

GENERAL NOTES.

In the city of Rome are more than a hundred printing offices and a thousand printers. These figures double those of New York and triple those of London in proportion to the population of all three cities.

THE Irish land agitation has its influence abroad. An *Inverness Journal* states that a movement is on foot in that vicinity for the improvement of the Scottish land laws.

THE results of the German elections do not please Prince Bismarck. As he is a man who frets more at the enmity of the insignificant than he rejoices at the friendship of the great, he has now an opportunity of having his fretfulness increased by the magnitude of the Opposition.

THE *Catholic Shield*, of Ottawa, has taken up the cause of Catholic education with a will, and is advocating it with spirit. There is much room for improvement in the Ontario Separate School Act, and all interested in the welfare of Catholic schools will wish the *Shield* success in its efforts.

GAMBETTA, by his recent success, has placed himself in the position of an elephant owner. Before his election he promised to revise the constitution, to confiscate church property, and to suppress religious observances. As the mass of the French people have not yet sunk into the depths of serfdom, it is not likely that the loud-mouthed infidel will successfully accomplish either the second or the third of his pledges.

GLADSTONE'S recent speech in Lancashire, if not remarkable for anything else, is significant for its praises of O'Connell. Few Irishmen of a generation ago would have thought that a British Premier would ever characterize the efforts of an Irish liberator for the freedom of his country as "praiseworthy and legitimate."

ENGLAND is undecided as to the most salutary means of correcting juvenile offenders. Some papers advocate whipping, others confinement in reformatories and industrial schools, while a third class suggests that the weight of the pun-

ishment be laid upon the parents, "whose cruel indifference and neglect are the causes of two-thirds of the juvenile crime committed in the country."

NEXT year (1882) a mammoth exhibition will be held in Dublin, Ireland, and in 1885 a World's Fair will be held in Rome. To natives of America both exhibitions would be of more than ordinary interest as including opportunities of visiting the famous places of the Old World.

WHEN in England an attempt is made to blow up passenger cars and murder people wholesale, it is called train wrecking, but when a tyrannical landlord is maimed or "boycotted" it is telegraphed to the world as a "dastardly outrage."

THE nuns of the convent of Mary, Ballyshannon, Donegal County, Ireland, desire to convey their thanks to their American benefactors in general, and in particular to these named below: New York—Miss Madden, Mr. Bower, Mr. Johnston, Mr. McGrail; Philadelphia—Miss Kelly, Miss Bower; Elizabeth—Mr. Filloran; Adair—Mr. Watson; Boston—Mr. M. Sweeney, Miss Harvey; Morristown, N. Y.—Mr. E. McGorrich; Madison, Wis.—Miss E. McGovern; Brooklyn—Mrs. A. Ward and Miss Bridget Sweeney. They also earnestly request that others to whom they have written in behalf of their building fund, would inform them before New Year's whether they will do anything towards the object of their appeal.

THE month of December is remarkable for many important religious anniversaries. Besides the great festivals of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady (Dec. 8), and the Nativity of Our Lord (Dec. 25), there are the feasts of St. Francis Xavier (Dec. 3), St. Ambrose, Doctor of the Church (Dec. 7), St. Stephen (Dec. 26), St. John the Evangelist on the 27th, the Holy Innocents on the 28th, and St. Thomas a Bécket on the 29th.

WHAT England took from Ireland: Land, language, parliament. What England gave to Ireland: Land laws, poor houses, and jails.