

The London Morning *Herald* professes to find the cause of so many conversions to Catholicity in England in the peculiar character of the literature of that country during the last ten years. We do not doubt that some of the writings specified, have helped on the good work not a little with the blessing of God. The paper alluded to says:

'The literature of the last ten years has done more than the preaching or the ritualism. A whole regiment of writers, Whig, Tory, and Radical, have combined to malign everything Protestant, and to extol everything Popish. Miss Strickland has made angels of all our Popish Queens, and almost demons of our Protestant ones. Mr. Tytler has done his best to whitewash Mary of Scotland, and to blacken the fame of the Scottish Reformers.—Maitland has done the like service for the English ones. The Edinburgh Review and Mr Macaulay have lent no small aid; and Mr. Burns, with his series of pretty little novels has taught our young people that the Reformation was a judgement from God; the death of Edward VI., a providential deliverance; and the glorious Revolution a mere rebellion.'—*Cath Herald*.

The 'Annals of the Propagation of the Faith,' containing a record of Catholic missions, and published every two months has, we believe, a larger circulation than any other periodical in existence. One hundred and seventy-eight thousand copies of it are now issued. It is printed in nine different languages, viz: French, German, English, Spanish, Flemish, Italian, Portugese, Dutch and Polish. It circulates, of course, all over the globe.—*Ib*.

The French correspondent of the *N. Y. Observer*, gives the following picture of the Protestant clergy of Sweden.

'Most of the pastors are sunk in a meagre Socinianism, and preach a vapid morality which does not stir the conscience. They have large salaries, live at ease, and spend more of their time in diversions than in evangelical labors. The bishops (for the Lutheran Church of Sweden still have bishops) are rich lords, sumptuously maintained, and occupied with political and worldly business. Not only they take no interest in the progress of vital piety, but they even persecute those whose attention is awakened on the subject of religion.'

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On Sunday night last, about one o'clock a Russian barque named the *Iris*, of Bjornberg, 400 tons burthen, bound to Falmouth for orders, and laden with Indian Corn, with a crew of twelve men, was wrecked near Gunwalloe.

LITTLE CHILDREN.

BY MARIA ROUSSEAU.

Speak gently to the little child,
So guileless and so free,
Who, with a trustful, loving heart,
Puts confidence in thee.
Speak not the cold and careless thought
Which time has taught thee well,
Nor breathe the one word whose bitter tone
Distrust might seem to tell.

If on his brow there rests a cloud,
However light it be,
Speak loving words, and let him feel
He has a friend in thee;
And do not send him from thy side
Till on his face shall rest
The joyous look, the sunny smile,
That mark a happy breast.

Oh! teach him, this should be his aim,
To cheer the aching heart,
To strive where thickest darkness reigns
Some radiance to impart;
To spread a peaceful, quiet calm
Where dwells the noise of strife;
Thus doing good and blessing all
To spend the whole of life.

To love with pure affection deep,
All creatures great and small,
And still a stronger love to bear
For him who made them all.
Remember, 'tis no common task
That thus to thee is given,
To rear a spirit fit to be
An inhabitant of Heaven.

BIRTHS RECORDED,

AT ST. MARY'S.

DECEMBER 10—	Mrs. Lahey, of a son.
" 13—	" Shiply, of a son.
" 13—	" Gear, of a son.
" 13—	" McCarthy, of a daughter.
" 13—	" Leary, of a son.
" 14—	" McGinnis, of a son.
" 14—	" Duggan, of a daughter.
" 14—	" Murphy, of a son.
" 15—	" Cronan, of a son.
" 16—	" Braslow, of a son.
" 16—	" Ryan, of a son.
" 17—	" Connors, of a son.
" 17—	" Conery, of a son.
" 17—	" Brennan, of a son.

INTERIEMENTS.

AT THE CEMETERY OF THE HOLY CROSS.

DECEMBER 12—	James Timmons, a native of Kilkenny, Ireland, aged 65 years. James, son of Margaret and Patrick Tierney, aged 15 years and 6 months.
14—	Jane Frances, (coloured) a native of the West Indies, aged 40 years. Ann, wife of Andrew Whelan, native of Kilkenny, Ireland, aged 40 years.
15—	Richard Green, native of London, England, aged 28 years.
16—	Michael Doyle, native of Waterford, Ireland, aged 48 years.

All communications for the Editors of the Cross are to be addressed (if by letter, post paid,) to No. 2, Upper Water Street Halifax.