

making an effort to rescue the child, and, in trying to accomplish this terrible task, she was caught by the fire and both were burned to a cinder. In the meanwhile the flames had communicated with the adjoining premises—a store containing a large quantity of goods of a highly combustible nature, belonging to Mrs. Comyn. It then seized upon the private to the house of Mr. Michael MacNamara, both of which were speedily involved in the conflagration and reduced to ruins. All efforts were now directed and kept the next property from catching fire, and ed to keep the communication, the fire spent its self, and all danger to the surrounding buildings was over. The damage is considerable, but neither property nor houses were insured.—Irishman, Aug. 17th.

The Judges throughout Ireland, North and South, continue their progress with little to make their route anything more than a pleasant excursion. Blank criminal lists, a few common assaults—business generally light too in the Civil Courts—these constitute the general outline, and supply the meagre news for the daily and local weekly press. A nation is happiest when it has no history, and a people certainly are most peaceful when the records of the lives and actions of their criminals have no news to give the public. Two of the Irish Judges have been more than usually fortunate in having nothing to do beyond enjoying local hospitality and breathing the pure atmosphere of the Irish provincial towns, i.e., the gentle Barry and the amiable Dowse. The one has enjoyed more calm, the other has cracked more mild jokes (for lack of something else to do) than providence has furnished him with an opportunity of doing since he delighted the House of Commons with the grace of his manner and the charm of his wit. These representatives of the majesty of British law have nearly completed their summer tour in the South of Ireland, with nothing more serious to disturb their equanimity than the absence of peccant grand jurors, guilty of not being present to pay homage to the legal representatives of power—a clear proof that "law and order" are respected, and said grand jurors not a mortal dread of an outraged people—probably because they have become a little better behaved themselves. Anyhow through the Centre and South of Ireland the Judges have the same cuckoo cry. Districts peaceable—no crime. So this week again in Queen's County, Tipperary, Cork, Waterford, Wexford, &c., &c. So also from Connaught and Ulster, whence reports have reached us. The Judges are thankful, and Dublin Castle is more radiant for is not all this due to the Coercion Code and Castle policy. But reasonable people will ask, what need all for Coercion for such a people? A truly sensible and proper question—only one must not ask it in the British House of Commons.—United Irishman, July 31.

The Times is good enough to patronise the Irish people, and to review the forms and ceremonies of the Centenary Celebration, from the processions in the streets to the religious ceremonies in the churches, and, strangely enough, discovers, as did Lord Portlinton, that the highest credit is due to O'Connell for the great services he conferred on the empire. Stranger still, the discovery is made that he effected this by consolidating the Union. Shades of O'Connell! what a libel on your life—what a desecration of your memory. But the Times and the Lord theories to give force to pre-conceived conclusions. They tell us that Catholic Emancipation, by removing discontent and harmonising rival races, made the Irish people loyal and attached to the Union. We have a theory of ours the very opposite of this; but then, of course, the Times and the Lord know much more of the feelings and aims of the Irish people than we do. Nevertheless, we may, in fact of such exalted patronage and opinion, express our belief that religious equality, though it will no doubt sooner or later bring rival creeds and races together, and will promote a holy and harmonious union, yet it will not tend to the consolidation of the union with England, except on conditions very different from those existing to-day. The Union of Irishmen on a national basis is but the forerunner of the liberation of the Irish nation. This, at all events, is the opinion held by practical thinkers of less elevated conceptions than the Times holds, or pretends to hold. But we are not surprised at the sentiment or language of the writer, and look on both as rather a prolation of the policy of the future. If the Times finds matter for concluding that a man whose whole life was one battle waged against the Union consolidated it merely—we will not be surprised if, at a future day, (not far distant either) we find it enlarging the men who to-day labour for the re-establishment of Irish legislative independence as the best friends of England—the agents and conservers of the integrity of the empire. There is nothing impossible in politics—and nothing that the Times and the English Government will not grant under the pressure of necessity.—United Irishman.

FOUR THOUSAND POUNDS DAMAGES.—THE CORK BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.—At Cork Assizes an action for breach of promise of marriage was brought by Miss Graves, daughter of Colonel Graves, against Mr. Jonas Oliver Morris, a gentleman of independent fortune. The engagement commenced on a fortnight's acquaintance, and lasted two months, the incidents of which may be gathered from the judge's summing up. His lordship said there was not the slightest doubt of this engagement having taken place. The question for the jury was the amount of damages to be given. The whole transaction between the parties was within a very limited space of time. The parties met and conversed, and on the 9th of August a proposal of marriage was made; and whether there existed a solemn engagement with Mr. Arnott or not, the proposal was immediately and willingly accepted by Miss Graves. That engagement was subsequently terminated in October by a letter received from the defendant, who was in Scotland. In that letter he wrote, "Remember that others changed their minds too, and after some years' engagement with Arnott, you gave him up, whilst you and I have only known each other since June last." Well, now, that letter terminated the contract; but he should call their attention to those lines in which he reproached this girl with having terminated her engagement of some years' standing with Mr. Arnott; and all he would say in commending that to their consideration was that he thought the defendant was the last person in the world to have uttered that reproach. He did not think there would be any second opinion about that. No matter what took place between Mr. Arnott and Miss Graves, no matter what wrong was done to Mr. Arnott (if any was done), no matter how hastily she might have acted, or with how little feeling she may have considered the engagement that had existed (as beyond any doubt some engagement did exist between her and young Mr. Arnott), young Mr. Morris, who approached her, who sought her hand, who courted her, who won her, and induced her to set Mr. Arnott aside, was not the person to reproach her with it. He did not think anybody could entertain a second opinion about that. It was said that she was the person herself who in the correspondence with Mr. Morris said disparaging things of Mr. Arnott. Now, it appeared to him, reading the correspondence over, that neither upon the one side nor the other was there anything (intentionally, at all events) said in an offensive spirit of young Mr. Arnott. He thought it was want of gallant y in reproaching her with that circumstance, and that was a matter, too, for their consideration. The condition of the young lady's mind might not be unfairly gathered from her reply to his letter, breaking off. It was not unfair, to consider it the true test of the condition of her mind as to the breaking off of the engagement. In that letter she writes:—

"Dearest Joe—I shall believe nothing till I see you; so, whether you delay your return to Cork for days, or for months, or for years, I shall look on nothing altered in the smallest existing between us until we meet. I cannot believe, as your letter would seem to imply, that you have altogether forgotten me in so short a time. As ever, your affectionate Kate."

His lordship then went through the other letters. The letter of Mrs. Grant, the mother of the defendant, written on September 1st, asking to have the marriage postponed from October, disposed of any pretence that the marriage was not to take place in that month. No one could complain of that letter, in which she asked that the young people should know each other better. If, on the one hand, they had a disposition displayed by Mrs. Grant to give the young people at all events time for the consideration of the matter, they had it on the other hand that that difficulty was got over; that Mrs. Grant was an assenting party to the alliance and anxious to be present at the marriage, and that the uncle and grandfather were assenting parties likewise. These were the disagreeable things in the case, putting aside those constant references made here and there to young Mr. Arnott. That was not put forward to lead them to believe that they would be avenging Mr. Arnott if they were not to find any damages in Graves v. Morris. Of course it would be preposterous that the jury should take up the cause of young Mr. Arnott. Arnott made no complaint himself even if he had the right to do so. The family of Mr. Arnott made no complaint. Therefore he thought that that might pass out of the case, except so far as the jury might be disposed to think that the affections of the young lady were not so violently engaged on this short occasion of the contract of marriage as that there should be no hope of her being reconciled to her future fortune. That was the only way in which they could take it into consideration. A good deal had been said, and they were asked to give exasperated damages, because this young man wrote this letter, challenging Mr. Morris to mortal combat. Well, that was a hasty act. His lordship did not think anyone would be very much disposed to quarrel either with the language of the letter or the act itself in a man inflamed with passion against a person who, he thought, had treated his sister badly, but on the other hand, he did not think any of them could say that young Mr. Morris having got himself into a position in which upon his own admission he felt thoroughly ashamed of the part he had acted, and regretted deeply everything he had done; that he would much mend matters by going over to Boulogne and firing at the brother of the lady he had wronged, or by "standing a shot," as it used to be called in Ireland in former days. If he had done so and accepted the proposal, very possibly the jury would have been spared the trouble of investigating this case. His lordship thought it exceedingly likely that they would have, but as nothing of that kind had taken place, there could not be a shadow of a doubt that this contract had been violated and broken in the most plain and decisive terms by this gentleman, Mr. Morris; and there was no doubt, putting extraneous circumstances outside, that they ought to give such damages as would be temperate and, he would say, fully compensate the lady. They had in the consideration of damages full liberty to range over the whole of the connection of those parties from first to last. They were not tied down by any narrow commercial view of the injury she sustained from the match she had lost. They were not to take into account the whole value of this gentleman's fortune in present and in expecting. Indeed, they never could come at a calculation of that sort, but they ought to consider everything in the case; and if holding on the one side that she had lost an advantageous match, and so on the other hand that he was not engaged in a connection with either he or his friends were indisposed, and had broken an engagement entered into for that purpose, they ought to compensate, and not be chary of the amount of compensation that should be given to set the young lady in as advantageous a position as possible before the eyes of all those who had been feasting themselves with the scandal and gossip which they had been hearing for two long days here, and which he was afraid had occupied them too long already. He now left the case in the hands of the jury. They were the sole judges of what ought to be the compensation, and he was very happy to be released from the necessity of accompanying them further into the question. The jury then announced that they had found for the plaintiff—damages, £4,000.

GREAT BRITAIN.

CATHOLIC REFORMATION SOCIETY.—A meeting of the borough of Southwark branch of this association was held on Wednesday evening, 23rd July, in the schoolrooms, Tooley Street, under the presidency of Sir Charles Clifford. The chairman, in a spirited speech, exhorted those present to use every effort to forward the objects of the association, always bearing in mind that this movement was not an aggressive one, but mainly directed towards obtaining their just share, as Catholics, in municipal, school board, and Parliamentary elections. He dwelt forcibly on the hardships of Catholics in metropolitan workhouses—whose punishment for any offence was detention from Mass—and the position of Catholic children, whose religious education must, by the regulations of the guardians, be conducted during the hours allotted to recreation. The various resolutions were carried unanimously, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks for the chairman.

AN OLD DEBT.—The people of Florence, a *proprio* of the acceptance of their Mayor, Signor Peruzzi, of the Lord Mayor of London's invitation, are recalling the fact that his ancestors, then probably the first bankers in the world, lent Edward III. a large sum for his war with France. It was never repaid, spite of repeated demands, and they consequently failed, many minor firms being involved in their fall. It is suggested, says the Roman correspondent of the *Debate*, that England, which readily lectures other nations which break their engagements, should set an example by clearing of this score. At compound interest it might exceed the revenues of India, but Signor Peruzzi would doubtless be satisfied with the principal, and would devote to his native city a good part of the windfall.

ATTEMPTED WIFE MURDER AT BLACKBURN.—John Thomas Witherington has been brought up at Blackburn Town Hall on a charge of having attempted to murder his wife early on the morning of the 8th ult. The prosecutor attempted to screen the prisoner, but the medical evidence showed that the injured woman had been kicked in a dreadful manner, and that her life for several days had been jeopardised. The bench said that the case was one of the greatest miscarriages of justice ever witnessed in a court of law. They regretted to have to discharge the prisoner.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—Potato disease has made a very marked appearance in several parts of Jersey, the cause being attributed to heavy rains which have lately fallen in the island. The grape crop is reported to be attacked with mildew, and a heavy loss to owners is anticipated.—*Dublin Freeman*.

THE YORKSHIRE HERRING FLEET.—The herring fishing season on the coast of Yorkshire has commenced in real earnest. During the week large fleets of boats discharged herrings at the various ports along the coast, the chief importations being Whiteby and Scarborough. At the former place between 40 and 50 boats arrived, the catches ranging from 500 to one last, or 10,000, fish. The herrings are pronounced to be of fine quality, considering the early part of the season, and the prices

realised were moderately good. The fish landed during the earlier part of Wednesday morning were sold at 7s. to 7s. 5d. per 100, but towards mid-day these prices came down to 4s. 6d. to 4s. 9d. per 100. There were also very large importations of coals, cod, and scate, which were sold at very low prices. Coalfish sold at about 3d. each, cod realising 6d. each. The fishery altogether promises to be very productive and profitable.

CHASE AFTER A LUNATIC.—A smart-looking young man, named Henry Upson, was charged at the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, with being a lunatic at large. A policeman saw him at three o'clock in the morning tearing along in his shirt and trousers. After a smart chase, during which the prisoner swam twice across the River Lea, and wound up by bursting open a door and rushing into a bed-room, where a man and his wife were in bed, he was captured, and said he had been trying to catch Satan. He was remanded in order that an inquiry might be made into the state of his mind.

DISASTROUS OCCURRENCE.—"F. E. N." writes from the House of Commons, on Monday 20th ult.—"This morning, about a quarter to twelve, whilst walking on the Victoria Embankment, I observed some persons running towards the stairs near Charing Cross Railway Bridge, and also that a steamer—upon which two men were undressing, evidently with the intention of plunging into the river—was backing towards the same spot, when suddenly to my great surprise, she altered her course and went on ahead to Westminster Bridge. I proceeded to the stairs, where I learned that a poor boy had fallen into the river; and, after a few minutes, two pier men arrived with their boat, and by the aid of the drags immediately brought the body to the surface. It was nearly low water, and at the spot where the boy fell I should not think it was more than five feet deep. I afterwards saw one of the men whom I had observed undressing, and he informed me that had the steamer backed further he would have had no difficulty in saving the boy. I certainly think the behavior of the person in charge of the steamer requires investigation. P. S.—I have since inquired at the Westminster Hospital and find the boy is dead."

SEARCHED IN TIME.—At Westminster, on Saturday, Ellen Forber was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and using offensive language at White Lion Street, Chelsea. While the constable was giving his evidence, the prisoner, who on one occasion threw an inkstand at a witness, used very bad language, and as she would not be quiet was ordered to be put back. When the gaoler put the key into the lock of the cell the prisoner rushed at the windows in the passage and smashed three of them with her hand, cutting it very badly. She had expressed her determination "to be sent away for something." The police searched her, and a spirit bottle which she intended to throw at the magistrate was found in her pocket. She had only been discharged from prison on the previous morning. The prisoner was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

A COLLIER PROPRIETOR SENT TO PRISON.—At Marlborough Street, on Tuesday, William Williamson, described as a colliery proprietor of Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, was charged with assaulting Norman, 4, C. King, 220 C, and Cook, 240 C, and two young men named Lawrence and Wilton, the former a stage carpenter and the latter a labourer. The evidence showed that he was in Castle Street, Leicester Square, at two o'clock in the morning, and assaulted the police constables because they would not find him lodgings, and the two young men who interfered received some kicks. The prisoner said he was sorry. He did not live in London, but, having come to London, had overstepped the mark, and was ashamed of himself. Mr. Newton, after remarking that the prisoner might have injured Cook for life, said the prisoner had been proved to have committed four assaults, and another one might have been proved had the complainant attended. For the assaults on the constables the prisoner would be committed for six weeks with hard labour, and for the assault on the stage carpenter he would have to pay a fine of £5, or a month.

TORIES IN TROUBLE.—The Conservatives have received their first serious wound, self-inflicted, and therefore all the more dangerous. They have made an ambitious bid towards regaining the gratefully dying out title of "the stupid party," and indeed their action in the Plimsoll affair was the very essence of stupidity. They strangled the Bill for shielding the lives of our sailors in favour of an agricultural measure of quite second-rate importance, and they have drawn down on their heads the indignation of almost the entire country. In no one quarter has their foolish deed been cordially approved, while, from every part of England, the loudest outcries against their harmful imbecility in the matter have crashed on their astonished ears. All classes are determined that no longer shall sailors' lives be wantonly played with and lost in the interests of a handful of miscreant ship-owners, and ministers frightened out of their wits by the storm they evoked have consented to the passing of a short measure in the present Session. We fancy, after this great *faux pas*, the "sunny slopes of Hughenden" will not look quite so bright as usual in the eyes of Mr. Disraeli, when he retires into *vibligiatura* on the breaking up of Parliament.—*Catholic Times*.

A CHILD SOLD FOR SIXPENCE.—At the Thames Police-court, Frederick Ray, an elderly man, was charged with being drunk and in the possession of an infant which he was unable to give a satisfactory account of. The defendant, it appears, with two friends went into the Earl of Devon public-house to have a pot of beer, when three women entered, one of whom had a child, and wished him to buy it. He said he could get one anywhere for 6d., and placed 6d. on the counter, when the women threw the child into his arms. He requested her to take it back, which she declined to do, and he left the house with the child, thinking the mother would follow him, but she did not do so. The poor little thing was bareheaded, and he thought he would take it home and provide it with a hat, when he was stopped by the constable. Sarah Lovelock, who described herself as the mother of the child, said that she and two other women went to the Earl of Devon to have a pint of beer. The defendant and two others asked them, and offered to buy her baby. She asked what they would give, when the defendant threw a sixpence on the counter, and took the baby out of her arms. He left with the child, saying he was going to buy it two ounces of pork. She went to follow him out, when the two other men dragged her back, and she next heard that her child was at the workhouse. Mr. Peget fined the defendant 10s. for being drunk. He did not believe the defendant meant to steal the child, and said the mother was the most to be blamed.

THE NEW MARTYR OF ST. ALBANS.—Few people are aware that there is actual religious persecution being waged in England, and fewer still that it has been going on for eight years. But the Rev. Mr. Macdonochie tells us so in a letter to the Bishop of London, published in Monday's metropolitan papers, and we have no reason to doubt his assertion. He is the "priest" (i.e. the parson) of the parish of St. Albans, Holborn, and he gives his parish a sound public rating as surely bishop never received before. For a persecuted and down-trodden man Mr. Macdonochie is enabled to use remarkably free and strong language, and we must perforce doubt the reality of the persecution when we consider the liberty of the supposed subject of it. He accuses his bishop of injustice, of contradiction, of want of courage, of want of straightforwardness, and he alleges that the prelate has kept the congregation from the Bread of Life. He finds his parishioners the victims of a private suite that has made them the continual butt for Protestant bullets; he finds

the Bench of Bishops not only disagreeing with the Purchas Judgment (under which Mr. Macdonochie appears to have been condemned), but also breaking faith with the clergy in regard to their Ordination Vows; and he threatens their Lordships with the scant courtesy they will meet with when disestablished, and when their office is no longer glided with a peerage. "This is all very dreadful and very much to be deplored, but the question will rise. Why does Mr. Macdonochie remain in a fold which is most anxious to get rid of him? He is an unappreciated lamb, and the sooner he makes his bow and takes his departure from Protestantism and its bullets, the better will he satisfy all parties.—*Catholic Times*."

A PANIC IN A CHURCH.—A terrible storm of thunder and lightning, accompanied by dense sheets of rain and hail, passed over Crewe and its vicinity on Sunday afternoon, 25th July. Two milch cows belonging to Mr. Darlington, of Haslington, were standing under a tree, when a flash of lightning struck the top of the tree and killed both the cows instantaneously. About the same time a flash of lightning killed a cow belonging to Mr. Adams, farmer of Koppa. The storm reached its intensity just as the Rev. E. Dancombe, rector of Bartholmely, ascended the pulpit to deliver the sermon. He had given out the text, and was proceeding with his discourse, when a fearful flash of lightning, accompanied by a heavy peal of thunder, struck the gable of one of the windows. The interior of the church was immediately lit up with great brilliancy. The congregation left their seats and the majority rushed to the doors, only to find them locked. When this was discovered the panic became general, and several women fainted. Egress was then found, and the women having been carried out, service was resumed after a delay of a quarter of an hour.

ATHEIST AND ORYXIST.—We (*Catholic Times*) extract the following amusing article from our erratic contemporary, the *World*:—"The social, political, and religious opinions of Mr. Charles Bradlaugh will not be confused with our own, or with those of any of our readers. Mr. Bradlaugh has had the courage of what he is pleased to parade as his convictions, and has probably done by the dissemination of these among the working classes as much mischief as he can, which, after all, is perhaps not very much. But because he has accomplished some evil it does not follow that he is rendered *ipso facto* incapable of the accomplishment of good, and in a letter which he has addressed to "Edward Vaughan Kenesley, M. P. for the Borough of Stoke," he has gone far towards making amends for some of the pestiferous rubbish with which he has deluged his audience. Of this letter we have nothing but good to say, and Mr. Bradlaugh deserves credit alike for the independence which has dictated it and for the vigour of its literary style. It is thus that Mr. Bradlaugh completes his exposure of the great Kenesley sham: "What past political service can you show to certify your possible political future? You have turned politician *en desens resort*, and blown into ephemeral notoriety on the high criminality of the impostor whom you certify to be a perfect gentleman, you elect yourself to rob the poor of their peace on the meaneast pretences, Edward Vaughan Kenesley, I was not born a gentleman; and if a gentleman can win a woman's love, and then with his own tongue publish in a shame, I hope that I may never sink low enough to be one. You urge on the people the advantage of being represented by a 'gentleman,' and make this your constant cuckoo cry, perhaps for fear lest your gentility might be undiscoverable without the ever-prominent ticketing you give it. Your experience as a barrister at the criminal courts will have taught you that nearly every petty cheat announces himself to his dupes as gentleman. . . . and if shame then leave you any voice, I will, despite your meanness, meet you on any platform to discuss my theories against your practice." After this very home thrust, Mr. Bradlaugh proceeds to analyse Mr. Kenesley's career in Parliament, so far as it has yet gone. "You," he exclaims, "call yourself the only man in England who dares to denounce the present system of government"; you, who take poor men's pence, avowedly for a political association, but really for your own purse. Why do you not denounce the corruption in Government, in Parliament? You have been in the House of Commons a whole session, and you have not so much as investigated a single item of national expenditure spoken against one useless vote of supply, or referred to a solitary point of bad government outside the Tichborne case. You call yourself a 'Cromwell.' Cromwell never went about in a carriage and outriders paid for by mean pretence; Cromwell faced the Commons like a man; you whine there like a bound afraid of the whip. You are a Cromwell! You are fond of figures of speech; so say rather a half-bred mongrel cur, which viciously barks until it provokes a possible retaliation, and then slinks away with its tail hanging piteously down. You a Cromwell! Cromwell never got himself up testimonial funds. Cromwell never wrote private letters pressing other people to find out what funds were being raised for the testimonial. Cromwell—although, after his light, a tyrannically religious man—never tried to slander every one whose nonconformity went further than his own. Cromwell was a man, not a wide-blown bladder, with umbrella, spectacles, and a brief bag full of forms of begging letters for poor men's money. You a 'Cromwell,' and the leader! Why, you are so foul a counterfeit of a Cromwell that you can never pass current, unless, indeed, lying Jean Luie may also be taken for truthful John Milton."

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UNITED STATES.

Nine ladies of the Sisters of Mercy will leave Pittsburg next month for the diocese of Scranton.

New Orleans, La., possesses 29 Catholic churches, whereas it only possessed four 30 years ago.

The new pulpit lately erected in St. Joseph's Cathedral, Columbus, Ohio, and costing \$700, has been paid for by subscriptions from thirteen gentlemen.

The United States Marine Hospital in Savannah, Ga., has been turned over to the entire care and charge of the Sisters of Mercy. Three of the Sisters are now located at the hospital, and the number in attendance will be increased to five in a few days.

A Carmelite convent is soon to be established at Paterson, N. J., by a community of fathers recently exiled from Germany. They have purchased a large plot, containing eighteen city lots, at West Paterson, for the purpose of erecting a monastery, church and schools.

The dedication of the new St. Michael's church, Stillwater, Minn., took place on August 15. Right Rev. Bishop Grace performed the dedication ceremonies, and conferred the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation in the afternoon.

Right Rev. William McClosky, D. D., Bishop of Louisville, Ky., has returned from his visit to Europe much improved in health. He has already reached his home in the west, and has entered upon the discharge of his duties.

LAYING OF A CORNER-STONE.—The corner-stone of a Catholic church was laid by Bishop Foley at Roger's Park, Ill., a new settlement, composed largely of Catholics, recently. The building will be a neat and spacious one, and will no doubt offer a considerable inducement to Catholics to settle in that vicinity.

will go out on the second Sunday of September, and the Catholics will dedicate it on the first Sunday in October.

The grasshoppers have almost entirely disappeared from Nebraska.

The recent high winds at Niagara Falls have marred the pleasure of tourists. To cross one of the suspension bridges on foot during a heavy gale requires considerable strength and courage.

The loan of \$1,300,000 issued by the State of Massachusetts for completion of the Troy and Greenfield road, and of \$600,000 for arching the Hoosac Tunnel, was awarded at 9.051 per cent. premium.

The census of the city and county of New York, which has just been completed, gives the city a population of 1,018,623, an increase of 392,236 in the last ten years. Competent judges put the real figures of population at 1,500,000.

A horrible disaster is reported from Carondelet Mo. One day recently, Thomas Donahue fell into a privy-vault on his premises and was drowned, while three men who successively descended into the vault to recover Donahue's body, were overcome by the foul air and vapors of the place, and died before they could be rescued.

The prosecution of the Sunday liquor dealers at Bridgeport, Connecticut, has stirred them up extremely, and they talk of retaliating by insisting upon a literal enforcement of the old Sunday statutes, which are now practically obsolete, forbidding travel or secular labor, the engaging in any sport or recreation, etc.

A young woman at the Stafford Springs House Conn., who was noted for her beautiful black hair awoke one morning last week to find her locks lying on the floor beside a pair of scissors. She had risen in the night and cut them off in a fit of somnambulism.

Business at Bangor, Me., is dull, and hundreds of able-bodied men are out of employment. The lumber business is very much depressed, and several mills have shut down entirely. The lumber surveyed at Bangor from Jan. to Aug. 1, 1874, amounted to 91,684,418 feet; in 1875, to 73,348,824.

The Springfield Republican says there is no trace of the recent fall of rock in Hoosac tunnel, and that there is no apparent probability of any more coming down; but that good judges are stoutly of the opinion that the danger in this part of the tunnel is by no means over. At the recent fall but one "bench" of timber gave way; another "bench" still remains, and is quite as likely to come down as the first was.

The Mississippi is still rising slowly at Memphis, and the water has caused considerable additional damage to levees and plantations below the city. At one place three thousand acres of corn and cotton have been flooded. The planters are reticent in regard to their losses, and the steamboat men are not inclined to array the planters against them by giving information concerning the damage, except in general terms.

A young man in Muncie, Ind., was escorting a young woman to his home in a carriage the other day, when he came to a bridge that had been overflowed by a freshet. He drove his horse into the water, but when the carriage was threatened with submersion, and the horse began making efforts to get away, he cut the traces, sprang upon the animal's back and set out for the shore, leaving his companion in the middle of the stream. The torrent overturned the carriage, and the girl was drowned.

A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FOR THE UNITED STATES.—*Le Propagateur Catholique*, the French Catholic organ of New Orleans, asks: "When shall we have a veritable Catholic University in the United States? Each year sees us augment the number of our colleges, which appropriate the prerogative of conferring diplomas, and style themselves 'Universities.' But, in truth, there is not yet a Catholic institution which may be recognized by all in this country as a grand centre for imparting the highest culture. In order to make the progress of which we are capable, we need to possess such an establishment, the advantages of which will be immense for the cause of education."

CROP REPORTS.—The weekly reports from the commercial agency of the McKillop and Sprague Company contain advices of interest from several States in the Midland and South, of which the following are the most important:

Pennsylvania.—Corn promises a very heavy and good crop, and the late rains have been rather beneficial than otherwise. Oats were not sown as early as usual, and will not give a two-thirds crop. Hay and fruit deficient.

Delaware.—The condition of the growing crops is good. Wheat light in the straw, but headed well. Corn looks very well. Peaches and small fruit generally very good. The peach crop is estimated at 500,000 bushels.

Maryland.—Wheat and other small grain were harvested in good condition. The quality is first-rate, but the quantity will not be more than half a crop. Corn is generally very forward, looks very well, and promises a large yield. Hay is shorter than usual, but the fruit crop, peaches especially, promises very well.

North Carolina.—If the season continues favorable, corn will be a full average. Tobacco will greatly exceed both in quantity and quality. The peach crop is an entire failure. Apples less in quantity, but of good quality. Oats and wheat are about a fair average.

South Carolina.—Corn being later than usual, the dry, hot weather of July has awakened some fears, but a few days' rain would bring it up. Cotton also needs rain, though not yet so badly injured as corn. Taking the whole State, the condition of the crops was generally very favorable to the 1st instant.

Georgia.—Reports continue favorable in most of the counties, but some complain of drought. Liberty, Campbell, Worth, Clay and Fayette counties especially report serious injury, and in Worth cotton is opening prematurely.

Florida.—Cotton is maturing prematurely. Late corn and sweet potatoes are also suffering from extremely hot, dry weather.

Indiana and Ohio.—Heavy rains over a large portion of each State have injured wheat in the shock, and the overflow of the Ohio and other rivers has caused a good deal of damage to corn. Our advices are not quite so alarming as many we have seen published, but are so unfavorable as to justify the statement that those States will fall far short of an average crop. Estimates of the loss in the entire States on corn and wheat vary considerably, but from all that we can gather we fear it must be put down at not less than 40 per cent.

From other States in the Northwest and Southwest advices do not materially change the reports heretofore published. At the same time we learn of loss and damage on bottom lands by the floods. The apprehension of greater loss is felt, and colors all the reports received. We do not, therefore, quote any, because the injury actually done, except in Ohio and Indiana, is not sufficient to justify the publication of alarming paragraphs.

"How is your church getting on?" asked a friend of a vigorous Scotchman, who had separated in turn from the Kirk, the Free Church, the United Presbyterian, and several lesser bodies. "Pretty well, pretty well. There's nobody belongs to it now but my brother and myself, and I'm nas sure of Sandy's soundness."

"On which side of the platform is my train?" asked a stranger in a Jersey City depot the other day. "Well, my friend," replied a gentleman, passing, "if you take the left, you'll be right; if you take the right, you'll be left."