

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLICISM IN ARIA.—The Mission Catholics states, that in 1875, there were 10,364 conversions in Asia from heathenism to the Roman Catholic faith.

CONVERTS.—It is reported that the Rev. F. Lord, rector of Faraboro, in the diocese of Bath and Wells, has joined the Church of Rome in company with his assistant curate, the Rev. A. M. Donaldson.—Manchester Evening News.

REMOVAL.—The Rev. George Rigg, of St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh, has been appointed Vicar-General of the Eastern District of Scotland, in the room of the Rev. Archbishop MacDonald, late of the diocese of Edinburgh, who held the post for a considerable number of years.

THE EPISCOPAL JUBILEE.—Sunday 3rd June was kept with great solemnity in all cathedral churches throughout France, the Bishops celebrating Pontifical High Mass with veppers, procession Benediction; and 7 1/2 hours. At Notre Dame, Paris, the services were conducted by the Cardinal Archbishop in person.

"OLD CATHOLIC" IMPUDENCE.—The Governor of the Rhine Province has just made known his decision respecting the modest request of the "Old-Catholics" to have "the joint use" of the Catholic church at St. John's. He has refused it, deciding that both this church and its affiliated church at Burbach shall remain in the exclusive use of the Catholics.

ORDINATION.—On May 28th, the Most Rev. Dr. Power, Bishop of Waterford, conferred the order of deaconship in the Cathedral, Barronstrand street, on the following gentlemen, who had received the order of sub-deaconship on the previous day:—Messrs. Thomas O'Donnell, J. Loughran, J. Power, T. Cantwell, W. Burke, of Waterford; J. Briscoe, for the American Mission.

A NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH DEDICATED.—The new Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, Lowell, was dedicated on Sunday. Archbishop Williams, of Boston, Bishops O'Reilly, of Springfield, and De Goebriand, of Burlington, Vt., and a large number of prominent dignitaries of the Church participated in the ceremonies, which were witnessed by 3,000 people. The church is one of the largest and finest in New England.

NEW CHURCH.—The Catholics of Staffordville, Conn., have just completed a beautiful new chapel, which they have placed under the patronage of St. Joseph. It is situated in the centre of the town, and will seat about one hundred and fifty people. But a dozen years ago and no Catholic would be employed by the mill owners of this village. The chapel will be blessed and dedicated to the true worship of God about the middle of July.

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, CAVAN.—The Most Rev. Dr. Conaty, Bishop of Kilmore, has ordained the following students of St. Patrick's College, Cavan:—To Lecturship—Mr. James Flood. To the office of Acolyte—Messrs. Patrick McGannon, James Fitzpatrick, Patrick McGloughlin, and Patrick Finnegan. To Deaconship—Messrs. James Smith, Patrick Fitzsimons, Patrick O'Reilly, Patrick Gilchrist, and Terence Brady (the latter a student of Maynooth College). To Priesthood—Messrs. Peter Byrne and Terence Brady.

GRAND DEMONSTRATION IN EDINBURGH.—A grand and influential Catholic demonstration, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Episcopacy of the sacred Pontiff, was held in the large hall of the Catholic Institute. The chair was occupied by the newly appointed Vicar-General, the Very Rev. George Rigg, who was supported on the right by Dr. Smith, of Perth, and W. Campbell, of Skerrington; and on the left by A. V. Smith Sligo, Esq., of Inzievar; Father Charney, S. J., and Father Whyte, S. J. There were also seated on the platform Rev. Fathers Brady and Corcoran, of St. Patrick's; Messrs. John Adair, sen., President of the Edinburgh Catholic Young Men's Society; F. A. McIvor, Vice President; M. Manus, Lui, Forbes, Butti, Doyle, O'Halloran, J. Adair, jun., J. McIvor, Mellon, Torre, Rooney, Coyne, D. Donworth, secretary, and G. O'Keefe. The very rev. chairman asserted that though the Pope had been, and still is, abused from pulpit and platform, and Press, as the Man of Sin or Antichrist, he, nevertheless, exercises the same spiritual control his predecessors had ever done before him. The Rev. Dr. Smith, of Perth, who was one of the Scotch Deputation, and had recently returned from Rome, rose to propose the first resolution, the same being—"That this meeting congratulate the Holy Father and each other on the happy attainment by him of the fiftieth anniversary of his episcopal consecration, and gladly make this public expression of their love and veneration towards his person, and also of their gratitude to God for the many and great benefits which, through the instrumentality of Pius IX., He has conferred upon His Church." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Campbell, of Skerrington, and enthusiastically adopted. The second resolution proposed by A. V. Smith Sligo, Esq., of Inzievar, was—"That, in common with the whole clergy and laity of the vicariate, we declare our hearty concurrence in the wish expressed by his lordship the bishop at the recent reception by his Holiness of the Scotch pilgrims for the restoration of the ancient hierarchy of this country, and have received with the greatest pleasure the assurance of his Holiness's desire for its re-establishment." In supporting the second motion, Mr. Smith Sligo was of opinion that all the Catholics in Scotland were deeply indebted to Bishop Strain for placing the question of the restoration of the hierarchy in Scotland before the Holy Father, and to the latter for the gracious and kind manner in which he had received it and promised to entertain it. Catholic bishops in Scotland were occupying positions which were termed in *paribus infidelium*; and the speaker believed that the establishment of the hierarchy would improve their position, and give more bishops, more priests, more schools, and more congregations. Rev. Father Charney, S. J., seconded the resolution, and in doing so spoke at a considerable length of the trials and triumphs, the growth, and power of the Catholic Church notwithstanding all the obstacles thrown in her way. The third resolution, which was proposed in a most noble and praiseworthy manner by the Rev. Father Whyte, S. J., and seconded by the vice-president of the society, was as follows:—"That this meeting, further protests against the continued usurpation by King Victor Emmanuel and his Government of the Status of the Church as a violation of every treaty and other right, and recognises and affirms the truth that the temporal sovereignty of the Popes has its sure foundation in justice and right, and is absolutely necessary to the proper government of the Universal Church." The resolutions were unanimously and most enthusiastically agreed to by the meeting, which comprised about 1,600 persons. The usual votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

THE POPE'S BLESSING.—The following cable despatch was received on the 5th inst. by brother Anthony, President of Manhattan College, in answer to a despatch of congratulation sent to the Holy Father on the previous Sunday, on the occasion of the celebration by the College of the Golden Jubilee of the Episcopate of Pius IX.:

"PALACE OF THE VATICAN, Rome, June 5, 1877.

To the Brothers of the Christian Schools, Manhattan, New York.

The Holy Father thanks and affectionately blesses the brothers and professors, the students and their parents, of the Christian schools of Manhattan, New York.

CARDINAL SIMON, Secretary of State.

IRISH NEWS.

CATTLE DISEASE.—The cattle disease has made its appearance in the county Wexford.

SALE OF GLASS LANDS.—The house and lands of Mayo Glebe have been sold to William Nally, Esq., of Bockstown, Balla, for the sum of £500.

BUST OF THE LATE JOHN MARTIN, M.P.—Twenty five members of the Home Rule party have subscribed for copies of Mr. E. H. Nally's admirable bust of the late Mr. John Martin, M. P.—Cork Examiner.

SUDDEN DEATH.—In the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh, on Sunday, May 27th, whilst a man named James Dennis was attending his religious duties, he suddenly seemed to faint and fall down. It was found that life was extinct, and the cause was, it is supposed, disease of the heart.

A LARGE FISH.—A pike weighing 37 1/2 lbs., was caught recently in Cormanagh Lough, near Ballinamore. The monster was hooked at 11.45 a.m., and it was not until 3.35 p.m., that he was successfully landed—the struggle lasting three hours and fifty minutes. Large crowds assembled who cheered the lucky fishermen—Messrs. Gilheany, Blake and McCartan. The water where this fish was hooked is fifty feet deep.

A RESIDENCE FOR MR. BUTT, M. P.—The magnificent town mansion of the late Sir Richard J. T. Orpen, President of the Incorporated Law Society, in North Great George's-street, has been purchased by Lord Francis Conyngham, M. P.; and it is understood to be the noble lord's intention to furnish it as a residence and hand it over to Mr. Butt, M. P., as a testimony of personal regard.—Saunders's News-Letter.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE HOME RULERS.—Mr. Gladstone, in replying to addresses from Birmingham Six Hundred, complained of the ingratitude of the Home Rule party who had partly paralysed the action of the Liberals when endeavouring to obtain justice for Irish provinces. He thought, however, that the beneficent measures which had been passed for Ireland would, in the long run, bear their legitimate fruit. His reception in Birmingham inspired him with courage to pursue the course he had marked out for himself.

FISHERIES.—A memorial signed by nearly fifty of the licensed fishermen of the county Wexford has been forwarded to the inspectors of Irish fisheries, praying that the season for rod fishing in the Wexford district should be extended from the 1st of March to the 31st of October each year, and also to consider the means for improving the salmon fishing in the Slaney. There has been a slight improvement in the success of the net fishing in the lower part of the river Slaney, where, lately, some fish in prime condition have been taken.

SHIPWRECK.—Another vessel has been added to the long list of shipwrecks off the Wexford coast. The brigantine "Island Queen," of Cork, Flynn, master, struck on the Bass Rock, near the Tuskar, on May 28th and had to be abandoned by the crew, who were taken off by the Coastguards stationed at Rosslare. The vessel was running into Wexford bay for shelter when she struck on the rock. The night previous her main boom broke, and struck the captain, knocking him down, and leaving him insensible for some time. The "Island Queen" was a splendid vessel, about 320 tons burden, and was bound from Newport to Cork with a cargo of coals. The vessel is likely to become a complete wreck.

TUAM AND CLAREMORRIS RAILWAY.—A committee has been formed in Galway to aid in a project of connecting Tuam and Claremorris by rail. A Bill passed through Parliament two years ago to extend the Athenry and Tuam line to Claremorris, but the sinews of war were not forth coming, and an abandonment Bill has been passed in the present session of Parliament for the purpose of recovering the money lodged on the promotion of the Extension Bill by the directors of the Tuam and Athenry line. Owing to there being no railway between Tuam and Claremorris, Mayo is practically further from Galway than Dublin. Galway merchants have to send their goods round by Athlone to Roscommon and Mayo, people hardly ever visit Galway at all.

SALES IN THE LANDED ESTATES COURT, DUBLIN.—On May 29th, the following sales were made in the Landed Estates Court.—Estate of Joseph C. Carolan and others, his assignees in bankruptcy, owners; *ex parte* Catherine Rourke, executrix of Timothy Lalor, petitioner. Nos. 156 to 160 James street, and 28 and 29 Bow-lane, Dublin, held under lease for 79 years from September 29, 1850, at the yearly rent of £47 10s. Producing a net rental of £72; Ordnance valuation, £78 10s. Sold at £575 to Mr. Ordnance valuation, £78 10s. Owner; E. J. Blake. Estate of James Crofton, owner; E. J. Blake, petitioner. Lot 1.—Part of the lands of Cloghshill, barony of Granard, held in fee, containing 428a 2r 3p, net profit rent, £74 2s 11d. Ordnance valuation, £271 10s. Sold for £1,900 to Mr. John Weldon, solicitor, in trust. Lot 2.—Part of the lands of Garyagh, situate in the same barony, held in fee, containing 113a 3r 2p; net profit rent, £52 12s 8d; Ordnance valuation, £70 5s. Sold for £1,380 to Mr. Crokerry, in trust for Mr. F. Riaghlin. Lot 3.—Part of the lands of Garyagh, held in fee, containing 51a 2r 6p; net profit rent, £38 18s 3d; Ordnance valuation, £21 15s. Sold for £475 to Mr. Weldon, in trust. Lot 4.—Part of the same lands, held in fee, containing 102a 2r 32p S.M.; net profit rent, £85 0s 8d; Ordnance valuation, £59 15s. Sold to Mr. Crokerry, in trust, for £1,250. Estate of Edward Saunders, owner and petitioner, 817a 2r 2p of the lands of Ballinderry, in the barony of Lower Ormond, held in fee simple and of the estimated net annual value of £298 0s 4d. Sold at £3,300 to Mr. Wm. John Russell, of Mountjoy square, Dublin. Estate of Henry Anthony and others, owners; James Flynn, petitioner, 270a 2r 2p of the lands of Ballingrosh, held under lease for lives renewable for ever, and the lands of Baraba, held for three lives and 99 years in reversion, producing a net rental of £65 1s 8d; Foot Law valuation, £76 10s. Sold at £900 to Mr. Perrott, in trust. Estate of Charles William Coote and Elizabeth Philippa Salway, owners and petitioners.—370a 2p of the land of Balgeen, in the barony of Duleek; held in fee simple, producing a profit rent of £365 17s 6d; tenement valuation, £291. Sold at £915 to Mr. Farrell, the tenant. Estate of Patrick Kinnear, owner and petitioner. Lot 1.—Dwelling house, premises, Antrim road, Belfast, called Willow Bank, containing 2a 6r 20p; held under fee farm grant, and producing a yearly rent of 67l 17s 7d; tenement valuation, 62l. Sold at 1,160l to Mr. Craig, in trust. Lot 2.—No. 21 Gordon street, Belfast, held by lease for 10,000 years, at the yearly rent of 85l, and producing a profit rent of 32l 10s; tenement valuation, 65l. Sold at 800l to Mr. Crawford, solicitor, Belfast. Lot 3.—Nos. 22 to 27 Lincoln street, and No. 10 to 20 Vinegar Park, Belfast, similarly held, and producing a profit rent of 211l 2s; tenement valuation, 202l. Sold at 2,030l to Mr. Devereux, in trust. Lot 4.—Portion of Vicoigne Seminary grounds, similarly held, in the possession of the Catholic Bishop, producing a yearly rent of 60l, which is indemnified against head rent; tenement valuation, 15l. Sold at 1,170l to Mr. Clarke, in trust, for Dr. Dorlas, Catholic Bishop of Down and Connor. Lot 5.—Nos. 13 to 17 Lincoln avenue, and 29 to 32 Cranburne street, Belfast, producing a profit rent of 107l; tenement valuation, 78l. Sold at 210l to Mr. James Adams, of Belfast, in trust. Lot 6.—Nos. 18 to 21, Lincoln avenue, and 2 to 3 Vicoigne Park, similarly held, producing a profit rent of 163l; tenement valuation, 116l. Sold at 885l to same buyer. Lot 7.—Nos. 1 to 13 Lincoln avenue, similarly held, producing a profit rent of 277 18s; tenement valuation, 301l. Sold at 620l to Mr. William Harper, Belfast.

WAR NEWS.

REPORTED DEFEAT OF RUSSIANS AT DELIBABA GORGE.—A despatch from Erzeroum claims the Russians were defeated while attempting to pass Delibaba Gorge, sustaining a severe loss.

THE DEFEAT OF KARS.—There is no further account of fighting reported from Kars, but a Russian official telegram, dated Mazra, June 20, says:—"Kars responds but feebly to the Russian artillery fire."

FRANCE MILAN MAY WAGE WAR.—A Vienna despatch says Prince Milan may possibly enter into war yet, and if, under pressure of the Slavic party, he renounces hostilities against the Turks as last year, far away from the Austrian country. Austria will not interfere.

ACROSS THE DANUBE AT LAST.—The N. Y. Herald correspondent at Vienna telegraphs that vague rumors have reached that city that the Russians have begun their forward movement and that the advanced guard of their army began to cross the Danube at Sazanovo, opposite to Isaktscha, early on Thursday morning.

EFFECT OF THE CZAR'S PRESENCE.—The Provincial Correspondence, of Berlin, reviewing the course of the war, says the presence of the Czar at Plocesti has done much to return Serbia's disposition to participate in the war, and further complications have thus been avoided. This is regarded as a very reassuring official statement.

CAMPAIN IN MONTENEGRO OVER.—The Turks occupy all strategic points.—Kiernan's London despatch says Turkish advances from Montenegro report that Suleiman Pasha has driven the insurgents from Ostrok and taken possession of the town. The Turks now occupy all strategic positions and the campaign in Montenegro is considered over.

AN INCOMPETENT MONTENEGRIN GENERAL.—A despatch from Ostrok says the opinion in the Montenegrin army is very strong against Vukovics, the leader to whom the defence of the Doga Pass was intrusted. He is charged with utter incapacity. Some battalions received no orders whatever, and after the retreat from Kristacs all cohesion of the army seemed lost.

BISMARCK'S OFFER OF AN OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE BETWEEN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.—It is now stated from Berlin that the reported offer of Bismarck to Austria, of an offensive and defensive alliance, is fully confirmed. Austria is now concentrating 20,000 to 40,000 troops on the Serbian frontier, and it is expected the crossing of the Danube by the Russians will be the signal for Austria to cross the frontier.

DANGER OF A GENERAL WAR.—The English government is supposed to have been waiting for Austria, and will probably be encouraged by Austria's action to send a corps d'armee to Egypt. On the whole, the occupation of these provinces, instead of "localizing the war," would, in all probability, be the first step towards its extension.

TROUBLE BREWING IN CRETE.—The N. Y. Herald correspondent at Syra reports that the most unmistakable signs of discontent are manifested by the Cretan peasantry against the excessive taxation of the Turks which is unaccompanied by the protection they need from the violence of the Turkish populace and the exactions of officials. So serious is the situation that a squadron of seven Turkish war ships has been despatched to the island.

ACTIVITY ON THE DANUBE.—From the Danubian seat of war various correspondents report considerable activity on the part of the Russians in the section of country bounded on the east and west by the rivers Vede and Aluta respectively. They are concentrating at Simaitza, but the river immediately opposite that place has greatly overflowed its banks. The prevalent opinion still seems to point to Nicopolis as the crossing place. The Turks on their side of the river are also moving troops actively.

WHAT WILL GERMANY DO?—Whether Russia will regard the occupation of the Danubian provinces as the prelude to war is a question that will probably be decided by the force at the Czar's disposal and by the action of Germany. Many shrewd diplomatists are of the opinion that Germany is only waiting for Austria to take some such step as this to declare herself for Russia and to seize the German provinces of Austria.

PROBABLE RUSSIAN VICTORY.—Both the Russians and the Turks claim a victory in the battle fought on Saturday near Delibaba. But the circumstance that Ahmed Pacha, president of the local council of war, left Erzeroum on Sunday with three battalions who pushed forward by forced marches to Delibaba is thought to show that the Turks suffered a serious reverse. All accounts agree that the Turks fell back to Delibaba. It was thought a battle was fought in the neighborhood of Zeidikan.

AUSTRIA WILL NOT HELP MONTENEGRO.—Count Andrassy has declined to interfere between the Turks and Montenegrins, as requested by the latter, on the ground of humanity. The hardy mountaineers will have to trust to their own valor and the strength of their mountain fastnesses until the Russian advance into Bulgaria will necessitate the withdrawal of a portion of the Turkish army at present operating against Montenegro for the defence of Constantinople.

THE PLOT TO BLOW UP THE SUZ CANAL.—It is reported the Khedive of Egypt has discovered a plot to blow up the banks of the Suez Canal, with nitro-glycerine, between Ismaila and Port Said. This caused great excitement, and the Khedive has appointed a commission, consisting of General Steele, as president, and Admiral Micklethorp with two other navy officers to protect the canal. Troops will patrol the banks. England also requests the Khedive to vigilantly guard the canal. It is believed this will be a pretext for England to send troops to Egypt now.

ENGLAND TO OCCUPY EGYPT.—Arrangements are made by which England, with the consent of the Khedive and the Sultan, shall occupy Egypt. The force will be under Gen. Steels and will comprise 10,000 men, three cavalry regiments, the remainder infantry and four Highland regiments, two brigades of Guards, and one battalion of the Scotch Fusiliers and a third of the whole force is to be mostly taken from the Bengal army. The troops are all ready and camp arrangements also are ready in Egypt. It is thought eventual terms of peace will include an English protectorate over Egypt.

AUSTRIA'S INTERESTS ON THE DANUBE.—Austria has several millions of discontented Slav population who ardently desire the union of the whole Slavic race under a common government and the independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, or their absorption by Serbia or Montenegro would give a fresh stimulus to Pan-Slavism. She cannot afford to have the navigation of the Danube at the mercy of a hostile State, and deems the present the most favorable time to take the necessary measures to endeavor to avert what she would regard as a national calamity.

AUSTRIA ABOUT TO MOVE.—The N. Y. Herald correspondent in Vienna telegraphs that the question of an Austrian occupation of Bosnia, Serbia, and Herzegovina as far as the Morava River is seriously entertained in Ministerial circles in that city. The "localization of the war" which is a term of rather vague significance, Austria feels keenly the danger to her own immediate interests, which would follow either the acquisition of these provinces by Russia or their erection into an independent Slavonic State, and she knows that a Russian victory in Bulgaria, must result either in one of the other.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE BELGIAN ELECTIONS.—A telegram from Brussels announces that the Catholic candidates have been elected by large majorities at Bruges and several other places in Belgium.

A HAPPY CONDITION.—Among the 400 priests of the diocese of Cula there is only one "State priest," the schismatic parish priest Golembiowski. This man's congregation consists of a single person his housekeeper.

MARRIAGES.—On Whit-Sunday two Belgian ladies, one of them a daughter of the former Minister, Dumortier, who were paying a visit to the places in this neighbourhood which are now so venerated, were arrested and confined in the bridewell of St. Wendel. They were subsequently liberated.

THE PROCESSION OF ECHTERNACH.—The German papers state the celebrated Whit-Monday procession of Echternach was celebrated this year with great success. There were in the procession sixty-five priests, 1,529 chorists, 130 bandsmen, ninety-three commissaires, 1,695 clerics, and 7,995 pilgrims.

THE POLISH CATHOLICS.—It was reported some time since that some persons in Russian Poland were desirous of making a pilgrimage to Rome on the occasion of the Pope's Jubilee. It now appears further that some Polish Catholics having attempted to get up an address to the Holy Father, the authorities strictly forbade it.

A CONTRAST.—The Paris Union states that a few days since Mlle. Devade, daughter of the deputy for Glen, has taken the veil. Her father belongs to the Extreme Left of the French Chamber of Deputies, and has steadily voted for every proposal which could be in any way construed as hostile to religion.

RADICALISM IN SWEDEN.—The Scandinavian correspondence says that the Swedish Chamber of Deputies refused to pass a vote of 39,468 crowns for the funeral expenses of the Queen of Sweden, but the vote was carried by the Upper House. The money is, therefore, granted and the malcontents of the Chamber are defeated.

FREEDOM OF VOTING.—General Cadorna is the officer who commanded the "victorious" Italian army that in September, 1870, overran the Papal territory and took Rome. He is a member of the Italian Senate, and, to his credit, voted against the Government Bill concerning "Clerical Abuses." He has been suddenly placed on the retired list.

PRESENTS TO THE HOLY FATHER.—Among the presents made to his Holiness by France are, the tapestry of Marshal MacMahon, the cross and ring of the Duke de Nemours and of the Duke d'Alencon, the marvellous chalice of Lyons, the Savres vases sent by the parish of Sainte Clotilde (Paris), and a beautiful throne which cost £2,000, sent by the Catholics of Marseilles.

EGYPT AND ABYSSINIA.—Peace has been arranged with Abyssinia, the following being the main terms:—The old frontiers are restored; there is to be free trade instead of a prohibitory tariff for Abyssinian goods entering by Egyptian frontiers and ports; free passage for Envoys and letters; an Abyssinian Consul at Massowah and an Egyptian Consul at Adowa; the Khedive sanctions the appointment of the head of the Abyssinian Church by the Coptic Patriarch at Cairo. The Abyssinian rebel Michael is detained by Egypt. The terms were for the most part arranged by Colonel Gordon.

BENEFIT SOCIETIES.—Some recent statistics published in Germany show that there are in Prussia 218 journeymen's benefit societies, with 41 lodges, &c., houses belonging to themselves. In the rest of Germany there are 179 such societies and 31 houses; in Austria 88, and 16 houses; in Luxembourg 1, with a house; in Holland 5, with 3 houses; in Switzerland 22, with a single house; in Belgium Denmark, Egypt, Rome, one each, but without a house; in the United States there are 4 such societies, but without a house. The total number of members of the 297 German societies is 25,659.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A frightful accident occurred at Bath two weeks ago. An excursion train from the Weymouth district had brought a large number of visitors to the Agricultural Show, many of whom took the road from the station across a suspension bridge over the Avon. The tool-house was at the further end, and when some 200 people were on the bridge it is said that the refusal of one person to pay the halfpenny toll caused a delay and a block. The weight of the people tore the bridge out of its piers, and all were precipitated into the river. By the latest accounts about seven were killed on the spot, and it is feared that others were carried down the river; and several injured, some of them seriously.

RUSSIAN ATROCITIES IN POLAND.—A foul Russian atrocity is reported from Poland. A Pole named Kryslinski who was concerned in the insurrection of 1863, escaped, and lived for several years in Paris. Recently he sued for pardon, and for answer received an invitation to return to his home. On his return he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to exile in Siberia. This was bad enough, but something more dishonouring still to the Russian government remains. Kryslinski having escaped a second time, and being retaken, he was again tried, convicted, and sentenced to be shot—which sentence has just been carried out at Warsaw. Russian faith would thus seem to be as little entitled to reliance as British or Cathaginian faith. It is right to add that telegrams from St. Petersburg deny the whole story—we only hope the denial has truth in it.

NEW WORK BY CANON BOURKE, M.R.I.A., TAM.—We understand that a new and interesting work, entitled "Sermons in Irish Gaelic by Most Rev. James O'Gallagher, Bishop of Raphoe, page for page, in literal, yet idiomatic, English, with Irish Gaelic vocabulary for students, and a memoir of the bishop and his times by the Very Rev. Canon U. J. Bourke, M.R.I.A.," will be published by M. H. Gill & Son, Dublin. This volume of Gaelic sermons is dedicated to the Most Rev. Dr. McGettigan, Primate of All Ireland. We extract the following:—"To his Grace the Most Rev. Daniel McGettigan, Primate of All Ireland, successor in the See of Armagh to our National Apostle, St. Patrick. Translated from Raphoe, which Dr. O'Gallagher once governed, whose glory is to have completed and dedicated in the second spring of the Catholic faith in Ireland the new cathedral at Armagh, this volume, prepared under his auspices, is by permission respectfully dedicated."—Ulster Examiner.

SCHISMATIC PRIESTS IN PRUSSIA.—A curious notification has been issued from the Provincial Government of Silesia. It recites the fact that several parishes in the province having become vacant, and not being filled up according to the prescriptions of the May Laws, it had been necessary in compliance with the same law, to "call" priests to fill the vacancies. Those priests had been subject to incessant attacks by the Ultramontanes, on the ground that they had not received the previous episcopal authorization. Under these circumstances the Government deems it necessary to remind all persons that the clergy are legal parish priests, invested with all the rights and powers appertaining to that office. (1) Should they hereafter receive episcopal confirmation their status will be in no way altered. (2) This doctrine will certainly not go down among the Silesian Catholics; and it is unnecessary to say that whenever peace is restored to the Church in Silesia, episcopal confirmation will be an indispensable condition for the valid assumption of the parochial office.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

THE SEA-PEN A WONDERFUL ANIMAL.—One of the most wonderful of the living things in the ocean is the Sea-Pen, an animal so called from its resemblance to a quill-pen. It seems as if God, in forming this animal, had wished to copy the form of a bird's feather. It is found in great numbers in the Mediterranean Sea, but it may be met with, also, in all parts of the ocean. It swims by means of its feather-like fins, but its motion is slow, and as it cannot swim against currents, it is carried by them to the shores of almost all lands. It gives a brilliant light at night, and Linnaeus tells us, that "the Sea-Pens which cover the bottom of the ocean cast so strong a light, that it is easy to count the fishes and worms of various kinds which sport among them."

A FORMIDABLE SPIDER.—The sands of the steppes of Central Asia are the abiding-place of many species of loathsome and poisonous creeping things. Mr. Schuyler speaks of the phalange (*Solpuga araneoides*), one of the long-legged spiders known popularly as the Harvestman, or the Grandfather-Greybeard, which has long hair, and when walking, seems as large as one's two fists. This formidable beast is giving to biting when irritated, and with its jaws makes four little holes in the flesh. Its victim feels at first no more discomfort than from the sting of a gnat, but after a time the pain spreads all over the whole body, and is accompanied with fever and great exhaustion. A Chinese officer states in his travels in Turkestan that the body of the largest solpuga is the size of a butter-nut. Spiders of such dimensions, with their big, hairy bodies lifted up on stout legs, must be as frightful adversaries as one would be likely to encounter in any experience amid the haunts of wild animals.

A FISH OF SEVERAL COLORS AND THREE TAILS.—A gentleman has just returned from Japan, bringing with him a beautiful and rare fish, never before seen. The peculiar features are several colors and three tails, separate and distinct, all of which the Japanese claim are the result of many and successful years of the most careful breeding. A number of attempts have been made to introduce this fish, but this is the only instance of success. A tank suspended like a compass, to avoid the ship's motion, was especially constructed, and then notwithstanding the greatest care, attention, and constant watching, out of eighty-eight only six survived the journey. These remaining six have spawned, resulting in fifty young fry, which exhibit all the peculiarities of the originals. It is the gentleman's intention, so soon as he has a sufficient stock, to give some of them to persons, who will endeavor to raise them. One fish is a magnificent specimen, and exhibits all the several beautiful colors in perfection.

SOCIAL LIONS.—A native of Okrananga asserted that in the village next to that in which he lived the people were on most friendly terms with the lions, which used to walk in and about the village without attempting to injure any one. On great occasions they were treated to honey, goats, sheep, and ugali, and sometimes at these afternoon drums as many as two hundred lions assembled. Each lion was known to the people by name, and to these they responded when called. And when one died the inhabitants of the village mourned for him as for one of themselves. This village was reported to be situated on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, not very distant from Jumah Merikan's house; and he also told me that this friendship between the natives and lions were commonly spoken of, but he had never been present at one of their gatherings. The Mkananga, however, asserted that he had often witnessed this friendly intercourse between man and beast, and brought several of his tribesmen to testify to the truth of his statement. Certainly if this be true, our most famous lion-tamers have yet something to learn from the natives of Africa.—Abyss Africa.

DECAY OF TIMBER.—Wet and dry rots are the two forms of decay which attack timber that is exposed to the action of the weather. The decay of both may be said to be heat with moisture. Confined air and evaporation cause dry rot to enter or less degree. Investigation shows that as a preventive against these rots timber should be well seasoned, and if used where liable to be under the influence of sun and rain, should be well painted; or, if not painted, should be impregnated with linseed oil or tar. The best preventive, however is found to be that of allowing a free circulation of air round the timbers, and the walls to be allowed to dry thoroughly before the introduction of the timbers; should the timbers have taken either of these rots, very little can be done to preserve them. In case the rot is perceived to be at the end of beams only—where, in fact, it generally commences—the best method of preserving the rest of the timbers is to effectually cut away the decayed portion and scarf with sound; if, however, this should not be practicable, the wood may be scraped and cleaned of all fungus or extraneous matter, and then impregnated with any of the usual oils.—Cincinnati Trade List.

A MURDEROUS SEA-FLOWER.—One of the exquisite wonders of the sea is called the opellet, and is about as large as the German aster, looking, indeed, very much like one. Imagine a very large double aster with a great many long petals, glossy as satin, and each one tipped with rose color. These lovely petals do not lie quietly in their places, but wave about in the water, and the opellet clings to a rock. How innocent and lovely it looks on its rocky bed? Who would suspect that it would eat anything grosser than dew or sunlight? But those beautiful waving arms, as you call them, have use besides looking pretty. They have to provide for a large, open mouth, which is hidden down deep among them—so hidden that one can scarcely find it. Well do they perform their duty, for the instant a foolish little fish touches one of the rosy tips he is struck with poison as fatal to him as lightning. He immediately becomes numb, and in a moment stops struggling, and then the other arms wrap themselves around him, and he is drawn into the huge, greedy mouth, and is seen no more. Then the lovely arms unclose and wave again in the water.

EMBLEMATIC PLANTS.—Some plants are emblematic plants on account of certain events or customs, of which they are the national emblems. The rose of England became especially famous during the Wars of the Roses, after which the Red and White were united; and the rose of both colours is called the York and Lancaster; but when these flowers first became badges of the houses we cannot discover. The thistle is honored as the emblem of Scotland, from the circumstance that once upon a time a party of Danes having approached the Scottish camp unperceived, by night, were on the point of attacking it, when one of the soldiers trod on a thistle, which caused him to cry out, and so aroused the enemy. The shamrock of Ireland was held by St. Patrick to teach the doctrine of the Trinity, and chosen in remembrance of him; it is always worn by the Irish on St. Patrick's Day. The leek in Wales, as a national device, has not been satisfactorily explained, other-wise than as the result of its having the old-Cymric colours—green and white. In France, the fleur de lys is so called as a corruption of Fleur de Louis, and has no connection with the lily; but was an Iris, chosen as an emblem by Louis the VII, when he went to the Crusades, and afterwards named after him. The olive is deemed an emblem of peace, probably because, on account of its durability of growth, it was planted both in Italy and Greece to mark the limits of landed possessions.