

ENGLISH TRAVELLERS AND ROMAN BRIGANDS. — ROME Dec. 5. The brigands in the neighbourhood of the Eternal City have just resumed their periodical practice of spoiling such incautious travellers as take more money with them than is necessary for their own wants or less than will suffice to pacify the *auri sacra fames* of highway assailants. On Monday evening a seven o'clock a ve torino carriage was plodding its weary way from Civita Vecchia onwards Rome, and had reached a spot four miles on this side of Palo, when its farther progress was opposed by seven bandits armed with bludgeons, pistols, and daggers, who stopped the vehicle and proceeded to rifle the passengers, consisting of Dr. Conolley Roman Catholic bishop of Halifax, on his way to Rome to pay homage to the supreme head of the Church, Mr. Blake, and Mr. and Mrs. Harper. The Bishop was eased of £140, besides his episcopal chain and cross, and pastoral ring, a fine emerald, which he wore according to custom. Mr. Blake feeling greatly averse to submitting to spoliation, in his turn most fully resisted the outlaws' invitation to stand and deliver, but he was finally overpowered by numbers, after being severely beaten and having had a pistol presented at his head, which fortunately missed fire. Mr. and Mrs. Harper were robbed of their watches, chains, and purses; and altogether the plunder realized by the marauders may be valued at about a thousand scudi, or over £208.

THE WINTER.—Mr. M. Ryan, the somewhat noted observer of the weather, makes the following observations relative to the winter:—"The signs for the winter are one third milder than those of last winter. This is a lunar calculation as to the number of days in a moon is to the number of days in a moon-and-a-half; or as 28 is to 42; and within two points of the winter of 1852. God has "tempered the wind to the shorn lamb." There are thousands out of employment—we shall have a mild winter and an early spring. Improve the sleighing when it comes for it will not stay as it did last winter." His prognostications seem to have been pretty well borne out thus far.

CURE FOR HYDROPHOBIA.—A man was cured of hydrophobia in Italy lately, by swallowing vinegar, in mistake for a medicinal potion. A physician at Padua heard of this, and tried the remedy on a patient; he gave him a pint of vinegar in the morning, another at noon, and a third at sunset, which cured him.—*Scientific American*.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

DURHAM BULLS.—Mr. George Miller, of Markham, whose stock is of the first class, has some young thorough bred bulls to dispose of. Mr. Miller's address is Markham Village.

"TRANSACTIONS."—We send along with this number of the *Agriculturist*, a sheet of the "Transactions of the Board of Agriculture." Subscribers of last year will find this to be a continuation of the "Transactions" already in their hands. They will receive the balance of the volume if supplied to us by the Board. We shall probably be able to supply our new subscribers with the remainder of the sheets, but cannot promise those already issued. In special cases, where it is desired to complete the volume for preservation, we may be able to procure the earlier sheets.

PRIZE ESSAY ON INSECTS.—We have sent to all our subscribers this year, a copy of Professor Hind's Prize Essay on Insects injurious to wheat, &c., with illustrations. This is the most complete work on the subject that has yet appeared in this or any other country, and should be carefully read and preserved by every tiller of the soil into whose hands it may come. We trust that officers of Agricultural Societies will make an extra effort this year to place the *Agriculturist* and the prize Essay in the hands of the members. They will never have another opportunity of procuring so much valuable information at so small a cost.

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