

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

APPOINTMENT.—Cardinal Ferreri was appointed Camerlengo of the Sacred College in place of Cardinal Bonaparte, whose year of office has terminated.

PRESENT FOR THE POPE.—A magnificent album, which is to be presented to the Pope by the approaching pilgrimage, is now on view. It contains the likenesses of the R. C. Clergy and a number of prominent Canadians.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN ROME.—The Bishop of Ardagh, Dr. George Conroy, was announced to preach the sermon on St. Patrick's Day, in St. Isidore's. Bishop Conroy will soon return to Ireland, and will afterwards proceed on a visit to Canada.

A REVIEW IN THE VATICAN, ROME, April 6.—It is stated that the Pope has invited Cardinal Ledochowski, Archbishop of Posen, to reside in the Vatican. This is significant, in view of the report recently received that Germany is pressing the Italian Government for the extradition of the Archbishop.

PRESENT TO THE COUNT DE CHAMBOUR. The Pope, in acknowledgment of the 10,000, lately presented him by the Count de Chambord, has sent him a splendid mosaic, one-half representing Pagan Rome in gloom and clouds and under the shadow of death, the other half Christian Rome, illuminated by the light of Truth.

THE CHINESE CHRISTIANS.—There are encouraging reports from China. The Emperor for the first time in the history of Chinese missions has interfered in behalf of the Christians, and who were left to the tender mercies of Mandarins and other officials. An imperial decree has been issued, by which Christians in China are placed under the protection of the Emperor, and promised liberty and safety.

THE VATICAN.—On Tuesday, March 13, those of the new Cardinals who are now in Rome repaired to the Vatican and received the Berretta. And on Thursday, the 15th, a semi-public consistory was held, attended by nearly all the Cardinals in Rome, in which the Pope performed the ceremony of placing the hat upon the head of each of the Cardinals created since 1870 who happen to be now in Rome.

PRESENTATION TO CARDINAL HOWARD.—On Wednesday, the 14th, a number of English residents in, or visitors to Rome, waited by deputation upon Cardinal Howard, to present him with a slight token of their satisfaction at his elevation to the ranks of the Sacred College. The gifts consisted of a very beautiful set of vestments, and of a silver chalice, ewer and basin, for the use of the Cardinal's private chapel.

THE GENEVA CONFISCATIONS.—Mgr. Mermillod has published a protest against the Act of the Cantonal Government of Geneva, in confiscating and taking possession of his house, his own private property, built with his own money, and to which his legal title has not been disputed, and for which he had paid taxes to the State for the last 15 years. The protest is dated Paris, March 13.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF LANGRES.—The Church of France has to lament the loss of the venerable Bishop of the see of Langres, Mgr. Guérin, who expired on Monday evening in his Cathedral, as he was vesting to officiate at solemn benediction for the feast of St. Joseph. Bishop Guérin was born on the last day of 1793. He was elevated to the see of Langres in 1853.—R.L.P.

ADDRESSES TO THE POPE BY CATHOLIC MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.—A meeting of Roman Catholic members of Parliament was held on Wednesday in the Conference-room of the House of Commons, to consider the presentation of an address to the Pope on the occasion of his Jubilee, or fiftyth year of his Episcopate, next June. It was unanimously resolved that a suitable address be presented to his Holiness, and it is likely a deputation will proceed to Rome to present it.

BISHOP O'BRIEN IN BELLEVILLE.—Bishop O'Brien was in Belleville last week and officiated in St. Michael's Church, when Vicar-General Farrelly was presented with his portrait by his parishioners, in commemoration of the completion by him of twenty-five years' service in the ministry. The service was largely attended. The difficulties between Mr. Farrelly and a portion of his congregation in relation to school matters, are expected to be ventilated before the Bishop.

PAPAL AFFAIRS.—It is stated in Rome that the Pope is preparing another allocution for delivery at the Episcopal Jubilee in June, which will review the condition of the Church and Holy See with respect to all nations of the world.—The Pope has lost the use of his legs, and is carried about in a chair. His life is not in danger. He has received official notification of the intended marriage of King Alfonso with the daughter of the Duke of de Montpensier.

NEW ORLEANS.—The corporation of the Catholic Church of New Orleans, which is legally constituted by charter, has with the approbation of the Archbishop and special authorisation of the Sovereign Pontiff, issued proposals for a loan secured on real and personal property of adequate value belonging to the corporation, amounting to about £20,000 at 5 per cent, repayable within ten years by successive drawings. The Paris agent for the loan is M. L. d'Aquin, 19 Rue des Moulins.

THE TITLES OF THE NEW CARDINALS.—Cardinal Apuzzo will receive the title of St. Onofrio; Cardinal Nina, that of St. Angelo in Percheria; Cardinal Sbarretti, that of St. Maria ad Martyres in the Pantheon; Cardinal Howard will have the title of St. John and Paul on the Celian Hill. Cardinal de Falloux will take the title of St. Agatha in Suburra, the church of the Irish College. Cardinal Howard will take possession of the church of his title some time before the 28th of April, the feast of St. Paul of the Cross, on which day he will pontificate in the Church of St. John and Paul.

THE ENGLISH CARDINALS.—Cardinal Howard and Cardinal Manning will represent 2,000,000 British Catholics, ninety per cent, of whom are Irish or of Irish extraction. Cardinal McCloskey will represent more than six millions of Catholics, upwards of a moiety of these Irish; while Cardinal Cullen represents 4,250,000, at home, and nearly as many of Irish descent in the British Colonies, in America, Australia, and elsewhere. Sixty-five of the seventy hats will be filled next month, and of these four will be worn by English speaking cardinals, whose chief clients will be children of St. Patrick.

FATHER TOM BURKE.—Father Tom Burke, the great Irish Dominican, is to visit Glasgow in a few days. During his stay, he will, I understand, be the guest of Father Noonan, of the Sacred Heart, Bridgeton, and will assist and preach at the Mission services to take place in that church during Holy Week. A lecture by Father Tom in the City Hall is also being arranged for. It is scarcely necessary to say that the attendance at the sermons and lectures certain to be fully equal to Father Noonan's most sanguine expectations.

NOTES FROM BELGIUM.—Great indignation has been excited in Brussels and Antwerp at the conduct of the municipal authorities in allowing scandalous processions to defile through the streets of those towns on Mid-Lent Sunday. In defiance of the law and the police regulations, the ceremonies of the Catholic Church were grossly parodied, and our Lady of Lourdes insulted. His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines has written a letter to his parish priests urging them and their flocks to make reparation for such acts of impiety, and the attention of the Government was to have been called to the matter on Thursday last.

THE POPE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE.—THE COMING PILGRIMS FROM CANADA.—On Thursday, the 19th inst., the

Canadian pilgrims will arrive at New York, bringing with them some \$40,000 to present to the Holy Father at Rome, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of his Episcopate, which occurs on the 21st of May next. The party are to leave on the Inman steamer sailing on the following Saturday. No other passengers are to be taken. Previous to their departure they will receive the benediction of the Cardinal at the Cathedral in Mulberry Street, N.Y. The Canadian pilgrims will number about seventy, and from New York and neighboring States about fifty, making a total of 120.—Pilot.

OTHER PILGRIMS.—The Roman nobility, under the Presidency of Prince Altieri, representing the gentlemen, and the Princess Odescalchi on behalf of the ladies, have nominated, through their correspondents in this country, the following committee of ladies:—Mrs. General Sherman, of Washington; Mrs. Peter, of Cincinnati; and Mrs. T. Seyton, of New Orleans, to represent them in this country in the task of helping to commemorate in a fitting manner the Pope's Golden Jubilee. The committee have appointed sub-committees in many of the leading cities of the Union. It is, therefore, probable that a large number of pilgrims, with gifts for the Holy Father, will take their departure from the United States from the middle of April to the early days of May.—Pilot.

WILLIAM AND BISMARCK BECOMING UNEASY.—Berlin is uneasy, not in conscience, for it does not possess such a thing, but it remembers the 15,000,000 Catholics that go to make up the empire. Therefore we read the following in the correspondence from Rome: "It is hoped that the Pontiff will perceive how anxious the emperor is for a pacific arrangement, and will write to the latter with that view in his mind." The plain interpretation of which is that "pious" William, inspired by impious Bismarck, would wish, in the present unsatisfactory state of things, that his brutal stupidity in alienating the affections of a large portion of the empire should be remembered no longer. Unfortunately for the prospects of this pious savage, the German Catholics acknowledge God first and William only second. What bad judgment this, and what moral depravity!

SCHOOLS IN SCOTLAND.—Says the Scotsman:—During last year, 292 new schools were built by school boards, 164 were enlarged or improved, and 207 schoolmasters' residences were built, at a total cost of £908,143, of which about one-sixth was contributed by Parliament. The number of board schools in Scotland is now 2,091. The number of Church of Scotland schools fell from 476 in 1875 to 420 in 1876; and the number of Free Church schools from 151 to 134. The only denominational schools that are rapidly increasing under our so-called national system are the Roman Catholic schools. They were only 79 in 1874; the next year they were 97, and last year they were 102. It forms a curious comment on the educational history of recent years in Scotland, that while last year Free Church schools received from Parliament less by £1,225 than the year before. Roman Catholic schools received £5,118 more—an increase of 60 per cent.

ELECTION MATTERS.—The late election in the Papal city of Avignon turned against the Catholic candidate, owing to the unnatural alliance between the moderate and "immoderate" Republicans. There is now another case coming on at Bordeaux, where one seat for the Legislature is to be filled, and already there are half a dozen candidates in the field. One of these, Mr. Steeg, is a Protestant parson with strong free-thought leanings, whilst Abbe Chavaux, an excellent priest, stands in the Catholic interest. At present a man must be a spouter to carry the day in France, and consequently it is rather a doubtful question whether in this instance the right man will get into the right place. The Republicanism of the majority does not prevent them from sending one of their own colleagues for trial, which means sending him to prison, as they did last week with M. Granier, who styles himself Cassinac, and who has written against the Republic. That's Republican liberty.

DEPUTATIONS TO ROME.—The *Katolische Stimme*, of Mayence, publishes a manifesto inviting the German Catholics to organise a special pilgrimage to Rome on the occasion of the Episcopal Jubilee of the Holy Father. Among the signatures we notice the names of Prince Loewenstein, Prince d'Issembourg, Baron Felix von Loew, Count d'Arco, Count Schaesberg, the journalists Marcour and Hauptmann, and many of the leading Catholics and secular clergy of Westphalia and the Rhine Provinces and Silesia. The *Bien Public* of Ghent publishes a similar document emanating from the Belgian Central committee of the *Œuvre du dernier de Saint-Pierre*. The Holy Father, it says, has fixed upon May 23, as the day on which he will give audience to the Belgian deputation, in which all Belgian Catholics are invited to take a part. The circular is signed by the Count d'Alcantara, President of the committee for the diocese of Ghent, Count d'Hemphine, Vice-President; Vorspeyen, Secretary, and a number of other well-known Catholics.—We learn too from the *Univers* that the Spanish Catholics are making similar preparations, and that the Archbishop of Granada has issued a Pastoral urging his flock to organise a pilgrimage to Rome. The Bishops of Badajoz and Ovedo have written in a similar strain. The *Unita Cattolica* says that the deputation from Savoy will be one of the earliest to arrive in Rome, its departure being fixed for April 23. The Bishops of Tarantasia and St. Giovanni di Moriani will be at the head of this pilgrimage. The same authority also states that many of the Austrian Bishops have already signified their intention of visiting Rome next May; among them being Cardinals Simor and Schwarzenberg.

A NEW CATHOLIC PARTY IN AUSTRIA.—At last steps are being taken in Austria to supply an organisation, the want of which has been seriously felt, especially of late years. Some excellent men propose to establish an "Austrian Catholic party." They took council with leading personages of different classes, not excepting some of the Bishops. They represented their views to the Holy Father, and received a Brief full of encouragement for their design, and giving them the Apostolic blessing for their undertaking. In this Brief his Holiness attributes a great deal of the politico-religious misfortunes of the times to the fact that princes and governments either have abandoned the true revealed principles of morality and conduct, or lack the courage to resist the onslaught of the impious assaults of the Church and of revelation. His Holiness also laments the want of firmness, among Catholics, and the absence of zealous interest upon questions which so closely concern their eternal welfare. The assembling together of well-instructed zealous Catholics, for the purpose of concerting what steps they shall take to protect Catholic interests and prevent unchristian legislation, is most praiseworthy, especially when such meetings are held, as in this case, after concert with the proper episcopal authority. The promoters of the project have issued an address to the Catholic populations of all the territories subject to the Austrian Crown, inviting them to meet at Vienna from the 16th to the 19th of April. They suggest as subject to be taken into consideration—the Press, schools, fine arts, social questions, Catholic life, active participation of Catholics in political matters through the medium of associations. The Prince-Archbishop of Vienna, Mgr. Kutschker, has cordially co-operated in the design, as well as other prelates. His Holiness has referred to this in his Brief, and has declared that the Bishops are deserving of special commendation for their conduct.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

FISHING ON THE SHANNON.—The accounts from the various fishing districts on the Shannon are now more favorable than since the opening of the season on the 1st of February.

VACANCY IN THE DROGHEDA COUNCIL.—An election took place on March 14 for a vacancy in the Drogheda Council. Mr. John Farrell, poor rate collector, an active agent in the Liberal interest, and Mr. Peter C. Greene, publican, were the candidates. The former was returned by a majority of five votes.

BANQUET TO MR. FERGUSON THE GREAT HOME RULER, IN SCOTLAND.—The Ferguson Banquet is to take place on the 10th of April, and not on the 3rd, as I mentioned in a former letter. I am informed that among the gentlemen who are to attend the banquet are Messrs. Parnell and Callan, M.P.'s and Rev. Isaac Nelson, of Belfast.

THE HOME RULE UNION.—Mr. Butt, M.P., as president of the Westminster Home Rule Union has issued a circular to the leading Irishmen of London, asking for their support to the new movement, and their presence at a meeting at which "matters of moment to the Home Rule cause" are to be considered.

At a special meeting of the Newry Town Commissioners on Saturday, it was unanimously resolved to petition against the bill now being promoted by the Great Northern Railway Company, with the view of securing the insertion of the clause securing to Newry certain advantages of geographical position.

DUBLIN TRAMWAYS.—From a parliamentary return just issued, it appears that the Dublin Tramways system is the greatest in the United Kingdom with the exception of the North Metropolitan of London. After Dublin comes Glasgow, then Edinburgh, then Leeds, then Belfast. There are altogether twenty-nine tramways in various towns of the United Kingdom.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.—This Bill came on for the second reading on Wednesday, and was rejected by 323 votes to 84. It was admitted that many of the objectionable details of last year had been got rid of. And this time it secured the support of Major O'Reilly and Mr. E. R. King-Harman, while O'Connell Don refrained from voting. Our opinions on the Land Question have been so frequently stated that we need not reiterate them on this occasion.—*Tablet*.

L'EXTINCTEUR AT QUEENSTOWN.—This useful invention was experimented with the other evening at Queenstown, on West View. The following gentlemen were present to witness the proceedings:—Dr. Bricknell, Mr. P. Barrett (chairman), Town Commissioners—Messrs. E. Farrell, T.C.; Sir George Milroy, T.C.; J. O'Connell, T.C.; P. Higgins, G. Goidanich, James Ahern, Sub-Inspector Mercer, and Mr. O. Beale, &c. Two terebarrels were set on fire when the L'Extincteur was to be played on them, and in about five minutes the fire was put entirely out.—*Cork Examiner*.

VOLUNTEER BILL FOR IRELAND.—A bill has been introduced in the Commons to authorize the enrolment of volunteer corps in Ireland, established on the principle and subject to the regulations controlling throughout Great Britain and the colonies. The bill contains 48 clauses, which are based on the law at present in force with regard to the organization of the volunteer force in Great Britain, but it has not the slightest chance of obtaining a second reading. We fear the Irish people will have to wait until their Parliament meet in the "old house at home" before they will have a volunteer force of their own.

THE DECLINE IN EMIGRATION.—During the year 1876 the number of emigrants who sailed from England to the United States was 54,554, and the number that returned was 54,366—a few hundred larger. The exodus from Ireland has been steadily decreasing since 1865, and we are solemnly informed that the "surplus population" of that unhappy country, is now drained off. In view of these facts some of the English papers are exhibiting decidedly poor taste by rejoicing over what they regard as the misfortune of the United States. It is a country, says one, where people either starve to death or are burned alive in theatres or railway carriages. "A good field for Chinasmen," says another. Well, this land we admit, is paying the penalty of its own folly, extravagance, and misgovernment; yet it is phenomenal in so doing. Very few persons starve to death among us, and the number broiled in the Brooklyn theatre or the Astoria accident make but a small percentage of forty millions. It seems to us that some of those English editors lose temper when speaking of America, chiefly because so many victims of British misrule have found a refuge here, and have not forgotten or condoned the wrongs which drove them into exile.—*American Paper*.

THE TYRONE MAGISTRACY.—Mr. Hunt Chamber, J.P.—Mr. Downing intends to ask the Chief Secretary whether Mr. Hunt Walsh Chamber, Grand Secretary of the Orange Society of Tyrone, whose name appears in the list of magistrates for Tyrone for the present year is the same individual who was three times prosecuted at Stewartstown Petty sessions for heading an unlawful, armed assembly at Coalisland; and if he is, was he appointed after said trials; and when? Is Hunt Walsh Chamber, who lately filed a petition for arrangement with creditors under the Bankruptcy Act, the same gentleman as the magistrate referred to? Was the first prosecution not at the suit of Mr. Hutchinson, Sub-Inspector of the Irish Constabulary? Did not Colonel Caulfield preside as magistrate at that occasion, and state that "the party had assembled with his knowledge and implied sanction; and if he was to send the case forward for trial, he felt he would be simply trying to shift the responsibility from his own shoulders to those of others, which he had no notion of doing?" Is Colonel Caulfield still in the Commission of the Peace; and, if so, does not the Chief Secretary think the whole circumstances ought to be laid before the Lord Chancellor of Ireland?

THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT.—The following is from the *World*:—The proceedings at a late meeting of the O'Connell Monument Committee completely dissipate the notion of their "giving up Foley's conception" &c. The feeling was unanimous on this point; but we agree with our contemporary that anything of the kind would have been discreditable:—"Business is slack with the sculptors. Some of them, however, have their hands full with old orders. On a visit to Foley's studio the other day I found that the pupil on whom the completion of his unfinished work has devolved, Mr. Brock, is hard at work on a statue of Lord Gough for Dublin. The O'Connell monument is not yet perfected, nor is it likely soon to be. And yet it is the most harmonious, beautiful, and stately of the inspirations of Foley; and—if the notions of the dead were carried out as they could be by the favourite on whom his mantle has fallen—there is no doubt it would be one of the grandest testimonies to Foley's genius. The committee entrusted with the supervision of what is done are positively some of them talking of giving up Foley's conception, forfeiting the money already paid, and advertising for a new monument by some Irish sculptor—probably of the mortuary school! Surely Irishmen should have sense enough to know that Home Rule in art is profanity!"—*Freeman*.

We understand that the Corporation of Cashel have resolved to apply to the Court of Chancery for

permission to give an annual subsidy out of their trust funds to any manufacturer who will undertake to open a factory near the town and give employment to the people. It is understood that no opposition will be offered to the proposal, which will include £1,000 a year and a free site for the works. The Corporation has also determined to build houses for the poor, and to give spaces for gardens, so as to improve the character of the old city. This is a step in the right direction, and one which ought to be generally imitated. The Court of Chancery will in all probability institute searching inquiry into the powers afforded by the trusts now in possession, and will have to be satisfied whether such an appropriation as that contemplated can be maintained. The success of the scheme depended altogether on the legal bearings of the case submitted, and it may be questioned whether it would not be wiser to apply first for simple power of appropriation and then look for the adoption of a particular scheme. The second part of the local programme, the improvement of the dwelling of the poor needs no discussion. This is probably within the powers of the Corporation as constituted, and no better work could be attempted or accomplished. The people of Cashel ought to sustain their municipal representatives in this matter, which touches the fortunes of the city in a most material direction.

MESSERS. PARNELL AND BIGGAR IN THE HOUSE.—A London correspondent says:—At half-past eleven the House took up the orders of the day following supply, but Messrs. Parnell and Biggar were as usual, on the alert. They first opposed the Supreme Court of Judicature Bill, but withdrew, after an appeal from the English Attorney-General. They then attacked the Marine Mutiny Bill, which stood for a second reading, and challenged a division. The motion of theirs to report progress of course failed, and they were defeated by an overwhelming majority. Capt. Nolan moved an amendment in the Bill, suggesting certain improvements in the allowance for officers, and after Mr. Hardy had replied to the hon. and gallant member, Mr. Parnell advanced to the chair, and talked at the Bill until half-past twelve, when he moved the adjournment of the debate. "Will any hon. member second that?" cried the desperate Speaker. "I will, sir!" called out Mr. Biggar, amid groans of pain from the Government side of the House. As he spoke the member for Cavan moved step by step forward—a fearful breach of Parliamentary etiquette. He was arrested by furious cries of "Order!" In the end Mr. Parnell gave way, and withdrew his amendment and the Bill was read a second time. After this Sir M. H. Beach brought in his Public Health Bill, which, owing to the pressure elsewhere, I cannot do more than mention.

IRISH SCHOOL STATISTICS.—The ease with which a great many learned people permit themselves to be gulled is a marvel of the age. A case in point—a most egregious case—has cropped up prominently this week. Mr. O'Shaughnessy, M.P., in feeling the pulse of the House of Commons on the subject of a compulsory clause for Ireland, produced the venerable returns which go to show that there are one million children on the school rolls, and only 400,000 in average attendance. Every year brings forth these delusive figures from the bureau of the Education Office, but we did not think anyone of intelligence trusted them for a moment, and Mr. O'Shaughnessy surprised us. More still, the *Times* adopted the fallacy next day, and wrote a very wise article to prove that Ireland had a greater proportion of pupils than England, but a very much inferior attendance, and that the latter was owing—for the *Times* always has a reason ready for everything—to the want of application in the Celtic nature. Now to burst the bubble. The population of Ireland is a little over five millions, and neither it nor any other country under the sun has ever yet had one-fifth of its numbers at school. The very idea is preposterous, even under compulsion such as we have here, and much more so where there is none. A moment's reflection would have saved the *Times* a very stupid dissertation on the Celtic character, which, as the thing turns out, was a propos de rien. We cannot account for the falsity of the figures officially given, unless the system of registering is scandalous, but we believe there are not more than 600,000 genuine names on the rolls.

IRISH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.—An interesting debate on this subject took place on March 16 on Mr. O'Shaughnessy's motion, "That, having regard to the educational progress now taking place in England and in Scotland, it is expedient to adopt measures consistent with economy and the rights of conscience to promote the general diffusion of elementary education among the Irish people." Mr. O'Shaughnessy, while admitting that compulsory education was unpopular in the country districts, urged that there was a feeling in favour of it in the towns, and seemed to think that if a milder system of compulsion than that employed in England—the weaker penalties—were introduced, it would be acceptable to many and beneficial to more. The majority of the Irish members who spoke, however, seemed to take a different view; the O'Connor Don, Mr. Bruen, Mr. Butt, Major O'Reilly, and Captain Nolan all opposing the introduction of the compulsory system at least for the present. The statistics quoted show that marked improvement has been made in the last thirty years. In 1841 the percentage of population who could neither read nor write was 53, and in 1871 only 33; and he could read no answer there. "The sky is so cloudy," said he, "but wait a moment" and with these words he ran towards the farm, and came back a few minutes afterwards with a cat in his arms. "Look here," said he, "it is not noon yet;" and he showed us the cat's eyes, by pushing up the lids with his hands. We looked at the child with surprise, but he was evidently in earnest, and the cat, though astonished, and not much pleased at the experiment made on her eyes, behaved with most exemplary complaisance. "Very well," said we; "thank you;" and he then let go the cat, which escaped pretty quickly, and we continued our route. To tell the truth, we had not at all understood the proceedings; but we did not wish to question the little fellow, lest he should find out that we were Europeans by our ignorance. As soon as ever we reached the farm, however, we made haste to ask the people whether they could tell the hour by looking into the cat's eyes. They seemed surprised at the question; but as there was no danger in confessing to them our ignorance of the properties of the cat's eyes, we related what had just taken place. That was all that was necessary. They immediately gave chase to all the cats in the neighborhood and brought us three or four, from which they explained in what manner they might be made use of for watches. They pointed out that the pupil of their eyes went on constantly growing narrower until twelve o'clock, when they became like a fine line, as thin as a hair, drawn perpendicularly across the eye, and that after twelve the dilation recommenced. When we had attentively examined the eyes of all the cats at our disposal, we concluded that it was past noon, as all their eyes perfectly agreed upon the point. We have had some hesitation in speaking of this Chinese discovery, as it may, doubtless, tend to injure the interest of the clock-making trade, and interfere with the sale of watches; but all considerations must give way to the spirit of progress. All important discoveries tend in the first instance to injure private interests, and we hope, nevertheless, that watches will continue to be made, because, among the number of persons who may wish to know the hour, there will, most likely, be some who will not give themselves the trouble to run after the cat; or who may fear some danger to their own eyes from too close an examination of hers.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The various St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Glasgow and neighbourhood, for which arrangements had been in active progress for several weeks have passed off with complete success, and with the utmost credit to all parties concerned. Both Home Rulers and Nationalists have had their meetings and have carried them through in the utmost harmony and good patriotic spirit.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT DUBLIN CASTLE.—The ceremony of trooping the colours on the Esplanade in front of the Royal Barracks came off with much military pomp on the 17th. When it was over a squadron of Inniskilling Dragoons, with their band, marched to the Castle, playing "St. Patrick's Day" as they climbed Cork Hill. The ceremony of changing guard took place in the Upper Castle Yard. Three military bands, a squadron of dragoons, and the Castle guard were formed in the great square, which was thronged with people.

Entertainments of one sort or another in honour of the 17th were given in Wigan, Blackburn, Preston, Manchester, Bolton, St. Helens, Warrington, Birkenhead, Bootle, Liverpool, and in many other of the Lancashire towns. So numerous were they that I will venture to say that there were more celebrations of the day in Lancashire alone than in all Ireland. In Liverpool alone there were eleven, exclusive of the professional concerts and theatrical performances that were given in the various places of amusement. The Manchester Home Rule Association gave a banquet on Saturday evening in the old Town Hall, King Street. The Rev. W. A. O'Connor presided, and amongst those present were—Mitchell Henry, Esq., M.P., and the Rev. Isaac Nelson, of Belfast. A concert was also given on the same evening in the Free Trade Hall.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

NEW MODES OF REVENGE.—Monkeys in India, are more or less objects of superstitious reverence and are, consequently seldom or ever destroyed. In some places they are even fed, encouraged, and allowed to live on the roofs of the houses. If a man wish to revenge himself for any injury committed upon him, he has only to sprinkle some rice or corn, upon the top of his enemy's house or granary just before the rain sets in, and the monkeys will assemble upon it, eat all they find outside, and then pull off the tiles, to get at that which falls through the crevices. This of course gives access to the torrents which fall in such countries, and house, furniture, and stores are all ruined.

MULLET AND TURBOT WITH THE ANCIENT ROMANS.—The Romans were enthusiastic for the mullet. It was for them the fish par excellence. It was sometimes served up six pounds in weight, and such a fish was worth £60 sterling. It was cooked on the table for the benefit and pleasure of the guests. In a glass vessel filled with brine made from water, the blood of the mackerel, and salt, the live mullet, stripped of all its scales, was enclosed; and as its fine pink colour passed through its dying gradations, until paleness and death ensued, the *connoisseurs* looked on admiringly and lauded the spectacle. The turbot was next in estimation; but as occasionally offending glaves were flung into the turbot preserves for the fish to feed upon, some gastronomists have affected to be horror-stricken at the idea of eating a turbot a la Romaine.

ROSEWOOD.—It has puzzled many to decide why the dark wood so highly valued for furniture should be called rosewood. Its colour certainly does not look like that of a rose, but when the tree is first cut the fresh wood possesses a strong roselike fragrance; hence the name. There are half a dozen or more kinds of rosewood trees found in South America and in the West Indies and neighbouring islands. Sometimes the trees grow so large that planks 4 feet broad and 10 feet in length can be cut from them. These broad planks are principally used to make tops for piano-fortes. When growing the rosewood-tree is remarkable for its beauty; but such is its value in manufacture as an ornamental wood, that some of the forests where it once grew abundantly now have scarcely a single specimen. In Madras the Government has prudently had great plantations of this tree set out in order to keep up the supply.

SLEEP AS A MEDICINE.—A physician says that the cry for rest has always been louder than the cry for food. Not that it is more important, but it is often harder to obtain. The best rest comes from sound sleep. Of two men or women, otherwise equal, the one who sleeps the better will be the more healthy and efficient. Sleep will do much to cure irritability of temper, peevishness, and uneasiness. It will restore vigour to an overworked brain. It will build up and make strong a weak body. It will cure a headache. It will cure a broken spirit. It will cure sorrow. Indeed we might make a long list of nervous and other maladies that sleep will cure. The cure of sleeplessness requires a clean good bed, sufficient exercise to promote weariness, pleasant occupation good air, and not too warm a room; a clear conscience, and avoidance of stimulants and narcotics. For those who are overworked, haggard, nervous, who pass sleepless nights, we commend the adoption of such habits as will secure sleep.

WHAT THE BLIND SEE.—Mr. Lovey, in his work on "Blindness and the Blind" says:—"When passing along a street I can distinguish shops from private houses, and even point out the doors and windows, &c., and this whether the doors be shut or open. When a window consists of one entire sheet of glass it is more difficult to discover than one composed of a number of small panes. From this it would appear that glass is a bad conductor of the sensation specially connected with this sense. When objects below the face are perceived, the sensation seems to come in an oblique line from the objects to the upper part of the face. While walking with a friend in Forest-lane, Stratford, I said pointing to a fence, which separated the road from a field, 'Those rails are not quite as high as my shoulder.' He looked at them, and said they were higher. They, however, measured about three inches lower than my shoulder. When I made this observation I was about four feet from the rails. Certainly in this instance, facial observation was more accurate than sight. When the lower part of a fence is brickwork, and the upper part rails, the fact can be detected, and the line where the two meet easily perceived. Irregularities in height, projections, and indentations in walls can also be discovered. A similar sense is found among the animal creation, and especially in bats, who have been known to fly about without striking against anything after the cruel experiment of extracting their eyes.

A CAT-CLOCK.—The following curious incident is to be found in Huc's "Chinese Empire." One day when he went to pay a visit to some families of Chinese peasants, we met, near a farm, a young lad who was taking a buffalo to graze along our path. We asked him carelessly as we passed whether it was yet noon. The child raised his head to look at the sun, but it was hidden behind thick clouds, and he could read no answer there. "The sky is so cloudy," said he, "but wait a moment" and with these words he ran towards the farm, and came back a few minutes afterwards with a cat in his arms. "Look here," said he, "it is not noon yet;" and he showed us the cat's eyes, by pushing up the lids with his hands. We looked at the child with surprise, but he was evidently in earnest, and the cat, though astonished, and not much pleased at the experiment made on her eyes, behaved with most exemplary complaisance. "Very well," said we; "thank you;" and he then let go the cat, which escaped pretty quickly, and we continued our route. To tell the truth, we had not at all understood the proceedings; but we did not wish to question the little fellow, lest he should find out that we were Europeans by our ignorance. As soon as ever we reached the farm, however, we made haste to ask the people whether they could tell the hour by looking into the cat's eyes. They seemed surprised at the question; but as there was no danger in confessing to them our ignorance of the properties of the cat's eyes, we related what had just taken place. That was all that was necessary. They immediately gave chase to all the cats in the neighborhood and brought us three or four, from which they explained in what manner they might be made use of for watches. They pointed out that the pupil of their eyes went on constantly growing narrower until twelve o'clock, when they became like a fine line, as thin as a hair, drawn perpendicularly across the eye, and that after twelve the dilation recommenced. When we had attentively examined the eyes of all the cats at our disposal, we concluded that it was past noon, as all their eyes perfectly agreed upon the point. We have had some hesitation in speaking of this Chinese discovery, as it may, doubtless, tend to injure the interest of the clock-making trade, and interfere with the sale of watches; but all considerations must give way to the spirit of progress. All important discoveries tend in the first instance to injure private interests, and we hope, nevertheless, that watches will continue to be made, because, among the number of persons who may wish to know the hour, there will, most likely, be some who will not give themselves the trouble to run after the cat; or who may fear some danger to their own eyes from too close an examination of hers.