

clergymen, having the sympathies, passions, &c., of the great majority of those who speak the English language on their side. In addition to all this, thousands of co-labourers, as Agents, Colporteurs, &c., are employed to sell and give away the myriads of Protestant publications which annually issue from the press. Neither are the good people backward in contributing the funds requisite to work this vast machinery. We suppose it is no exaggeration to say that millions of dollars are annually expended in these aggressive operations, besides the immense sum which is annually consumed in the ordinary parochial expenses in the various "branches" of the great Protestant family. What more, we ask, can Protestants do than they are already doing, to expand their own religion and to oppose the onward march of Catholicity? And, if Catholicity is making such rapid progress in spite of all the Societies, labors, publications, expenditures, &c., which we have mentioned, is it not evident that their opposition is vain and hopeless? Even if Protestants were to put forth greater exertions, they would not thereby mend the matter; for the more they oppose Catholicity, the more it will flourish. The people of this country, even those whom our neighbour contemptuously terms, "the vast uneducated multitude," have too much practical good sense to put up with the empty pretensions of Protestantism, after they have once been acquainted with the claims of the Catholic religion. They only need a little more light to make them give such a "shout for Popery" as was never heard before.

On Sunday last, we witnessed at the Cathedral two of the most interesting and imposing ceremonies that have ever taken place in the New England States. They were, the closing of the Pastoral Retreat in the morning, and the opening of the Jubilee in the evening. Pontifical mass was celebrated by the Bishop, assisted by the requisite number of clergymen, and with all the ceremonies and vestments prescribed by the Ritual. At the communion about thirty of the Priests received the most Holy Sacrament, the rest having celebrated mass in the churches of the city and immediate vicinity. A plain, practical discourse, admirably adapted to the occasion, was preached by the Rev F. McElroy, of the venerable Society of Jesus, who also preached in the afternoon. We are much gratified to learn that this venerable Priest, and truly good man is henceforth to be attached to this diocese, and that he is to have the parochial charge of one of the oldest and most respectable congregations in the city. His character, his age, and above all his fervent and unassuming piety, we are confident, will exercise a most salutary influence upon our community, both to augment the piety of the faithful, and to gather our wandering brethren into the fold.—*Boston Catholic Observer.*

#### MISS CURRAN.

**THE BETROTHEN OF EMMET.**—A correspondent of the *Freeman* writes thus of Miss Curran, whose death at Rome appeared lately in all the papers:—

"She was no other, it appears, than the betrothed of poor Robert Emmet. I am acquainted with the clergyman who attended her during her last moments. She spoke, he assured me, of her father and her country; and during her illness, which was rather protracted and painful, evinced a nobleness of mind, and a heroic endurance of suffering, above all common-

ation. The story of her life, and previous connection with a young officer, as told by Washington Irving, and currently believed in Ireland is, they say, totally without foundation.—She fixed her residence in Rome sometime in 1847, when she was received into the Catholic Church, by Cardinal Odescalchi, and since then, until her death, her life had been most exemplary, and her charities (considering her slender means) liberal in the extreme. May the Lord have mercy on her soul. Her father was a steady and uncompromising lover of his country, and we cannot better do honor to his memory than by sending up a pious prayer to the throne of mercy for the happiness of his child."

#### CONVERSIONS.

Mr. Chirol, Curate of Mr. Bennett, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, was, on Thursday last received into the Catholic Church at St. Mary's, Chelsea. The Right Rev. Dr. Wiseman officiated on the occasion, attended by the Clergy of Chelsea, and several others, Mrs. Chirol, and Mrs. Chirol, &c., made their Profession of Faith at the same time. The ceremony of reception was performed by the Bishop according to the rite of the Pontifical. The conditional Baptism took place privately in the sacristy. Among the persons present were the following converts:—Messrs. Oakeley, Thompson, Gordon, Horne, Caswell, Ryder, Lewis, Burns, Judge; Lady Atcherson, Mrs. Burns, and many others.

On Tuesday, the 26th, the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines held his annual confirmation in the metropolitan Church of St. Rumbold. Among those who received that holy Sacrament were Sir George, Lady, and Miss D'Albiac. Sir George was received into the bosom of the true Church on Ascension Day, 1813; Lady and Miss D'Albiac on the 2nd of February, 1844, at the Church of St. Theresa at the Hague.—*London Tablet.*

#### FERRARA.

The *Italia* repeated its conviction of the Austrian evacuation on the 5th; but, so far from this being so, letters from Ferrara of the 15th say that instead of evacuating the city the Austrians have doubled the posts, and even outraged the inhabitants. A young man having passed near his Austrian sentinel the latter gave him a thrust of his bayonet. A struggle ensued, in which the soldiers of the guard-house fell upon the youth and struck him with their swords. A Priest who interposed for his protection was also maltreated. The people, irritated, collected round the guard-house, and the Austrians fired on them. On this, the people would have sounded the tocsin and taken vengeance, but Cardinal Ciacchi interposed, tranquillized them, and caused the young man, who was severely wounded, to be taken care of. Austrian patrols horse and foot, overrun the city during the 15th. The *Spencer Gazette* states that the Pope, in addressing himself direct to the Emperor of Austria, has rather retarded than advanced the negotiation respecting the occupation of Ferrara, and that no hope is entertained of an arrangement without the mediation of some third power.

The Pope has requested that the sums subscribed for the erection of monuments to him throughout his States shall be applied to the more useful purpose of erecting an asylum for aged persons at Rome, each province having certain rights of presentation.