

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 13.—In an elaborate report on the state of agriculture in France, presented by M. Casimir Perier to the Council General of the Department of the Aube, there occur certain passages respecting the increase of wages of skilled labour and the decrease in the rural population which deserve notice.

The principal cause, is the constant emigration from the country to the large towns, and especially to Paris, whither the best artisans are drawn by works which are highly remunerative.

This constant and increasing flow towards the large towns has produced the more effect in the country that the general population of France, which formerly was rapidly on the increase, has been for the last 20 years almost stationary. The general census of 1847 showed a population of 35,400,486; that of 1852, including Savoy, only 37,382,225. In 15 years the population increased only 6 per cent at the most, whereas it is otherwise throughout Europe; and countries could be mentioned where, in the same space of time, the increase has been 10, 15, 20 per cent, and even more. The department of the Aube is less favored in this respect than others. From 1847 to 1857 there was actually a diminution of 200 souls; from 1857 to 1863 there was an increase of 1,112; total in 15 years, 904, which is much as saying that the population has not varied. The returns of births in the same Department are not less curious, or less deplorable. During the 15 years from 1847 to 1862 the average number of births yearly was 5,841; for the last four years it has been only 5,302. The highest figure was in 1851 6,151; the lowest in 1855—5,123. What is most remarkable is that in the four years of the Republic, 1848, 1849, 1850, and 1851, the total number of births was 24,468, or a yearly average of 6,117; whereas, in the four years from 1862 to 1865, both inclusive, it was but 21,210, average 5,302; or less by 815 than the average of the four years of the Republic; and by 539 than the general average from 1847 to 1862. M. Casimir Perier observes,—

To ascertain the real causes of a phenomenon so contrary to the normal law of the world, and also so contrary to what existed some years back, is not in our power. It would appear from evidence perfectly trustworthy that the diminution is generally more in places where the population is better off as regards comfort than in those where it is poorer. Is this result accidental, or the contrary? Is it that uneasiness as to the future, anxiety for well being, the fear of the expense attending a numerous family, have the effect of making marriages more rare? Or is the diminution of the number of children born in marriage to be accounted for by the wish to avoid the division of property made obligatory by the law? There is ample subject for reflection to the legislator, the economist, and the moralist in this application of the doctrines of Malthus on the part of persons who have never heard of them, or of him. It is not easy to find a remedy for these evils. That can be the work of time only; but there is one suggestion we should make as to the increase of workmen's wages: The Government should take into its most serious consideration the means of restoring to agriculture the hands it so much needs. It should particularly apply itself to guard against the mischievous effects of the competition which the great works of Paris have raised against agricultural labor—a competition against which no complaint would be heard if it were natural instead of being, in great part, the consequence of compulsion, and of the subsidies which encourage and promote it.

The treaty between the French and Italian Governments, for the arrangement of the Roman finances, was signed in Paris on Thursday week. The terms agreed to are that Italy shall pay to France twenty millions francs, in cash, for arrears of interest on the Roman debt, and nineteen millions francs per annum for the future interest of the same debt.

The subjoined extract from the letter of a French correspondent who writes from the Department of the Aube, may not be without interest at the present moment:—You may safely say that in France the indignation of the clergy and of all true Catholics is very great on account of the withdrawal of the troops from Rome. In this diocese (Archdiocese of Reims) a "Triduum" has taken place for the Pope, and sermons from all the pulpits, as bold as prudence can allow, are of daily recurrence. They are very determined and very strong. In fact, the dissatisfaction with the policy of a certain despot is universal, not only on account of his betrayal of the Pope, but as well that his retreat from Mexico in face of the monarchs of the United States Government, is considered a scandal and a humiliation. The new scheme of concession, which will soon become law, is viewed with intense disapprobation by every family. I don't think the system can last long.

PASTORAL OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.—The following are extracts from this remarkable document:—The Church, the Bishop says in a part of his *manuement* which has attracted much attention, has always, for eighteen hundred years, played the part of a pacificator. She made her entrance upon the world by giving up to martyrdom, during three centuries, several millions of her children. If, for the centuries which followed, her political influence predominated, it did so only because superior culture and piety must exercise ascendancy over horde of barbarians. But now, placed among armies of half a million of men, no one can say that the Church, unarmed, fails in moderation. Her relations with temporal Governments are, in modern times, regulated by Concordats; it is precisely by such compromises that the concessions made by the Church to the civil power have always been consecrated, and those dispositions evidenced which, on occasion, she knows how to manifest. The past, the Archbishop adds, must be the guarantee of the future. The Church, if need be, in her maternal solicitude will know, in her own good time, how to make all such sacrifices to restore harmony as are compatible with the principles of truth and uprightness. What she must guard inviolably is integrity of doctrine, morality, and discipline. What she also can and wishes to do is to make allowance for human weakness, and accommodate herself to circumstances, as far as right and justice render it possible. The Holy Father himself yielded to such exigencies in better times. We must not now judge of what he will do from the language of irresponsible organs, which can bind none but themselves, and which, for that very reason, speak as much without moderation as they do without authority.

The suit of the King of Prussia against the Memorial Diplomatic for defamation came before the Civil Tribunal of the Seine yesterday. M. Lachaud appeared for His Majesty, and M. Dufauré for the defendants—M. Ollivry, responsible editor of the journal; M. Boutet, secretary; and M. Dubuisson, printer. The gravamen of the charge, which was that of insulting a foreign Sovereign, was contained in the following passage:—

"Facts, of which we guarantee the exactitude, are in our possession. Prince Lobkowitz possesses on his estate in Bohemia some herons of pure blood, which from their rarity are at present beyond all price; the King of Prussia was so struck by their beauty that he has confiscated them for his own sheep walks without offering the slightest indemnity to their legitimate proprietor."

The Court held that the statement was false and malicious, and sentenced Ollivry to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 100fr., Boutet to a similar punishment, and Dubuisson to 100fr. fine only, and further condemned them to pay the costs.

The case of the will of Father Lacordaire has just

come before the Imperial Court of Toulouse. As may be remembered, the celebrated Dominican at his death appointed by testament Father Jandel, also a member of the same community to be his universal legatee. The will was attacked by the brother of the deceased on the ground that Father Jandel was in reality only a trustee, and that the property was left to the order of Dominicans, which, being a non-recognised religious corporation, could not legally inherit. A sentence annulling the will was delivered at the Court of Castres, and the second suit was an appeal made by Father Jandel, who engaged M. Berryer as counsel, while the former judgment was defended by M. Albert on behalf of M. Leon Lacordaire. The Court fully confirmed the former judgment, and declared the will to be null and void.

PARIS EXHIBITION, 1867.—All the heavy iron-work and roofing of the building have been completed, and the light framing and glazing are being proceeded with. The piers are being painted the usual colour of Parisian iron work, chocolate picked out with gold. The ceilings are straw yellow with fillets of sienna colour. The exterior arches of the grand gallery are also painted straw yellow, with brown lattice work. It has been resolved to unite the bank of the Seine with the gardens by means of two tunnels, so that visitors quitting the boats may enter directly on to the grounds. The portion of the part near the military school is behind hand, compared with the rest, as regards laying out and planting; but now all the efforts of the gardeners are concentrated on that spot, and some hundreds of magnificent shrubs, including superb magnolias from Angers, are being planted. This portion of the park is reserved for Belgium, Holland, England, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, &c. In the French department are already at work fitting up the stalls, &c. for exhibitors; and the English department is also being got ready. The pavements are being laid of compressed concrete.—*Builder*.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Great agitation exists concerning the opening of the French Chambers, and all the departments were getting ready for that occurrence. The report of the Minister of Finance, M. Pouillet, will, it is said, show that this year's receipts will exceed the expenses by 50 millions of francs.

JAN. 1.—The Paris Press declares that a rupture between the sublime Porto and the kingdom of Greece is likely to take place at any moment.

The London Herald ministerial organ, commenting upon the probability of such an event, says, England will remain rigidly neutral in the matter; and adds, that the British Government have already warned Greece of the consequences.

At the municipal dinner of the city of Paris, M. Hausmann, a Cabinet Minister, said that the health of the Emperor Napoleon had never been better.

PARIS, JAN. 1.—A rumour is current that Napoleon has decided to issue a call for a grand congress of European monarchs, to be held in this city during the forthcoming World's Exposition.

PARIS, JAN. 3rd, noon.—The *Moniteur du Soir* semi-official, says: that the relations with all the powers are most satisfactory, and that Mexico will be evacuated by the French troops as soon as March 1st, without regard to any thing the Emperor Maximilian may choose to do.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday contained the official programme for the reorganization of the French Army which makes the French Army continuous with the French nation. We need only add here that every independent journal in Paris has pronounced against it, that it is condemned by the whole middle class, and that many believe it will finally alienate the peasantry from Napoleon. Whether the Legislative Body will dare to give expression to this discontent by rejecting a scheme known to be very dear to the Emperor is uncertain, but with this social revolution to defend, the Mexican fiasco to extenuate, the unity of Germany to explain away, and a heavy loan to raise, the position of the Government will not be a pleasant one. To add to the Emperor's embarrassments, his wife appears to be really going to Rome, against the advice of all his Ministers, and it is said, against his own wish.

ITALY.

PIEDMONT.—The *Italia* of the 14th Dec. says:—All idea of the departure of the Pope from Rome appears to have been abandoned. The city of Rome is perfectly tranquil.

Letters received here from Rome announce that a volume of documents relating to religious persecution in Poland has been distributed among the cardinals and the diplomatic body. They also state that the Pope will deliver an allocution to a consistory of cardinals at the moment when the King of Italy delivers the speech from the throne at the next opening of the Italian Parliament.

The examination of Admiral Persano has terminated.

The iron crown, handed over by Austria to Victor Emmanuel, was solemnly replaced, on the 6th Dec., in the Cathedral of Monza. The diadem of the ancient Lombard Kings, brought from Florence to the Palace of Monza, was carried to the entrance of the sacred edifice in a gala carriage, escorted by a guard of honor, and followed by a second contingent of the Grand Master of the Ceremonies and General Solaroli, delegated by King Victor Emmanuel to represent him at the ceremony. On the open space in front of the church was erected a richly decorated stand for the civil and military authorities. There, after the *proces verbal* recording the restitution had been drawn up in form, General Solaroli handed over the precious object to the archbishop, and it is henceforth to be designated as the crown of Italy.—*Post*.

We learn from Florence (Dec. 14) that the Empress of the French will go to Rome on the 22nd Dec., and will remain there four days.

The Nations states that the Government has refused payment of the dividends of the public Rentes due to those religious corporations which have been suppressed.

ROME.—We print in our Foreign Intelligence the parting words spoken by Pius IX. to the French officers on their withdrawal from Rome. They have been read with emotion in every land, and the effect upon those who heard them has been described as overpowering. The *Daily News* and others complain that the Pope is ungrateful to Napoleon III. for the constant protection afforded him for seventeen years. The *Times* of Thursday says:—Whatever he may have been to other nations, and to the French themselves, to the Italians the Emperor has always at heart been the Louis Napoleon who took up arms for Italy, and against the Temporal Power, five and thirty years ago. It seems as if some vow made at the bedside of his brother, dying in his arms at Forli, at that juncture away Napoleon's mind through life, and bade him go firmly, though slowly, to his goal. The admission of the *Times* may be set against the reproach of the *Daily News*. In one breath the Emperor is praised for having consistently and step by step, labored for the destruction of the Pope's Temporal Power, and in the next breath the Pope is blamed for ingratitude to the same Emperor who has protected him for seventeen years. But apart from this inconsistency, let us ask in what this protection has consisted? Has the French Emperor kept his troops for the Pope's benefit? If he had withdrawn his troops years and years ago he would have been thanked for withdrawing them, for they would have been replaced by the troops of a Catholic Power, both able and willing to protect the Papacy. But Napoleon would not allow any power but France to protect the Papal States. He created the need which made the Pope require protection, he refused to allow any other protection but his own. Under his protection the Pope has lost three-fourths of his territories, and Napoleon is now withdrawing his protection from the remnant. We invite the attention of our readers to the articles translated from the *Unita Cattolica*, which will be found in our leading columns, and in which they will see that it was Napoleon III and

not Count Cavour, who was responsible for the introduction of the Roman question before the Congress of Paris in 1856. It was he who suggested to Count Cavour the commencement of that series of perfidious devices by which the Pope's power has been curtailed and undermined. And for this, forsooth, the Pope is expected to be grateful. The protection of the Pope exercised by Napoleon III. at Rome has been the protection of a treacherous leech who, having opened his patient's veins, and seeing him bleeding to death in his bath, keeps watch and ward over the victim, and while he repels every offer of assistance by protesting that there is no danger, but that no one must interfere, grins with malignant hatred into his victim's face, and hisses out the boast—Your are bleeding to death, and you see that nobody will be allowed to help you.—*Tablet*.

KINGDOM OF NAPLES.—The King and Queen of Naples will occupy the Farnese Palace at Rome, where the Queen Dowager and the Count of Trapini with their families, have joined the Bourbonic headquarters, and intend to regulate their movements by those of His Majesty, who does not still quite believe that the French really mean to go. The junior branches of the family are still in Switzerland.—*Daily News*.

Prince Monteleone, who was at first under arrest in his own house in consequence of illness, is now confined in the military prison of Castel Orio. As soon as health permits he will be sent to Palermo, to undergo his trial there, together with the other noblemen arrested at the same time. It is the opinion of some authorities in Naples that the Prince Nisicemi and Baron Riso are rather the objects of a calumny. It is difficult to believe that men who have suffered so much, and been so much distinguished by their attachment to liberal principles, especially the last two, should have all at once turned round. Their only fault was, perhaps, that of moral weakness, which could not support them against the material violence brought to bear upon them. In the case of Prince Monteleone the affair is delicate, as the persons concerned are officers of Ordinance to His Majesty, and had they after the insurrection submitted themselves to the King, explained the violence used towards them, and demanded a court-martial, they would have been acquitted. As it is, after having been examined before the Camera di Consiglio (equivalent to our Grand Jury), they have been sent to trial. My impression is that the whole batch of nobles will be acquitted, and that the object of the trial is to obtain all the threads of the conspiracy. That it had ramifications in Rome, as I have already told you, there can be no doubt, as also in Malta. That the party of action were also compromised in it is equally beyond doubt; but then this party in Sicily consists of two sections—the Republicans in theory, honest men, who did not lend themselves to the movement, and the *canaglia* who are always ready for a *bouleversement*, which gives an opportunity for a scramble.—*Times* Cor.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, 2.—It is said that Austria is about to revoke the new Reichsrath for the purpose of effecting a compromise with Hungary.

The Royal Rescript has not allayed the apprehensions entertained by Hungary, notwithstanding the promises and acknowledgments of the national right contained therein. Since the request of the Diet for the re-establishment of the constitution has not been complied with, the address requests the Emperor not to render satisfactory reconciliation impossible by postponing the re-establishment of the legal base of public affairs. It concludes by requesting His Majesty to give means and opportunities to the Diet for effecting a satisfactory compromise, and by praying that amnesty be extended to all political offenders.

The extreme Radical, or rather revolutionary party in the Hungarian Diet have suffered a signal defeat. Animated by Kossuth's evil spirit, their object was to render a reconciliation with the Emperor and King impossible, and with this view they prepared an address which, if adopted, would infallibly have effected their sinister purpose. Deak and his party would not, however, give any countenance to the anarchists, who, upon a division, were defeated by a majority of about two to one. Deak's own address is, it must be allowed, rather a strong dose for the Kaiser to swallow. It demands, as the indispensable preliminary to reconciliation, the restoration of the constitution extracted from the ex-Emperor Ferdinand, and the appointment of a responsible Hungarian Cabinet. It also recommends what we imagine the Emperor will cheerfully concede—a general and full amnesty.

PRUSSIA.

The peace effective army of Prussia is to number 295,000 men.

Prussia is carrying matters with a high hand in Hanover. Several arrests have been made among the nobility and tradesmen of persons who stoutly refuse to transfer their allegiance from their rightful King to a stranger, whose title is founded only upon success in an unjust war; and all manifestations of sympathy with the fallen Guelph are forbidden under severe penalties. A decree has also gone forth from Berlin that from the last day of this month all Hanoverian officers of the army who do not take the oath of allegiance to the King of Prussia, shall forfeit all pay. This may not be unreasonable, but its wisdom is unquestionable. It would seem that good terms are established between the Saxon and Prussian Courts, and also between the Courts of Copenhagen and Berlin; for the Prince of Denmark has been the guest of the King of Prussia for several days, and the King of Saxony is about to visit Berlin at the King of Prussia's invitation. The Danish prince has been decorated, and carried home decorations for his father from the monarch who despoiled him, but we have not heard that his Royal Highness obtained a promise of the restitution of even the Danish portion of Schleswig. The scheme of the new constitution has been prepared by Count Bismarck, but has not yet been published. Enough of its spirit has, however, escaped from the Prussian Premier's cabinet to create uneasiness and dissatisfaction in the North German States, which are to compose the new Bund under Prussian domination. The Ministerial Conference, which is to deliberate upon the new Constitution, meets in Berlin to-day to take its orders from the Prussian Dictator.—*Weekly Register*.

AFTERWARDS.

A STORY OF THE CONFESSIONAL.

One day, two young officers, strolling about in Paris, entered, by chance, the Church of the Assumption. Having looked at the pictures, criticized the architecture—having thought of everything except God—they were going out, when they perceived a priest in his surplice kneeling beside a confessional. He seemed to be waiting for somebody.

"Sir," said one of the officers, smilingly, to his companion, "look at this priest. What is he doing there?"

"He is perhaps, waiting for you," replied the other.

"Not likely," answered the former. "But what will you bet that I don't go and speak to him?"

"I bet that you won't."

"More than that, and that I go to confession to him."

"I bet that you won't."

"I bet that I will. What will you bet?"

"A dinner."

"With champagne."

"With champagne."

"Done. It's a wager. Stay and watch the man."

And at once the thoughtless young man went boldly up to the minister of God. He whispers in his ear; the priest rises, enters the confessional, and the officer kneels down on one side, as is usually done.

"What audacity he has!" thought the other officer, a smile of astonishment passing over his countenance; and he sat down to wait for the extemporized penitent.

Seven or eight minutes elapsed. The companion thought the joke was being carried a little too far. At last, after the lapse of a quarter of an hour, the officer rises, leaves the confessional, and quits the church, after giving a signal to his friend. His countenance wore a serious aspect, and he appeared very much moved. He joked, however, with his friend about the affair, but seemed not to like telling what had kept him so long. At the first opportunity he left him, and went back to his own house.

Two days afterwards he returned to the Church and after having prayed for a long time approached the same confessional, which the same priest had just entered. He remained there half an hour on this occasion, and when leaving it, tears were flowing from his eyes. Peace, joy, and the signs of happiness were depicted in his countenance; he had received absolution.

What does it all mean, and what had happened on the previous occasion?

This is the story as the officer related it. The priest whom he addressed saw immediately from the bearing of his penitent, that a good confession was not his object.

"You mock me, sir," said the priest to him mildly. "You are wrong; for it is not right either to joke about sacred things or mock God's ministers. But I forgive you with all my heart, and I pray that God may pardon you also."

The officer a little disconcerted, was about to excuse himself.

"No, no," said the good priest, with a smile, "you have done ill; say no more about it. Since, however, you have come to look for me, permit me to have a little chat with you, to ask you what you are; what is your condition?"

"Willingly, sir," replied the young: "I am a soldier."

"Ah! it is a noble profession. And what is your rank?"

"I am a sub-lieutenant. I have just left Saint Oyr."

"And after that what shall you become?"

"Afterwards I shall be lieutenant."

"And afterwards?"

"Afterwards a captain."

"And afterwards?"

"Afterwards major, then lieutenant-colonel, then colonel, then lieutenant-general then general, perhaps."

"And at what age may you hope to gain the last mentioned rank?"

"If I have good luck, and if I go to Africa, at 40 or 45 years of age."

"And do you not think of marrying?"

"Oh, of course I shall marry."

"You are then a general and married; and afterwards what will you become."

"Afterwards—there is no higher rank than that of marshal."

"And supposing that you obtain it, what will you do afterwards?"

"Oh, afterwards I shall do nothing; I shall rest myself with my wife and children."

"And afterwards?"

"How, afterwards? The serious tone of the priest greatly embarrassed the young man."

"Why, I suppose I shall die."

"And afterwards?"

The young man shuddered. He had never thought of that, "afterwards."

"You do not answer," said the confessor to him gravely. "Perhaps you do not know what shall come to pass afterwards. You have told me what should occur before. In my turn I will tell you what shall happen afterwards."

After your death, sir, your soul shall appear before Jesus Christ; it shall be judged, not according to its earthly glory, which shall have passed like a dream, but according to its works, whether good or evil. If you have been virtuous, a faithful observer of the law of God, and of His Church—if you have been humble, unsullied, chaste, good to others, just—in a word, if you have been a good and true Christian, you shall be saved, and you shall enter into unchangeable happiness for ever. If, on the contrary, you have yielded to your passions, if you have forgotten the service of God, if you have been proud, licentious, negligent, severe upon others; in a word, if you have been an unfaithful Christian you will be damned; though you may be general or marshal, you will be judged by Him, who has no fear of persons, and you will hear the thunder of His sentence: 'Depart from me accursed, into everlasting fire, which was prepared for the devil and his angels.' Meanwhile, I have just one word to say to you. You have been seriously wanting in respect to me, in coming thus to make game of me to my face. I demand satisfaction; you cannot refuse it if you have any feelings of honor. I wish—do you hear me?—I wish that, for eight days every night before you go to bed, you should reflect on what I have just said to you, and that you should pronounce the following words:—'I shall die; but what do I care for that? After my death I shall be judged; but what do I care for that? After judgment I shall be eternally damned; but what do I care for that? Such is the reparation that I require. Give your word of honour that you will not fail in this.'

The poor penitent, more taken by surprise than a fox caught by a hen, did not dare to refuse; he promised on his honor to do as he was asked.

"Go, then, sir," said the priest to him, "I forgive you with all my heart; and I promise not to forget you in my prayers and masses."

Through a feeling of honor the officer performed the penance imposed upon him. He did not resist the influence of grace, and two days afterwards, his heart completely changed and full of sincere sorrow, he returned in earnest to the confessional, which he had short time previously he had entered in jest. He was since become an exemplary Christian. If we were wise, we would reflect each day on the shortness of time, and the length of the eternity which awaits us, and very soon we would become good Christians like this young officer.

CENSUS OF THE BLIND.—This is a subject of great interest, and a matter worthy of careful inquiry; particularly when we consider that there are upwards of 22,000 persons in England and Wales who are blind. Taking the whole population of Great Britain, there is about one blind person in every 979—in England and Wales, one in 979; in Scotland one in 960; and in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man, one in 830. We thus see that, in proportion, there is less blindness in England and Wales than in Scotland; and much less in Scotland than in the Channel Islands. In Ireland the proportion of blind is one in 864 inhabitants. In the level portions of Europe, comprising Belgium, Hanover, and parts of Germany, and the plains of Lombardy and Denmark, the proportion is stated to be one blind in every 950 inhabitants—but slightly differing from the average of Great Britain. In elevated regions the proportion is considerably lower; but in Norway, the proportion is one in every 482 inhabitants. In these localities in which the largest number of old men and women are living there will be found the largest proportion of blind; and an examination of the tables of the ages of the people shows that this is the case up to a certain age. The blind to 100,000 of the living at eighty years of age and upwards, in Hereford, is 2,019; Cornwall, 3,120; Devon, 2,942; Dorset, 2,800; Somerset, 1,887; Wilts, 1,705; Yorkshire, West Riding, 2,002.—*Builder*.

Josh Billings on Ardent Spirits.—I am violently opposed to ardent spirits as a beverage," says Josh; "but for manufacturing purposes and to try how they mix, I think a little of it tastes good."

CHRISTIAN COURAGE.—The governor of a Japanese village summoned a large number of Christians to appear before him, and threatened them with the most cruel tortures if they persisted in their rebellion against the edicts of the Emperor. These edicts forbade them to take any part in the exercises of their holy religion.

The youngest of the band on hearing this, began to speak and assured the governor that this menace inspired them with no fear. The governor corroborated an attendant to bring forward a brazier filled with burning coals, and, turning towards the boy, said: "Young fool, you have no idea of the terrible torture which you are braving. You could not hold your hand for a moment in that fire; and how could you expect to endure being cast alive into the midst of flame?" At these words the boy arose, approached the fire, and putting his hand therein, watched it burning as tranquilly as though he felt no pain. The governor, amazed at the sight of this prodigy, took the young Christian in his arms, embraced him, and said, "Go forth in freedom with your companions, and carefully preserve a belief which can give such sublime fortitude; I will be your defender, and for your sakes will if necessary, expose myself to the resentment of the Emperor."—*Catholic Standard*.

GENERAL ST. AMOUR.—This officer who distinguished himself in the Imperial service, was the son of a poor Piedmontese peasant, but he never forgot his humble extraction. While the army was in Piedmont, he invited his principal officers to an entertainment, when his father happened to arrive just as they were sitting down to table. This being announced to the General, he immediately arose, and stated to his guests his father's arrival. He said he knew the respect he owed to them, but at the same time he hoped they would excuse him if he withdrew and dined with his father in another room. The guests begged that the father might be introduced, assuring him that they should be happy to see one so nearly related to him; but he replied, "Ah, no, gentlemen; my father would find himself embarrassed in company so unsuited to his rank, that it would deprive us both of the only pleasure of the interview—the untrammelled intercourse of a parent and his son." He then retired, and passed the evening with his father.

WOMEN.—When a young man is clerk in a store and dresses like a prince smokes 'fine segars,' drinks 'choice brandy,' attends theatres, dances, and the like, I wonder if he does all on the avails of his clerkship?

When a young lady sits in the parlor during the day, with her little white fingers covered with rings, I wonder if her mother doesn't wash the dishes, and do the work in the kitchen?

When the deacon of the church sells stronger butter, recommending it as a good article, I wonder what he relies upon for salvation?

When a man goes three times a day to get a dram, I wonder if by-and-by he won't go four times?

When a lady laces her waist a third less than Nature made it, I wonder if her pretty figure will not shorten life a dozen years or more, besides making it more miserable while she does live.

When a young man is dependent upon his daily toil for his income and marries a lady who does not know how to make a loaf of bread or mend a garment, I wonder if he is not lacking somewhere; say towards the top for instance?

When a man received a periodical or newspaper weekly, and takes great delight in reading but neglects to pay for it, I wonder if he has a soul or gland?

MYSTERIOUS BENEFACTOR.—In the year 1720, celebrated for the bursting of the South Sea Bubble, a gentleman called late in the evening at the banking house of Messrs. Haakey & Co. He was in a coach, but refused to get out; and desired that one of the partners of the house would come to him, into whose hands, when he appeared, he put a parcel, very carefully sealed up, and desired that it might be taken care of till he should call again. A few days passed away—a few months—but the stranger never returned. At the end of the second or third year the partners agreed to open this mysterious parcel, when they found it to contain £30,000, with a letter stating that it had been obtained by the South Sea speculation, and directing that it should be vested in the hands of three trustees, whose names were mentioned, and the interest appropriated to the relief of the poor.

A clergyman, located somewhere 'out west,' asked a woman whom he had impregnated when she was coming out of the water, 'how she felt in her mind,' and was considerably surprised to hear her answer, 'Bully.'

A COOL PHILOSOPHER.—An old philosopher who devoted his time to the pursuit of knowledge and had acquired but little of the goods of this world, was lying in bed one morning, book in hand; for it was very cold and the poor man had no wood with which to make a fire; he lived without servant or family, in a small lonely house. He thought he heard a noise at the door, and cried:

"Who is there? Come in."

And the old gentleman pulled a rope which by a contrivance of his own, caused the door to open.

A dark looking man walked in and went straight to the bedside.

"I want some money," said the singular visitor somewhat abruptly.

"Money! do I owe you anything? It is rather an early hour to dun a poor man."

"I am not a dun. I want all the money you have. Quick. Do you hear?"

"Oh, yes, I understand now. Well, my friend, take my vest, there, on the back of that chair."

"It is very light."

"True. In the pocket, you will find the key of my writing desk. Open it and search the drawers."

The thief obeyed and pulled drawer after drawer, but to his great disappointment, found them all empty.

"Don't be angry," remarked the old philosopher, in the coolest tone; "what has happened to you this morning, happens to me every day of my life."

Wherever I need money, and I need it often, I can assure you,