

Mr. Smith O'Brien on Irish Tranquillity.—Mr. Smith O'Brien, who is serving on the county of Limerick grand jury at the Spring Assizes, took occasion the other day to call the attention of his brother jurors to the folly of maintaining the police force of the district at its present establishment.

PROTESTANT OUTRAGE.—An outrage of an abominable nature was perpetrated in the Catholic Church of English a few nights since. Some miscreants broke one of the windows, entered, stole the curtains of the confessionals, and smeared the latter with vile filth.

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A lecture was delivered at the New York Tabernacle on Thursday evening, 28th ult., by Dr. Ives.—The subject was happily chosen; and one which should be seriously pondered upon by parents, at a time like the present, when as the Doctor truly expresses it, "the State has adopted two Protestant reformatory schools,—the House of Refuge and the Juvenile Asylum—both under Protestant direction." It is notorious that both those institutions are but schools for perversion. Despairing of inducing persons arrived at maturity of embracing their opinions, they have established this House of Refuge and Asylum, to ensnare the innocent and unprotected children of Catholic parents.—*Baltimore Catholic Mirror*.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN PHILADELPHIA.—Early in the morning, a "stuffed Paddy," about seven feet in height, was discovered suspended from the top of a telegraph pole in the Seventeenth Ward. The effigy was got up in what is termed orthodox style, even to the string of potatoes around its neck. It was beginning to cause some commotion among the excited people in the neighborhood, when the police came upon the ground and took down the offensive object with considerable trouble, and conveyed it to the station-house. In by-gone days display of "Paddies" have caused serious disturbances, and we have never yet heard of any such exhibitions that have accomplished any good. Taunts and insults certainly prove nothing, and they are like another vicious habit neither brave, polite nor wise. If those to whom such "hits" are directed only possessed sufficient patience and moral courage to pay no attention to them, the only parties damaged would be the "funny fellows," who originate, what they consider, very funny and telling jokes. Several of the Companies attached to the Second Brigade, known as "the Irish Brigade," paraded in the afternoon, and made quite a creditable display. The military turnout was the principal object of attraction in the evening. Their green uniform looked quite handsome. They were commanded by Col. Conroy. They were abused in advance (the day before) by a blackguard sheet called the *Daily News*. Its aim seemed to be to excite the populace against the military, and create a riot, but he was disappointed. All passed off quietly, and without disorder or drunkenness, (no thanks to the *Yankees*).—*Cor. of New York Citizen*.

The Milwaukee Daily News gives the following account of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration by the Irishmen of Milwaukee:—"Thirteen hundred and sixty-four years ago, upon the summit of a mountain, in the northern part of the province of Ulster, the patron Saint of Ireland passed from the scene of his life to meet the lasting reward of his great Maker. History gives no correct account of the date of his birth, and as the 17th day of March is the day assigned in the calendar for his commemoration, Irishmen whatever part of the world their lot may be cast in, assemble together and celebrate it as a day of feast. In common with their countrymen in other climes and countries. The Irishmen of Milwaukee held their celebration on Tuesday last, (17th March) not in a spirit of unseemly hilarity, but with a remarkable degree of reverence and prudence. In the morning the Union Guards dressed in their new uniform marched with steady step from their arsenal to St. John's Cathedral where high mass was celebrated, and a beautiful and impressive eulogy delivered by the Rev. P. Donahue on the life and incessant labors of the great apostle. In the evening about one hundred and fifty persons sat down to a splendid supper, served up by Mr. Sheard, at the arsenal of the Union Guards. The hall was neatly decorated with appropriate flags and emblems. A platform was erected in front of the hall upon which was placed Mr. Ferguson the celebrated Irish piper, 'the Carolan of the day.'"

We learn from a reliable correspondent from Washington, that among the horde of office-seekers there, not an Irish naturalised citizen is to be seen, if he (the writer) may make the exception of one very impudent pretentious demagogue. This is creditable to the Irish.—*N. Y. Citizen*.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS OF THE STATE FOR THE YEAR 1856.—The Secretary of State has sent to the Senate his annual report of the Criminal Statistics of the State. From it we learn that during 1856 there was 1,514 convicted for crime in Court of Records, of which only 107 were females. The nativity of only 1,064 is reported, of those 530 are natives of the United States, 445 are foreigners, and 80 unknown. The whole number of indictments tried in Criminal Courts, was 1,205; convictions, 844; acquittals, 323; non-agreement of jury, 38; confessions of crime, 651; discharged without trial, 1,010. Whole number of convictions at Special Sessions, 8,000; males, 6,623; females, 1,467. In addition to these there have been convicted at Special Sessions in the cities of Albany, Buffalo, Brooklyn and New York, 10,250 persons, of which 6,444 are males, and 3,816 females. Out of the total of 11,324 convictions during the year, on which returns as to nativity have been received, 2,806 were of American birth and 8,518 of foreign birth. The returns show an increase of convictions since last year of 4,580.

A POLITICAL PREACHER DROUSNEN.—The N. Y. Observer (Presbyterian, Old School) notes, Rev. Dr. Cheever's Sunday naffification discourse about the Dred Scott decision, and says:—"This preacher has taken more atrocious and treasonable ground than the most radical newspapers of the day. Whether we regard the decision of the Supreme Court as sound or not, we should be recreant to the plainest principle of the New Testament, we should be false to the government of God, and to the civil government under which we live, if we did not express our unmingled abhorrence of the doctrines of resistance in this discourse. It is a disgrace to the city, and to the nation; it is a disgrace to the pulpit, and to the religion of Christ,—that a man professing the spirit of the Gospel should thus prostitute the sacred desk, the ministerial character; and the house of God."

THE NICARAGUA FILIBUSTERS HELD FOR TRIAL.—The United States Commissioner has at length delivered judgment in the case of Joseph W. Fabens and Henry Bolton. He says: "The charge of hiring and retaining is sufficiently proved. Arguments similar to those urged to me were used on behalf of Hertz, on his trial at Philadelphia. Judge Kane then charged that 'the hiring or retaining does not necessarily include the payment of money on the part of him who hires or retains another.' He may hire or retain a person with an agreement that he shall pay wages when the services shall have been performed. Moreover, it is not necessary that the consideration of hiring shall be money. To give a person a railroad ticket that costs four dollars, and board and lodge him for a week, is as good a consideration for the contract of hiring as to pay him the money with which he could buy the railway ticket and pay his board himself." That was the British enlistment case, in which the consideration was a free passage to Halifax, and a bounty on arriving there. In this case there was a free passage to Granada, and eighty acres of land in Nicaragua. It appears to me that an offence has been committed, and that there is probable cause to believe the defendants to be guilty thereof. I cannot, therefore, discharge them." The defendants were accordingly held for the action of the Grand Jury.

A PLANTER'S SON.—A planter had a son of eight years old, who caught his father's tone with precocious fidelity. We heard him whipping his puppy behind the house and sneering between the blows, his father and mother being at hand. His tone was an evident imitation of his father's mode of dealing with his slaves. "I've got an account to settle with you; I've let you go about long enough; I'll teach you how you should master. There, go now, G—d— you; but I ain't got through with you yet." "You stop that cursing," said his father, at length. "It is not right for little boys to curse." "What do you do when you get mad?" replied the boy; "reckon you cuss some; so now you'd better shut up."—*Okmsted's Texas*.

On Thursday night last a shot was fired through the parlour window of Hugh O'Donnell, Esq., of Greyfield near Keadue, in the County Roscommon, but happy to say without effect, as the contents of the fire arm fortunately passed quite close to where the gentleman was sitting. We believe two men are in custody, having been arrested by Constable Sullivan, of Keadue.—*Boyle Gazette*.

GREAT BRITAIN. THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.—The defeat of Ministers, although necessitating a dissolution or reconstruction of the Palmerston Cabinet, has created the smallest possible amount of excitement at this side of the Channel. Even the place expectants—the usual waiters on Providence—are less anxious than usual, and the impression here is all but general that, let the crisis terminate as it may, the supporters of Lord Derby will find that the year is not yet ripe for the plucking of the chiefs, and that the time is still unfavourable for a repetition of the experiment of 1852. Lord Carlisle held his second levee for the season yesterday; and from obvious causes it was anticipated that the attendance would be even less numerous than is usual on the occasion of the second ceremonial. Such, however, was not the case, as the assemblage was highly respectable, and comprised about 800 names of the gentry at present in town.—*Times Dublin Correspondent*.

The country is excited by electioneering movements. The supposition is that Lord Palmerston will carry a majority, but a small one. He continues to receive addresses of confidence. On the Commons notice book is a motion by Mr. Gordon, to interrogate the Government respecting the present state of relations with the United States. Lord Elgin has a similar notice in the House of Lords, for Tuesday, the 17th.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL.—The Cross journal states, on authentic information, that the ceremony of betrothal of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal to Prince Frederick William will take place at London during the month of May; and that the Prince and Princess of Prussia will accompany their popular and respected son to England for the purpose. The marriage, adds the *Cross*, is definitely fixed for the 21st of December, or as soon after as possible. The new married couple, it is believed, will remain in England for a month or more, and there pass the Christmas holidays; after which they will commence their journey to the Prussian dominions, and make their entry into Berlin immediately after new year, by which time the palace, now fitting up for their residence, will be fully completed and properly aired.

THE EDUCATION BILL.—Sir J. Pakington and Mr. Cobden's bill, to "Promote Education in Corporate Cities and Boroughs in England and Wales," has been printed. One hundredth part of the persons assessed to the poor rate in any borough may require the mayor to take the sense of the borough whether the act shall be adopted or not. A majority of the ratepayers will decide the question; if the negative, the decision will hold good for one year. If the act be adopted a "school committee" will be elected to consist of twelve persons in every borough of which the population shall not exceed 50,000; of 18 where the population shall be under 100,000; and of 24 persons where it shall exceed 100,000. The qualification for membership is property of the rateable value of £20 a year, or real property of the value of £500. The electors will be those assessed to the poor rates not in arrears. One-third of the school committee must retire annually, but the retiring members will be re-eligible. The school committee will be a body corporate. The committee will admit such schools "into union" as are situate within the borough, and where some fee or remuneration is paid for every scholar, in addition to the payment to be made under this act. There is a proviso for mixed and free schools. Except as regards certain regulations, laid down at length, the committee may not interfere with the management or constitution of any school into union admitted. Parents may send their children to any school that is in union with the committee. If all the regulations be complied with the school committee will pay certain fees to the managers of such schools, for every boy above seven years of age 3d. per week, and for every girl above seven years of age 2d.; and in respect of free scholars 6d. per week for boys, 6d. for girls above seven years of age; and every infant 4d. A fourth part of these payments will go for the purchase of books, &c., and three-fourths for the payment of teachers. For raising the funds required the school committee may make orders of contribution on overseers out of the poor rates, and enforce them as boards of guardians.

THE CHINA QUESTION.—From the great discussion which has just concluded, which occupied two nights in the House of Lords and four nights in the House of Commons, it is clear that the verdict is given and the sentence passed on no small technical points, but on the broadest considerations of justice, policy, and the national honor. Whether the *lorcha Arrow* was a Chinese or British vessel, whether or not it was entitled to the protection of the British flag; whether the Commissioner Yeh or Sir John Bowring showed more temper, good breeding, and logic, are not the governing considerations of the case. Lord Palmerston has been condemned because the actual dispute afforded no sufficient justification for the hostile proceedings of his agent, because there was evidence of a pre-determination to find a pretext for gaining commercial advantages by bloodshed and cruelty; by the force of the strong overpowering the resistance of the weak. And though this Canton business, if it stood alone, would have amply merited an ignominious ejection from office, yet it is only when it is viewed in conjunction with other instances of the same nature, as the crowning act of a long course of wrong, that we arrive at the true moral and the historical meaning of the vote of the House of Commons. Ere were the result of a general election to prove favorable, even were the present House, by some special vote, to retain the Ministry in power, the effect of last Tuesday's vote would not be destroyed. The most signal and characteristic instance of Lord Palmerston's foreign policy has been condemned, and in that condemnation are included a thousand minor acts of wrong springing from the same source; and dictated by the same spirit. The majority against him was composed of men of all parties and all shades of politics, unanimous at least in this, that they deemed him guilty and condemned him. Can it be said of the minority that they voted with him because they approved of him? Not the ultra-Protestant Tories certainly, for their motives were avowed. Not the Irish Catholic pledge-breakers, for of voting from conviction upon any question they will never be suspected, and yet without these votes the minority would be formidably lessened. But postponing our scrutiny of the division list until another day, we have the great satisfaction of inviting our readers to rejoice that the Commons have condemned Lord Palmerston. Their own immediate dissolution will be the probable consequence; and looking back to the fires of Stockport, by the light of which they were elected, over the four years and a half of their existence, we will say that their dying to destroy the Ministry atones for some of their faults, and that nothing in life became them like the leaving it.—*Tablet*.

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of London was held on Monday. A resolution was passed approving of the manner in which Her

Majesty's subjects in China had sustained the honour of the British flag, the commercial interests, and the cause of truth and justice, and containing an expression of regret at the division of the House of Commons against Her Majesty's Ministers, for having on that occasion pursued a course which entitled them to the confidence of the country.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.—This decoration consists of a Maltese cross, formed from the cannon captured from the Russians. In the centre of the cross is the royal crown, surmounted by the lion, and below it a scroll, bearing the words, "For valour." The ribbon is blue for the navy and red for the army. On the clasp are two branches of laurel, and from it, suspended by a Roman V, hangs the cross. The execution of the work has been entrusted by Lord Palmerston to Mr. Hancock, of London, and is highly creditable to his taste and skill. The decoration carries with it a pension of £10 a year.

PLUCKY MARCH 2.—The *Post* says orders have been received here to-day to prepare, with the utmost despatch, the Sansaripal, Himalaya, and another vessel, for the conveyance of reinforcements, ammunition, &c., to the China station.

We (Union) learn that Sir John Dodson has not shown any disposition to facilitate the hearing of the appeal in the Denison Case. The applications to fix any early day have hitherto been unsuccessful; but we understand that Dr. Phillimore intends to make a third application next week.

MAYNOOTH AND CHURCH RATES.—According to the Government returns, the amount received as church rates in England, from Easter 1853, to Easter 1854, was £465,000. Taking the population of England to be 16,000,000, and estimating the Catholic portion of the population at 2,000,000, we shall have £58,000 as the sum paid by the Catholics of England for church rates. If we deduct even £8,000 on account of those considerations which you dwell upon in your last Number, we Catholics shall still pay £50,000. Now, whether it be or be not wise and consistent in us to make so much ado about the small grant to Maynooth, while we contentedly allow ourselves to be robbed of this far greater amount, at least it is clear that the estimate which I made on this subject about a year ago, when wishing to excite opposition to church rates, was very far within the truth.—*Cor. of Weekly Register*.

A Lay Brotherhood for the active discharge of Works of Mercy amongst the Poor of London is in course of formation. It is in connection with the Tractarian party, and it is said, will receive large support from many noblemen and wealthy commoners whose religious views and sympathies tend in that direction.

We find in the *Record* the following testimony to the growth of the Church in Scotland.—"The Roman Catholics have recently purchased a large and valuable property at Aberdeen, with a view to the erection of a cathedral, and the establishment of a new institution of the Sisters of Mercy. In Scotland generally, Roman Catholicism and Puseyism have made great progress these few years back."

The following is an extract from the Pastoral of his Lordship the Bishop of Salford, speaking of mixed marriages, he says:—"Who does not see how all-important it is for mutual happiness that husband and wife be of one mind in thought and feeling, and more especially in the momentous affair of religion, which has reference to eternal life? Yet how can this harmony subsist between persons who have no community in prayer, who do not communicate at the same altar, and who, by a sort of tacit compact, never discourse on matters of salvation, least unseemly disputes and angry contentions should ensue. But other and greater evils ensue from these so called mixed marriages. What becomes, in many cases, of the unhappy children? How are they educated, with a view to practical religion in this life and eternal happiness in that which has to come? We will cite common experience. There is a Catholic mother, well instructed in her duty, and anxious to perform it; she very early instils the love of Our Saviour into the heart of her child, often with this purpose exhibiting to him the sweet image of Jesus and his mother Mary. She teaches him with his little hands to make the Sign of the Cross, that from infancy the child may learn to appreciate the ineffable Mystery of man's redemption. But how acts that other parent whom we will suppose to be antagonistic to our holy faith? Why, he regards with scorn and contempt these religious acts; probably he derides them as so much superstitious error; or it may be that, with disdain and hate, he prohibits a repetition of them in his presence. Granting, indeed, that it has been made the necessary condition of marriage, that the children be educated as Catholics (and without such condition the Priest of God cannot celebrate these marriages at all); granting that all possible precaution has been taken to carry out the arrangement, how can you have confidence that Catholics they will remain, if the Catholic parent be taken away by death? How often does this deplorable occurrence happen whilst the unhappy offspring are helpless and unprotected? We will ask those of you who think, feel, and speak so lightly upon the subject, whether, with a tranquil conscience, you can enter upon eternity with a knowledge that the children of your affections are being left to the sole care of one who cherishes the world's hatred to the Catholic religion? Do you expect that in this case the priceless gem will be preserved? Look around you, and see what happens in these circumstances. Souls are lost to Heaven, and Hell rejoices? Alas! that we should have it to say, many are the instances of this kind which we have ourselves witnessed; instances wherein the most solemn pledges previously given have been ruthlessly disregarded and violated. Most painfully impressed with a sense of these melancholy consequences of 'mixed marriages,' we hold it as a stern obligation that we warn you against such alliances. Depend upon it, however careful a Catholic parent may be to secure the religion of his or her child, there is not a moment free from uncertainty as to a disastrous issue; some unforeseen event may at any time frustrate the best expectations; children may be arrested in their religious education at any period; and, indeed, when no distinct hindrance has arisen, they will sometimes of themselves fall into indifference or impiety, in disgust, as it were, of their parents' religious quarrels and disputes. We have ourselves seen these things, and we are bound to warn you against such consequences. For all these reasons, dearly beloved, the Catholic Church has prohibited mixed marriages. If a dispensation be obtained, it can only be on the condition that the Catholic party be allowed the free exercise of his or her religion, and that all the children of such marriages be educated in the Catholic faith and be made partakers of the Sacraments at a suitable age. But we have pointed out to you their serious perils, even with this condition; let all of you ponder seriously thereupon; and we urge upon you, dearly beloved, with all the tenderness of our Pastoral solicitude, that you will avoid altogether these mixed marriages, so detrimental to all temporal happiness even, but, above all, so ruinous to immortal souls."

From the Second Report of Her Majesty's Civil Service Commissioners, recently presented to Parliament, the public may learn three simple things of very great interest—first, the nature of the information required in those who wish to gain appointments; secondly, the extent to which this information is actually acquired as things go; and, thirdly, the results of the competitive system, or system of opening appointments to the best proficients, in so far as the evidence before us discloses them. And, first, as to the nature of the knowledge which it is requisite to obtain for admission to situations in the civil establishments of the country. Nothing can be more simple, more elementary, or more easily attainable than the instruction in question; in fact, the wonder is how anything like a proper education

can fail to supply it. To remove, say the Commissioners, "any possible impression that we may have in these decisions assumed too high a standard, we think it right to state that some of the answers in history which were presented to us in the papers of the rejected candidates were such as these—viz., that 'the Star Chamber' consisted of 12 members, whose business it was to invent torments for the prisoners whom they thought was against the safety of the country; that trials of ordeal were employed in the trial of Warren Hastings, and were legally prohibited in the reign of George I.; that George II. is the Sovereign to whom the name of 'the English Justitia' has been sometimes applied; that Marlborough fought a battle against the Spanish Armada, and completely destroyed it (1588) in Elizabeth's reign (1558 to 1603); that 'William the Conqueror was a King who introduced many good laws into England, learning and all sorts of science flourishing under him; that Marlborough brought a great portion of France under the subjection of the British Crown; that Hotspur was the principal leader of the army in the reign of Henry VIII. (1509); that Richard II. was a bad King, who, after arranging the Peace of Versailles, entered into a secret treaty with the King of France, and was altogether a lover of foreigners in preference to his own countrymen; that William the Conqueror was 'a passionate man, rather inclined to tyranny, much beloved, however, by his subjects, a kind father, and a faithful husband; that the Roman walls in England were built to keep the Tartars from invading the country, and were so thick that two carriages could be driven abreast; that the great plot which was discovered in the year 1678 was the South Sea Scheme; that William Wallace invaded England in the reign of Henry VIII.; that the battle of Salamanca was fought against Spain in 1794; that the battle of Bannockburn was between Cromwell and Charles I., Culloden between the Earl of Leicester and Edward the Fourth, and Marstonmoor between Bruce and Edward the Fourth; that in the Seven Years' War the Danes were opposed to the Britons in consequence of the massacre of the former, Sweyn gaining the victory and being crowned King of England; that the Thirty Years' War was that between England and America, in consequence of the unjust taxation; that the War of Succession was that between the Pretender and George the First; that Bannockburn was a battle in which the Scotch were defeated, and Marstonmoor a contest between the Roses; that Henry the Eighth divorced Catherine of Aragon in order to marry Lady Jane Grey, &c. The examinations in geography furnish singular instances of ignorance in the rejected candidates; among these are some who place the Alps in Hungary, Swansea at Norwich, London in the Wash, Marseilles upon the Rhine, and Germany in the Caspian Sea; who make the Thames to rise in the German Ocean, and the River Gory to flow by Taunton and Exeter into the Mediterranean; who state that Zante is the kingdom most recently added to Europe; and who fill up an inverted outline map of England, so that the Isle of Wight becomes a part of Scotland while the English Channel separates Northumberland from France; or who are not able to say anything about the position of the Alps, the Apennines, the Pyrennees, Mount Sinai, Mount Hecla, Leipzig, Barcelona, Athens, the Red Sea, the Black Sea, the Volga, the Euphrates, Ganges, the St. Lawrence; could not mention the principal manufacturing districts of England, nor state what countries produced cotton, tea, mahogany, sherry, or currants, &c. The mistakes in orthography make a terrible show, being regularly tabulated into a kind of index, like prescribed books at Rome. One word—"stretch," seems to have been a great puzzle to candidates as "Psychic" was to Jack Brag, no less than eight shots having been fired in vain at this unapproachable mark—"stretche," "stretge," "streg," "streg," "stredg," "stredg," "stredch." The real *crux*, however, was the word *Mediterranean*, which was spelt in fifteen different ways—all wrong.—Times.

In consequence of the adverse decision of the Admiralty in the House of Commons on Tuesday, Lady Franklin is under the necessity of undertaking, on her own resources, the completion of the search for her husband's expedition. The late period at which this decision is made known renders it impossible to make the requisite preparations for proceeding by the east. The western route by Bebring's Straits will therefore be adopted.—*Daily News*.

HORRIBLE FANATISM IN ENGLAND.—We copy the following from the *Manchester Economist*. The *Dublin Evening Post* says:—"We consider it a matter of duty to give publicity to this statement, as evidence of the utterly degraded condition to which a large portion of the population in some parts of England has been reduced by the revolting Mormon fanaticism. Yet it is from England that funds to a considerable amount have been annually supplied, for the 'conversion of the benighted Irish from Popery,' through the instrumentality of 'Church Mission,' 'Scripture Readers,' 'Priest Protection,' and numerous other scheming societies, by which numbers of ingenious and cunning persons, having about as much real principle as the vulgar rogue of a 'Mormon Priest,' described in the subjoined statement of our Manchester contemporary, are supported in ease and luxury:—

"BAPTISM OF ONE HUNDRED MORMONS AT CHESTERFIELD.—A singular and, it may be added, a most disgraceful scene took place on Thursday evening at the river Rother, over which, on the Hasland road, is a bridge called Stonebridge. About 100 or 150 persons, chiefly women, are scattered on the verge of the water, waiting for the appearance of the deluded fanatics who are to be 'dipped.' They call to each other from opposite sides, and crack jokes of a most indecent and shameless character. It is past eight, and quite dark; the moon being obscured, and not even a star out to shed even a glimmer of light. Two or three candles are brought down to the water and stuck in the mud by the side, and presently a coarse-featured man descends into the middle of the stream, and takes up his position under the arch of the bridge. This is the priest who is to perform the ceremony. He has nothing on but a pair of trousers, tucked up at the knee, and a waistcoat with sleeves. He intimates to the attendants that he is ready, and in a few minutes emerge from a house 200 or 300 yards off men, some half, and others entirely naked, and they walk over the ground, which is strewn with pieces of broken bottles, bricks and tiles, to the water. They are compelled to pass through the women who line the banks, and the remarks which ensue are revolting and indelicate beyond description. One by one they are received by the priest, who, amid shouts of laughter, dips each individual, pronouncing over them the formula, 'I, being commissioned by Jesus Christ, baptize thee for the remission of thy sins, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.' As he utters these words he lays them beneath the water, and the individual who is baptised being in every case blinded by the water there is a struggle to rise; and on several occasions both priest and baptised rolled over together in the stream. As may be imagined, this affords immense amusement to the mob, who testify their approbation by clapping of hands, shrieks, and roars of merriment. We will not shock the reader with any attempts at description of the scene amid which the women were baptised.—Enough has been said to show the disgraceful travesty of religion which took place on that evening, and from which every man with a remnant of decency in his composition returned with feelings of deep shame and disgust."

UNITED STATES. The trial of Mrs. Cunningham for complicity in the murder of Dr. Bardell, will take place about the 13th of April.

The Senate of New York, has finally disposed of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, by negating the principle, and re-enacting a License Law.

Mr. Smith O'Brien on Irish Tranquillity.—Mr. Smith O'Brien, who is serving on the county of Limerick grand jury at the Spring Assizes, took occasion the other day to call the attention of his brother jurors to the folly of maintaining the police force of the district at its present establishment.

PROTESTANT OUTRAGE.—An outrage of an abominable nature was perpetrated in the Catholic Church of English a few nights since. Some miscreants broke one of the windows, entered, stole the curtains of the confessionals, and smeared the latter with vile filth.

Majesty's subjects in China had sustained the honour of the British flag, the commercial interests, and the cause of truth and justice, and containing an expression of regret at the division of the House of Commons against Her Majesty's Ministers, for having on that occasion pursued a course which entitled them to the confidence of the country.

can fail to supply it. To remove, say the Commissioners, "any possible impression that we may have in these decisions assumed too high a standard, we think it right to state that some of the answers in history which were presented to us in the papers of the rejected candidates were such as these—viz., that 'the Star Chamber' consisted of 12 members, whose business it was to invent torments for the prisoners whom they thought was against the safety of the country; that trials of ordeal were employed in the trial of Warren Hastings, and were legally prohibited in the reign of George I.; that George II. is the Sovereign to whom the name of 'the English Justitia' has been sometimes applied; that Marlborough fought a battle against the Spanish Armada, and completely destroyed it (1588) in Elizabeth's reign (1558 to 1603); that 'William the Conqueror was a King who introduced many good laws into England, learning and all sorts of science flourishing under him; that Marlborough brought a great portion of France under the subjection of the British Crown; that Hotspur was the principal leader of the army in the reign of Henry VIII. (1509); that Richard II. was a bad King, who, after arranging the Peace of Versailles, entered into a secret treaty with the King of France, and was altogether a lover of foreigners in preference to his own countrymen; that William the Conqueror was 'a passionate man, rather inclined to tyranny, much beloved, however, by his subjects, a kind father, and a faithful husband; that the Roman walls in England were built to keep the Tartars from invading the country, and were so thick that two carriages could be driven abreast; that the great plot which was discovered in the year 1678 was the South Sea Scheme; that William Wallace invaded England in the reign of Henry VIII.; that the battle of Salamanca was fought against Spain in 1794; that the battle of Bannockburn was between Cromwell and Charles I., Culloden between the Earl of Leicester and Edward the Fourth, and Marstonmoor between Bruce and Edward the Fourth; that in the Seven Years' War the Danes were opposed to the Britons in consequence of the massacre of the former, Sweyn gaining the victory and being crowned King of England; that the Thirty Years' War was that between England and America, in consequence of the unjust taxation; that the War of Succession was that between the Pretender and George the First; that Bannockburn was a battle in which the Scotch were defeated, and Marstonmoor a contest between the Roses; that Henry the Eighth divorced Catherine of Aragon in order to marry Lady Jane Grey, &c. The examinations in geography furnish singular instances of ignorance in the rejected candidates; among these are some who place the Alps in Hungary, Swansea at Norwich, London in the Wash, Marseilles upon the Rhine, and Germany in the Caspian Sea; who make the Thames to rise in the German Ocean, and the River Gory to flow by Taunton and Exeter into the Mediterranean; who state that Zante is the kingdom most recently added to Europe; and who fill up an inverted outline map of England, so that the Isle of Wight becomes a part of Scotland while the English Channel separates Northumberland from France; or who are not able to say anything about the position of the Alps, the Apennines, the Pyrennees, Mount Sinai, Mount Hecla, Leipzig, Barcelona, Athens, the Red Sea, the Black Sea, the Volga, the Euphrates, Ganges, the St. Lawrence; could not mention the principal manufacturing districts of England, nor state what countries produced cotton, tea, mahogany, sherry, or currants, &c. The mistakes in orthography make a terrible show, being regularly tabulated into a kind of index, like prescribed books at Rome. One word—"stretch," seems to have been a great puzzle to candidates as "Psychic" was to Jack Brag, no less than eight shots having been fired in vain at this unapproachable mark—"stretche," "stretge," "streg," "streg," "stredg," "stredg," "stredch." The real *crux*, however, was the word *Mediterranean*, which was spelt in fifteen different ways—all wrong.—Times.

A lecture was delivered at the New York Tabernacle on Thursday evening, 28th ult., by Dr. Ives.—The subject was happily chosen; and one which should be seriously pondered upon by parents, at a time like the present, when as the Doctor truly expresses it, "the State has adopted two Protestant reformatory schools,—the House of Refuge and the Juvenile Asylum—both under Protestant direction." It is notorious that both those institutions are but schools for perversion. Despairing of inducing persons arrived at maturity of embracing their opinions, they have established this House of Refuge and Asylum, to ensnare the innocent and unprotected children of Catholic parents.—*Baltimore Catholic Mirror*.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN PHILADELPHIA.—Early in the morning, a "stuffed Paddy," about seven feet in height, was discovered suspended from the top of a telegraph pole in the Seventeenth Ward. The effigy was got up in what is termed orthodox style, even to the string of potatoes around its neck. It was beginning to cause some commotion among the excited people in the neighborhood, when the police came upon the ground and took down the offensive object with considerable trouble, and conveyed it to the station-house. In by-gone days display of "Paddies" have caused serious disturbances, and we have never yet heard of any such exhibitions that have accomplished any good. Taunts and insults certainly prove nothing, and they are like another vicious habit neither brave, polite nor wise. If those to whom such "hits" are directed only possessed sufficient patience and moral courage to pay no attention to them, the only parties damaged would be the "funny fellows," who originate, what they consider, very funny and telling jokes. Several of the Companies attached to the Second Brigade, known as "the Irish Brigade," paraded in the afternoon, and made quite a creditable display. The military turnout was the principal object of attraction in the evening. Their green uniform looked quite handsome. They were commanded by Col. Conroy. They were abused in advance (the day before) by a blackguard sheet called the *Daily News*. Its aim seemed to be to excite the populace against the military, and create a riot, but he was disappointed. All passed off quietly, and without disorder or drunkenness, (no thanks to the *Yankees*).—*Cor. of New York Citizen*.

The Milwaukee Daily News gives the following account of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration by the Irishmen of Milwaukee:—"Thirteen hundred and sixty-four years ago, upon the summit of a mountain, in the northern part of the province of Ulster, the patron Saint of Ireland passed from the scene of his life to meet the lasting reward of his great Maker. History gives no correct account of the date of his birth, and as the 17th day of March is the day assigned in the calendar for his commemoration, Irishmen whatever part of the world their lot may be cast in, assemble together and celebrate it as a day of feast. In common with their countrymen in other climes and countries. The Irishmen of Milwaukee held their celebration on Tuesday last, (17th March) not in a spirit of unseemly hilarity, but with a remarkable degree of reverence and prudence. In the morning the Union Guards dressed in their new uniform marched with steady step from their arsenal to St. John's Cathedral where high mass was celebrated, and a beautiful and impressive eulogy delivered by the Rev. P. Donahue on the life and incessant labors of the great apostle. In the evening about one hundred and fifty persons sat down to a splendid supper, served up by Mr. Sheard, at the arsenal of the Union Guards. The hall was neatly decorated with appropriate flags and emblems. A platform was erected in front of the hall upon which was placed Mr. Ferguson the celebrated Irish piper, 'the Carolan of the day.'"

We learn from a reliable correspondent from Washington, that among the horde of office-seekers there, not an Irish naturalised citizen is to be seen, if he (the writer) may make the exception of one very impudent pretentious demagogue. This is creditable to the Irish.—*N. Y. Citizen*.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS OF THE STATE FOR THE YEAR 1856.—The Secretary of State has sent to the Senate his annual report of the Criminal Statistics of the State. From it we learn that during 1856 there was 1,514 convicted for crime in Court of Records, of which only 107 were females. The nativity of only 1,064 is reported, of those 530 are natives of the United States, 445 are foreigners, and 80 unknown. The whole number of indictments tried in Criminal Courts, was 1,205; convictions, 844; acquittals, 323; non-agreement of jury, 38; confessions of crime, 651; discharged without trial, 1,010. Whole number of convictions at Special Sessions, 8,000; males, 6,623; females, 1,467. In addition to these there have been convicted at Special Sessions in the cities of Albany, Buffalo, Brooklyn and New York, 10,250 persons, of which 6,444 are males, and 3,816 females. Out of the total of 11,324 convictions during the year, on which returns as to nativity have been received, 2,806 were of American birth and 8,518 of foreign birth. The returns show an increase of convictions since last year of 4,580.

A POLITICAL PREACHER DROUSNEN.—The N. Y. Observer (Presbyterian, Old School) notes, Rev. Dr. Cheever's Sunday naffification discourse about the Dred Scott decision, and says:—"This preacher has taken more atrocious and treasonable ground than the most radical newspapers of the day. Whether we regard the decision of the Supreme Court as sound or not, we should be recreant to the plainest principle of the New Testament, we should be false to the government of God, and to the civil government under which we live, if we did not express our unmingled abhorrence of the doctrines of resistance in this discourse. It is a disgrace to the city, and to the nation; it is a disgrace to the pulpit, and to the religion of Christ,—that a man professing the spirit of the Gospel should thus prostitute the sacred desk, the ministerial character; and the house of God."

THE NICARAGUA FILIBUSTERS HELD FOR TRIAL.—The United States Commissioner has at length delivered judgment in the case of Joseph W. Fabens and Henry Bolton. He says: "The charge of hiring and retaining is sufficiently proved. Arguments similar to those urged to me