

the hotel were alarmed, and finally the judge was disarmed and shut up in a strong room of the convent, as there was no asylum in the place. Since his confinement, the judge has attempted to destroy himself. He will be placed in the asylum at Bruges. The Government have already taken steps to fill his place on the Bench.

UNITED STATES.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION.—The organization of "The American Bar Association" is one of the most noteworthy events in the history of jurisprudence in this country. To assimilate and unify the laws of the several States, especially so far as they relate to commerce and to crime, is a consummation devoutly to be wished by every lover of his country, for not only will it facilitate intercourse and harmony among the people, but it will also be one of the strongest bonds of union among the several States. The meeting at Saratoga called together an unusual number of representative lawyers and jurists—men who have made their mark either in the forum or upon the bench, and the interest and enthusiasm manifested in the undertaking show unmistakably that the time is come for such an organization. To our thinking, it would have been better could such an association have been composed of delegates from bar associations of the several States—just as State bar associations would be more influential—more potent if formed of delegates from county or local associations, but with the few State bar associations which now exist, such a formation is at present impracticable, and that which has been made at Saratoga seems to be the best substitute. The proceedings of the two days through which the meeting extended are notable for the absence of "talk" to which lawyers are sometimes addicted. The business in hand was discussed by the best men present, and with an obvious desire to secure the best organization—the best results possible. This, we believe, has been done, and under the administration of the men who have it in charge, "The American Bar Association" can hardly fail to prove of great service to the profession and to the country.—*Albany Law Journal*.

THE U. S. AND MEXICO.—The subject of extradition with Mexico is one of considerable

importance in the States of our Union bordering on that country, and on that account the decision of the Mexican Supreme Court, which has just been communicated to the government authorities at Washington, that the Mexican law will permit the delivery up of offenders, upon an application made by the authorities of one of our States, will be received with much satisfaction here. In the case passed upon, the authorities of the State of Texas applied to those of an adjoining Mexican State for the surrender of two fugitives, who were charged with murder in Texas. An inferior Mexican court, however, ordered the discharge of these persons from custody, but the Supreme Court, by a vote of nine to five, reversed this decision, and ordered the surrender.—*Ib.*

CANADA.

THE ORANGE ASSOCIATION.—Several prominent Orangemen having been arrested, at Montreal, for attempting to walk in procession to church on the 12th of July, a criminal prosecution was brought against them as members of an illegal association (ante p 371). A difficulty, however, occurred in attempting to prove, before the Police Magistrate, that the accused were Orangemen, the witnesses called declining to answer the questions put to them relating to the Orange Order, on the ground that they could not answer without admitting that they were themselves Orangemen, and that they would thus incriminate themselves. In the case of Col. Smith, one of the witnesses, so refusing to answer, an application was made to commit him for contempt, and the magistrate granted it. But on petition for *habeas corpus* before the Chief Justice and two Judges of the Queen's Bench, the witness was liberated, on the ground that he was within his right in declining to answer a question which might render him liable to a criminal prosecution.

The counsel for the prosecution have addressed the following letter to the Dominion Government:

To the Honorable Richard W. Scott, Secretary of State:—

SIR,—We are acting for the prosecution in the case of the Queen *vs.* David Grant *et al.*, which originated in an information, sworn to by one Murphy, to the effect that the defendants are Orangemen, and as such are members of an illegal association, and that they met on the