

Washington despatch says that Surratt's re-appearance to public notice has brought out a fact concerning him which has never heretofore been published. It is stated on most responsible authority that when Surratt's mother was on trial here, Judge Advocate Holt consented to release her if the former would give herself up to trial. Surratt was informed of this by friends who were in communication with him; but instead of at once complying, and thereby securing the release of his mother, he immediately absconded leaving her to her fate.

If this story be true, it is as hard upon the Court, which sentenced to death, an innocent woman, and a woman whom—as is now evident by its offer on condition to release her—it knew to be innocent, because it could not lay hands upon a man whom it suspected of being guilty. In the eyes of all honest men the hanging of Mrs. Surratt has always appeared a horrid crime, more atrocious even than the cowardly assassination of President Lincoln; now however we are informed that she was thus brutally and iniquitously dealt with, simply out of spite, and because the man upon whom the Court that murdered her wished to lay its hands—though even now of his having entertained any designs upon the life of Mr. Lincoln there is no proof—had fled beyond its reach. There is no instance of a fouler prostitution of justice to be met with in the records of any European nation, than this of the dastardly murder of Mrs. Surratt; if the story printed above, and which reaches us from Yankee sources, be true. Its heading should be not "An Unnatural Son," but "A Dishonest Judge."

Had Surratt given himself he might have been hung himself, but we don't believe he would have saved his mother.

CONVENT OF NOTRE DAME, KINGSTON.—A very successful entertainment and concert was given by the young ladies, pupils of this institution, on the evening of Tuesday the 27th ult. His Lordship the Bishop of Kingston, accompanied by Viscount-General Farrelly, graced the festivities with his presence; and the *British Whig* closes an interesting account of the evening's proceedings with the remark that they bore high testimony to the mental training and educational efficiency of the Convent of Notre Dame.

The same journal also speaks of the Christmas services at St. Mary's Cathedral as "grand and majestic." It speaks highly of the efficiency which the choir has reached under the leadership of the Organist of the Cathedral, Professor Desrochers.

The much vaunted school-system of New England is being somewhat rigidly criticised by the public press. The same extravagance, or rather pecuniary corruption, which pre-eminently characterises all the public institutions of the U. States, taints the administration of the Common Schools; and its results are presented to the world by the Boston *Daily Advertiser*, which shows, from a Report of a Committee of the City Council that, whilst "the number of scholars in the public schools has increased about fifty per cent" during the last sixteen years—the advance in the rate per scholar has been from \$8.55 to \$20.34. In incidental expenses the advance has become greater; "the bills which in 1854 came to \$2.75 per scholar, now reaching \$7.52 per scholar." Some things are said to be "cheap and nasty," of State Schoolism it may be said that is costly as well as nasty.

The Toronto *Globe* of the 26th ult. gives a brief analysis of the Report of Prison Inspectors for the year ending October, 1870. Crime, as far as may be judged from the number of commitments, would appear to be rapidly on the increase in U. Canada, and the chief increase would appear to be amongst juveniles under 16 years of age—these having increased "about 10 per cent." Perhaps the explanation of this phenomenon is to be found in the Common School system of U. Canada.

"During the time embraced in the Report," says the *Globe*, "that is the year ending 1st of October, 1870, the commitments to the common gaols exceeded those of the previous year by 724. Of this excess 641 were men, and 83 women. The total commitments for the year were 6,379. The average number in our gaols at one time is between 600 and 700."

The *Globe* gives also some further statistics. "Our criminals for the year," it says, "rank as follows"—Catholics, 2,392; Protestants of all sects, 3,987.

The annexed report which we take from the London *Times*, of a case pending before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, reveals a curious state of morality as existing amongst the Protestant English, resident in India:—

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, DEC. 6. (Present—Lord Justice James, Lord Justice Mellish, Sir J. Colvile, and Sir L. Peel.)

IN RE VICTORIA SKINNER. This case, which was before the Committee on Monday, revealed a strange state of affairs at Meerut, in the North-Western Provinces of India, where the same persons lived as Christians and also as Mahomedans.

Sir Roundell Palmer appeared in support of a pe-

tition by Helen Skinner, who was also known as Badshmo Begum, the mother of Victoria Skinner, a minor, for special leave to appeal from an order of the High Court. The petition of Mrs. Skinner stated that her husband George Skinner, by whom she had two children, one being Victoria Skinner, was killed at Delhi in the Indian Mutiny, and after his death she continued to live in the "Mahomedan fashion." She had subsequently married one John Thomas Johns, who was formerly a Christian, but became converted to the Mahomedan religion. At the time of the marriage Johns had a wife, whom he had married according to the Christian religion. One of the family of her husband had applied to the Court in India in order that another guardian should be appointed and that the daughter should be removed from her care. The Court had made an order, and the daughter Victoria Skinner had been removed from her charge. The petitioner declared that her daughter was a Mahomedan, and much attached to her, and prayed for special leave to appeal against the decision of the Court in India. Sir Roundell Palmer said the case disclosed some strange facts as to the morality of parties who professed to be Christians, and who lived as Mahomedans.

Their Lordships gave the petitioner special leave to appeal.

Sir Roundell Palmer asked for permission that the petitioner should have access to her daughter, as was usual in such matters.

Lord Justice James said an application could be made to the Court below, and when it was known that leave had been given to appeal, they would, no doubt, give directions on the subject.

Leave to appeal was accordingly granted.

THE IRISH AS A BUSINESS PEOPLE.

A lecture on the above subject was delivered at the St. Patrick's Hall, Ottawa, on Thursday evening, 27th ult., by Matthew Ryan, Esq., of Montreal.

The lecturer commenced by observing that the present was a utilitarian age, one in which the cultivation of the useful arts was considered more conducive to the well being of man, intellectually and morally, than that of the fine arts. While he did not agree with the decision which set aside the study of the fine arts, and ignored their value, but would believe rather, that they had been eminently useful, had soothed the savage, and afforded great aid to religion, and that they would thus continue to be of great value to the end of time, it was undeniable that we live in a business age, and that not to be a business people in this day, on this continent, was to be consigned to helpless inferiority. The particular object of his enquiry was, how far were the Irish a business people,—to shew, perhaps, that they were not so far behind in that regard as some would have them to be. The Irish writers as far as he had read them, did not record much as to the early commerce of Ireland. They dwell with pride on her learning, and so successful have they been in establishing their country's claim in this respect that the *Edinburgh Review* in its 92nd number says, "it cannot be denied that the Irish were a learned people, while the Saxons were still immersed in darkness and ignorance." * * * Be this as it may, however, nothing is better established than that, at a later period Ireland carried on an active trade with the Western coast of Spain, and it would be strange indeed if her admirable position for foreign trade was not brought into play. The evidence collected by Parliamentary enquiries as to the advantages of harbours on the western coast of Ireland is quite decisive. "The voyage from America to the West of Ireland, and back again," says Dr. Kane, "could frequently be made in the time that vessels take in clearing the channel from Liverpool, from London, or from Glasgow." Another competent authority speaking of the struggles and loss of life and property attendant upon the navigation of the English channel said: "If Ireland had justice done her she would be the *Entrepot* for those vessels, instead of Liverpool with her sand banks, or London with the dangers of her river, and their cargoes would be safely landed in Cork or Waterford, and the circulation of these cargoes through the Empire from our ports would be most rapid by means of the steamboats that ply between the two countries." But it is still said the Irish are not a business people, have no natural inclination for trade, and hence the backwardness of their country in times past and in the present time. Ah! the best answer to this is the fact of the marked exertions made by England in times past, and to a certain extent still being made, to prevent the growth of Irish trade. The old opposition in this respect is most fully admitted by such high authorities as Pitt, Huskisson, and Lamborne, by the last named when he was President of the Board of Trade. Pitt spoke so plainly and indignantly on the subject as to attribute the opposition to "a jealousy of Ireland's prosperity"; and the fact of the continued exertions of English statesmen and merchants to repress almost every species of Irish trade justifies the assertion. As far back as 1630 we find Stafford writing from Ireland to the English Privy Council that he had discouraged, and would continue to do so, "a clothing trade," because "it would trench on the clothing of England, and beat us out of the trade itself by underselling us, which they (the Irish) were able to do." In 1673 the principle was more broadly laid down by Sir William Temple. "Regard must be had," he said, "to those points wherein the trade of England comes to interfere with that of Ireland in which case the Irish trade ought to be declined so as to give way to that of England." The civil strife which raged towards the end of the 17th Century much retarded the manufacturing progress of Ireland, yet her efforts, even then, were far from being insignificant, as shown by the historian Barlow. From the time of the Act of Settlement till the revolutionary wars under William III., she increased much in wealth, and so rapidly did she recover from the calamities of the latter period that in 1698 the balance of trade was largely in her favor. It is lamentable to see the spirit in which England met these noble exertions of the feeble country to elevate herself to national dignity, and necessary wealth. The English Lords and Commons, urged on by the Merchants of Bristol, called for the destruction of the woolen trade of Ireland in an address to the King in 1698, and the violator of the Treaty of Limerick

fittily replied: "I shall do all that in me lies to discourage the Woolen manufacture of Ireland, and to encourage the linen manufacture of Ireland and to promote the trade of England."—This desire to promote the linen trade is explained by the facts that whereas wool was the national staple of Ireland, flax, for the manufacture of linen, had generally to be imported from England. But what arrogance did it not argue to prescribe for Ireland what species of manufacture she should cultivate. She required no advice as to the linen trade; she had already promoted it to the proper commercial extent: it was enumerated in the 33rd Henry VIII., as "one of the principle branches of Irish manufacture," and in the 13th of Elizabeth, it was recited that "Irishmen had been exporters of linen for more than 100 years." It might have been allowed after all this experience that Ireland was the best judge as to which branch of manufacture she could most profitably engage in.

"Every civilized country," says Mr. Mill, "is entitled to settle its internal affairs in its own way, and no other country ought to interfere with its discretion because one country, even with the best intention, has no chance of properly understanding the affairs of another." The "intention" of England in establishing the linen trade was finally put beyond all question, when the Act 10th Anne, cap. 19, which imposed a duty of "30 per cent on linens made in foreign parts," was held to apply to Ireland. The learned lecturer next glanced at the long list of English Parliamentary enactments against Irish trade and manufactures, to detail which, would require not a lecture but a special volume. This keen and continued exertion, he said would seem to indicate in Ireland the existence of manufacturing capabilities, and some capacity in her people for trade and commerce. He next met the question so commonly asked, what was the action of the Irish Parliament in view of this aggressive English policy? "It is painful," he replied, "to be obliged to say that this then unfaithful body was generally acquiescent. But the reason was soon told. They were not the Parliament of the nation. They represented the ascendancy party, which was under such obligations to England that they had to yield to her exactions, however severe. But a better and a brighter day soon dawned. Grattan arose!

"Ever glorious Grattan, the best of the good."

His vivifying and purifying eloquence soon procured for his adored country a Parliament worthy of the name, one devoted to her honor and interests.

The victory of 1782 was won: commercial freedom was secured: foreign and colonial markets were opened to Ireland's trade and manufactures; and what a rush of prosperity do we then witness! What an answer to the charge that the Irish were not a business people!

"How stands the case now," says Mr. Pitt, in the House of Commons in 1785,—the trade is infinitely more advantageous to Ireland."

Lord Chancellor Clare said:

"There is not a nation in the habitable globe which has advanced in cultivation and commerce, in agriculture and manufactures with the same rapidity in the same period." The Bankers of Dublin, the Dublin guild of merchants, published evidence in detail to the same effect. But the jealousy of Ireland's prosperity of which Mr. Pitt had complained, was again aroused and finally culminated in the loss to Ireland of her free Parliament. "I hope not for ever," said the speaker most emphatically,—and then what followed? Ah! it is a sad tale to tell what followed. Resolutions and petitions adopted by the Dublin trades at public meetings held in the Corn Exchange Rooms in the years 1841, '42 and '43 tell us something of what followed. Here Mr. Ryan read a series of statements showing how manufacturing employment fell off throughout Ireland consequent upon the Union. One particular is a sample. In Dublin the woolen trade from 1782 to 1794 flourished in all its branches, and continued in a fair way until 1810. The average number of men whom it employed from 1782 to 1810, was about 2,500; average amount of wages £110 per week. In 1843 the average number employed was three hundred and fifty (350); average wages, eighteen shillings per week. Mr. Ryan then expressed a strong doubt as to the prosperity of trade in Ireland at present. He was apprehensive that it was still as described by Mr. O'Connell in 1843, viz., "exporting cattle we ought to eat, and importing goods we ought to man a fleet."

Great changes had been effected, no doubt; a more just public opinion was being rapidly formed in England, he granted; but what did he read in the evidence before a Commission appointed in 1865 to enquire into the railway system in Ireland? A Dublin merchant, Mr. Bewby, stated: "I hold in my hand handbills which had been forwarded to me from Castlebar in the West of Ireland of the carriage of sugar from Liverpool to Castlebar, via Dublin at the rate of 20s. per ton; but the Dublin merchant is charged for his sugar carried over the same line 2s. 6d. Thus the English merchant by a combination with the owners of steamers and railway directors is enabled virtually to get his goods free to Dublin, and having got them there to forward them to the country at a much lower rate than the Dublin merchant can from his own city." Several other merchants complained to the same effect. Mr. Barrington, then Lord Mayor of Dublin, said that in consequence of the high railway charges he was obliged to ship his goods to Liverpool and re-ship them again to Irish ports, in order to compete with English rivals, who thus had a great advantage over him. "This," said Mr. Ryan, "looks like history repeating itself," and then reminded the audience of what Sir William Temple had said in 1673. Mr. Ryan next spoke of the tenacity with which under the disadvantages of the past the Irish clung to Ireland, and to what an extent, even, a large proportion of them en-

tered into what is known as business, and prospered. This was shown in the result of the recent sales of Encumbered Estates. It was predicted, perhaps designed, that the purchasers of these properties would be from England and Scotland; but of the first 21 millions of pounds realized not one-seventh came from England and Scotland and two-thirds of the Irish purchasers were Catholics. He next referred to the wonderful vitality shown by the Irish who emigrated to the continent of Europe, quoting Macaulay's grand tribute to the O'Donnells in Spain, the MacMahons in France, the Nugents in Austria, and the O'Dalys in Portugal. He referred also in glowing terms to the success of the race throughout the British Empire, and in the United States of America as business men, scholars, and statesmen. Such are their numbers, and such their importance, in England itself that the historian Alison was alarmed lest they might one day control the institutions of that country. A Governor of Australia writes to the Imperial authorities that the Irish were amongst the most prosperous and most conservative people under his government. In fact the O'Shaughnessy Government, with Gavin Duffy as its commissioner of Crown lands, ruled in Western Australia for years. And now he would mention a fact most creditable to Mr. Duffy, and one which showed that an Irishman could be true to a Government that was true to him. When Mr. Duffy arrived in Australia he found there a Doctor Laing, a Scotchman, who had been long agitating for the separation of that country from England. Knowing Mr. Duffy's antecedents he thought he would secure in him an immediate ally. But Mr. Duffy saw that Australia was not Ireland, but was enjoying the very system of government which he and others had demanded for Ireland, that is, a government responsible to her own people, subject to their direct control; and in one of the ablest papers he ever wrote he so advised Doctor Laing. Mr. Duffy did not deny that England had wronged his own country, had even inflicted suffering upon himself personally, but he would not violate principle by opposing, or attempting to injure her, where her rule was just. Reference was next made to Mr. Maguire's book on "The Irish in America," in which that able writer, and shrewd observer, tracks his fellow countrymen, and their descendants, throughout the British Provinces, and from Maine to Mexico, finding them everywhere, while avoiding too much drink, doing well, often doing wonders. The details in Mr. Maguire's book as to the success of the Irish on this continent to several of which Mr. Ryan referred, are most interesting. One great fact is worthy of special mention. Within a quarter of a century not less than £21,000,000, or supposing there was no depreciation of United States Currency, \$120,000,000 was sent by the Irish in the United States to their kindred in Ireland. The lecture was closed by a well reasoned and instructive essay on Savings Banks in which it was shown what a large interest the Irish on this continent have in these institutions, and how very valuable they are as the strong box of the humble man of moderate means, and provident habit. The lecturer spoke feelingly and eloquently of how well calculated they were to prevent want and suffering, how much they contributed in their effect on the mind to public order, to an anti-revolutionary spirit. Lord Bacon said that the man who had children gave hostages to the law. Most certainly so did the man who had money in the Savings Bank, every deposit there was a hostage to the law. Hence Mr. Ryan in his "political elements" says there is sufficient money in the Savings Banks in England to prevent a revolution. He, the speaker, heartily wished that there was a Savings Bank and a Temperance Society wherever the Irish were, and, trust him, the Irish would then soon be not only an able business people, but a Christian people of the highest type.

Mr. Ryan was, as might be expected, listened to throughout with marked attention. At the close a vote of thanks was proposed in the handsomest terms by P. A. Edeson, Esq., senr., which was seconded by Moore A. Higgins, Esq., and supported in a brief but highly complimentary address by J. B. L. Fellows, Esq., Barrister.

ADDRESS TO THE REV. FATHER SALMON. St. Gabriel's Church, Point St. Charles, was, on New Year's Day, the scene of a touching ceremony long to be remembered by the good inhabitants of that thriving locality. On that day they testified in a becoming manner the high esteem in which they held their beloved Pastor, the Rev. Father Salmon. An impressive sermon was delivered during Mass, in which the hearers were reminded of the blessings received during the year just past, of the necessity of gratitude, and of the importance of forming good resolutions to be put in practice during the year about to commence.

Occasion was taken to denounce in no measured terms the abuse of strong drinks at this season, and the practice of pressing to imbibe the visitors unwilling to do so. The Mass was immediately followed by Solemn Benediction, at the close of which Messrs. William Wall and J. Lafontaine, approach the altar and read the addresses in English and French, which they had composed for the occasion.

ST. GABRIEL'S FARM, } New Year's Day, 1871. }

ADDRESS PRESENTED TO THE REV. J. J. SALMON.

Reverend and Dear Sir,—We, the members of St. Gabriel's Church, deem it our duty, on the return of this festive season to express unanimously our esteem for your character and our good wishes for your prosperity and happiness. Though less than a year in our midst, we have already learned to appreciate your paternal solicitude to provide for our welfare, spiritual and temporal, and your constant exertions to raise the infant church you have founded to a

sphere adequate to the requirements of a steadily increasing community. But a short time ago, and our district was a dreary waste, access to the church comparatively difficult, and now, thanks to your energetic exertions, we view the temple of God from our own doors; the cross, the emblem of our holy faith, looms nobly above our dwellings and throws its benign shadow over the homes of our families; the bell rings out joyously its summons to prayer and praise; at our own altar we participate of the Bread of Life and listen to the glad tidings of salvation which you, Rev. Father, so eloquently announce.

Your zeal and devotedness in the performance of the sacred functions attached to the Priesthood form another and a higher claim to our respect and affection. That whole souled devotedness, so characteristic of the true Catholic Priest, which studies with care the real wants of the people and spares no sacrifice to provide for them, is exhibited by you in a high degree. We have already experienced your readiness to extend a helping hand to the needy, to advise the uncertain, to chide the erring, and to bind up tenderly the bruised heart on the thorny bed of disease or in the cold hut of poverty.

Finally, in you we recognize the true friend, the accomplished man, the devoted priest, in a word, the zealous servant of God and of His Holy Church. When we see you safely anchored in our midst with your abode easy of access the measure of our comfort will be complete.

In conclusion, with grateful hearts, we wish the compliments of the New Year, hoping that its fleeting hours may bring you peace and happiness. That you may long be spared in your career of usefulness, we shall offer up our prayers to God, the Giver of all good, that he may deign to preserve your health and contentment, and vouchsafe you a Happy New Year, and many returns of this joyous season.

Signed on behalf of the congregation,

Edward McKeon, William Wall,
Michl. Hennessy, J. McCarthy,
Wm. Brackin, R. McCarthy,
Patk. Leahy, M. Healy,
J. McNelly, J. Healy,
J. Connors, M. Donohue.

The Rev. Gentleman in a well worded reply thanked them not only for their present testimonial of affection, but also for their kind and generous assistance since his arrival in their midst. A more substantial token of esteem was then presented by E. McKeon, Esq., J.P., in the shape of a purse of one hundred dollars, which by this time may be increased one half as the contribution list was opened on Saturday evening only. This flourishing little congregation of St. Gabriel's deserve the highest credit for their sobriety, industry and attention to their religious duties and for the perfect accord of its English and French members of whose language their esteemed Pastor seems to be complete master.

Weekly Report of the St. Bridget's Refuge, ending Saturday the 31st ultimo.—Males, 321; Females, 99; English, 19; Irish, 330; Scotch, 11; French Canadians, 34; Total, 441.

DIED IN JAN.—Scraphin Chen, the four score years of age, who it will be remembered, was laid in this city last spring for the murder of his grandson, died yesterday in the Montreal Jail, where he was confined as a dangerous but imbecile lunatic.—*Mont. of Witness, 2nd ult.*

DEPART.—EDIP'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. The *Chief Surgeon General* remarks:—"By a thorough knowledge of the nature laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Edip has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in tin-lined packets, labelled—JAMES EDIP & CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.

Died. In this city, on the 2nd inst., Robt. Campbell, printer, aged 67 years and 15 days, a native of Dundee, Perthshire, Scotland.

Friends and acquaintances are requested to attend his funeral on Friday afternoon, at two o'clock, from the residence of his son Dr. F. W. Campbell, No. 10 Phillips Square.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

DEC. 30.	
Flour 40 lbs. of 196 lb.—Collards.	\$3.50 @ \$3.75
Middlings.	4.00 @ 4.20
Fine.	4.70 @ 4.85
Superior, No. 2.	4.90 @ 5.00
Superfine.	5.50 @ 0.00
Panic.	5.80 @ 6.00

WANTED.

IMMEDIATELY for the ROMAN CATHOLIC FEMALE SEPARATE SCHOOL of Belleville, a FEMALE HEAD TEACHER. Salary liberal. Application to be made (if by letter, prepaid) to P. P. LYNCH, Secretary.

TEACHERS WANTED.

TWO FEMALE TEACHERS Wanted in the Parish of St. Sophia, Terrebonne Co., capable of Teaching the French and English languages. Salary—\$100 for ten months teaching. Teachers to find their board and fuel for the School. Applications, prepaid, to be addressed to PATRICK CARRY, Secretary-Treas.

St. Sophia, Terrebonne Co., P.Q.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

In the matter of LOUIS MARSANT, and JOSEPH TELLIER dit LA FORTUNE, Traders, of the Town of Joliette, Insolvents.

I, the undersigned, Adolphe Magnan, have been appointed Assignee in this matter.

Creditors are requested to file their claims before me within one month, and are notified to meet at my office, in the Town of Joliette, on Friday, the thirtieth day of January next, at eleven o'clock, A.M., for the public examination of the Insolvents and the ordering of the affairs of the estate generally. The Insolvents are hereby requested to attend.

A. MAGNAN, Assignee.

Joliette, 12th Dec., 1870.