" And what are you doing, sir? You are both breaking the law and your oath." The Cursie,—' I represent the Vicar, and I give you in charge." A—You represent the Pope. That's whom you represent." atmosphere or starving in an exhausted country. The policeman stepped forward, but a shrill voice unprovided with railways, where supplies from the doorway cried out: "Don't you see would have much difficulty in reaching them. The scenes of horror which are now presented to us intruder if he intended to interrupt the service, on both sides in Bulgaria would have been brought "Certainly not, if you keep within bounds," was home to us, whereas now, at least, we are spared

THE WAR

\$2 per annum in advance.

The result of the desperate attack upon Pleyna has surprised the world. It was a futile week's work, for the Russians, though they fought with almost superhuman courage, achieved practically nothing of any importance, except the possession of the Gavitza redoubt. Day after day the faithful soldiers of the Czar faced the cannon's mouth, and meckly, bravely, magnificently, they went to the shambles. The fruit of the attack is the most appalling the eye could behold-20,000 dead bodies choking the ditches, filling the redoubts, cramming the covered ways, piled upon the slopes, and lying in promiseuous heaps among the waves of golden grain. The spectacle which the Czer had to witness was a sea of blood in a field of slaughter. Death has had gorgeous victory, but not yet in the grave, for the bodies lie unburied as they fell, in their ghastly mutilation. Scobeleff is the hero of Plevna, though he is on the losing side. Day and night for a whole week he remained alive in the midst of death. No bullet touched the hair of his head. Begrimed with smut and powder smoke, his sword broken, his uniform in rags, his face unrecognisable, his figure a wreck of hard work and sleepless nights, he resled and tottered away from the re-

taken redoubt when the last hope was gone. "It is the will of God," he said, and said no more. PRIESTS AND POLITICS.

The Bishop of Montpellier does not think that the clergy exceed their functions when they interpose in elections. Indeed he holds that as part of the body social, it is their duty to take a keen in-terest in politics. Nothing affecting the welfare of the people, interiorly or exteriorly, in the political sense, can possibly be a matter of indifference to the pasters, and the entire history of France is an evidence of the beneficial influence which the clergy have wielded whenever circumstances gave them the power of wielding any at all. As a matter of principle, and on general grounds, the bishop holds that his proposition is beyond controversy; and no impartial man can come to any other conclusion. But there is a special reason why, at this juncture, clerical activity should be undoubted, and we will allow his lordship to submit this reason in his own words :- "A vast system has been organised, not in one country alone but in all the universe, to disunite the mystic body of Christ, in order to favour the scheme of preverting the masses, and to dis-figure, ridicule, and calumniate our mysteries, our beliefs, and our moral principles. The newspapers the novels, the dramas, the collections of poetry, the paintings, the sculpture, the engravings, the vulgar images, the instruction in schools for rich and poor, and even the public fets—all are employed to implant in the people either anger or contempt towards the Catholic Church. Evidently there is a class of men-and active men-who would drive us even beyond paganism, since they hate and revite God Himself. This organisation, formerly secret and prudently cloaked under the name of philosophy, now displays itself impudently, with an assurance equal to its ambition. It no longer governs in the gency, that we ought to remain quiescent? Why, the bare suggestion would be an outrage. Our duty on the contrary, is to affirm our convictions, and to preach loudly and explicitly the rights and the mission of the Church."—Liverpool Catholic Times.

THE "STANDARD" ON THE WAR. The Standard, in the course of an editorial

on the war, says:-

Let the country reflect for a moment when it is told that England ought to go to war with Russia, upon all that is involved in the advice. The war party is a noisy and excited one, though we are convinced that it is without any real hold upon the convictions of the country When Englishmen feel strongly they are always willing to subscribe liberally; and the paltry list of half-crowns and odd sixpences that filter into the so-called Turkish Compassionate Fun 1; is excellene evidence that the immense majority of the nation have kept their heads in spite of the strongly seasoned mock-heroic appeals to their sensibilities with which they have been daily drenched during the last few months. Let us report that, instead of a quiet conference at Salzburg, at which had we been so inclined, England would have been a welcome guest, we should now be forced, had we plunged into the conflict opened by the Russian declaration of war, to make exertions similar in kind to those which we made in the winter of 1854-55. We should have to undertake all that a winter campaign in the valley of the Danube involves, and it would involve, from the point of view of cost merely, fur more for us than for the semi-civilized nations which are now strangling one another between the Vid and the Lom. We should, if we had engaged in the war, either as allies of Turkey or of Russia, be driven to spend wast sums of money and thousands of priceless lives in holding positions throughout the winter which might or might not be indispensable for a renewal of the attack or the defence in spring. We have heard of the frightful slaughter to which the troops of the Czar and the Sultan have been alike exposed at the Shipka Pass and at Plevns. Do we always remember that if the Ministry had not adbered carefully to its policy of neutrality we should have assuredly had to bear our part in that fatal ordeal? This is, indeed, one of the services which are easily forgotten. But for the strong and cool conduct of our diplomacy, for which we have to thank partly Lord Derby, but chiefly the steady temper and sound sense of the people themselves, it is our soldiers who would have been dying in heaps upon the heights of Fort St. Nicholas and of the Gravitza Redoubt- We should have seen them struck down by opidemic diseases in a tainted atmosphers, or starving in an exhausted country, since the 7th inst was a constant of the state of the sta