

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

COALITION PLOT.—PARIS, December 7.—Bonapartists are plotting to effect a coalition with members of the Republican party, with a view to the overthrow of the Government on the question of the nomination of the Assembly. Members of the Right and the Left are agreed on the question of the nomination of forty-four Senators; thirty-one Senators remaining unchosen.

COMPROMISE.—LONDON, Dec. 10.—A Paris despatch says in consequence of the failure of balloting for Senators in the Assembly, yesterday, the Duc d'Angoulême is negotiating with the leaders of the Parliamentary Committee with a view to drawing up a compromise.

BALLOTING FOR SENATORS.—PARIS, December 10.—In the Assembly to-day balloting for life-senators was resumed. The following senators were elected by the Right: Generals D'Aurelle, Changarnier; by the Left: Generals Trépoval and Chanzy; Admirals Pothan and Fourichon, M. M. Krautz, Danciers, De Lasteyrie, Cerné, Laboulaye, Royer, Feneberg, Wolowski, St. Hilaire, Castaner Peris, Corbier, Picard and Moleville. The success of the Left is attributed to the support given it by the Legitimists and Bonapartists.

SPAIN.

THE CARLIST WAR.—HENDAYE, Dec. 6.—The Carlist General Tristany has re-entered Catalonia, and issued a proclamation, exhorting the inhabitants to rise.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES' MESSAGE.—MADRID, Dec. 7.—A *Herald* special—midnight—says the message of President Grant occasions great excitement a complete summary of the Cuban section was cabled to Senor Collantes, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and an informal meeting of the Ministry was held. Its great verbosity startles the Spanish statesman; a day's delay in sending the message is regarded suspiciously, and the belligerency disclaimer will be variously discussed in to-morrow's newspapers. Duplicité will probably be charged and ultra-organs are issuing extras, and the streets are crowded. Excitement is equal to that shown over the Virginian affair.

GERMANY.

ARCHBISHOP OF COLOGNE SUMMONED TO RESIGN.—LONDON, Dec. 7.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* this afternoon has a special from Berlin which says that the Prussian Government has formally summoned the Archbishop of Cologne to resign; this is preliminary to legal proceedings to depose him.

PEACE CONFERENCE.—BERLIN, Dec. 10.—It is stated that the recent conference between Bismarck and Prince Gortschakoff resulted in an agreement for a peaceful solution of the Turkish difficulty. They will not raise the Eastern question, nor are they in favor of an international conference on the Suez Canal question.

INTERPELLATION.—LONDON, Dec. 11, 6 a.m.—A telegram from Berlin states that the members of the Liberal Party in the Reichstag have signed an interpellation asking Government for information in regard to the loss of the steamer *Deutschland*. In addition to this a motion has been made in the Reichstag for the introduction of a measure providing for official inquiries into casualties to German ships.

AUSTRIA.

REFORM PROPOSITIONS.—VIENNA, Dec. 10.—Proposals of the three Northern Powers in regard to reforms in Turkey were definitely agreed to to-day after amendment in accordance with the views of the Porte.

AUSTRIAN ARMY.—A Vienna letter gives some statistics illustrating the heterogeneous composition of the Austrian Army.—The garrison of that city includes 4,000 Magyars, 8,000 Czechs, Moravians, and Slovaks, 4,000 Poles, 1,500 Ruthenians, 200 Croats, 6,000 Roumanians, with some Servians, Bulgarians, and Italians, language being treated as the criterion in each case. At Graz there are 3,900 Magyars, 600 Czechs, 4,000 Slovaks, 4,800 Croats, 100 Servians, and 100 Roumanians. As to creeds the Graz garrison contains 2,780 Greeks, and Pressburg 2,000 Greeks and 800 United Greeks.

ITALY.

The discovery of the circulation of the blood is claimed in favour of one who formerly taught medicine at Rome, Andrea Cesalpino, and in the *secundum*, held in the aula of the University, it was resolved to erect a monument, or at least a tablet, in some public place connecting the said discovery with his name.

The dreadful Sonzogno trial is at length over and results in the conviction of six persons and the acquittal of one. The guilty persons are not sentenced to death, but to penal servitude for life. The attention of all Rome, and a good deal of Italy, is concentrated upon this fearful tragedy and the death of the victim's only son, which was known just at the close of the trial, give rise to new and pathetic reflections. More may be known about the matter later on, but at present the accounts are of a very speculative and contradictory sort. There is, however, too much reason to suspect a connection between it and Secret Societies, a connection more over which they in power seemed anxious should not be made manifest, for the dagger which was the instrument of death has never been produced in court, and yet it is especially marked with certain cabalistic signs and characters which prove it to have belonged to a member of a secret society, and this important piece of evidence is wholly ignored in the trial; and it is widely credited that the few individuals now convicted form a very small part indeed of those concerned in Sonzogno's death. It is probably with a view of hiding a few undeniable and indisputable facts like this that such a cloud of divergent opinions are every day started in the papers, and how divergent these may be estimated by the fact that the editor of the *Popolo Romano* was dismissed from his office by the director of the journal in consequence as the journal itself publicly asserts, of different views concerning the Sonzogno trial. Another editor has been challenged by a surviving brother of the murdered man to fight a duel with him on account of some expressions which he considered injurious to the memory of the murdered man, and in such furious haste was he for satisfaction that the challenge was sent by telegraph.

TURKEY.

TURKISH REFORMS.—LONDON, December 11th.—A Berlin despatch says the Austro-Russian negotiations regarding Turkey contemplate the establishment of a perfect equality between Christians and Turks. The Ambassadors of the Powers are to be granted information in regard to any measure projected by the Porte, so as to be able to advise and influence its decisions. Russia will no longer object to the plan of reform if the Porte consents to it.

RUSSIA.

REINFORCEMENT OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—A Khokand despatch from Vienna says advances have been received from Khokand that Gen. Kaufmann is receiving reinforcements, which will continue to be sent him until he has an effective force of 60,000 men. The insurgents still number 25,000.

CONTRADICTION.—LONDON, Dec. 7.—A despatch to the *Standard*, from St. Petersburg, says rumors that Khokand is surrounded, and the majority of the smaller Russian garrisons had been massacred, are false; no further rising in Khokand.

BEWARE OF THE FATE OF JERICO.

WORDS OF THE HOLY FATHER TO THE PILGRIMS OF PROVENÇE AND LA VENDEE.

Manifestations of faith and works of charity are daily increasing, especially in France; the clergy pray at the foot of the altar; churches and sanctuaries resound with the voices of the people, who raise their hands and hearts to God in prayer that they may obtain from Him the graces we so much require in these troublous times.

And yet, the rod still bears heavily upon the Church, and her enemies continue persistently to harass, persecute and oppress her.

Now this long continuance of the cruel trials of the Church appears, in some portions of the Catholic world, to weaken the minds and the courage of certain men, to such an extent that, fearing that the Church must eventually sink under the weight of her misfortunes, they bow their heads to the unjust requirements of our persecutors.

But you are not of this class; firm and devoted, you prove to the world that you have not lost one iota of your faith in God, nor in the hope of one day seeing a calm after the storm that now rages.

Now, I will say to these weak people: Who are you to presume to understand the hidden ways of Providence and to know when God's chastisements will cease? O, my children, I will say to them in the words of St. Francis de Sales: 'Beware! the butterfly in hovering too long around the flame, is gradually consumed;' so also he, who like an indiscreet scrutator, seeks to penetrate too far into the ways of God and to know their bent, will be overcome, crushed, reduced to ashes.

It is, therefore, necessary to remain strong in the faith and to redouble our confidence, even in the face of adverse appearances.

To better illustrate what I say, I may be permitted to recall an incident related in the Holy Scriptures.

The City of Jericho had filled the measure of its iniquities, and God, in the decrees of His justice, had written that this city was to be wiped out from among the cities of the world. Calling, therefore, upon Josue, successor of the great Captain of the people of Israel, He commanded him to go immediately and slay all the inhabitants of Jericho and to reduce the city to ashes.

Josue obeyed the divine command and did all that God had ordered him to do. Having assembled all the Priests he told them to take the Ark of the Covenant and with the Ark the trumpets that are used in the Jubilee, to assemble the people in order, and to lead them in procession around the walls of the condemned city, and to repeat this order of marching for several days. Then all the armed men went before, followed by the Priests with the trumpets and the Ark of the Lord, whilst the common people and the unarmed populace brought up the rear of this grand pilgrimage. The first round was performed in this order on the first day and on the following days.

But after the first, the second, the third and the fourth day, would you believe that the inhabitants of Jericho, given to every vice, having seen this procession uselessly repeated, and without any damage to them; would you believe that from the top of their walls, which were looked upon as impregnable, they amused themselves criticising, and scoffing at everything, the Ark, and the Priests, and the trumpets, and the people, and the armed men? Would you believe it that even among the Israelites there were found some who were hard-headed; do you believe that there were none of them who said among themselves: "But what is the use of these fruitless processions which result in nothing, and render the conquest of Jericho an illusion?"

Now, this is precisely what is going on in our day, by the actions of those who, on the one hand, imitate in their vices the ancient inhabitants of Jericho, and on the other the wicked Israelites; by their defiance. The impious despise the Church and her rites, and they proclaim with derision, that all that we know and believe to be true, holy and salutary, is nothing but down-right fanaticism. Some, like the Hebrews, always defiant and ungrateful, murmured perhaps on the uselessness of their marches around the walls of Jericho. It is thus that weak minds, and those who want to enjoy peace at any price, say that the evil tendency of society continues, and holds out no hope of a brighter future, and they unconsciously unite with the former, when they show a desire to accommodate themselves in the wishes of the impious, ceding and conceding what cannot, and ought not to be, conceded.

But the seventh day being at hand and the march around the walls being resumed, hardly had the people, in conformity with their instructions, sent up their shouts, blended with the sounds of the trumpets of the priests, which thundered upon the ears of the blind inhabitants of Jericho, and sent dismay into their souls, when the walls forthwith fell down, and every man went up by the place that was over against him: *Et ascendit unusquisque per locum qui contra se erat.*

Then was accomplished the great massacre, and the city was reduced to ashes. The besieged discovered, but too late, that with God there is no trifling, and that men may not despise with impunity the sacred ceremonies established by God Himself.

And among the Hebrews, vacillating, base and pusillanimous souls, realized that it was a crime to lose confidence in God. The massacre being over, the flames having consumed everything, Josue mounted his horse and, inspired by God, he went to the city and pronounced a most fearful malediction, which I will not now repeat, because it was really frightful, against whoever should raise up and rebuild the city upon its former site.

Beloved Sons, Venerable Brethren, since you are now in Rome, allow your Father to deposit in your hearts the bitterness that rends his own. Remember that nineteen centuries have already elapsed, since St. Peter, the Prince of the Apostles, first set foot in this city. Remember that he entered this forest, (as St. Leo says), in which was heard the howling of the bulls, the roaring of the lions, and the hissing of the serpents. *Sylvæ fremuentum bestiarum.* The mistress of so many nations, Rome had added to its own vices those of all the conquered nations. In spite of this, the Apostle, with God's assistance, planted, in this centre of Paganism, the root of the religion of Christ, the Cross, and watered it with His blood.

Three centuries of persecution and of thousands of martyrs were required to substitute the cross in place of the false divinities. Pagan Rome, however, had its malediction, and was destroyed. There remains of this Rome only the ruins which attract the attention of the archaeologist and the curiosity of the tourist.

And what do they want to know? They want to restore our beloved Christiana Rome to the Rome of the Cæsars, to Pagan Rome. And if it is not a Pagan Rome, it will be an infidel Rome. They would like to substitute reason for religion. They would like substantially to destroy all that was planted by St. Peter and by the immense army of martyrs who enriched everything upon the soil of Christiana Rome with their blood.

Can this be denied? The profanations which meet my own eyes daily in the holy city, the capital of the Catholic world, are so great and so numerous: so great and so numerous are the spoliations which are perpetrated, as well as the efforts being made for the corruption of youth, that, in the future, there is no longer doubt as to the ultimate object of destroying Catholicity, at its very centre.

And yet the hypocrisy which attends this continual persecution is such, that it is pretended in distant countries that here in Rome, order, peace,

and tranquillity reign supreme. And whilst a sacrilegious hand is laid upon everything that is holiest and dearest to the Lord and to His Vicar, whilst it is seizing all Catholic institutions to destroy them, it pretends that in Rome everything moves along smoothly, and they boast of their moderation; but this moderation finally vanishes when we see the Italian revolution bending its knee before the most powerful persecutor of the Church, clearly indicating by this act that the object in view of both these persecutors is precisely the same; although the means of attaining it may vary to some extent.

Ah! let those who try to eclipse Christiana Rome, so as to enshroud it in the darkness of infidelity, those who seek to rear Babylon upon the ruins of all that is sacred, learn that they are urging God to renew against them the anathemas and maledictions, which fell, centuries ago, from the lips of Josue.

And you who are listening to me, Beloved Sons and Venerable Brethren, raise, in unity with those who are absent, your prayers to the Most High that you may through His mercy obtain the necessary strength to surmount the assaults of envy, calumny and all the snares of our enemies, in such a way, that when brought before them we may be able, not only to overcome them, but also to gain from God the favor of seeing Christiana Rome extend its spiritual sovereignty farther and farther.

Pray, finally, that the causes which have led God to take up the rod, such as the ingratitude and forgetfulness of His countless blessings may cease; an ingratitude which, alas! exists to a too alarming extent among all classes, even among who bear stamped upon their souls the impress of more than one character proceeding from the Sacraments.

Pray then that these causes disappearing, we may be able to see a cessation of their results and that we may merit, instead of punishments, the blessings of peace: peace with God, peace with men, peace with ourselves, and that thus, this Church militant, in which we live may little by little enter triumphantly into heaven.

May God bless our prayers! Thou knowest the intentions of these good Christians. Thou knowest the intentions of Thy unworthy Vicar. O my God, remember us and have mercy upon us: *Et nunc Domine, I will say to Thee in the words of Ezechiel, miserere populi tui, quia volunt nos inimici nostri perdere et hereditatem tuam dolere.* Have mercy upon us then, O Lord, and grant us Thy blessing as an earnest. Bless Thine unworthy Vicar, bless these venerable Bishops who, are here before me, with their Dioceses and their Diocesan.

Yes, Beloved Children, I raise my hands, and I bless you in God's name. (To the Province people). May St. Lazarus, your Patron and the friend of Jesus Christ, obtain for you that you may all become the true friends of that Almighty and All-bountiful Friend. (To the Vendean). May Most Holy Mary of the Assumption, the titular of your church, from her throne of glory, assist and strengthen you, so that La Vendee, so renowned and so faithful to its sacred principles, may always remain faithful, so as to be judged worthy of greater mercies.

I pray God to accompany you on your return home, and I thank you for all you have done in braving the fatigues of so long a journey.

I bless you in life, and on this journey back to your native land; I bless you in death, that you may be worthy, at your last hour to return your souls into the hands of God. *Benedictio Dei*, etc.

THE CHURCH SUFFERING IN EUROPE.

From our foreign exchanges we glean the following:

BRESLAU.

The judgment of the Ecclesiastical Court "deposing" the Prince Bishop of Breslau was communicated to his Lordship on the 5th instant. On the 6th the Governor of Silesia forwarded to the Chapter an official requisition, calling on them to elect an administrator of the diocese. On the same day the governor putting into operation certain exceptional powers conferred by the Law of 20th May, 1874, commissioned Herr von Schukmann to carry out the sequestration of the episcopal property.

THE POSITION OF THE PRINCE BISHOP.

The whole question of the ecclesiastical situation, created by the pretended deposition of the Prince Bishop, has attracted great attention throughout Germany, and is being constantly discussed in newspapers of all shades of opinion. Two points are especially noteworthy: Some pseudo-Canonists are proclaiming in the *Berlin Post*, a semi-official paper, a pretended right of the Cathedral Chapter to elect a Vicar Capitular, on the ground of *sedes impedita*, which is one of the cases specified in a Decretal of Boniface VIII. *de suppl. neglig. Prælat.*, c. 4. Bishops and Regulars, dated May 3, 1862, distinctly declaring that all elections of Vicars-Capitular during the lifetime of the Bishop are null and void, and both electors and elected become liable to ecclesiastical penalties. In this connection it is worth observing that Professor Schulte, who has since unhappily joined the Old Catholics, has treated the very case of the Prince Bishop in his *System of Ecclesiastical Law* published at Giessen in 1856. He points out that the Decretal of Boniface VIII. really refers to the case of a Bishop detained in hopeless captivity by Heathens or Schismatics, and does not by any means apply to the case of a Bishop who has been thwarted or prevented from exercising his jurisdiction by a Government. He cites as a decisive example what happened on the occasion of the removal of the Archbishop of Cologne in 1837. The Chapter proceeded to elect a Vicar-Capitular, on the ground of *sedes impedita*; but the Holy See absolutely refused to recognize him. Fortunately the clergyman elected happened to be the Vicar-General of the imprisoned Archbishop. In this capacity he was recognized at Rome, and special faculties were given to him to meet the special difficulties of the emergency. Unhappily there is no room for such an expedient in the present instance, there being no longer any Vicar-General in the diocese of Breslau. The Prince Bishop has announced that he takes upon himself the complete government of the diocese. When this becomes impossible all that remains is to refer the matter to Rome, and to beseech the Holy See to make the necessary provision.

AUSTRIA AND THE PRINCE BISHOP.

An unauthenticated rumor that the Prussian Government would make some representations to Austria concerning the position of Dr. Forster, has drawn attention to the fact that two eminent Prussian Protestant lawyers have already discussed the peculiarities of the case from an international point of view. These gentlemen are Herr Hinchius, who is the great authority on jurisprudence in Germany, and Dr. Heffter, who is both a professor of law, a Privy Councillor, and a Judge of the Supreme Prussian Tribunal. Herr Hinchius has pointed out that the Prussian and the Austrian ecclesiastical laws differ fundamentally in this respect, while the Austrian legislation professes to set aside a Bishop in certain cases; it does so with respect to his civil position only, whereas the Prussian Law professes to strip him of his ecclesiastical jurisdiction also. Further, he observes, Dr. Forster has committed no offence which can be considered a crime, either morally or according to ordinary notions of jurisprudence; further, he has certainly done nothing against the Austrian laws. Besides he is a

member of the Austrian Upper House, and he is a Bishop over some hundred thousand Austrian subjects, who certainly have no interest in seen transplanted among themselves the confusion of Prussian practices. Finally, he calls attention to the fact that Austria, as an independent State, is under no obligation to do anything with respect even to Prussian criminals, except in so far as she has undertaken to do so by special treaty. Assuredly the case of Bishop Forster does not come within the scope of any such treaty obligations.

THE CATHEDRAL CHAPTER OF BRESLAU.

As every one acquainted with the circumstances expected the Chapter of the persecuted diocese has refused to be an instrument of schism. In reply to the communication of the Governor they have declined to elect an administrator for the diocese. One of the canons, Herr Klinzer, so far separated himself from his colleagues that he ventured to propose the election of a Vicar-Capitular, subject indeed to the condition that, contemporaneously a report on the whole state of the case, should be made to Rome, and that the Holy See should be implored to assist in meeting the difficulties of the diocese. This conduct of Canon Klinzer has caused great pain, and can scarcely be reconciled with the fact that he himself, in his capacity of deputy in the Prussian Landtag, presented a petition from the Breslau Chapter against this very law, which he was now proposing to comply with in a sort of fashion. The result of the refusal of the Chapter would be to sequester their incomes; but as those incomes have been already suspended under the "Bread-Basket" Law of April, 1875, they will not suffer directly any additional special inconvenience. The revenues of the See will, of course, pass into the hands of a Royal Commissary. But even this will not for the present cause any great inconvenience to the Prince Bishop, the great bulk of the estates lying within the Austrian territory.

THE REICHSTAG.

The following particulars concerning the party divisions of the Reichstag may be interesting. There are 140 National Liberals, 93 members of the Centre, 32 of the German Empire Party, 29 Conservatives, 14 Poles, 36 members of the *Fortschritt* (Progress) Party. There are 56 members who do not belong to any regular party combination. Among these are to be reckoned 13 deputies who have just succeeded from the ranks of the *Fortschritt* Party, and who have placed themselves under the leadership of the deputy Lowe; also 15 Alsatians, and Prince Hohenlohe-Schillingsfurst, the Minister of the Interior, and the deputies Von Bonin, Sounemann, Kryger, Romer (from Wurtemberg), and 9 Social-Democrats.

THE GERMANIA.

It will be remembered that a couple of months since a monster suit was instituted against Herr Ernst Thiemé, the responsible editor of the *Germania*. He was accused generally of libelling the State, Prince Bismarck, the Imperial Government. Selections were made from eight numbers of the paper to support these charges. He was convicted and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. Both the Attorney General and the accused appealed. The case came before the second criminal division of the Berlin *Kammergericht* on Friday, the 22nd of November. The Court rejected the appeal in toto of the Attorney General, who asked an increase of the punishment to at least a year's imprisonment. It modifies the original sentence, reducing the term from nine to six months, among which it ordered that one month of preliminary confinement should be included.

EDUCATION.

The consequence of the suppression of the Religious establishments are beginning to make themselves painfully felt. At Hildesheim, in Hanover, there was a "Marienschule" for the education of Catholic young ladies under the direction of the Ursuline nuns. Upon the departure of the nuns, on 1st October, this school was closed; and it is now a question whether it can be reopened on the 1st of January. Ten days ago sixty Catholic fathers of families, who are specially interested in the re-opening of the school, held a meeting to consider the situation. Forty-five constituted themselves into a school committee, and drew up certain provisional rules. Of course lay mistresses must now be employed, and these necessarily involve a greater expense than the nuns. The school fees were fixed for the four classes respectively at 15, 20, 25 and 30 thalers (i. e., 42s. 6d.; 56s. 6d.; 72s.; and 85s.). The meeting then passed resolutions expressing their profound sorrow at losing the Ursuline nuns, and their deep appreciation of their services; and also thanking the Vicar-General Kopp for the great assistance he had given in the matter.

MUNSTER.

The Rev. Herr Boddighaus, the proprietor of the *Westfälische Merkur*—a clergyman well known in London, where he was for some years attached to the German mission—completed on the 11th of November four weeks of imprisonment in the jail here. Some time since Herr Josef Meyer, the editor of the *Merkur* was sentenced to seventeen months' imprisonment. Herr Boddighaus was, notwithstanding, examined at great length the other day as to the authorship of those articles, for which Meyer is undergoing imprisonment.

CHURCH COMMITTEES.

The elections for the new Church boards still continue to be made in some places, and always with results satisfactory to the Catholics. The elections having been nearly everywhere completed within the Archdiocese of Cologne, the Archbishop has issued an ordinance prescribing how the powers of the old Church committee are to be transferred to the new one. He commands the parish priest and other clergymen to give every assistance and co-operation in their power to the new boards, and expresses a wish that they shall continue, as hitherto, to hold their meetings in the parochial residences. He orders that the bench or pew hitherto preserved for the Church committees shall be placed at the disposal of the new board.

Postage-Stamp Collecting.

The collecting of postage-stamps is not always such a frivolous pastime or occupation as many people imagine. These little bits of colored paper, ornamented with portraits, or coats-of-arms, or peculiar devices, have a great deal of information in them. They tell of the rise and fall of princes; of the history of republics; of the manners and customs of the people; of the peculiar characteristics of the country. The French and Spanish stamps are epitomes of the histories of their respective countries; the English colonial stamps are a geography in themselves; the South American stamps present a fine display of mottoes and devices; from the West Indian stamps we learn something of the peculiar characteristics of these islands; while in the stamps of the United States, in common with others issuing from other quarters of the globe, we have national portrait galleries. While postage stamps are being collected, or when they are put into their albums, they are examined and studied. The map is consulted to find the location of the country issuing them. The history is opened to find whose portraits are figured on them. The cyclopædia is brought out to get some idea of their value. Some learned friend is questioned to find the meaning of the peculiar inscriptions or legends. And, little by little, this research goes on until the collector often finds himself, in a manner, getting hints of almost everything of interest going on in the world. If Russia and Turkey are quarreling over Montenegro, he can discuss the cause of the troubles. He found it out when examining the Montenegrin stamps in his album. When a young boy is placed on the throne of Spain, and the col-

lector's attention is called to this country, stamps show him the many changes in that unfortunate country: Amédéeus, and Don Carlos, and Isabella, and the proud and haughty nation which unveiled a new continent; pass before him as a panorama. In stamp collecting the judgment is sharpened in endeavoring to detect the good stamps and to discard the counterfeit; the eye is drilled to appreciate the harmony and contrast of colors in the proper arrangement of the stamps; patience is acquired and taste cultivated in the efforts to produce fine effects; and cases are known of foreign languages being studied simply to enable the collector to decipher the legends and inscriptions on the stamps. A pursuit which is productive of so much good should not be deemed as a mere childish pastime.—St. Nicholas.

RENNING A NEWSPAPER.—By some unaccountable misapprehension of facts, says the *Memphis Appeal*, there is a large class of people in the world who think it costs little or nothing to run a newspaper; and if they buy a copy from the newsboy, when too far from the office to come and beg one, they are regular patrons and entitled to unlimited favours. Men call every day at newspaper offices to get a copy of the paper for nothing, who never dream of begging a pocket handkerchief from a dry goods store, or a piece of candy from a confectioner, even upon the plea of old acquaintance, having bought something in the course of time. But this is a small drain compared with the free man who has paid two dollars at an early period of life for an advertisement worth four or five dollars, appear to think they are stockholders in the establishment of all marriage and funeral notices, obituaries and family episodes, for the next forty years, gratis. Speak of pay and they grow indignant. "Don't I patronize your paper?" "Yes; but you receive the worth of your money for what you pay." "But," says the patron, "it will not cost you anything to put this in," which is just as ridiculous as to ask a man to grind your axe on his grind-stone, and graciously tell him it won't cost him a cent. It takes money to run a newspaper as well as any other business; no paper will succeed financially that carries a dead head system. Any mention of the people's affairs that they are anxious to see in print is worth paying for, and when printed is generally worth as much as any other investment of the same amount. The newspaper business is very exacting on all connected with it, and the pay is comparatively small; the proprietors risk more money for smaller profits, and the editors and reporters and printers work harder and cheaper than the same number of men in any profession requiring the given amount of intelligence, training and drudgery. The life has its charms and pleasant associations, scarcely known to the outside world; but it has its earnest work and anxieties and hours of exhaustion, which also are unknown to those who think the business all fun. The idea that newspaperdom is a charmed circle, where the favored members live a life of ease and free from care, and go to the circus at night on a free ticket and to the Springs on a free pass in the summer, is an idea which we desire to explode practically and theoretically. Business is business, and the journal that succeeds is the one that is run on a square business footing, the same as banking or building bridges, keeping a hotel or running a lively stable.

CLAIMS TO THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.—Probably no archaeological mystery is overshadowed with more interest and a greater charm than the discovery of the Western Continent. This fact is attested by the devotion and zeal of a galaxy of men of genius such as Humboldt, Kingsborough, Stephens, Rain, and well-nigh a score of others. The various theories for the solution of this perplexing problem, many of them ingeniously spun, are too numerous to mention here. Only the principal claims to the discovery and colonization can receive attention. Ancient America, with its noble monument of a once grand civilization, is to us a land of darkness and its history one of uncertainty. In our inquiries fact must, in a measure, be exchanged for conjecture. Very scanty are the records that come down to us from the ancients concerning their knowledge of the Atlantic, and the islands hidden in its bosom, though those indomitable sailors, the Phœnicians, had passed the pillars of Hercules and established colonies on the western coast of Africa, in the ninth century before Christ. Three hundred years later (B. C. 570), according to Herodotus, Pharaoh Necho fitted out an expedition, manned by Phœnician sailors, and sent it around the entire coast of Africa. That the Canary Islands were discovered and colonized by the Phœnicians, there is no doubt. Strabo, speaking of the islands of the Blessed, or Fortunæ Isles, as they were afterwards called, adds, "That those who pointed out those things were the Phœnicians, who before the time of Homer had possession of the best part of Africa and Spain. It is a well-known fact that these hardy adventurers of the seas were in the habit of preserving with the strictest secrecy the names and location of the distant lands with which they engaged in commerce. Where they sailed and traded, other than in the ports of the Indies and of the British Isles, must remain unknown. Whether furnished by this nation of sailors or not, the ancients seemed to have had some remarkable information concerning an island or continent hidden in the Sea of Darkness as the Atlantic was called. The first mention of this is made by Theopompus, a celebrated Greek orator and historian, who flourished in the time of Alexander the Great. His description of this distant island, of great dimensions, and inhabited by a strange people, is preserved in Ælian's "Varie Historie," written during the reign of Alexander Severus.—*The Galaxy for October.*

TO CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Committee of the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH of St. Alexander, Township of Lochiel, up to the 11th day of January 1876, for the ERECTION of an ADDITION to said Church.

Plans and Specifications can be seen at the residence of the undersigned.

The Committee does not bind itself to accept the lowest on any tender.

All tenders (with the word Tender written on outside of envelope) to be addressed to:

REV. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, P.P.

16-3 Lochiel, P.O., Ontario.

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Dominion Parliament at its next Session, for an Act to incorporate "The City Fire Insurance Company."

Montreal, 30th November, 1875.

J. C. HATTON,

Solicitor for Applicant.

16. 2 m.

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Dominion Parliament at its next session for an Act to incorporate "THE CANADIAN WIDOWS' FUND (Mutual) LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY."

Montreal 23rd, November, 1875.

J. C. HATTON,

Solicitor for Applicants.

15-2m

CATHOLIC TEACHER WANTED.—MALE OR FEMALE.—A young person possessing either a first or second class certificate, capable of playing an organ and conducting a choir, will find employment at School Section No. 2, Township of Ashfield, Co. Huron. Salary liberal. Apply to

MAURICE DALTON, Kinross P.O.