diday was over, he impletely intoxicated; new of drowning re-

ANUARY 31.

ers, the lanista or mash the room, and sum-liney hastity embraced in earth. They enter-imphitheatre, opposite ass between two file ad the care of the wild as he went by him. vard singly or in groups directors of the specta-intended prey was orm to be more help-o bundle up a female her to be rolled, tossed,

encounter with a single e martyr's course; while were successively let a mortal wound. The emanded to prison for back to the *spoiliatorium*, ntices amused themselves

urselves with following all hero, Panciatius. As corridor that led to the stian standing on one vrapped in her mantle, cognized her, knelt, and less me dear mother," he the same dear mother, he had hour."
he had a series with his saints exood fight, for thy souls
thful and steadfast in thy

er him too whose precious or nim too whose precious y neck."
bled in thine eyes, my ours were over."
e none of this fooling," adding a stroke of his

e Sebastian pressed the pered in his ear, "Courage ou! I shall be close bee a last look there, and t a fiendish tone close be-

on's laugh? He looked be-limpse of a fluttering cloak could it be? He guessed o in those words had got f evidence, that he had

in the midst of the arena of others' sufferings might the effect had been the red where he was placed, and entrasted with the swarthy usebius, an eye witness, does

a a tender youth, who had ds stretched forth in the tying to God most attentive-trembling heart; not retiring e first stood, nor swerving and leopards, breathing fury snort, were just rushing on ces. And yet, I know not seized and closed by some power, and they drew alto-

e, and such the privilege of the mob were trained, as they eer another careering madly Hashing its sides with its tail, ed in a charmed circle, which ch. A furious bull, let loose dly forward with his neck bent addenly, as though he had at a wall, pawed the ground and and him, bellowing fiercely. It coward!" roared out still

as from a trance as from a trance, and waving his enemy; but the savage been rushing upon him, turn-way towards the entrance, where he tossed him high in the air, le tossed limit has a charm round his et." The whole multitude rethe emperor having command-to him, "Take that amulet ast it from thee, or it shall be

for thee."
e youth, with a musical voice, ear, but a memorial of my father nade gloriously the same confes-umbly make; I ám a Christian Jesus Christ God and Man, Do not take from me this I have bequeathed, richer than other. Try once more; it was ave him his crown; perhaps it

ame on me."
here was dead silence; the multided, won. The graceful form of
his now inspired countenance, the his voice, the intrepedity of his nerous self-devotion to his cause, that cowardly herd. Pancratius t qualled before their mercy more age; was he to be disappointed? his eyes as stretching forth his the form of a cross he called nat again vibrated through every

s, to-day, most blessed Lord, is the s, to-day, most obessed Lord, is the Thy coming. Tarry not longer; power been shown in me to them in Thee; show now Thy mercy to be believe!"

(To be Continued.)

s in Russia.—A widespread ards the Church, which began go, has been observed in Russia, ong the upper classes of society. ies of the highest rank, among litzins, have passed over to Rothis illustrious family belonged rince Demetrius, who became t's sake and a more than willing ica, devoted himself to the early msylvania at a time when there ner resident priest between Lan-Louis. He is buried at Loretto, settlement he was founder. ike, is full of interest, and has very acceptably by a daughter r. Brownson. Many other holy erts, like Madame Swetchine, praying in heaven for the coneir schismatical fatherland.

n authority as a means, in liberty in charity as an end .- Frederick

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

FASHION ITEMS.

Mrs. J. J. Skeffington Editress. EMBROIDERY.

Just now, many of the ladies who have been Just now, many of the ladies who have been cultivating a taste for and acquiring skill in pointing, are giving their attention to the kindred art of embroidery. Screens are made in original designs, and usually the forms and colors of beasts, birds or fishes, or of plants or flowers, are reproduced in these specimens of woman's handiwork. Rich toilets are set off with bands or sprays of needlework, and garlands of flowers wrought in their natural colors upon set off with bands or sprays of needlework, and gar-lands of flowers wrought in their natural colors upon sleeves, collars, sash or flounces are much admired. Black velvet and black satin are decorated with vines and trailing sprays in brilliant colors for re-ception and evening wear, and in plain black for more ordinary occasions. It is said that embroid-ered vests for gentlemen are soon to be revived again.

DRESS COLORS IN ARTIFICIAL LIGHT. All ladies know that a color presents a different tint in the daytime to that shown in artificial light. The color of a texture gains or loses by the latter according to the amount of yellow contained in it. according to the amount of yellow contained in it. Violet, which is a complementary color to yellow, is decomposed in gaslight; the blue disappears, and it becomes red. Blue, if pure, thus borders on green; if dark, it appears hard and black; and if pale, loses color and becomes gray. Turquoise silk, which by sunlight is beautiful, loses its brilliancy and appears

In ascending the scale of cold colors, yellow greens are among the prettiest for evening wear. Thus, apple-green is not far from emerald, and emerald, without changing tint, gains in brilliancy and richness. Amber, already beautiful, acquires richness: straw color slightly reddens in the folds; sulphur does not change. There is nothing, perhaps more charming than maize; for, without losing its peculiar qualities, it gains an undefinable warmth of tint.

The same effect is produced in red shades, for the yellow glare of evening lights, which is so fatal to blue, augments their splendor. Ruby is heightened in its beauty, particularly in plush materials; orange red brightens, and pure orange takes a flame color.

Black and white do not escape the action of artificial light. Those beautiful blacks, so well named after the raven's wing, becomes dull and heavy by not retaining the blue shade which gives them life and depth. White, on the contrary, improves at night, and, if faded, revives. For this reason activesses often ask for a white that has lost its color, believing that the foot-lights will restore its lost brilliancy. This white is called blane de lumiere.

A color which retains its charm is silver gray—always pleasing and distingue. It even gains a slightly rose color hue; but should the gray contain a suspicion of blue, like pearl gray, the blue tint is lost and the distinctive characteristic of pearl gray disappears.

White bonnets trimmed with pleatings of Breton In ascending the scale of cold colors, yellow greens

lisappears.
White bonnets trimmed with pleatings of Breton disappears.

White bonnets trimmed with pleatings of Breton lace are the novelty for receptions and dress hats. The entire bonnet may be of white net, or else it is of ribbed silk, velvet, felt, or, more elegant still, of white satin put smoothly on the frame. The Breton lace of trimming width—between two and three inches broad—is then pleated as if crimped, and put in several rows across the crown, or else there are only two rows around the brim of the front and edging the curtain and below the crown. Still other bonnets have only strings of India mull edged with pleated Breton lace. These strings are about a fourth of a yard wide, and very long, and are passed across the curtain band in the back without cutting them; they are then tied under the chin in a very large, soft, loose bow. A black satin bonnet relieved by these white strings is considered very elegant. Garnet velvet, navy blue, and black velvet bonnets are finished in the same way.

HOUSEWIVES CORNER.

Black Ink.—Rain water one pint, logwood one teaspoonful, bicromate of potash one-half teaspoonful; simmer the whole together one-half hour; strain, add half a dozen cloves and bottle for use.

Black walnut bark or shucks without copperas will color a good black (although not jet) and for a butternut color, boil the butternut bark or shucks an hour or two, remove the bark and put in the goods and boil an hour or two.

an hour or two, remove the bark and put if the goods and boil an hour or two.

TART PASTE.—One pound each of loaf sugar, flour and butter; mix thoroughly: then beat well with the rolling-pin (without rolling) for half an hour, folding it up and beating it out again; then roll out the pieces in any shape you wish for the tarts.

Approx. Tapps.—Stew and strain tart apples; add

APPLE TARTS.—Stew and strain tart apples; add cinnamon, rose-water, boiled cider and sugar to taste; lay this in the above paste; squeeze thereon orange juice. Raspberry, currant and plum tarts may be made of preserves. Lay bars of paste across the top of the dish.

Corn Cake.—One cup sugar, two eggs, four tablespoonfuls of sweet cream, two cups sweet milk, two teaspoonfuls saleratus, four teaspoonfuls cream tartar, two cups corn meal and one of flour. Let it

tar, two cups corn meal and one of flour. Let it set in the warming closet of your stove five minutes, then bake ten minutes in a hot oven Souse.—After getting all the little bones out of the meat mince it up perfectly fine and add pepper and salt to the taste; pour on the liquor reserved from the jelly, Put in a bowl, and next morning when cold, slice it; make a batter of one egg, one pint of flour, a little soda and salt and a little warm water; din in the slices and fry in lard. water; dip in the slices and fry in lard.
Coloring Recipes.—Drab.—Save all your tea

grounds and surplus tea after each meal in an iron grounds and surplus tea after each meat in an iron vessel, and when you get a gallon or so steep one-half hour; skim out the grounds; add one teaspoonful of copperas to each gallon of dye; put in your goods and boil one hour; drain, rinse and dry. This dye is very convenient to color small articles and will color full as good without the copperas, but will fade somer.

Another for drab: Take one-half bushel of beech Another for drab: Take one-half bushel of beech bark; boil two hours; when done have sufficient water to cover it; remove the bark and to each gallon of dye add one teaspoonful of copperas and proceed the same as in the above recipe, always remembering to stir the goods often to prevent spotting. By adding a peck of sumach bobs (not poison) to the bark and using a bass vessel to color in, you can adding a peck of sumacn boos (not poison) to the bark and using a brass vessel to color in, you can get a much darker and brighter color, almost a purple. By using soft maple bark instead of beech bark, a much darker shade can be obtained than with the back of the color of the

with the beech.

To Stuff a Ham.—Select a nice ham and boil it; when done, let it get cold before you skin and trim it. Prepare a stuffing of bread crumbs, butter, pepper parsely, thyme and celery. Begin at the hock and make incisions with a sharp knife, about an inch apart; put in the stuffing as you draw out the knife. Rub in a bowl the yolks of two hard boiled eggs, and brandy sufficient to make a paste;

spread it on the ham smoothly and grate over it bread crumbs; stick in cloves as ornamental. Put it in the stove and let brown gently. Eaten cold. bread crumbs; stick in cloves as ornamental. Put it in the stove and let brown gently. Eaten cold. FRENCH BEEF KIDDEY.—Slice the kidney rather thin, after having stripped off the skin and removed the fat; season it with pepper, salt and grated nutmeg and sprinkle over it plenty of minced parsley and exchallets channed very small. For the disconnections and eschallets chopped very small. Fry the slices over a brisk fire and when nicely browned on both over a brisk fire and when meety browned on both sides stir amongst them a teaspoonful of flour and pour in by degrees a cup of gravy and a glass of white wine; bring the sauce to the point of boiling, add a morsel of fresh butter and tablespoonful of lemon juice, and pour the whole into a hot dish garnished with fried bread.

SADLIERS' CATHOLIC DIRECTORY

, 11	ich suo	mei	lucing		Dioceses.		Churche
In	1808,				9	68	80
					11	232	230
46	1835,				13	347	272
66	1840,				16	499	454
46	1845,				22	709	675
	This w	as	the p	eriod	of the	Native	America
****	vemer	nt.	when s	o ma	my chur	ches and	nomes
Ca	tholics	W	ere de	stroy	ed, when	calumn	y and v

lence, excited by our progress, were arrayed against us. How small, however, the figures of I845 now look! Yet even then we had more than doubled

				Dioceses.	Priests.	Churches
n 1850.				27	1,081	1,073
" 1855,				43	1.700	1,834
" 1860,					2,235	2,385
" 1870,					3,756	3,995
" 1875,				62	4,873	4,731
				63	5,750	5,589
" 1879, More	hur	hes l	. nave		5,750 ed in this	5,589 s last ye

The statistics furnished are not always as clear a might be desired. In some diocese chapels are counted with churches, in others with stations, which seems a less accurate way; in some cases, where a theological seminary and college are combined as at Emmettsburg, the institution will be returned as a college and not as a senior of the contract of th at Emmettsburg, the institution will be returned as a college and not as a seminary also; in some returns scholasticates and houses of study of religious orders are included under seminaries, while others do not reckon them under this head. It would be better to do so, and return under the head of seminaries every institution where young men are prepared by appropriate studies for ordination, as the graduates are all intended to take their places as priests among the Catholic clergy of the United States.

The enumerating of parochial schools varies; some The enumerating of paroculal schools varies; some reckon a boys' school and a girls' school at a church as one school, some as two. It is immaterial which plan is adopted, if the custom is uniform and so understood. The better plan seems to be to count

understood. The better plan seems to be to count each as a separate school, as in some cases there may be but one school for one of the sexes.

The Catholic population of the United States is one of the mooted points. From the best obtainable estimates it is put down this year at about

some few in canada, died martyrs of charity attending those attacked by the yellow fever, and it seemed as though the dread-ful disease was to deprive—us of one of our ablest

The list of religious shows, too, its valiant band of martyrs, devoted sisters of various orders who attended the sick till they were themselves stricken

down.

Among the eminent priests lost to us during the year were the Rev. Charles I. White, author of the "Life of Mrs. Seton," editor of the United States Catholic Magazine and of the "Metropolitan Catholic Almanac"; the Very Rev. Joseph P. Dubreul, of St. Mary's Saminary, and

Almanae"; the very key. Joseph F. Ditoren, of St. Sulpice, president of St. Mary's Seminary, and Vicar-General of Baltimore; Very Rev. P. F. Lyn-don, of Boston; the Jesuit Father De Luynes. The record of Catholic events shows the closing acts of the remarkable pontificate of the venerable Pius IX.; the assembling of the conclave, and the undisturbed election of Cardinal Pecci, now presidundisturbed election of Cardinal Feed, now presid-ing over the Church of God as Pope Leo XIII.; the restoration of the hierarchy in Scotland; the perse-cution of the Church in Germany, Switzerland, and Colombia; the instruction of the Propaganda regarding a more uniform and satisfactory method of vestgating charges against clergymen; the death the ecclesiastical historians Alzog and Darras, and of the ecclesiastical historians Alzog and Darras, and of Marshall, author of the "Christian Missions"; of Cardinal Cullen, Bishop Dupanloup of Orleans; our Cardinal Culler, Bishop Dupanloup of Orleans; our losses by fire and hurricane, both elements depriving ns of valuable churches and institutions; the completion of the great cathedral in New York City. It is a record with much to cheer and console the Catholic heart, much to afflict it and call for fervent

prayer and renewed exertion. The volume is one not only of constant actual usefulness for reference, but one that will repay examination and study in the vast picture it gives of Catholicity in various parts of the world. well-printed volume of 726 pages, and un-

to is a wen-printed volume of 726 pages, and undoubtedly the cheapest work of the size issued; every exertion being used to make it compact, and to avoid unnecessary details; but year by year each diocese claims more space, so that in a few years it may be necessary to restrict it exclusively to the Catholic Church in the United States.

A correspondent of the Catholic Review be more devotional, and he is not alone in

THE AWFUL AVALANCHE.

"Wir sind alle verloren' (we are all lost). His words were slow and solemn and those who knew him felt what they really meant when spoken by such a man as Bennen. They were his last words. I drove my alpenstock into the snow, and brought the weight of my body to bear on it. It went in to within three inches of the top. I then waited. It was an awful moment of suspense. I turned my head toward Benner, to see whether he had done the same thing.

"To my astonishment, I saw him turn around, face the valley, and stretch out both arms. The

body was so strong that I thought that I should be crushed to death. This tremendous pressure lasted a short time, and ceased as suddenly as it had begun. I was then covered up with snow coming from behind me. My first impulse was to try and recover my head, but this I could not do. The avalanche was frozen by pressure the moment it stopped, and I was frozen in.

able estimates it is put down this year at about 6,375,000.
British America has 6 a.cl.bishops, 27 bishops, 1,782 priests, 1,328 churches, 2,960 parish schools, and more than 2,000,000 of Catholies.
Ireland, in spite of the terrible diminution of numbers by pestilence and famine, returns 29 dioceses, 1,085 parishes, 1,004 priests.
British India has no fewer than 29 bishops, and more than 1,000 priests, and 1,050,000 Catholies, 1,192 parochial schools, with 50,000 pupils. This exhibit of the condition of Catholicity in India will be a matter of surprise to many.
The obituary of the year 1878 is a fcarful one, and yet a glorious one; including Bishop Conroy, in this country on special duty; six bishops were taken from us; the venerable Bishop Amat, of Monterey, with Bishops Galberry and Rosecrans, in the prime of life and usefulness; besides two bishops, Domenec and Whelan, who had resigned the sees once held by them. The list of priests, including some few in Canada, numbers 137, many of whom died martyrs of charity attending those attacked by the vellow fever, and it seemed as though the dread. Whilst trying vainly to move my arms, I sud-

minutes I heard a man shouting. What a relief it was to know that I was not the sole survivor! To know that perhaps he was not frozen in, and could come to my assistance! I answered. The voice approached, but seemed uncertain where to go, and

et it was quite near
A sudden exclamation of surprise! Rebot had seen my hands. He cleared my head in an instant, and was about to try to cut me out completely, when I saw a foot above the snow, and so near n that I could touch it with my arms, although they were not quite free yet. I at once tried to move the foot; it was my poor friend's. A pang of agony shot through me, as I saw that the foot did not move. Poor Boissoult had lost sensation, and was perhaps already dead. Rebot did his best; after perhaps already dead. Rebot did his best; after some time he wished me to help him, so he freed my arms a little more, so that I could make use of them. I could do but little, for Rebot had torn the axe from my shoulder as soon as he had cleared

the axe from my shoulder as soon as he had cleared my head (I generally carry an axe seperate from my alpinestock, the blade tied to the belt and the handle attached to the left shoulder).

"Before coming to me, Rebot had helped Nance out of the snow; he was lying nearly horizontally, and was not much covered over. Nance found and was not much covered over. Nance found Bevald, who was upright in the snow, but covered up to the head. After about twenty minutes, the I was at length two last named guides came up. I was at length out; the snow had to be cut with the axe down to my feet before I could be pulled out. A few minutes after one o'clock P. M. we came to my poor friend's face. I wished the body to be taken out ompletely, but nothing could induce the three guides to work any longer, from the moment they saw that it was too late to save him. I acknowledge that they were as nearly as incapable of doing

anything as I was.
"When I was taken out of the snow the cord had to be cut. We tried the end going towards Bennen but could not move it; it went straight down, and showed us that there was the grave of the bravest guide Valais ever had, and ever will have.'

... Great minds are commonly humble ones; for humility is, after all but a clear, comprehensive view of the gulf that divides self, as we are supposed to see it-as the Christian, or thinks that the music in our churches should even the philosopher, sees it —from the ide il self that we are aiming at. The grandest minds are able to realize this best.

RELIGIOUS VOCATION.

AMANIC AMO DIRO FOR THE YEAR OF O'R LOW1870: WITH A FULL REPORT OF THE YARD O'R LOW1870: WITH A FULL REPORT OF THE YARD O'R LOW1870: WITH A FULL REPORT OF THE YARD O'R LOW1870: WITH A SHARE AND O'R LOW1870: WITH duty is to care for the soul entrasted to reach, asit is of paramount importance to endeavor to ascertain whether it is formed for a religious vocation
and to second the designs of the Almighty. This i
a solemn duty, and one which is much neglected
It is sad to think that of all vocations, that whice head toward Benner, to see whether he had done the same thing.

"To my astonishment, I saw him turn around face the valley, and stretch out both arms. The ground on which we stood began to move slowly, and I felt the utter uselessness of an alpensiock. I soon sank up to my shoulders, and began desending backwards. From this moment I saw nothing do fwhat had happened to the rest of the party.

"With a good deal of trouble I sneeceded in turning nond. The speed of the avalanche increased rapidly, and before long I was covered up with snow and in utter darkness. I was suffocating, when, with a jerk, I suddenly came to the surface again. The rope had caught, most probably on a rock, and ithis was evidently the moment when it broke. I was on a wave of the avalanche, and saw it before me as I was carried down.

"It was the most awful sight I ever witnessed. The head of the avalanche was already at the spot where we had made our last halt. The head alone was preceded by a thick cloud of snow dust; the rost of the avalanche was clear.

"Around me I heard the horrid hissing of the snow, and far before me the thundering of the forest was preceded by a thick cloud of snow dust; the rost of the avalanche. To prevent myself sinking again I made use of my arms, much in the same way as when swimming in a standing position. At last I noticed that I was moving slower; then it saw the pieces of snow in front of me stop at some by any the subject of the avalanche was carried down.

"It is also tolkink that of all vocations, that which that the dark of the carried in turning the prescribed rite, promoune. Christ therefore called to himself certain men, whom he invested with the existed prerogative of working he was preceded by a thick cloud of snow dust; the rost of the avalanche was leave, glorifying the altar with his presence, and becoming in their branch that it is to the the prescribed rite, promoune the promoune was a freedy at the spot was a sum of the promoune that the promoune the promoune that it is to form the prescribe seems to be under-estimated by parents who prefer that their sons should attain to worldly success and to earthly dignities. Parents can exert a vast and to earthly dignities. Parents can exert a vast and to beneficient influence in aid of the Clarch and in increasing the ranks of the clergy, by taking pains to discern a religious vocation in their sons, and by fostering and encouraging a religious disposition. Comparatively few native American Catholic youths enter upon the religious life, and a main reason for this is that they are discouraged from doing so by parents and relatives, who prefer to see them enter a career in which they may succeed and shine in the world. The serious responsibility towards God in discerning and fostering a religious vocation in the children whose souls are entrusted to them does not seem to be realized by parents, and notably not by American Catholic parents.

ARE ENGLAND'S BEST DAYS GONE?

by American Catholic parents.

A SIGNIFICANT PARALLEL—THE DECLINE OF THE DUTCH.

[London Cor. New York Times.]

What Englishmen refuse to consider, except when like Mr. Gladstone, they wish to spite a form like Mr. Gladstone, they wish to spite a formidable opponent, is the possibility that England, having reached the height of her prosperity, begins, like the classic nations, to descend the hill. Playfail has an apt illustration, it seems to me, when in one of his philosophic treatises he discusses the mighty events that have removed wealth and commerce from the Euphrates and the Nile to the Thames and The sun rises and the seasons return to the plains of Egypt as they did 3,000 pears ago; th principles of vegetation have not altered; the subor-dinate animals do not refuse to assist man in his labor and supply him with food. It is not nature that is less bountiful, and man has more knowledge and more power than ever he had; "but it is not the man of Syria or of Egypt that has more know ledge or more power. There he has suffered his race to decay, and, along with himself, his works have degenerated." May it not be that the present falling back of English trade the privaced dist falling back of English trade, the universal the hopeless prospect in the future, the failing banks, the dishonest pratices of financiers, the growing wealth of lawyers, the increase in the consump ing weathr of lawyers, i.e increase in the consump-tion of luxuries, the profligacy of our cities, the loading of our cottons, the inferiority of our once splendid hardware and cutlery, the divisions in our councils, the selfish partisanship of our statesmen, and the legalization of Exchange gambling and joint-stock bubbles, are all details in the general aspect of stock bubbles, are all details in the general aspect of a great nation that is suffering its race to decay and its works to degenerate? If this view of the situation would only take hold of the public mind it might lead to reformation in a race famous for its native vigor, its triumphs over difficulties, and its broad-mindedness. Look at comparatively modern days, and see from what a height the Dutch have days, and see from what a height the temperature fallen. Except that the distance from Europe places America at a disadvantage in the race, there is something not unlike in the Euglish competion with the Dutch in the old days and America's competitive the competition of the comp First there were fisheries questions, including

First there were fisheries questions, including English jealousies, which resulted in the revocation of Dutch licenses to fish in English waters; then there was the whaling business, and next the fight for the carrying trade of the seas; and it may be mentioned, as an argument for the protectionists, that Cromwell did a great deal to break down foreign trade to English and Dutch shipping, which was largely employed by English traders, by imposing heavy Customs upon foreign produce, and making the employment of home-builtivessels com-

pulsory. Then the Dutch, just as England has done, went into stock jobbing and foreign loans. In 1700 the Dutch were the bankers of Europe. They had

Covington, Ind., Jan. 16—On Tuesday night last, Leonidas Grover, who resided in the vicinity of Newton, Fountain County, met his death in a way that is prob. bly without par-allel in this or any other country. Mr. Grover was a widower, living on his farm with a married daughter and her husband. On the evening referred to the married couple had peen absent on a visit to some neighbors, and upon returning at a late hour, entered the house, finding everything, to all appearances, in usual order, and supposing that Mr. Grover had already retired, went to bed themselves. Next morning the daughter arose, and having prepared breakfast, went to the adjoining room to call her father, and was horrified to find him lying upon his shattered bed a muti-lated corpse. Her screams brought the hus-band quickly to the bedroom, and an inspection disclosed a ragged opening in the roof, directly over the breast of the unfortunate man, which was torn through as if by a cannonshot, and extending downward through the bedding and floor, other holes showed the direction taken by the deadly missile. Sub sequent search revealed the fact that the awful calamity was caused by the fall of a meteoric stone, and the stone itself, pyramidal in shape and weighing 20 pounds and a few ounces, avoirdupois, and stained with blood, was unearthed from a depth of nearly five feet, thus showing the fearful impetus with which it struck the dwelling. The position of the corpse, with other surroundings, when found, showed that the victim was asleep when stricken and that death to him was

MR. EDISON'S "SPANCTROPHONE."

We remember meeting Mr. Edison, some years ago, when he was most deeply absorbed in his experiments relating to the conductibility of sound through various mediums, and had a long and interesting conversation with him upon that subject. We conversed upon the well-known fact that the same medium of transmission has different properties at different

We both cited instances in which a man forty-three years old, though using his utmost strength of lungs and voice, could not shout loud enough at half-past six in the morning to awaken a boy nine years old, just on the other side of a lath and plaster partition, while at eleven o'clock that night the same boy would hear a low whistle in the street, through three doors and two flights of stairs, and would spring instantly out of a sound sleep in re-

It was a belief of Mr. Edison's at that time that sound could be made to travel as rapidly as feeling, and, to test the matter, he had invented a delicate machine called the spanetrophone, which he was just about trying when we met him. We were greatly interested in the machine, and readily agreed to assist in the experiment. By the aid of Mr. Edison and a small coin

we enticed into the laboratory a boy about seven years old. After many times reassuring him, and promising him solemnly that he would not be hurt, we got the machine attach ed to him, and the great inventor laid the boy across his knee in the most approved oldfashioned Solomonic method. On a disc of the machine delicate indices were to record, one the exact time of the sound of the spank, the other the exact second the boy howled. He was a little suspicious at this point of

the experiments, and, with his head partly turned, was glaring fearfully at the inventor. Mr. Edison raised his hand. A piercing howl rent the air, followed by a sharp concussion like the snapping of a musket cap. And, when we examined the dial plate of the ma-chine, infallible science proudly demonstrated that the boy howled sixty-eight seconds before he was slapped.

The boy went down-stairs in three strides, with an injured look upon his fearful face. Mr. Edison threw the machine out of the window after the urchin, and we felt that it was no time to intrude upon the sorrows of a great oul writhing under a humiliating sense of failure.

We have never met Mr. Edison since, but we have always thought he didn't know much about boys, or he would know how utterly unreliable the best of them would be for a scientific experiment.—American paper