# THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

popnd; salad oil 5 f. a bottle; a glass of brandy 60 c.; and other things in the same way. The sup-ply of coal is completely exhausted. The gas-works are suspended, and it is found necessary to light the capital with oil, which is very expensive, and insuffi-cient. The steam-boat which runs to Cronstadt, as well, as the locomotive on the railway are compelled to heat their boilers with wood. The aspect of the city is very gloomy. At the first commencement of the war the lower classes were rather enthusiastic, while the upper classes, whose fortunes were affected, were morose and desperate. Popular demonstrations were organised in honor of the Czar and of holy Russia. The processions of the Moujcas called to mind the manifestations which with us followed the revolution of February. But this effervescence subsided by degrees, and moreover the government began to get degrees, and indeciver the government began to get uneasy at those patriotic feles, which brought into the streets idle workmen heated by copious libations.— Since then a veil of melancholy has hung over the oity. The nobility who are much in debt car no longer get credit. Trade is at a stand, and the people are suffering. A number of the largest establish-ments are closed, and the manufactories which still remain at work have dismissed the half or two-thirds of their hands. The principal hotels are going to ruin. The price of rent has considerably diminished. The people hear little or nothing of what is going on at the seat of war. The foreign journals arrive in a very lacerated state, the police cutting out everything that displeases them. The news of the battle of the Alma " was not known to the public until four days after the intelligence of it had reached the authorities. The only troops left at St. Petersburg are the 45,000 men of the guard. Last month there were several re-views, at one of which 36 standards taken from the Circassians were presented to the Emperor. Only one of those standards was, however, genuine; the remainder were of Russian manufacture. This exbibition produced a very bad effect on the enlightened part of the public."

Accompanying the tobacco pipes given by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, for the use of the troops in the Crimea, and shipped on board the Malacca for conveyance thither, is the singular present from the Prince of Wales of a plum-pudding for Colour-Sergeant Davis, of the Grenadier Guards, who has so nobly distinguished himself throughout the campaign.

## UNITED STATES.

IMMIGRATION.-There arrived at Boston during the last year 22,000 alien passengers ; at Baltimore 31,151. -N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

The city of New Orleans continues still unhealthy. The deaths there for the week ending the 19th ult., were two hundred and twenty-nine. Cholera prevails to a considerable extent.

REVIVAL PREACHERS .- This class of ministers has always been regarded with great distrust by the most intelligent class in all Christian sects, and in many quarters they have been tolerated rather than respected. At the late anniversary at Andover Theological Seminary, the Rev. M. P. Braman, of Danvets, one of the most talented Orthodox ministers of New England, denominated them the "Mendicant Friars of the Protestant Church." And he said he had a copy of a letter in his possession from one of this class, in which, by way of negotiating the pay for his service, the gentleman stated that he expected to be instrumental in converting at least two hundred souls, and that they would be worth certainly a dollar a piece. If, added Mr. Braman, conversions were raised to a dollar the head, they should be warranted the genuine article !- Boston Transcript.

INFANT BAPTISM .- It is lamentable to see the neglect into which this has fallen among the Congregationalists and kindted sects. Speaking of the carelessness of parents to present their children for baptiam, the N. Y. Independent says: -- "We cannot par-ticularly blame them for this, when we reflect how slight a place this ordinance has had in either the doctrinal expositions, or the forms of religious worship, common among our churches. It is rarely preached, according to our observation of matters, either in its scriptural grounds, its evident and noble moral properties, or in the historical illustration that can so easily and amply be gathered of its uses and results. It is too often left to float passively down, a mere tradition among the churches, with no stronghold on their conrecognition and performance of it, by the minister of the church, it is huddled away into a corner of the service, or swiftly hurried over at the preparatory lectute, or treated as a mere untimely interloper, inter-rupting the continuity of what is popularly called the "long prayer." The law of divorce in some of our states is very lax; but in Germany it is a more easy matter to obtain a divorce than in any state of our Union. A recent letter from Germany, speaking upon this sub-ject, snys:-"You are probably aware a divorce may be obtained in Germany for the most trifling cause; as, for instance, a mere disagreement. It is, in fact, a matter of pleasure, and is of every day occurrence. In Pastor Kuntze's (Berlin) congregation alone there were, during the last year, ninety applications for divorce. To the present law upon this subject they attribute a large portion of the immorality among the people, and efforts are now making to obtain a law similar to that in England and America. A paper from one of the most distinguished German theologians on this subject will be read at the approaching general annual meeting of the German Church, to be held at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and at which I expect to be present. It has been often theoretically declared in England and America, what would be the results of a lax law on the subject of divorce, and you will recollect that there was a discussion on the subject in this British Parliament last winter. 1 can state what are the practical results of such a law in Germany, as this is acknowledged to be the great cause of the present immorality. In the city of Berlin oneeighth of the children born yearly are illegitimate.-In Hamburg, and other cities, the proportion is still larger ; while Munich has the enviable superiority of swelling the proportion to one-half ... This, is a sufficient commentary on the practical workings of the system.""-American Paper. There is a man in New York so opposed to Catholicism, that he won't travel on cross roads. He is the same man that won't eat beef for fear it might be a portion of the Pope's last Bull.

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