

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Cross.—We are teased with applications on this subject, to which once for all, we reply in the advice already given. The former Publisher has very fairly offered to refund to Subscribers for this year any balance that may be due to them. To ensure the regular receipt of the Cross, from the present publisher, let them subscribe at our office, or procure the paper from one of our agents.

A Purgatorian.—We feel obliged for your good opinion, but we only discharged our duty. The reason, why the Holy Sacrifice is the most secure and efficacious means of relieving the departed, we take to be this. All other offerings and suffrages for them depend on the merit of person who makes them, whereas the Tremendous Sacrifice being of infinite value and containing an always acceptable victim, does not depend for its efficacy on the merits or demerits of him who offers it, or who causes it to be offered.

A Teetotaller.—We reply by all means adhere to your Pledge. You admit you have been unfortunate before. Remember then, the proverb of the burned child. You cannot depend on yourself, and what has happened before, would most probably happen again. We care not in what part of the city you live, you have only to look around you, to behold the frightful effects of intemperance, in sudden deaths, ruined health, shattered constitutions, lost reputations and beggared families. It is, unhappily, too true in the moral world that with all the weakness of lambs, we expose ourselves to danger and temptation with all the courage of lions. Human frailty is a poor and inconsistent plea for diabolical audacity. As to your other objection, consult your spiritual director. We say this, as we hope you approach the Sacraments. Without this your Teetotalism will avail you little, except perhaps in a temporal point of view. In fact, Temperance, without practical religion, degenerates into a mere heathen virtue. The faults or crimes of other Teetotallers are no reason why you should abandon your pledge, no more than you should abandon your religion, because there are many scandalous Catholics. If every one of us would correct and reform one sinner, (i. e. himself) we would soon have a great many saints in the world.

Verax.—We cannot gratify you without being guilty of unnecessary cruelty. The individual in question has been already sufficiently punished by himself, and we have no desire to increase the bitterness of his reflections. St. Paul's advice to his disciples would be very good for Mr. Verax. 'Mind yourself and let your neighbour alone, although he be unfortunate. He may be a Saint yet, for aught you know.'

Charity.—We believe it is the intention to open an Orphan Asylum, as soon as sufficient funds can be procured for the purpose. Much has already been accomplished in a very short time and without a farthing's expense to the public. If Charity be so anxious on the subject let him or her (for we cannot guess the gender of the writer from the dubious manuscript) send in a handsome donation to begin with. We have often found that those who are the loudest and foremost in pointing out grievances and describing

wants, confine their liberality altogether to their eloquence. They are always very liberal of that. A munificent act of charity such as those of the late Michael Bennet and Morgan Doyle is worth more than all the frothy declamation in the world. We lately published an account of a retail Tobacconist who died in an humble thatched house in an Irish town, and who left £1000 to a Religious Institution. A pious tobacconist of this description would be very useful in these parts, and would do more to accomplish the objects of Charity than all the essays we could indite for a year.

A Collector.—The sum given was £20, ten pounds to each. Three numbers of the Annals lately arrived from Dublin, viz. November 1848, January, and March 1849, and we believe several of the Collectors have already received copies of them. We cannot answer the other question.

Hibernus.—The powerful Letters against the N. York Nation, signed an Irish Catholic, are universally ascribed to Bishop Hughes

ST. SOPHIA—CONSTANTINOPLE.

"Externally, an indescribable mass of blocks and domes, with outstanding minarets beside it. This former Christian Church, built by Constantine the Great, in the fourth, and rebuilt by Justinian in the sixth century, has often passed through the scathing ordeal of fire, and witnessed many revolutions around it. Unfortunately a number of workmen were employed in repairing it, and from near the floor to the roof of the dome, its interior presented one entangled net work of scaffolding. This Church, first called the 'Temple of Divine Wisdom,' was built of granite and porphyry, and white, blue, green, black and veined marbles. It has eight porphyry columns, taken by Aurelius from the great Temple of the Sun, at Balbec; eight jasper ones from the Temple of Diana at Ephesus; and others from Troas, Cyzicus, Athens, and the Cyclades. Its dome and roof are supported by columns of the temples of Isis and Osiris; of the Sun and Moon at Heliopolis and Ephesus; and Minerva, at Athens; of Phœbus, at Delos; and of Cybele, at Cyzicus. Over the main cross were inscribed the words of the vision, 'In hoc signo vinces.' After its destruction by fire, it was sixteen years rebuilding. When completed, Justinian entered with the Patriarch on Christmas day, and running alone to the pulpit, cried out, 'God be praised, who hath esteemed me worthy to complete such a work. Solomon, I have surpassed thee.' This Church is in the form of a Greek Cross, 180 feet high, 269 long, and 143 broad. It has one large central and two side domes, its walls are of polished stones, and it is paved with large flags. Within the cupola is inscribed the verse of the Koran, 'God is the light of the heavens and the earth.' It has two banners, one on each side of the minaret, denoting the victories of Islamism over Judaism and Christianity; and on the nights of the Ramadan, when this as well as all the other mosques are illuminated, the Imam mounts it with a wooden sword in his hand. On each minaret is a gilt crescent. Upon the interior surface of the great dome and the vaulted roofs of the transepts we counted many crosses in Mosaic, the work of its Christian architect. A number of workmen were employed scaling off the plaster, which, in a more bigoted day, had been spread over the interior walls of this once rich and beautiful Church. When Constantinople was taken by Mohammed II. he forced his charger through a throng of priests and nuns who had fled to the sacred temple, and riding up to the high altar, sprang from his horse, and exclaimed, 'There is no god but God—and Mohammed is his prophet.' This desecration was the signal for murder, violation, and every horrible excess. Ascending to the gallery, supported on columns of jasper, we were led out upon the swelling roof, dazzling with reflected light to look upon the bee-hive city and its circumjacent scenes. On leaving the mosque, our curiosity ungratified from its condition, we were accosted by many boys, proffering for sale pieces of mosaic that had fallen from the ceiling."—*Lynch's Travels.*

THE STATE CONVICTS.—The *Freeman's Journal* publishes the following farewell address of the State prisoners:—

"Fellow-Countrymen—If your efforts to procure a mitigation of the penalties to which we are to be subjected had been as successful as you desired, we could not have offered to you more sincere and grateful acknowledgments than those which we now tender, for the sympathy and solicitude which you have displayed in our behalf.

"At this moment, whilst we are bidding our last sad farewell to our native land, the reflection that our fellow-countrymen have not witnessed with indifference our removal from amongst them, is a sweet source of consolation; and, be assured, that this remembrance will hereafter be a soothing alleviation to whatever sufferings it may be our lot to endure.

"Knowing that we address many who do not concur with us in political opinions, we do not feel ourselves at liberty to offer any observations upon the policy by which this country is governed—upon the policy which gave occasion to our resistance to British power, upon the policy which now consigns us to exile. We are compelled to repress even the emotions which we feel in reflecting upon the awful condition in which we leave the land that we have deeply loved; nor is this a fitting occasion to point out the means by which its disasters may be repaired; but we cannot refrain from the expression of a hope that you will not despair of your country; and we may be permitted to offer to our fellow-countrymen a parting exhortation, that they will lay aside those unhappy dissensions which have so long paralysed the intrinsic strength of the Irish nation, and henceforth learn to love and confide in each other.

"We feel that it is not necessary to say anything to you in vindication of our motives. Even those who most condemn our conduct know that we have not been animated by considerations of a personal nature in hazarding all that is dear to us for the sake of our native land; but we owe it to our feeling, to declare that, whatever may be the sacrifice we incur by devotion to its interests, our latest aspiration will be a prayer for the prosperity, the honour, and independence of Ireland.

"WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN.
THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER.
TERENCE BELLEW McMANUS.
PATRICK O'DONOGHUE.

"Richmond Prison."

CARLOW COLLEGE.—The annual exhibition took place at Carlow College on the 27th ult., when the pupils passed a brilliant examination in the various departments:—classics, history, British law, natural philosophy, &c. Recitations were also delivered with great effect and talent. After the distribution of prizes, the Right Rev. Dr. Haly delivered an impressive address to the assembled pupils. A sumptuous repast followed, and a play very cleverly represented by the pupils terminated the proceedings.

RETREAT FOR SECULAR LADIES.—On the Continent it is a common practice to have at stated periods secular retreats for ladies; and that good, pious, and holy practice is now about to be introduced for the first time in Ireland by Mrs. Ball, the Rev. Mother of the Loretto Convent of Dublin. Under the sanction of his Grace, the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, a course of spiritual exercises is to commence at the Loretto Abbey, Dalkey, on the 20th August, and to conclude on the 26th of August. These spiritual exercises for the convenience of ladies engaged in the world are to be under the guidance of the Rev. J. Gaffney, S. J., and will be open for those who may during that period take up their residence in the Abbey, as well as those who, though they may spare the time to attend the exercises, cannot enjoy the advantage of living in the Abbey. *Tablet.*

FATHER MATHEW.

On Sunday last, Father Mathew officiated in St. Peter's Church, Barclay St. He has since received a great number of visits from citizens of New York and others and has written to the Common Council of the city very humbly thanking them for their courteous reception of him. On Wednesday he quitted his quarters at the Irving House on a visit to Brooklyn. With this his public entertainment as the guest of the city is understood to end and it is said that the good father is greatly delighted at the prospect of escaping from such secular associations; which must be discordant with the feelings of a priest and a friar.—*N. York Freeman.*

A chaplain of the army says, in relation to Gen. Taylor, that in politics he is a *whig*, and in religion he is strictly *orthodox*, and that Mrs. Taylor "is a lady of fine appearance, and a consistent professor of religion." We are satisfied with the endorsement of his reverence. "Pray, sir," said we once to a chaplain in the British navy, "what are your duties on board ship?" "Very light and pleasant, sir," said he. "I read prayers, make the punch, mix the salad and pepper the devils!" These chaplains are pretty good authority in politics and religion.

CONTRACT.

Mail Conveyance between Halifax and Annapolis.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Deputy Postmaster General, for conveying Her Majesty's Mails between HALIFAX and ANNAPOLIS twice a week, will be received at this Office until SATURDAY, the 28th day of July next, at 12 o'clock (noon). The Tenders to state the sum per annum in Halifax Currency.

Tenders will also be received at the same time, for carrying a Semi-weekly Mail between Halifax and Annapolis—

A Tri-weekly Mail between Halifax and Kentville—and

A Daily Mail between Halifax and Windsor—(Sundays excepted.)

The Department reserves to itself the right of fixing the days and hours of departure from either end of the Line.

The Conditions of the Contract are, that the Coaches or Waggon may be drawn by two or more horses, but the rate of speed must be seven miles an hour.

A notice of three months to be given on either side to determine the Contract, and ample Security will be required for the due and faithful performance of the Service. Parties Tendering, to call at the General Post Office, at the above hour, (12 o'clock,) or to send an authorized Agent with the names of their Sureties—otherwise no notice will be taken of their Tender.

The Service to commence on the sixth day of September next.

Any further information which may be required can be obtained on application to the Deputy Postmaster General.

A. WOODGATE, D. P. M. G.

General Post Office,
Halifax, 10th July, 1849.

Young Ladies' Academy.

Under the direction of the Ladies of the
Sacre Cour.

Brookside, Halifax, Nova Scotia

THE Public are respectfully informed, that an Academy for Young Ladies has been opened at Brookside, where a solid and refined Education will be given to Day Pupils and Boarders.

The healthy situation and beautiful grounds of Brookside are so well known to the citizens of Halifax as to require no special description. Music, the Modern Languages, and every branch of a polite Education will be taught.

The formation of the hearts of the Young Ladies to virtue, and the culture of their minds, by the study of those subjects which are intended to constitute a superior education, being the great object which the Ladies of the Sacre Cour have in view, no pains will be spared to attain the desired end.

The system pursued is strictly parental, and the mild influence of virtue is the guiding principle which enforces their regulations. The terms, which are moderate, may be known on application to Madame PARGO, Superioress, either personally or by letter.

It is unnecessary to point out to Parents at a distance, the central position of Halifax, its many advantages as a place of Education, and the facility of communication both by land and sea at all seasons of the year.

Every opportunity is afforded to those Pupils who wish to learn the French language without any extra charge. There is at present a vacancy for a few Boarders.

Halifax, July 14, 1849.