

meeting was held in the rooms of the Christian Doctrine Society for the purpose of getting up a subscription for a testimonial to the Rev. Rev. Kennedy, on his promotion from the curacy of Nenagh to the parish of Kyle, near Borris-In-Ossory.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOLS.—Theologians tell us that Divine faith is a gratuitous gift of God, and that in the infant soul at the sacred font of baptism, there it lies, like the grain of corn in the land, till the spring of reason begins to dawn. See with what vigilance the farmer protects his sown fields, what vigilance the father protects his own children, and all those charged with the training of children, take to nourish this precious seed of Divine faith, teaching them to slip with reverence in their first accents the sacred mysteries of our holy religion. "We have in children a great deposit," says St. John Chrysostom. The Church, ever-watchful over this "innocent flock," lest through neglect of parents any of her tender lambs should be neglected, raises up by her blessing and encouragement, good and holy persons of both sexes to found institutions for their protection and education, to fit them for this world and the world to come. Western, thank God is blessed with such; and amongst the Christian schools hold an important position. The Christian Brothers have been labouring in this field ever since the year 1825, and their success is most marked. On to-morrow the good Brothers make their appeal; and we trust the Western public will generously testify their appreciation of their devoted services. We cannot close this notice without referring to the extraordinary charity of our venerable townsman, Mr. B. Devereux, in what he is doing for the benefit of his native town. A visit to the group of buildings opposite the Church of the Assumption erected at the sole expense of Mr. Devereux, for educational purposes, will rouse the most sympathetic to a sense of his duty towards the wants of his fellow-creatures, and inspire him with the sentiment to go and do something to comply with the second part of the great precept of charity—"Love thy neighbor as thyself." We know that he seeks not the approbation of man, yet if one thing would bring gratification to his mind more than another it is to see his fellow-townsmen co-operating with him with no parsimonious hand in this laudable charity. Though it is humiliating, we must confess that Western has not been in this respect as liberal as the neighboring towns of New Ross, Enniscorthy, &c. It is patent to all that the value of money has gone down;—that ten shillings formerly is equivalent to a pound now. In fact every commodity has gone up whilst the voluntary and charitable subscription remains where it was. We know, also, the Brothers are anxious to increase their staff to render their teaching more effective, but cannot for the want of means. Let us then assist them in their good intentions and our town shall reap the benefit.—*Western People.*

Some very strange disclosures were made at the meeting of the Limerick Board of Guardians on Wednesday. It was stated there were as many as ninety children receiving relief in the workhouse, whose parents were living outside, and sufficiently well off to support them, and that amongst the inmates there are several persons of independent means—one being a schoolmaster worth £500, and another, a policeman, worth £200.

A demonstration was held at Mellifont, near Drogheda, on the anniversary of the death of Colonel Leonard, who had taken part in the insurrection of 1867, but who at that time succeeded in escaping to America. He returned to Ireland in a dying state about a year ago and to-day (Sept. 20th) was the first anniversary of his funeral. A monster procession was organized in Drogheda, and on the arrival at Mellifont the ceremony of erecting a memorial cross over Leonard's grave was performed.

THE POTATO CROP.—We are gratified to state that reports continue to reach us from almost every part of Armagh and the adjoining counties with regard to the abundance and general excellence of this crop. On the fullest inquiry we find that the rumors as to a recurrence of the old disease have been enormously exaggerated. The season was never in finer condition, and the crop will be far above an average. It may be observed that, under these circumstances, prices remain higher in the Armagh markets than could reasonably be expected.—*Armagh Guardian.*

THE MEMBERS FOR LIMERICK COUNTY AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS.—At a meeting of the Limerick and Clare Farmers' Club held on Saturday, at their Club-rooms, Limerick, their president remarked that it was a matter of observation that neither of their county representatives had followed the example of other members of Parliament by giving an account of their stewardships during the last session, which he thought they might do with advantage to themselves and their constituents. Mr. Joseph Gubbins, of Pallasgreen, agreed with the chairman, and moved a resolution, asking the county representatives to meet their constituents, and explain their views with regard to the Land Question, a subject which the Irish members seemed afraid to touch during the entire of the last session. The resolution was unanimously adopted. A discussion ensued as to the holding of a great Home Rule demonstration for the county, to which Mr. Butt and other distinguished Home Rulers should be invited.

LONDON DERRY.—The census for the county and city of Derry shows a decline in the population of that district, one of the most favored in Ireland. In the ten years preceding '71, 16,841 persons emigrated, against 27,738 in the previous decennial period, making a total of 44,579 in twenty years.—The various communions are represented by 37,358 Catholics; 32,079 Protestants; 53,779 Presbyterians; 957 Methodists; 1,482 Baptists; 1,393 Reformed Presbyterians; 398 Independents; 334 United Presbyterians; 326 Seceders; 287 Covenanters; 163 Moravians, &c., &c.

THE POLITICAL PRISONERS.—Mr. O'Connor Power, M.P., has paid a visit to the political prisoners, James Clancy, who is confined in Portsmouth prison. He found Mr. Clancy in a very low state of health, and the prisoner complained of having received very severe treatment during his six years' detention.—Mr. Power intends to visit Mr. Michael Davitt at Dartmoor, and with this view he has applied to the Secretary of State. The continued incarceration of the political prisoners should not be forgotten by the country for which they sacrificed all earthly happiness. We hope Mr. Power will gather as much information as possible regarding the condition of our suffering compatriots, and lay it before the country.—*Irishman.*

An Irish lady, no longer amongst the living, has been the means of preserving what will probably prove a most valuable contribution to the Scandinavian history of modern times. Miss Anna Russell Cruise, second daughter of Mr. Robert Russell Cruise, formerly of Dryna House, county Dublin, was married to Count Hamilton, the premier peer of Sweden. In the distinguished position which her marriage gave her she was honored with the friendship of Count Menderstrom, who was for many years the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in the course of a prolonged intimacy, the Count wrote her many letters, which are said to have a diplomatic interest, and are likely to be of special value at a moment when the relations of Schleswig to the Scandinavian and German nationalities are again being actively discussed in the political circles of Europe. The Countess Hamilton bequeathed these documents to Mr. Stefan Polak, at one time repre-

sentative of the Polish National Government, and in pursuance of her dying instructions, Mr. Polak is at present engaged in preparing them for publication. The first volume may be expected shortly.

HONOURS TO BALFE.—While the last great work of our eminent countryman was being performed in his native city, honours were being conferred upon his name in a foreign land, where his genius is widely known and universally admired. By alien hands a splendid statue of Balfé, a noble work of art by the Belgian, Mailepre, was unveiled in the Theatre-London, Friday week. Mr. Grunstein spoke the inauguration speech, and paid graceful, overflowing tribute of respect to the memory of the Irish minstrel, whose dying song we possess in the popular "Talismano." When shall we in Ireland see such honours paid to the departed genius which has left Ireland a name that she ought to be proud of?—*Dublin Irishman, 3rd Oct.*

A melancholy case of drowning took place on Saturday in Tramore Bay. A farmer named Thomas Doyle went out in the bay to bathe. The tide was ebbing quickly at the time, and he was carried out about 200 yards. Being a strong swimmer he made a gallant effort to save his life, but apparently, when out of danger, he became weak in the water, and before the gaze of a very large number of persons bathing and on the strand at the time, he was drowned. The body was recovered late in the evening, and an inquest was held. Another bathing accident has occurred in Tramore. A young man named Quinlan, who was a visitor at Tramore, while bathing on Wednesday last took cramps in the water. He was rescued and taken to the residence of Mr. M'Sweeney, where he lodged. He however fell during the day into a state of unconsciousness, in which he remained until Saturday morning, when he died.

EXTRAORDINARY CHURCH DISSENSIONS AT QUEENSTOWN.—A most extraordinary occurrence is reported from Queenstown. Some days since (says a Dublin paper) a very handsome reading desk was placed in the Protestant church at that flourishing seaport. The reading desk consisted of a ledge, supported by a large eagle of oak, richly gilt, and of great beauty of workmanship. This golden bird bore on its wings discord into the bosom of the Queenstown congregation. Certain evangelical purists declared that the brilliant bird was a "graven image," and that its erection savoured of Ritualism, if not of idolatry. In the end, the foes of the eagle succeeded in preventing its cost—some forty pounds—being defrayed out of the church funds, but some of the more sensible members of the congregation made up the sum amongst themselves. However, this did not appease the wrath of the anti-episcopalists, and on Sunday night the radiant bird disappeared from his perch. This event has caused the greatest excitement in Queenstown, and on Monday the clerk of the church reported the matter to the magistrates. In so doing the clerk said that he did not think the eagle was "stolen so much with a view to theft, but through conscientious principles! The adum theologyum has led men to many strange excesses, but if the clerk of Queenstown church is right in his conjecture, we have now for the first time that passion leading men to petty larceny.

THE IRISH REPRODUCTIVE FUND.—In an Act of Parliament which was passed on the day of the promulgation of the history of the Irish Reproductive Fund is given. In the year 1822 a large sum of money was subscribed in England for the relief of persons in distress from a scarcity of food, and the residue, after affording the relief needed under the name of the "Irish Reproductive Loan Fund," was vested in a charitable association called the "Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Institution," to be held in trust by them to lend the same at interest to the industrious poor in the ten counties of Clare, Cork, Galway, Kerry, Leitrim, Limerick, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, and Tipperary, certain proportions of the fund being appropriated to each of the counties. In 1848 an Act was passed to vest in Her Majesty the property of the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Institution and to dissolve the fund, and thereupon the property was transferred to and vested in Her Majesty upon trust to be applied and disposed of for such charitable purposes and objects of public utility not otherwise provided for in whole or in part by local rate or assessment in the ten several counties, as the Lord Lieutenant and the Treasury should direct. It had however, been proposed that the loan should be transferred to the care of a public body in Ireland, and should be disposed of by way of loan instead of by way of absolute grant. The Act transfers the property to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, and in the several sections regulations are made to carry the same into force. The powers of the Commissioners are defined in the application of the money, and they may receive gifts for fishery purposes.

Earl Spencer, who inherits the tastes of his distinguished father, is a frequent orator at English agricultural gatherings. One of his last appearances was at the annual dinner of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society on Thursday evening, and in proposing the toast of the evening, his lordship made some interesting remarks on the English labour question. He pointed out that throughout the rural districts of England, iron, wood, and steam were taking the place of flesh and blood; in the neighbourhood of every village steam ploughs and steam threshers were doing the work of the man-guided coulter and the man-guided flail. Rural England is being rapidly depopulated, and Lord Spencer remarked that in one large village, near his own demesne, there were 52 empty cottages. His lordship continued to say that the rural population were drifting towards the towns, and that it was, therefore, all important to give them a good education, so that the rising generation would be better fitted for town life. Some other remarks of his lordship are not without interest in Ireland. He congratulated his hearers that the farmers and labourers of Northamptonshire were on very good terms, and proceeded to explain the reason. He said that he found there were more allotments given to agricultural labourers in Northamptonshire than in any county, except Leicestershire, in England. "I attach," said his lordship, "great importance to this, because, though the labourer does not get a great deal from his allotment, it does give him independence, and an idea of self-respect, which he otherwise would not have." The passionate devotion with which the Irish peasant clings to his "bit of land" has often been attributed to the "Celtic weakness," but we have here the statement of a nobleman who knows his country well that the "bit of land" has a most admirable effect on the Anglo-Saxon in giving him an independence and a self-respect he would not otherwise have. It very often happens that characteristics which in the current talk of Englishmen are dismissed as Celtic are really the property of human nature at large.—*Dublin Freeman.*

COLLISION BETWEEN A COKE STEAMER AND AN ENGLISH STEAMER.—During the dense fog which prevailed on Friday night, a collision—happily not attended with loss of life—occurred off the Welsh coast, between the City of Cork Steam Packet Company's steamer Xema, and a steamer named the Red Sea, bound from Constantinople to Liverpool. The Xema left Bristol on Friday evening with a general cargo, and having on board about 70 passengers. At half-past two o'clock on Saturday morning, a dense fog set in. The Xema was at the time between Galdy Island and Milford, off the Smalls, and the steamer proceeded with the fog signals kept going. Captain Staveland being on deck. At 5.30, while the captain and chief mate were in charge they heard a whistle, and immediately afterwards saw a masthead light, and hull of a steamer crossing their bows. The helm of the Xema was at once put hard a-port, and the steamer was reversed at full-speed, but the collision was unavoidable, and the other steamer, which was from one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards, off when first seen, was run into by the Xema. Both were going slowly at the time, the strange steamer which was the Red Sea, being only under way at half-speed. The Xema struck her about midship, and was herself but slightly injured, only one of her plates being stove in, and that was above the water-mark. The injured vessel disappeared in the fog immediately; the fog whistles of the Xema were kept going in the meantime, and her boats were cleared away. In a very short time the boats of the injured steamer, evidently guided by the fog whistles, came alongside the Xema, when it was found that the entire crew got safely off. It was ascertained that the crew of the Red Sea, consisting of twenty-five souls, had barely taken to the boat when the steamer went down. The Red Sea had been commanded by Captain Patterson, was 2,000 tons burthen, and was on her voyage from Cyprus (Constantinople) laden with 896 tons of grain for Liverpool.

Information Wanted of Patrick Hughes, bricklayer, son of the late Mr. Henry Hughes, builder, city of Armagh. Emigrated to America in 1853; supposed to be in the South. Any information concerning him will be thankfully received by his mother, Mrs. Henry Hughes, 7 Fishamble Street, Dublin.

Information Wanted of John Cassidy, who went to America about thirteen years ago. He was last heard of in Chicago, four years ago. Any information will be gratefully received by his sister, Kate Cassidy, No. 8 Drumcondra-bridge, Dublin, Ireland.

Information Wanted of the whereabouts of Thomas, Joseph, James, and Catherine Smith, of Roscrea, county Tipperary. Last heard of in New York ten years ago. Any information will be gratefully received by their sister, Mary Ann Cain, 2 Cavendish Street, Salford, England.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER ON TEMPERANCE.—Archbishop Manning on the 25th of September addressed a meeting in Manchester at a Catholic Temperance Society, formed by the Bishop of Salford, under the name of the Salford Diocesan Temperance Crusade. He said he hoped that no Catholic who had prospered in the world sufficiently to save money would invest that money either in the making or selling of intoxicating drinks. He did not wish to pain any honest Catholic already a brewer or publican or distiller, because they had been encouraged in their trade by the unwisdom of Parliament, and the avarice of capitalists; but he would say to such Catholics that he wished them a better trade. He wished them great prosperity and speedy profits that they might get sooner out of it. He hoped that no other Catholic would be tempted by his successes to invest his money in the same way.

The Archbishop of Westminster preached at Wednesday at the opening of a Catholic church just erected at a cost of £5,000. He afterwards spoke at a luncheon in the town-hall, and took occasion to refer to a statement of a profession of the Catholic faith which appeared in the *Times*. As characterized it as untrue, and expressed surprise at the admission of such a blasphemous document into the columns of the *Times*. He deplored the present condition of England and Englishmen, and prayed that they might be brought back to the light of the knowledge of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Earl Denbigh also spoke, and protested against the current assertion that a man could not become a Catholic without losing half his English nationality.

CONVERSION.—The Post announces that Lady Victoria Kirwan, sister of the late Marquis of Hastings and of the Countess of Londonderry, has recently been received into the Catholic Church at Bonnamouth.

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS' PRISON AT SHEPHERD MANOR.—The Duke of Norfolk has conferred a lasting favour on archaeologists by the restoration to its original form of the state prison in Shepherd Manor, which was occupied by Mary Queen of Scots' during the time the preparations were being completed for her reception at Sheffield Castle, and it was from this prison that Sir Henry Percy so very nearly contrived the escape of the Queen. Situated in the suburbs of Sheffield, it has been for many years occupied as a farmhouse, and it is only lately that its identity has been fully established. On removing the stucco from the heavy thick walls, the workmen discovered a doorway leading to a narrow spiral staircase, lighted by two small windows. On the ground floor are two small rooms, one a guard-room, the other a kitchen. Access to these was obtained through a door which has now been blocked up. The first floor contains two chambers, which were evidently occupied by the Queen's attendants as day and sleeping rooms. Above these is a large room used as a state room by the Queen, the ceiling of which is richly embossed with the Talbot arms. Round the top of this room the fastenings still remain on which the tapestry was hung, and in the doorway are still the heavy hatches from which the door was hung. A bedroom adjoins, and from thence up a spiral staircase, the roof can be reached, where there is a platform, which was most likely, used as a place from whence the Queen might with safety be allowed open-air exercise. By the kindness of the Duke of Norfolk, the place is open to the public.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS REPORTER.—The gentleman who is understood to be the whom O'Connell described as "the recording angel of the Marquis of Anglesey" has just died suddenly at Brighton in his 71st year. Mr. George Blagrove Snell was a shorthand writer for half a century, and was usually spoken of as the father of the profession. For forty years he travelled the Northern Circuit, and up to the last he continued in harness, always popular and highly respected. During the Irish rebellion of 1831 Mr. Snell was retained by the Government to take shorthand notes of the speeches delivered at the public meetings at that period in Ireland, and it was in consequence of this that O'Connell applied to him the sobriquet I have given above. The performance of this duty frequently placed him in some personal danger, but O'Connell always sheltered him from any harm whenever he had an opportunity.—*Freeman Correspondent.*

THE ENGLISH CARLIST COMMITTEE.—The English Carlist Committee, Great Queen street, has just been formally and officially recognized at the Royalist head quarters in Spain. Admiral Vinatea, the Carlist Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been charged by Don Carlos to communicate to the President, Sir Gilbert E. Campbell, his entire approval of the statutes of the Committee, and to thank its members, in the name of his Royal master, for their active sympathy with the Carlist cause. Señor Estrada, the Secretary of Queen Marguerite, has also conveyed to the Committee, in acknowledging the receipt of a donation from the Duke of Rutland for the sick and wounded, her sense of obligation for the active steps taken by the Committee in relieving the sufferings caused by the late war in Spain. We take this opportunity of informing the English public that no measures in aid of the Carlist cause are sanctioned by the Committee, which in the slightest contravene not only the letter, but the spirit of English law.—*Westminster Gazette.*

FREEMASONRY AND CATHOLICISM.—(To the Editor of the London Times.)—Sir:—As no one seems to take up the gauntlet thrown down in an article in the *Saturday Review* given by you in your impression of Monday last, will you allow me a small space in your columns for that purpose? The writer attacks Lord Ripon (destined it would seem to point many a moral and adorn many a tale) for giving up Freemasonry preparatory to becoming a Catholic on the ground that such a proceeding is on his part a piece of gratulations "Ultranmontanism," a "view" not taken

by all Catholics, and an implicit assertion of the extreme ideas on the infallibility of the Roman Pontiff. But is it necessary to have recourse to all this, unless it is to be found on it the further discourse concerning the duty of Englishmen to be "Englishmen before all things," which the writer goes on to ventilate? M. T. Cicero was not an Ultramontane (except in the geographical sense); Grotius was not an Ultramontane. Yet they, in common with all writers on law, maintain that to take solemn oaths either concerning things trifling or concerning things unknown is never lawful. To say that English Freemasonry is a harmless benefit society in action is no answer to the objection that it is a society which enacts a solemn oath concerning things unknown at the time to him who takes such an oath, nor is it an answer to say (I know not with what truth) that the solemn oath regards only some trifling and even ludicrous matters, for that would be a profanity. It is allowed on all hands that an oath is exacted, and such an oath as all moralists regard as unlawful. That the Pope have condemned all societies coming under this head of secrecy, by whatever name and for whatever ends called and existing, is most true; but antecedently to all such condemnations they are condemned by natural ethics as rash for the individuals and dangerous to society, against which they may obviously be turned, and I may add, notoriously are turned in many countries. Herod Antipas was no inexcusable for the rashness of his fatal oath as if he had been an Ultramontane Catholic instead of a Hellenized Jew, and as guilty of the rashness before he carried it into effect as he was after. As to the "Englishman before anything" view, surely it is an insult to our nationality as well as to our common sense to say that any one is an "Englishman before all things" in the sense that no higher obligation than adherence to the national will exists? In principle, this would involve postponing God and our conscience to the will of man. Let us suppose we were at this moment under the rule of Nero, or of the Tycoon, is it seriously meant that our conscientious duty would be to accept the creed of our Sovereign and of the State who set him up to rule over us? Surely, no one besides Prince Bismarck and his following can hold such a doctrine now, except, of course, for discussion's sake in the columns of an evening paper? Or again, suppose that the Sovereign and State were suddenly converted to Ultramontanism, and that, in obedience to the (well-known) bloodthirsty and tyrannic tendencies of Pius IX. and Archbishop Manning, a Toppil of the period were despatched by the Privy Council to arrest, say Mr. Etienne, for heretical pravity, would that ardent controversialist be bound in conscience immediately to adhere *ex animo* to the doctrine, say, of purgatory? I pause for a reply, and am, Sir, your obedient servant, Nemo.

A MURDEROUS OATH.—THE FREEMASONS AND CATHOLICS.—A correspondence, arising out of the conversion of the Marquis of Ripon, has been going on for some days in the *Times*, and has been supplemented by articles in the same journal. The only one of the series of letters, interesting to the general body of Catholics, is the following, from the Rev. Dr. Johnson, secretary to his Grace the Archbishop of Westminster, which appeared in the *Times* of Wednesday last:—Sir, With reference to the subject of Freemasonry, which you treated yesterday in a leading article, allow me to send you for publication, from *Lai Franc-Maçonnerie* of Archbishop Decamps, Primate of Belgium, edition of 1874, pages 16 and 17, the terms of the oath alleged to be taken by new members of one of the Grand Lodges of Berlin:—"I swear in the name of the Supreme Architect of all worlds, never to reveal the secrets, the signs, the touches, the words, the doctrines, or the usages of Freemasonry, and to keep thereupon eternal silence. I promise and I swear to God never to disclose any of these things by pen, by word, or by act; never to cause anything to be written, or lithographed, or engraved, or printed respecting them; and never to publish what has been confided to me in the future. If I should break my word I pledge and submit myself to undergo the following penalty:—To have my lips burnt with a red-hot iron, my hand cut off, my tongue torn out, my throat cut, my corpse hung up in a lodge during the ceremony of admission of a new brother, and then to be burnt and its ashes cast to the winds." On the same page, 17, is given, on the authority of Alban Stolz, an instance in which a punishment such as that which is invoked in the above oath was inflicted in the Grand Lodge of London upon an Englishman who, in 1796, had published at Liege a work revealing the mysteries of the lower grades.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. A. JOHNSON, Archbishop's-house, Westminster, Sept. 22.

The Protestant Bishop of Chichester has consecrated a new consecrated a new church at Hastings, which has been built by a lady resident. The bishop, who has recently been charged with Ritualistic tendencies, in the course of his sermon, said it was to keep in remembrance a personal Saviour that the Church still employed the sign of the cross in the rites of baptism, and did not object to the emblems of the cross in her churches, and far that reason they retained the memory of the blessed Virgin Mary. There was a deep wisdom in these observations, which was too little considered.

MR. GLADSTONE ON RITUALISM.—The new number of the *Contemporary Review* contains an article by Mr. Gladstone on "Ritualism and Ritual." In his celebrated speech in the House of Commons he said that nobody could tell what Ritualism was; and in his article he endeavours to give a definition of it. Ritualism, he says, is unwise, undisciplined reaction from poverty, from coldness, from barrenness, from nakedness. The gist of his argument is, that in certain cases a given amount of Ritual would be a help, while in others it would be a hindrance to devout Christian worship, and that accordingly no strict line should be drawn in the matter.

FAILURE OF TORPEDO EXPERIMENTS.—Experiments were made at Portsmouth on Saturday with a view to try the effect of torpedoes on ironclads. The Oberon was fitted up to represent a vessel of the Hercules class, and a torpedo was fired under her. The ship heeled over, but did not sink, and it is believed that she has not been materially injured.

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED DETECTIVE.—Mr. C. F. Field, late Chief Inspector of the Metropolitan Detective Police, and who figures prominently in "Bleak House," being the detective who accompanied Charles Dickens in some of his most famous expeditions in London, died on Sunday morning at his residence, Stanley Villas, Chelsea.

BURNING AND SCUTTLING OF THE SHIP "DUM-BARTONSHIRE."—A despatch received in Liverpool on Saturday, dated Buenos Ayres, 18th inst., states that the ship "Dumbartonshire," which sailed from Glasgow to Buenos Ayres took fire at the latter port, and had to be scuttled. Part of the cargo was saved undamaged, and the remainder damaged. The "Dumbartonshire" was a new vessel, having only been built in May this year. She was built at Glasgow by Messrs. Dubie and Co., owned at the same place by Messrs. T. Lawe and Co., and a vessel of 1,044 tons.

"WANTED, A GOOD CAT."—The Glasgow Town Council has resolved to ask the Government to sanction the use of the lash in Scotland in cases of robbery with violence, wife-beating, and similar outrages. The correspondent of a Manchester newspaper also pleads for more frequent whipping in the gaols of that city. "It makes my blood boil," he says, "when I read the black list of brutal cases I see in your columns every day, and he concludes: 'I have enough faith in our present Government to believe that they will not turn a deaf ear to this cry for justice, but will give us a good cat.' A good

many sentimental persons object to the physical punishment of criminals. Those people consider the human body too sacred a thing to be roughly treated under any circumstances. If they would join the crusade against lashing little boys unable to conjugate their irregular verbs they might be of some service; but when they plead for hardened villains they can hardly realise the nature of the cause they support. It is all very well to believe a noble element remains in the most degraded type of humanity. This may be so, but the noble element is to say the least, not very prominent in a man who breaks his wife's head with a poker, or who, in a dark night, slips behind an unsuspecting passer-by, knocks him down, throttles him, and afterwards carries of his purse and watch. Moral suasion, or even a month's imprisonment, is not the sort of treatment adapted to persons of this class. The community must have recourse to the only argument, the force of which they are capable of feeling, and that is the lash. A touch of the magic instrument is more effective with men who have lost every instinct of honour and manliness than any other penalty. We grant that in punishments the reformation of the offender should, as far as possible be thought of. But the first duty of society is to protect itself. And, after all, a thorough flogging may have quite as good a moral influence on a base scoundrel as any number of tracts and lectures.

THE STATISTICS OF CRIME IN ENGLAND.—The *Daily Telegraph*, referring to a letter it recently published from Professor Leone Levi on the question of criminal statistics, says that the professor is gravely and deliberately of opinion that all things considered, an increase of serious crime has not taken place. He points out that the tables of criminal statistics are annually swelled by the increased vigilance of the police, and by the greater number of prosecutions for offences which not many years since were deemed beneath the cognizance of the law.—But, as the professor observes, the first thing to know is the number of unlawful acts committed throughout the country, and he finds that the number of indictable offences—that is to say, felonies and misdemeanours justiciable at assizes and quarter sessions—decreased from 52,000 in 1863 to 44,000 in 1873. We are thus entitled to assume that we have 29 per cent. fewer murderers, burglars, footpads, highwaymen, forgers, and grand larcenars among us than we had nine years ago. In the number of persons proceeded against summarily an apparently deplorable increase is visible. The numbers were 422,000 in 1863, and £60,000 in 1872; but from the balance on the wrong side of the moral ledger should, in fairness, be taken away the persons apprehended for simple drunkenness, which has only within late years been held to be a criminal offence at all. Such a deduction would bring down the respective totals to 327,000 in 1863 and to 409,000 in 1872. And even in that case, the professor contends that the increase of crime is more apparent than real, the ostensible increment comprising a number of small offences against the game laws and local acts—offences created by recent legislation.—We might venture to suggest to Professor Levi that cabman's and publican's summonses and school-prosecutions would still further swell the list of cases which should be deducted from the statistics of "crime." Dividing, however, the grand total into four subdivisions, the statistician discovers that there were 172,050 offenders committed for trial or summarily prosecuted in 1863, against 184,105 in 1872. Here, truly, is an apparent increase of more than 2,000 crimes within ten years; but, turning the cool light of the national census tables on criminal statistics, it will be found that the average of criminals to population was, in 1863, 8.66 per 1,000, and in 1872 only 7.66, showing a decrease in the total number of criminals of 11 per cent. in a little less than ten years.

UNITED STATES.

The *New York Observer* is offended at the importation of nuns. It is at once alarmed at the progress and quality of Catholicity. A paragraph which appeared in the *New York City press*, last week, evidently aroused its fears, which are ventilated in an editorial after the following manner:

"IMPORTED NUNS.—A dozen nuns, imported from France, and at once put in charge of a female college establishment in this city, built for the purpose and to be used as an instrumentality for the education of the young women of the United States, is an incident that is certainly worthy of being noticed in many of its aspects. It cannot be that the standard of education is so low among the Roman Catholic population of the city that it is necessary to import the entire force of teachers for a school of three hundred pupils. It might be important to secure an efficient head, by taking the best one that could be found in the world. But if the education is to be such as the American woman needs, it is certainly remarkable that the teachers should be brought in a body from a foreign land and set at this work. It would be considered something very extraordinary if a dozen women of the Wesleyan or Baptist persuasion should come over here from London, Paris, or Berlin, and find a vast and elegant edifice, just erected, furnished and ready for them to take possession of and to begin at once their work of educating the daughters of New York. The impossibility of such a thing is obvious. It would be impracticable to raise \$250,000 to build a house in this city for such a Protestant enterprise. Men or women would be ridiculed who should venture to attempt the experiment. But it has just been done by the Romanists in this city, and often has it been done before, that it is now regarded as one of the most natural things in the world. Month after month the progress of a new pile of buildings is noticed; nobody seems to know or care what for; at last the edifice is complete, and a simple paragraph in the paper tells of the arrival of a dozen nuns or more of some new order, who have come to take charge of the new institution on such a street! And so the work goes on. It is their way. It is the quiet but powerful movement by which the foreign type of Romanism is gradually impressed upon the American mind."

A secret organization of New Orleans, known as the "Hives" similar in character and purpose to the White League, on Wednesday night last nominated candidates for Mayor and other city officers. A resolution was passed in favour of the repudiation of the State debt and pledging members of the society to vote against any tax to pay principle or interest. The organization claims to control 5,000 votes.—*Western Times.*

Donahue, the pedestrian, who walked 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours on Hampden Park, Springfield, Mass., last June, and who commenced Aug. 20, on the Manchester Driving Park, Manchester, N.H., to walk 1,100 miles in 1,100 hours, has accomplished one-half his task. He shows signs of fatigue, and his appetite is poorer than at Springfield. He has lost 11 pounds of flesh since he started. He will probably be successful.

Reports from different portions of the State of Minnesota, are to the effect that but little wheat is moving, any of the principal towns. Even the Minneapolis mills seem disinclined to make extensive purchases while the tendency of prices is so positively downward.—*Western Times.*

Deland's Palace Hotel, San Francisco, has the distinction of the largest cistern and "morgue" in that city. The former holds 3,000,000 gallons, and the latter contains 1,000,000.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin has been returning in New York for the benefit of a Catholic Church in that city.

Arrangements are being made to send some 200,000 bushels of wheat from Alexandria, next winter, to Wadena, to be shipped to the Duluth market.