

know I'll tell you—that I preached in Carlow yesterday, and there was a great crowd. I had to speak loud. I know you are kind fellows, and if you come inside the rails, I shall not have to speak quite so loud now as will be necessary if you remain where you are." They did not expect such an invitation, and they contrived to come within the rails. Some three or four females, who knew what I was going to do, came and stood with me on the steps of the Court-house, and were prepared to assist me in singing. I said, "Now, boys, if you will be very quiet, we will sing;" and I then commenced by giving out two verses of that beautiful hymn—

"When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died."

We sang the verses, and then said, "We are going to offer up prayer, and I wish you all to remain quiet." They did so; at its close, I told them I was going to give them a sermon of St. Peter's.—A sermon of St. Peter's? They knew not what to do. I read parts of the 3rd and 4th chapter of the Acts or the Apostles, and expounded them. I showed them that here was one of Peter's sermons, one that there was no mistake about its being correctly reported, that it had infallible authority, though it was written before the time of the Pope. I went on to expound the sermon and apply it. I commenced by showing them, that the religion of Peter was the preaching of salvation through the blood of Christ, and that its object was to turn them away from their iniquities. I recommended this as Peter's religion, and assured them I hoped that it would be theirs. Before I had gone on very far, the cabbage-leaves and brickbats had gone to their appropriate places—and the crowd listened with great attention. Prior to the congregation dispersing I announced that I had some portions of a letter of Peter's, and, if they would allow me, I would give them a few. "Letters of St. Peter," said one, "where did you get them?" "Well, wherever I got them, would you not like to read them?" They responded, "We would." I then distributed a bundle of tracts amongst them, and as I passed through the crowd, and drew them from my pockets, I was growing,

"Small by degrees and beautifully less."

till my pockets were emptied. I had then two miles to walk to meet the coach, and one of them asked to carry my coat. When I got to the coach-office, having been mistaken first for a physician, and secondly for a priest—by going to a house where there was a poor man who had been taken ill, though by—and by the mistake was discovered; I was thus saluted, "A tract, y'r reverence." This arose from the idea that, at the coach-office, where my travelling-bag was waiting me I might have more tracts. Several had arrived before me, and were waiting to apply for them. There was a fair being held at the end of the town, and some of those to whom I have given an additional tract, went and held up the treasure they had received. The subject having excited great interest, a crowd was collected, and as the coach left I was sent away with their hearty blessing and three cheers for St. Peter's preacher! Some time afterwards, in a distant part of the country, I was asked whether I was Mr. King, who preached in such a place? when on replying yes, a lady told me that a friend of hers had applied to her, requesting her to interest her female friends in order to raise money to furnish a large number of Roman Catholics with copies of the Scriptures, saying that they had been busily and industriously seeking for the Word of God to read, ever since I had preached "St. Peter's sermon;" that Christian females had taken the thing up, and were endeavouring to procure copies of the Scriptures without applying to a Society, for the purpose of averting inquisitorial interference, and that they might not be prevented from exercising their right to inquire into the study of the Word of God. So far for the results of preaching in the open air, and the effort to distribute tracts, and this expedient of a gracious female, in suggesting a way by which her and her friends might be most useful.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The following graphic sketch is from the very able and interesting Report of the Rev. G. D. Abbott, on the influence of the press:—

"No reflecting mind can contemplate the present position of the United States, without a full conviction that it is without a parallel in the history of nations; that we live in an era pregnant with great events; that the press has for us yet undeveloped energies; that it may in our land, as it has already done in others, work reformation or revolution. The whole land is a vast school. The rail-car, the steamboat, the manufactory, the work-shop, and the farm-yard, the mines of the Schuylkill and of Galena, are all schools. The printer is the daily teacher. Cunard's mail to-day brings the 'latest' from London and Liverpool, Paris and Canton; all night the presses of Boston and New York groan with their labour, and to-morrow the car and the steamer are bearing every description of news, and of moral or immoral influence toward every point of the compass. The iron horse, whose sinews are steel, and whose provender is fire, 'is off' for Washington and Buffalo, St. Louis, and New Orleans. His unceasing thunder, louder than that of the 'war-horse,' echoes among our hills all day, and his fiery train illumines our valleys at night. In less time than it once took to go from London to John O'Groats, the news from the other hemisphere is borne over one-half of this. The mail-bag with its teeming sheets is dropped in every city and village of a territory 1500 miles square! The columns of the 'Chronicle' and the 'Times,' read at Monday's breakfast in London, have but one intervening Sabbath before they enliven the offices and parlours of Boston and New-York; and ere the Acadia sees Holyhead again, they are 1500 miles further on, in the saloons and verandahs of Louisiana. Everything seems to conspire to arouse and excite the public mind, and reading it will have."

How immeasurably important then is it, that the reading furnished be of the right kind; such as may contribute to purify, enlarge, and elevate the soul; rather than to dissipate, pervert, and degrade its immortal powers. The public mind is indeed alive, and eager in its curiosity, and open for any impression which the pen of the ready writer may enstamp upon it. Probably newspapers are sought after and read much more than all other writings. Through these the true patriot or philanthropist may give the impress of his own pure spirit to many thousands at once. And when it is considered that a paragraph committed to one of those winged messengers may, in the course of a fortnight, tell throughout the United States and throughout Europe, and in a few weeks more throughout the civilized world; it can surely be regarded as no mean privilege thus to give utterance to a word of truth and love to mankind. That word or that paragraph may contain but one idea; but that idea will continue to expand, it may be hoped with happy influences, "beyond the bounds of earth and time."

"The sun is but a spark of fire;  
A meteor of the sky;  
The soul, immortal as its Sire,  
Can never, never die."

—N. Y. Christian Advocate.

**JEWISH TRADITION ABOUT THEIR RESTORATION AND TEMPLE.**—The Jews have a tradition which is preserved in the *Gemera*—that in latter days when the covenant shall be completed by their restoration, the temple will be re-built on Mount Moriah, in a style and magnificence which shall greatly exceed that of the temple of Solomon; and instead of hewn stone, its walls will be constructed of jasper, amethyst, carbuncle, onyx, topaz, crysolite, sardonyx and other precious stones; with gates of pearl, walls of jasper, and ornamented decorations of gold and ivory, and enlightened by the glory of God. At the dedication of this gorgeous edifice a grand banquet will be prepared, consisting of every delicacy the world can produce.—A levithan, purposely fattened for the occasion—a female behemoth, of exquisite flavour—and the bird harinche, a species now extinct, if ever it had an existence, whose wings are of such extent as to obstruct the sun's rays—are named amongst the provisions of the august feast. Wine from the vaults of Adam and Enoch, preserved miraculously, from the time of those patriarchs, so that its flavour increases in richness every age, will be produced in quantities which cannot be exhausted; and all virtuous and worthy Jews, from the time of the deliverance of their fore-

fathers from Egyptian bondage, will be summoned from their graves to be present at the dedication of the temple, and to partake of the feast, which will be attended with a worship more pure and spiritual than any thing that has been practised under any dispensation from the creation of the world.—Rev. G. Oliver. D. D.—*Freemasons' Quarterly Review*.

#### CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

EXTRACTS FROM LATE ENGLISH PAPERS.

**AMAZING STRENGTH OF THE SWORD FISH.**—It was stated that the barque *Royal Archer*, which arrived at Massport the other day, from Ichaboe, with a cargo of guano, had been pierced on her passage, near the starboard bow, by a sword fish, and that the monster had left a considerable portion of its formidable weapon sticking in the timbers of the ship. The vessel has since been hauled up for repairs, and the *Cumberland Pacquet* furnishes the following additional particulars:—After some time had been spent in cutting out the plank that had been pierced, it was eventually removed, along with the sword, when it was ascertained that the monster had left about sixteen inches of that formidable weapon sticking in the timbers of the ship, independent of about three inches and a half which projected from the outside of the vessel, but had by some means or other been broken off; so that altogether the fierce assailant of the vessel had lost about nineteen inches and a half of its weapon in this attack on the *Royal Archer*, which it had, no doubt, mistaken for a whale, or some other large fish with which it had determined to wage war. On examination it was ascertained that the sword had penetrated through two sheathings of copper, through an oak plank 3½ inches thick, and striking against one of the timbers, which was also oak, and eight inches thick, penetrated it to the depth of two inches, when it split, and the weapon passed onwards through the ceiling, which consisted at the place of plank of above two inches in thickness! It will thus be seen that the sword, or weapon, had passed through two thicknesses of copper, the bolt, at three-and-a-half inch oak plank, penetrated one of the timbers to the depth of two inches (at which point it split), and passing onwards finally perforated the ceiling, consisting of a plank above two inches thick, the end protruding nearly an inch into the hold of the vessel! Had not this singular circumstance been witnessed, it might have been considered utterly impossible for any marine monster, however bulky or rapid might be its motions in its native element, to drive its weapon with such force as must have been required to pierce the copper, plank, and timbers in the manner we have described. Indeed, it was allowed by those who beheld the operation, that no ball discharged from a gun at ever so small a distance would have pierced the vessel to the same extent as this fish had done by a single stroke! The weapon consisted of bone, and was of an oval form, being two inches across on the upper and lower side, and about one inch and a half thick, making the circumference about seven inches. The weapon tapered gradually towards its extremity, but was not particularly sharp at the point.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

**CURIOUS EGG.**—Mr. Thos. Hanretty, of Upper Milkstreet, has a fine hen of the English breed, which regularly lays large double-yolked eggs. One day last week she laid a singular-looking egg, evidently having two yolks, but small in circumference, and resembling a figure 8 in appearance. The curious may see this egg in our office window.—*Id.*

**GUANO.**—On Monday last two cargoes of this manure was offered for sale at the Commercial Sales-room, Old-hall-street. The first cargo consisted of fifty lots of five tons each, per the Commodore, from Ichaboe. It was put up by Mr. Harold Littledale, for Mr. Thos. O'Grady, broker. The bidding started at £5, and rose to £6 10s., where it stood. The lots were then withdrawn, £7 being stated as the reserved bid. The next was a cargo of 400 tons, per the Gordon, which was put up by Hall and Gordon. This lot was also withdrawn, the bidding only reaching £6 5s., and £8 being the reserved bid.