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CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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NO. 30.

HOW THE WAR GOES.

(From the Nation.)

The great Conference of European diplomatists has re-assembled at Vienna, to negotiate the conditions of a peace; and the Czar has ordered the entire male population of his dominions to prepare for a participation in the war. England is represented in the Austrian capital by Lord John Russell, the minister whose recent "political profligacy" was rebuked by an autograph letter from Queen Victoria; and who has just been precluded from the formation of a new ministry by the desertion of his former colleagues in sheer disgust.

Three hundred thousand men is the force which the Czar intends immediately forming in the Crimea; and numerous reinforcements have already arrived in Sebastopol, where the presence of the Grand Dukes lends probability to the rumor of a swoop upon the remnant of the Allied Army.

Germany still hesitates to adopt any decisive or unanimous policy. Austria, secure in that saving clause of the December treaty, which enables her to abandon the Western Powers at any convenient time, affects an increasing desire for the independence of Turkey; Prussia formally denies that she has formed any alliance with England and France, but declares herself perfectly ready for the contingency of war; among the minor German potentates opinion steadily gravitates towards the Czar. Louis Napoleon silently chuckles over the Russian sympathies of Prussia, and organizes his Army of the Rhine!

Cold, hunger, and pestilence, day after day; every night the trenches, half filled with water; the terrible Crimean frost, and those still more fatal sorties from the garrison, in which the Russians are always "repulsed," but which always terminate in their carrying away a batch of prisoners or a heap of ammunition; and ghastly processions of sick and wounded on their last journey from the camp to the charnel; such is the condition of the Anglo-French force engaged in the siege of Sebastopol! It appears that "since the first day of December, 1854; down to the 20th of January, 1855, eight thousand sick and wounded men have been sent down from camp to Balaklava, and thence on ship-board."

"I know well," says the *Morning Herald* correspondent, "that we cannot be losing far short of 2,000 or 2,500 men and officers per week, and we certainly do not receive more than 1,000 in the same time as reinforcements."

"Our victorious army has shrunk into the force of a French division," comments the *Times*, "and the military honor of the country has sunk to zero."

(From the Special Correspondent of the Times.)

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, JANUARY 27.—The weather, thanks to Heaven, continues to be extremely favorable to us. Cold, clear nights, with a bright, unclouded moon, are followed by warm, sunny, genial days. The thermometer generally falls to 18° or 20° at 12 every night, and rises to 44° of Fahrenheit at noon the following day. So far Prince Menschikoff has not received the assistance which he is reported to have expected from "Son bon Général Janvier," and we can only anxiously pray that the aid he looks for from his other confrère, "Général Février," may be equally insignificant and unsubstantial. It is not unusual to have several weeks of fine weather of this kind at a corresponding period of the year in the Crimea, but all the natives concur in stating that we have still hard times before us—tempest, heavy rains, or snow, but not very intense cold, and that this introduction to the Crimean spring continues on an average for about three weeks, but that it may last twice as long. At present the more immediate effect of this change of weather is the facility of communication between Balaklava and the camp. The surface of the country and the roads, or mud tracks, are hardened by the frost for several hours each morning, and remain in a state fit for travelling over, with more or less difficulty, till the influence of the sun has resolved them into cloggy, sticky swamp. Towards dark the frost sets in again, and enables the late return parties to get out to camp with forage and stores. But, with all this, the hand of the plague is not stayed. Still sickness clings to our troops, and the poor worn-out soldiers who climbed the bloody steeps of the Alma in the splendor of manly strength, and who, full of the noblest courage and devotion, defended in broken file the heights over the Tchernaya against the swarming multitudes of the Muscovite, weak, exhausted, and "washed out" by constant fatigue, incessant wet, insufficient food, want of clothing and of cover from the weather, now die away in their tents night after night. Many of the men are too far gone to recover. Doctors and hospitals and nurses are now too late, and they sink to rest unnumberingly; and every week some freshly formed lines of narrow mounds indicate the formation of a new burial-place. It must not be by any means inferred that the French escape sickness and mortality alto-

gether. On the contrary, our allies have suffered to a degree which would be excessive, if it were not compared with our own unfortunate standard of disease and death. They have also great numbers of horses, and to the diminution caused by illness and overwork in their ranks must be added that which accrues from the nightly sorties of the Russians and the heavy fire to which they are continually exposed from the enemy's batteries and sharpshooters. Nevertheless, the loss of the French is very much less than our own. The fact appears to be that our troops are overworked in the trenches, overworked in the field, overworked in camp, overworked on the roads. Every one knows that if a horse is reduced by too much labor to a certain point he cannot be saved, even if he be put into the best stable and attended by the best grooms in England. Whole regiments have vanished as if by magic. In some cases the men have not fallen in action, nor have they been exposed to the labors of the army beginning the campaign. No wonder, then, that the old soldiers of the Crimea, the men of Alma, Inkermann, and Balaklava, should go at last, and share the fate of the raw levies, and of the unacclimatized regiments. Two regiments at least—that is the officers, the colors, and a few privates and non-commissioned officers, will be sent away for "re-organization." Is there not something to be learnt out of the fact that few of our officers sicken and die even in the most unhealthy regiments? If the officers are more exposed than the men to the fire of the enemy in action, they are certainly less liable than their men to disease and to the fatal effects of diarrhoea, fever, and dysentery. According to what I hear from a few people out here, who are eccentric enough to purchase a stray number of the obscure London journals, I seem to have been honored by a good deal of abuse from some of them at home for telling the truth. I really would put on my claude Lorraine glass, if I could. I would if I could, clothe skeletons with flesh, breathe life into the occupants of the charnel-house, subvert the succession of the seasons, and restore the legions which have been lost; but I cannot tell lies to "make things pleasant." Any statements I have made I have chapter, and book, and verse, and witness for. Many, very many, that I have not made, I could prove to be true with equal ease; and could make public, if the public interest required it. There is not a single man in this camp who could put his hand on his heart and declare he believed that one single casualty had been caused to us by information communicated to the enemy by me or any other newspaper correspondent. The only thing the partisans of misrule can allege is, that we don't "make things pleasant" to the authorities, and that, amid the filth and starvation and deadly stagnation of the camp, we did not go about "babbling of green fields," of present abundance, and of prospects of victory. Now, suppose we come to "facts." Do people at home know how many bayonets the British army could muster at this moment? Do they believe we have 25,000, after all our reinforcements? They may be told—nay, it may be proved to them by figures at home—that the British army here consists of 55,000 men. I warn the British public not to believe that, with all our reinforcements, they reach near half that number. The grave and the hospital have swallowed them up by thousands. Just think of this "fact,"—that since the first day of December, 1854, down to the 20th of January, 1855, 8,000 sick and wounded men have been sent down from camp to Balaklava, and thence on ship-board! Shall I tell you how many have returned? And yet people at home, who gloat over the horrors of Walcheren, and consider disaster the normal end of British expeditions, tell us it is "croaking" to state the facts in such cases as these, or even to allude to them! The man who could calmly sit down and write home that all was hope, that our troops were healthy, that there was only an average mortality, that every one was confident of success, that our works were advancing, that we are now nearer to the capture of Sebastopol than we were on the 27th of last October, that transport was abundant, and the labors of our army light, might be an agreeable correspondent, but assuredly he would not lead you to form a very accurate opinion on the real state of affairs in this Camp before Sebastopol.

(From the Correspondent of the Times.)

A PEEP INTO SEBASTOPOL.—I had a long reconnaissance of Sebastopol to-day, in company with an officer of the Horse Artillery. It was a beautifully clear day, and at times it was almost warm.—We went up to the mound in advance and on the left of the French white picket-house, and for a long time we swept every inch of ground visible under the glass. The aspect of the place itself has changed very little, considering the hundreds of tons weight of shot and shell thrown into it; but the suburbs, of low whitewashed houses, roofed with tiles and at most

two stories high, are in ruins. The enemy have dismantled them as much as we have done. All the streets of such houses, are broken down and blocked up with masses of rubbish. The roofs, doors, and windows of the houses are all off, but the puffs of smoke from the empty frames showed that the shells were used as covers for the Russian riflemen. In front of us, and to our left, lay a most intricate and complicated-looking series of covered ways, traverses, zigzags, and parallels thrown from the seaside, close to the Quarantine Battery, and advancing gradually over the undulating land from the first lines, where the French fire was so cruelly snuffed out on the 17th of October, to the distance of 65 metres from the outer works of the Russians. The French works are admirably made—very solid and thick, and formed of abundance of strong gabions and sapperoles. Swarms of *Franc-tireurs* lined the advanced parallel, and kept up a continual pop, pop, pop, in reply to the spirts of white smoke from the Russian riflemen behind their advanced works.

The advanced Russian works from the Quarantine Fort to the crenelated wall and thence to the Flagstaff Battery seemed to me very much in the same state as the first day I saw them, with this exception, that the guns were, as far as I could discern, withdrawn from the embrasures, and the defence of the line left to riflemen. However, the muzzles of one or two guns were still visible crosswise through the embrasures, ready to be run out in a moment, and it is probable that others not visible are merely retired from fire. The Flagstaff Fort was knocked to atoms long ago, and the large buildings around it are all in ruins; but, on looking towards the ridge behind it, from which the streets of the town descend rapidly towards Fort Nicholas, and which shelters that part of the place from our fire, I could see but little difference between its present appearance and that which it presented on the 26th of September last year. People were walking about the streets, and relief parties were coming up from the seaside towards the front carrying baskets of provisions.—Between the rear of the Flagstaff Battery and this ridge the presence of earthworks, covered ways, and various defensive works could be detected in the openings along the lines of streets, and immediately behind the first Russian intrenchment is a formidable work armed with guns, which at 2 o'clock convinced us they had pretty good range and were very well laid, by thundering forth an astounding broadside in answer to some insulting fire from the French lines. The balls tore up the ground in piles of earth and dust, and dashed into the parapets, or, ploughing over their top, went roaring across the works in the rear. In an instant there was a rattling fire of rifles from the French *enfants perdus* directed at the embrasures, and the Russians slackened their fire in a few minutes, and replied to the French sharpshooters only. When the smoke cleared away, I could see the enemy and the French carrying away a few bodies on each side to the rear. The Russians not only use "colonnets" against the advanced French line, but they annoy our allies very considerably by a constant fire of grenades—a projectile which seems rather neglected in our service, though there are great authorities in favor of its use when the enemy has approached very closely. At the other side of the harbor Fort Constantine was shining brightly in the sun, its white walls blackened here and there under the line of embrasures by the smoke of the guns on the 17th of October. Behind it the new Russian forts were visible—dark walls of earth rising up through the snow, and notched like saws by the lines of embrasures. The waters of the harbor, as smooth as glass, were covered with boats, plying from one side to the other, and a small boat full of men came round the head of the Dock-yard Creek towards Fort Alexander, with her white flag and blue St. Andrew's cross at the peak, as we were gazing down upon the place. The Rocket Battery on the left side of the deep ravine which runs down towards the Dockyard Creek, and widely separates our right attack from the French left attack, has been withdrawn. The large pile of Government buildings by the side of the Dockyard Creek is much injured and dismantled, large pieces of the roof and some of the windows being quite destroyed. The crenelated wall opposite the French appears to be quite uninjured. Close to the buildings by the Dockyard Creek there is a large two-decker, with a spring on her cable, lying so as to sweep the western slope of the town, should the French make a lodgment there. A small steamer with her steam up was near at hand, either for the use of the garrison or to carry off the two-decker, in case heavy guns were unmasked on her.—To the right at the other side of this creek we could see into the rear of our left attack, the earthworks and batteries of which were in beautiful order, though the guns were quite silent. The Redan and the Garden Battery, our old enemies, were silent also. The

houses near them, as well as those in front of the right attack, and in the rear of Malakoff Tower, are in ruins. The part of the city beyond them seems untouched. To the rear of the Round Tower of Malakoff, which is still split up, and rent from top to bottom, as it was the first day of our fire, there is a perfect miracle of engineering. It is impossible to speak too highly of the apparent solidity, workmanship, and finish of the lines of formidable earthworks, armed with about 80 heavy guns, which the Russians have thrown up to enfilade our attack, and to defend this position, which is, indeed, the key of their works in front of us. One line of battery is neatly revetted with tin boxes, supposed to be empty powder-cases. This is the mere wantonness and surplussage of abundant labor. Behind this work I could see about 2,000 soldiers and workmen laboring with the greatest zeal at a new line of batteries, and laboring undisturbedly. I do not know whether we could disturb them or not, but if 13-inch mortars could be placed so as to shell them, it is undoubtedly worthy the consideration of our Generals whether they ought not to take steps to prevent such serious obstacles to our success being thrown up before our very eyes.—We had heard that our new 13-inch mortars were to be tried to-day, but I did not see a shot fired from them all the time we were there, though the Russians were shelling our right and advanced right very actively from their battery at Inkermann. There is a camp at the rear of Malakoff, and another camp is visible at the other side of the creek, close to the Citadel, on the north side. Most of the men-of-war and steamers were lying with topgallantmasts and yards down, under the spot of land inside Fort Constantine. Our third parallel, which is within a few hundred yards of the enemy's advanced works, seemed unoccupied, except by riflemen and sharpshooters, who keep up a constant fire in the place, but from my position over the British lines I could not see so well into our approaches as I could look upon those of the French from the mounds on the left of their picket-house. On the whole the suburbs are destroyed, though still susceptible of being used by the enemy to check our advance. The Russians have gone back as we have pushed forward, and have in some places thrown up more formidable works than were at first opposed to us, but our fire has undoubtedly done much damage, and steady, uninterrupted approaches must give us possession of the southern ridge of the town very speedily.

The *Presse* publishes letters dated before Sebastopol, from which we extract the following:—

"The Russians have modified their system of attack. Their sorties, which were from the beginning and until last month executed in a slovenly and irresolute manner are now admirably conducted. In the attack on the 15th they displayed great intrepidity. The snow appears to have excited their warlike ardor and military recollections. Perhaps it is solely owing to the change of their commanders, which, according to the deserters, is very frequent. Towards 11 o'clock on the night of the 14th, our advanced pickets gave notice of the approach of the enemy. There were then in the trenches two companies of the 95th Regiment of Infantry, and two others of the 74th, under the orders of Commander Roumejoux. Our works are so near the Russians on that point that they came down upon us nearly as soon as the news of their approach, with extraordinary boldness, their officers marching at their head. We coolly awaited them, and when sufficiently close we charged them with the bayonet. A dreadful *mêlée* ensued, but the Russians, unable to resist when attacked with the bayonet, were speedily driven back, notwithstanding the strenuous exertions they made to maintain themselves on our line and penetrate into the battery. The *mêlée* continued during their retreat, which does honor to their officers, three of whom were killed as the first rank. You will remark probably that this account pretty nearly resembles what I already wrote to you respecting the sorties of the Russians. They are no longer the men we had to contend with at the beginning of the siege, and I can assure you that we have now opposed to us adversaries not to be despised. Moreover, our losses indicate the fierceness of the affair. We had two captains and several men killed, and 15 wounded, amongst whom were Commander Roumejoux and two other officers. The Commander is still living, which is truly miraculous, for the upper part of his lungs has been perforated by a bayonet. The Russians left 30 killed in our trenches. The assailants formed a strong column, and were supported by a corps of reserve of a novel description. That corps, composed of men specially chosen for their agility and dexterity, was only armed with slight but solid ropes, at the extremity of which was a running noose. On arriving within reach of the batteries, and during the engagement, they threw on our soldiers those *lassos*, which they handled with much skill. They did not even spare our wounded,

We have been told that this new weapon was used in Caucasus. This may be the case, but as we are not the half-savage populations of Caucasus we could not help branding that barbarous proceeding as unworthy of a European army. Publish the fact in your journal. It will be a reply to the fine sentiments expressed by the Emperor Nicholas, which we read to-day in the papers. Everything in that sort is strange indeed. It was evidently organized by a man of great skill and boldness. Those *lassos* the peculiar arms borne by the officers—long straight swords with poniard hilts—the nails and hammers for spiking the guns, found in their pockets, all showed that the attack was planned and conducted by men who were determined to die or succeed in the attempt. One of the officers, in his despair at not being able to climb on the *épaulement*, ran his long sword through the gabions to wound the soldiers placed behind them. One of the latter broke the sword in two with his spade, and then, leaping over the parapet, attacked the officer, who had only his broken sword to defend himself, and killed him. No doubt remains as to the worth and rank of the brave chief who commanded that *coup de main*. The next morning a flag of truce presented himself with a letter from General Osten-Sacken to General Forey, in which he expressed his deepest regret for the death of that most distinguished officer, and requested the Commander of the besieging corps to give up his body to him. General Forey immediately acquiesced in his desire, and by the same opportunity delivered to the Russians the bodies of 26 of their comrades who had not yet been interred. This delivery took place within the buildings of the Quarantine, in the presence of an officer of an eccentric character, who spoke French very fluently, and said to us: "This is a shocking work we are engaged in! What hinders you from taking the town? All this cannot amuse you. For our part, we are heartily tired of it." What did he mean by putting to us such questions? I cannot tell. I merely repeat his expressions *verbatim*. The artillery of the place has modified its firing, and has of late adopted the strange system of letting off several mortars at a time. This produces an extraordinary commotion in the air. The plan is not a bad one, for it is easier to avoid one bomb than ten.

THE AUTOPSY OF AN ARMY.

(From the Nation.)

The British Army has ceased to exist as an organized efficient force. Such is the last news from the Crimea. The superb soldiery of Alma has become a mere famished and disorganized rabble, with no more health, nor hope, nor order, nor discipline, than a squad of Irish paupers on Out-door Relief and a Public Work. At last, even the inexorable routine, which England regards as the very spirit of her system, has been rejected by those unfortunate wretches, its most faithful votaries, its most miserable victims. We dare say it is more shocking to England than the loss of a battle, or the starvation of a brigade, to learn that those demoralized battalions have at last given up even the ghost of discipline. The British soldier sells his regimentals for rum, and has ceased to salute his officers. They would mutiny if there were anything to be gained by it. As an army they have ceased to be.

The heights of Inkermann, held with such superhuman courage, the lines and trenches, whose cannon the Russians could not touch last October, are now deserted, and the French have gradually pushed their army along the whole front of the town. The labor and glory of the enterprise has devolved upon the Imperial soldiers; and of the army which so long sustained with them its perils, God only knows whether a hundred may live to see the spring. At present there are not five thousand of them proof against disease, and cold, and hunger, while every week a thousand more men succumb to the Russian Nemesis.

"My best Generals," said the Czar lately, "are Generals January, February, and March." Three weeks of January had elapsed when the last despatches left, and that General had inflicted upon the English a heavier loss than Balaklava and Inkermann. The army counted 14,000 men on New Year's Day.—They were only 12,000 at the end of the month. In the camp hospitals were upwards of 5,000 men, dying at the rate of 100 a day—and dying, in the vast majority of cases, precisely because they went to hospital. Those who had wounds or frost-bites died of an hospital gangrene; those who had colds or dysentery were seized with an hospital typhus; and both fever and gangrene had been caused by the horrible neglect through which the malaria of dead men and horses circulated around Balaklava and the camp.—The soldier who went to hospital knew he was doomed before hand, and, therefore, increased the mortality by his own despair, and by postponing the Doctor until it was too late. Nor was this awful mortality of the hospitals limited to the wretched tents in which the sick of the camp were stretched. In Scutari the common road was from the ward to the death-house. In the last letter of the *Times*, it is told that, of sixty secondary capital operations performed there lately, only one recovered. An awful gloom overhangs those crowded wards. Every man feels, from the moment he enters there, that he is drifting towards the last agony; and in the desolate stillness is often heard the sobbing of some strong soldier, who regrets the bullet that spared him in battle, to die thus ingloriously.

Thus it is, the medical authorities of the army believe that more than one-half of the soldiers at present doing duty are struggling with deadly diseases, and, wooing death in the field as long as they can stand. When they go to the trenches you must listen to the pathetic voices with which they utter the wish that they may be shot, and never come back again to the miseries they leave behind. You must not be astonished that they are caught napping—they

have become reckless. What do they care for their miserable existence? Death is relief. Such is the language of one and all the correspondence from the Crimea.

It was between the 7th and the 16th Jan. that the winter fairly set in, and every night the frost grew harder and the wind faster and keener. Hundreds were frost-bitten in the hands, face, and feet. Cholera and scurvy spread into every tent. But on the 16th the crowning calamity came. The thermometer fell twenty degrees below freezing point. The wind careered down from the hills in one steady rushing current, in which the very blood seemed to freeze. On this day, and for the two that followed, there was not a fire lit throughout almost the entire extent of the British lines. During those two horrible days, officers and men were continually frozen to death.—The flesh came away with the clothes. When the thaw began, the dead were discovered by their boots sticking up through the snow. In the 46th Regiment alone, fourteen men died of cold on the 16th, and ten on the 17th. At the commencement of the week, 1,950 men were sent in two days to Scutari, on the following day 900 followed, and the 18th 400 more, making in all, a total of 3,000 men invalided within eight days. One or two Regiments had utterly ceased to exist; and almost every Regiment was decimated in the sense that only every tenth man survived.

From bad to worse, each day since—

"Unmerciful disaster follows fast and follows faster,
Till the dirges of their hopes one melancholy burden bore."

There is now not a hope of saving a remnant of the line. England looks on and lets them die, and makes no sign. Everything goes against her—the elements, her own parties—her whole system, which is in an utter deadlock and a laughing stock to the whole earth. If this be the Beginning, what is the End to be?

The French have relieved the Guards of their outpost duties, and are gradually extending themselves towards Inkermann from our right attack. What a difference there is in the relative position of the two armies from that of which we talked so much on the evening of the 17th of October, when the French fire had been completely snuffed out, and our own fire was still maintaining its strength under the batteries of the enemy! We are gradually relinquishing ground to our allies, and the front which it cost so much strength and so much health to maintain, is gradually abandoned to the more numerous and less exhausted army. Some of our regiments are reduced below the strength of a company, and it is evident that we could no longer continue to swell ourselves out to undue dimensions by "puffing" and ostentatious self-sacrifice, and to defend and cover miles of trench with an army only equal to protect half the extent of offensive works. The Russians towards Baidar seem to be melting gradually away. A Tartar who has recently passed through their lines assured a friend of mine they were not numerous, that they had suffered fearfully from the recent cold and from sickness and scarcity. He said there were about 300 horses at Baidar, and as many infantry on their flank over towards Tchourgoum, and it was his opinion that the greater part of Liprandi's corps had fallen back on Bakhiserai. We have many extraordinary rumors in this Babel camp of ours. One, that Menschikoff has been recalled; another, that we are about to have a wonderful resignation; but none ventures "to fix the day" for a bombardment and assault, as is done so confidently by persons nearer home. Sir George Brown was expected back to his command in a few days.

The sanitary condition of Balaklava is beginning to excite serious apprehension. The filth of the town is now something beyond all description. Offal, dirt, waste stores, stagnant water, the refuse from English and Turkish hospitals, and some hundreds of half-decomposed horses, dogs, sheep, and oxen lie more or less in every little alley. Each house is over-crowded, and under each house are cellars, in which horses and Tartar families are stowed away. But the most serious evil of all arises from the immense number of internments which have lately taken place. We are now giving rations to 4,000 Turks; two months ago we were rationing 14,000; 8,000 of the missing 10,000 are dead and "buried" on the slope of the hill, over the harbor, though I think even a metropolitan sexton would hardly have the hardihood to call the last resting-place of a Turk here a "grave." It is merely a little trough, about eighteen inches deep, in which the bodies are laid on the bare rock, and the few handfuls of earth which have been removed in the process scattered over the corpse.—Thousands have been thus interred. The late rains in many instances have washed the earth from these graves, leaving the bodies in every stage of corruption, exposed to the eye and poisoning the air for miles around. I believe it was entirely owing to the hospital for Russian wounded being situated close at the foot of some of these plague spots that none of the unfortunate Muscovites recovered of their wounds, which almost without a single exception began to mortify and gangrene soon after the men entered the place.

The necessity of taking immediate sanitary precautions has now been forced on the authorities of the town by the outbreak of a very virulent description of fever at Balaklava, and which is beginning to spread. On the 17th a kind of council was held in Balaklava, over which Sir Colin Campbell presided, and promised that the work of cleansing the town and its neighborhood should commence that very day. Though this was very properly the decision of the council, I believe the opinion of many was that the evil had gone too far, and that with the return of hot weather nothing short of abandoning the town and encamping on the summits of the hills would be found

effectual. If any man can remedy the evil, it is Sir Colin Campbell. Throughout the whole campaign he has shown himself the steadiest and most energetic of our generals, and since the death of Cathcart and the departure of Sir De Lacy Evans, and Pennefather, is most certainly the only general in whom the whole force places entire confidence.

A GHASTLY PROCESSION.—A large number of sick and, I fear, dying men were sent into Balaklava on French mule litters and a few of our bat-horses. They formed one of the most ghastly processions that ever poet imagined. Many of these men were all but dead. With closed eyes, open mouths, and ghastly attenuated faces, they were borne along, two and two, the thin stream of breath, visible in the frosty air, alone showing they were still alive. One figure was a horror—a corpse, stone dead, strapped upright in its seat, its legs hanging stiffly down, the eyes staring wide open, the teeth set on the protruding tongue, the head and body nodding with frightful mockery of life at each stride of the mule over the broken road. No doubt the man had died on his way down to the harbor. As the apparition passed, the only remarks that the soldiers made, were such as this—"There's one poor fellow out of pain, any way?" Another man I saw with the raw flesh and skin hanging from his fingers, the naked bones of which, protruded into the cold air, undressed and uncovered. This was a case of frost-bite, I presume. Possibly the hand had been dressed, but the bandages might have dropped off. All the sick in the mule litters seemed alike on the verge of the grave.—*Times Correspondent.*

OPERATION OF "THE SYSTEM."—A circumstance occurred in Balaklava to-day which I will state for the calm consideration of the public at home without one single word of comment. The *Charity*, an iron screw steamer, is at present in harbor for the reception of sick British soldiers, who are under the charge of a British medical officer. That officer went on shore to-day and made an application to the officer in charge of the Government stoves for two or three to put on board the ship to warm the men. "Three of my men," said he, "died last night from choleric symptoms, brought on their present state from the extreme cold of the ship; and I fear more will follow them from the same cause." "Oh!" said the guardian of the stoves, "you must make your requisition in due form, send it up to headquarters, and get it signed properly, and returned, and then I will let you have the stoves." "But my men may die meantime." "I can't help that; I must have the requisition." "It is my firm belief that there are men now in a dangerous state whom another night will certainly kill." "I really can do nothing; I must have a requisition properly signed before I can give one of these stoves away." "For God's sake, then, lend me some; I'll be responsible for their safety." "I really can do nothing of the kind." "But, consider, this requisition will take time to be filled up and signed, and meantime these poor fellows will go." "I cannot help that." "I'll be responsible for anything you do." "Oh, no, that can't be done!" "Will a requisition signed by the P. M. O. of this place be of any use?" "No." "Will it answer if he takes on himself the responsibility?" "Certainly not." The surgeon went off in sorrow and disgust. Such are the "rules" of the service in the hands of incapable and callous men.—*Times Correspondent.*

AWFUL MORTALITY IN THE 46TH AND 63RD REGIMENTS.—Perhaps it may modify the inveterate hostility with which the English public so unjustly pursued the gallant 46th, to learn that, as a regiment, it has almost ceased to exist. At the beginning of November last it landed at Balaklava with an effective strength of 1,100 bayonets. It now musters 117 serviceable men, and, as things are going on, it is not very improbable that, at the end of a month, even this small remnant will be reduced to the level of some of our other regiments here. For instance, there is a regiment which figures in the Army List as the 63rd, but it is only in the Army List that it can be found, as nothing remains of it out here.—The last time it was ordered for duty in the trenches, only six men paraded for service, and of this small number two were unable to proceed even as far as the tent of the Brigadier-General. The whole six were therefore ordered to return to their quarters, and the force is now disreputable; including officers, sergeants, and officers' servants, the entire complements of the 63rd is said to be under 40 men.—*Herald.*

MORTALITY AT THE MILITARY HOSPITALS IN TURKEY.—The following painful statement is published by a French contemporary, on the authority of a correspondent at Constantinople:—"The difference, in fact, between the deaths in the two nations is enormous. In the French hospitals there is only one death out of 271 cases, whilst in the English hospitals there is one out of 88."—*Globe.*

THE RUSSIAN MAJOR AT INKERMANN.—It will be recollected that after the battle of Inkermann, a Russian Major was taken prisoner in the act of stabbing the wounded in the field. It was said at the time that an opportunity would be afforded by his capture of testifying the disgust and horror of the allied armies at the barbarous conduct which this officer as well as many others of his countrymen had exhibited; and that he would be brought to public execution. His fate, however, has not been recorded in any of the correspondence from the seat of war we have yet seen published. We now learn from a letter from one of the three youthful surgeons who left Edinburgh in October last for Scutari, that the expected victim has disappointed public vengeance. When captured he had a severe wound in his shoulder, and was sent to the hospital at Kauldee, near Scutari, which is set apart for wounded Russian prisoners, and where he died a short time ago. The doctor who attended him says he has preserved the

wounded joint "as a memorial of the monster."—*Edinburgh Courier.*

MISS NIGHTINGALE.—Wherever there is disease in its most dangerous form, and the hand of the spoiler distressingly nigh, there is that incomparable woman sure to be seen; her benignant presence is an influence for good comfort even amid the struggles of expiring nature. She is a "ministering angel" without any exaggeration in these hospitals, and as her slender form glides quietly along each corridor, every poor fellow's face softens with gratitude at the sight of her. When all the medical officers have retired for the night, and silence and darkness have settled down upon those miles of prostrate sick, she may be observed alone, with a little lamp in her hand, making her solitary rounds. The popular instinct was not mistaken which when she set out from England on her mission of mercy, hailed her as a heroine; I trust that she may not earn her title to a higher though sadder appellation. No one who has observed her fragile figure and delicate health can avoid misgivings lest these should fail.

"What sort of fighters are the Russians?" a sergeant of the 44th Regiment was asked. "They're very brave," he answered, "behind their walls and entrenchments, but bring them on a plain, and they're not good stuff. If 14,000 of the allies could lick 60,000, and kill, wound, and take prisoners 15,000 of them, they're not such fine chaps." The fact that the Russians do not elevate their muskets when they fire, is not generally known. "The Russians never take aim," observed a private of the 23rd Regiment, "they load their gun resting it on the left hip, and present it from the right hip when they fire. They make bad shots, and mostly wound us in the legs. The shoulder after all."

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

REV. DR. CAHILL IN BELFAST.—There can be no doubt the Tory press of Belfast evinces a liberality of sentiment and feeling which deserve the highest praise in paying to Dr. Cahill, the following compliment as extracted from the *Belfast News-Letter*:—

"REV. DR. CAHILL'S LECTURES.—The first of this series of scientific lectures was delivered on Monday evening in the Victoria Hall before an immense audience, which crowded every department of the room. The lecturer illustrated his subject by means of a number of very elegantly executed diagrams. He commenced with a general prelection on the nobility of astronomical science, and thence proceeded to explain the principles of light, refraction, and reflection, the different kinds of lenses, the telescope, the anatomy of the eye, the microscope, &c. We candidly admit that we were agreeably disappointed by Dr. Cahill and his lecture, we came prepared to hear a ranting, superficial orator, whose merits we suspected had been overrated. We found a gentleman of exceedingly winning address, dignified deportment, profound scientific acquirements, amply gifted also with the rare and happy faculty of popularizing the most abstruse theories and difficult demonstrations, so as to render them appreciable, by the most humble intellect. His eloquence is a brilliant mixture of gorgeous description, poetical illustration, familiar, almost colloquial, plainness; graceful elocution, and occasional sallies of humor. He completely fascinated a large, intelligent, and mixed audience, by the evidence he afforded of having his heart and soul in his subject, and he was applauded almost at every pause.

DEATH OF THE REV. DENIS COTTER, KILLARNEY.—At Killarney, after a protracted and painful struggle with decline, Rev. Denis Cotter, late Parish Priest.

CONVERSION.—On Wednesday, 7th February, Mr. Nicholas Quinn, cooper, an intelligent and industrious tradesman of Thom, who has been born of Protestant parents, and who has been all his life of that persuasion, was received into the Catholic Church by the Rev. P. Corcoran. He died a few days afterwards, having received the sacraments and partaken of the consolations of our holy religion.—*Thom Herald.*

THE DEPUTATION TO ROME.—We (*Dublin Freeman*) have been requested by a clergyman of this diocese to publish the following extract of a letter received this week from his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin:—

"Irish College, Rome, 3d Feb., 1855.
" Up to the present day, no appeal has been lodged with the authorities here against the Bishop of Ossory, or any other Irish Bishop or Archbishop. Neither has the famous memorial, so much spoken of, been presented. The lay and clerical deputation so often announced, has not as yet appeared. There is, indeed, one gentleman here who took an active part in the meetings of Callan and Thurles, but he has not exhibited credentials from any party, and, indeed, I believe he is very meritoriously employed in seeking spiritual advice and instruction from the authorities of this city, who, being anxious to gain all to Christ, and to bring those who are astray to the right path, receive all with truly paternal kindness and Christian charity. Should the members of the deputation arrive at any future day, they, too, will receive instruction and advice which may be very useful to them. From what I now state, after having made inquiries at the Propaganda and higher quarters, you may form an estimate of the value of the reports spread in Ireland, that the appeal was going on successfully, and that the deputation was most active and zealous. The truth is, nothing whatever has been done as yet. There has been no display of zeal or activity.—Your devoted servant, J. PAUL CULLEN."

THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.—Mr. James Bourke is about publishing the opinions of all the statesmen of the last sixty years on the subject of the Maynooth grant. As the Conservatives have announced that, immediately after the Maynooth Report shall have been laid upon the table, they will take the sense of the house on the question, a correct summary of the parliamentary debates on the subject, since the foundation of the college, will be most useful, and, from Mr. Bourke's proved accuracy and impartiality, we are sure that he will produce such a careful digest that members on "both sides of the house" will be glad to avail themselves of a pamphlet which will save them from wading through some hundreds of volumes of Hansard. The idea is opportune, and to public speakers and writers its faithful execution will be a welcome boon. For the Catholic clergy such a publication will possess peculiar interest.

REMOVAL OF SIR JOHN YOUNG.—The Irish Chief Secretaryship.—Sir John Young has been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands. Lord Monk and Mr. Burke Roche are spoken of for the Irish Chief Secretaryship.—*Freeman's Journal*.

THE EARL OF ELGIN.—Among the innumerable rumors of official change now current in all political circles, one of the most readily accepted is that which assigns the Viceroyalty of Ireland to this accomplished and distinguished nobleman, should the Earl of St. Germain resign or be displaced.

THE CIRCUITS.—*Saunders' News-Letter* says it is understood that Mr. Keogh, the Solicitor-General, will be the second presiding judge on the Connaught circuit this spring.

THE BRIGADE.—Mr. Monsell has suddenly ceased to be Her Majesty's Secretary of the Ordnance, his fastidious conscience, it appears, forbidding him to cooperate with an administration presided over by a nobleman who does not believe in Original Sin. According to the Sacerdotal organ selected for publishing the announcement, the honorable gentleman could not, "consistently with his principles and opinions, and with the duty he owes to his country, hold office under a Ministry, from which, to say the least of it, immeasurably less is to be expected by the Catholics of the Empire than from the late Government." Exquisite consistency! Catholicity was so deluged with blessings during that memorable era, when Lord Palmerston presided in the Home office, and the House of Commons was "led" by the author of the Durham Epistle.—*Nation*.

GOVERNMENT PROVISION CONTRACTS.—MILITARY ENCAMPMENTS.—In addition to the encampment of 20,000 men to be formed on Aldershot Heath, in March, a large cavalry encampment is to be formed in Dublin, and a militia encampment in Phoenix Park; the cavalry will form a considerable portion of the 5,000 under orders for the Crimea, and for whose embarkation preparations have already commenced, the Admiralty being now engaged getting ready the horse-hammocks, paddings, slings, and halters, and preparing steamers for their reception, of which it is expected the Great Britain, screw-steamer, will form one.

THE MOVEMENT IN SLIGO.—At the present most momentous crisis in the affairs of the empire, it is incumbent upon the people of Ireland to consider their position, to consolidate their strength, to organize the opinion of the country, to prepare for any possible emergency, to make fitting provision for the protection of their own soil, should that which occurred in 1799 occur again—should England again prove unable to defend us.—*Nation*.

THE MILITIA.—The total number of regiments now embodied amounts to 64. The reserve corps of the 1st Somerset Regiment was inspected in the barracks of Taunton last week, before proceeding to Plymouth. The Aberdeenshire militia has received nearly half the required number of volunteers, but the young men flock far more into the army. The Donegal Regiment has been enrolled. The Galway is daily increasing in numbers and the City of Limerick Militia Artillery has received the royal warrant for its enrollment. The Royal Sussex Artillery are embodied for permanent duty, and are to be stationed in the various forts and martello towers on the Sussex coast. In consequence of the delay in the Sligo corps, several of the recruits have been compelled to take refuge in the Union workhouse. The Roscommon and Leitrim corps are progressing rapidly. The South Cork Militia has been embodied, and the Royal Cork City Artillery were to be embodied on Monday.

We cannot tell the exact strength of the English army in Ireland at present, but we are confident it does not exceed five thousand men. There are four regiments and five depots of cavalry—one regiment and twenty nine depots of infantry, amounting, perhaps, from ten to fifteen hundred sabres, and from three to four thousand bayonets, if they were properly enumerated. Indeed, we are inclined to think we exaggerate even at these figures. Most of the infantry depots are mere recruiting parties, and a cavalry depot would hardly give a baggage escort for a French regiment.—*Nation*.

We omitted to notice, last week, in enumerating the names of the British officials engaged in perpetrating the Irish Famine, and now occupied with a similar operation in the Crimea, the name of Lord Lucan. Among all the bad breed of Bingham there is not a name that will go down to posterity distinguished by two achievements so characteristic as the waste of Mayo and the charge of Balaklava. In any other service than the English the officer who commanded such a charge would have been brought to a court-martial long ago—but that is not our concern.—On the contrary, we are exceedingly sorry to learn that his lordship has at last been recalled, and may shortly be expected back in Mayo again. The following paragraph, from the *Morning Advertiser*, will be very bad news for Castlema.—"We are enabled to announce that the Earl of Lucan has been recalled as the Commander of the cavalry in the Crimea. It was high time. Every move he has made, every step he has taken, has not only been a great blunder, but has been productive of awful disasters. His lordship has got the sobriquet in the army of 'Lord Look-on.' To his mismanagement is attributed, not only the disaster at Balaklava, but the escape of the Russian artillery at the Alma; the escape again of the division of Prince Menschikoff's army when surprised at Mackenzie Farm; and finally, the loss of a splendid opportunity of catching a strong Russian reconnaissance in a trap the day before the Balaklava affair."—*Nation*.

MORTALITY IN DUBLIN.—We regret to learn that the mortality of this city is increasing at an alarming rate. The entire population amounts to about 260,000 and the number of deaths during the past week was nearly 400, making an average of about one and a half in every 1,000 of the inhabitants, and exceeding by one half the ordinary mortality of Dublin at this season. The ratio of deaths during the past week, to the population, is also double that of London at the present time.—*Daily Express*.

It is credibly said that the population of Nenagh is not now over four thousand. Lewis' Topographical Dictionary states that, when that work was published in 1836, the population of this town was seven thousand, and adds that only one other town in Ireland, not returning a member to parliament, had a larger population. The work of the destroying angel of extermination has not been confined to rural districts or even to secluded or deserted villages.

Mr. Douglas Hamilton, J. P. was mulcted in £25 damages with costs on Friday, for breaking into the cabin of a cottier at Carlow, to dispossess him

THE POOR IRISH IN ENGLAND.—The guardians of the Cork union acting upon the suggestion of the pamphlet published by John F. Maguire, Esq., M. P., upon the anomalous and unjust operation of the Poor Law as between Great Britain and Ireland, have passed the following resolution:—"Resolved—That holding the strongest conviction that the Irish pauper in England should be placed precisely on the same footing as regards removal with the English pauper in Ireland, or the English pauper in England, we are of opinion that the case of the Irish born poor should be comprehended in one and the same bill, and that any attempt to legislate for them separately, or on different principles must be regarded as unfair, unjust, and impolitic."—*Nation*.

The number of applications made by destitute persons at the police-office during the past week for coffins, exceeds that of any previous week for a long period. During last week the number was over a dozen, and yesterday there were three more. Captain White said that some measure should be taken to assist those poor people, as the money in the hands of the magistrates was not sufficient to defray all the expenses. He accordingly ordered £6, found some days since by Constable Culmore, to be appropriated to that purpose.—*Cork Examiner*.

The inhumanity of the Scotch and English parochial laws receive fresh illustrations at our quays almost every day. On Thursday last, a little girl of about twelve years of age, without food or money, was landed from the Glasgow boat, and a poor woman, equally destitute, was sent on shore from the Liverpool packet, both of whom were brought here by order of the local parish officers. Had it not been for the timely and truly Christian benevolence of Mr. M'Brice, in providing temporary relief for these unfortunate beings, fatal results might have followed, as they were wholly without the means of subsistence.—*Belfast Mercury*.

The present taxes in Dublin amount to more than 7s in the pound.

DUBLIN POLICE.—RAYONETTING A "PAPIST."—A private soldier of the West York Militia, named James John Smith, was brought up in custody, charged with assaulting John Caffray, and stabbing him with a bayonet, with intent to wound. It appeared from the evidence produced, that Caffray, who is in the employment of Mr. Thomas Seery, paper manufacturer, was passing Richmond Barracks on his way home, when the prisoner rushed out in a state of intoxication, and, advancing towards Caffray, inquired if he were a "Papist?" Caffray replied that he was, upon which the prisoner struck him a vigorous blow on the countenance, telling him to "take that" (meaning the eye-closer) for his candid admission—and the Papist (Caffray) fell to the ground. Whilst he was down, the prisoner, by way of finishing off his achievement, bestowed a few kicks on his ribs, and was about departing, when seeing Caffray attempting to rise, he drew his bayonet and made a thrust at him, no doubt with the full intention of letting the day light through his body. Providentially, however, the weapon did not penetrate beyond the clothes of Caffray, who started to his legs and chased the West Yorkshireman, who had retreated to his barrack in the belief that he had been the means of reducing the number of Irish Papists by one. James M'Donnell, who was in a house hard by, hearing the noise, came out, and saw the prisoner running away, Caffray following, the bayonet hanging from his clothes. The prisoner was arrested in the barrack, and identified by Caffray; and the case having been fully proved before the magistrates, he was committed for trial at the County Sessions.—*Freeman's Journal*.

ENTENTE CORDIALE.—The delightful spirit of fraternity which is proverbially known to exist between the Militia and the Regular Army—(especially when the Militiamen are Irish and the soldiers English or Scotch)—even this, we find, occasionally liable to the ordinary vicissitude of mundane affairs. In Limerick, for example, the "boys" of the County Militia, and those of the 17th Regiment in garrison, to the number of five or six hundred, spent the evening of last Sabbath in a protracted feud, and were prevented from braining each other (if that could be possible)—only by the intervention of an armed picket. "The military," we are told by some incipient Napier, "used the brass plates of their cross-belts, and inflicted severe wounds on the heads of some of the Militia lads, who in return, pelted stones and brick-bats at their antagonists, with good effect, as many were maimed and cut." The quarrel seems to have originated naturally enough in the vulgar jibe and swaggering rudeness of some Cockney "regular," which at once roused the hot blood of our Southern peasantry. A militia man was struck by one of the 17th, and pelted with snow balls. "Upon this," says a pious local contemporary, "an unkind feeling sprang up, and throughout the afternoon a spirit of revenge was exhibited by the Militia, as the assailed communicated with his comrades." To complete the catastrophe, another batch of the "regulars," on passing the barrack occupied by the Militia, taunted them with being poor-house-reared chaps," and forthwith commenced the *melee*. Upon two points in connection with this matter the local journals seem thoroughly agreed—that the military got a sound drubbing for their impudence, and that the contest is likely to be renewed on an early day.—*Nation*.

IRISH CATHOLICS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The *Kilkenny Journal* publishes the following extract from the letter of a gentleman lately a resident of that city, and now in New York:—"Should any friends of yours apply to you on the subject of emigration to this country, do not," on any account, allow them to come—no matter whether a man of business, mechanic or labourer. Ireland, with all her difficulties is far preferable at present. The poor Irish are begging through the streets of New York in the greatest misery. They are all at home misled about this infernal country. There was never more want and starvation in Ireland than there is this winter here. It is heartrending to listen to the tales of woe momentarily repeated. The papers are daily teeming with reports of suicides of men who became insane seeing their families starving around them, and not the slightest chance of employment.

ESCAPE OF LUNATICS FROM THE CARLOW ASYLUM.—On the 17th and 20th ultimo two of those wretched inmates of our asylum succeeded in effecting their escape. They were both inhabitants of the county Kildare. One of them was retaken in the farm-yard of Mr. Bruen, at Oak-park, whither he had repaired "in search of a situation as clerk." Three of the asylum keepers were despatched to Athy after the other man, where they succeeded in arresting him in the house of a friend at Ardee.—*Carlow Post*.

GREAT SNOW STORM.—A snow storm commenced in Dublin on Thursday the 15th ult., and continued till Friday morning, attended by a terrific gale from the east, which drifted the snow to such a height that in the suburbs the drifts were found so deep as five or six feet. The intense cold prevented the snow from melting, and on the Great Southern and Western line there was an absolute suspension of traffic. The news of a fatal and melancholy shipwreck off the coast was received on Saturday. The *Will-o'-the-Whip*, a steamer, 400 tons burden, employed in the coal trade, went on shore at Lambay Island in the gale, and became a total wreck, the accounts stating that the captain and all hands were lost. The masters of some coal vessels now discharging cargoes in Dublin were on board, and perished with the others.

ROMANCE IN IRISH LIFE.—During the greater part of last week, the Irish Court of Chancery was engaged in the case of *Handcock v. Delacour*, otherwise *De Burgh*; in which the heir-at-law of the late Miss Honoria Handcock prayed that certain charges alleged to have been created by the will of Josephine Handcock might be declared not to affect the Cainterrilla estates, and that, if necessary, an issue might be directed to try the question; it also prayed that a deed, dated December, 1851, executed by Honoria Handcock, might be declared fraudulent and void, that an account might be taken of the sums with which Mrs. Catherine Josephine Handcock should be justly charged, and that certain judgments obtained by her against Honoria Handcock, in the year 1853, might be set aside as fraudulent and void, or stand only for such sums as might be really due. The facts of the case may be briefly gathered from the speech of the Attorney-General in opening the petition.—In 1840, Mr. Handcock, father of Miss Honoria Handcock, effected a separation from his wife on account of a suspected intimacy between her and Lord Clanricarde. During this separation Mrs. Handcock gave birth to the defendant, whose parentage remained a "mystery." Mr. Handcock having subsequently been reconciled to his wife, she was, at his death, entrusted with the tutelage of their three daughters, whom she managed, by the most brutal treatment, to make concessions and sign deeds favorable to the interests of her favorite son De Burgh. Two of the daughters died possibly from the effects of their mother's cruelty, and the other would probably have shared the same fate, but the fate which Mrs. Handcock anxiously desired for her daughter Providence designed for herself. In the month of February, 1853, she took seriously ill, and directed Mr. Gibson to prepare her will, by which she had left all her property to the boy Delacour, with the exception of a £50 legacy to her daughter. Her executors found that this lady, who had during her life complained so much of her poverty, died worth nearly £20,000. The "wind-up" of the proceedings is thus stated in the *Dublin Mail* on Friday:—"It was expected that judgment would be given in this extraordinary case to-day. But another case was called, and no reference was made to the cause of *Handcock v. Delacour*." The reason of this is understood to be, that the compromise, which had been pending for several days, has been at length finally effected, and it is supposed that the Court is not averse to the terms of it. These terms are—The petitioner, Handcock, the heir-at-law, is to get the estates, on the condition that he shall pay to the respondent Delacour the sum of £20,000 on his attaining his age, and in the meantime paying 4 per cent on the amount.

THE MARCH OF FANATICISM.—Dr. Gregg and his "Protestant Operatives" have just made an astounding discovery—nothing less than the true secret of the failure of the Allied Expedition before Sebastopol! It appears that Maynooth and the Emancipation Act were at the bottom of it all! Absurd as it may seem, this is really one of the grounds upon which the Association have just petitioned Parliament for the abolition of the Maynooth grant. It is amusing to consider the audacity with which a Mr. John Martin, the proposer of the petition, assured his audience that "Protestantism was essentially unfavorable to persecution—it sought to injure no man in his religious opinions. But the intolerant and persecuting spirit of the Church of Rome, had rendered it necessary that its power of action should be restricted." He then gravely announced that the direct aim of the Catholic Church was "The extirpation of Protestants—the erasure of Protestantism from the face of the earth, and the total smothering of religious liberty," and he concluded by coolly affirming that "the people of England and Ireland would now be content with nothing short of the repeal of the grant to Maynooth, the establishment of a system of Scriptural Education, and the maintenance of the Protestant Constitution."

Dr. Gregg, with sepulchral emphasis, warned Queen Victoria to study her Bible with redoubled energy, and reminded her of the fact that the French were admittedly, the masters of the situation at the seat of war. They held the principal places in Constantinople; and should the war terminate successfully for the Allies, they would be able to dictate terms to Great Britain and to hold possession of that city by an arm of occupation. Is it not humiliating," he continued, "that the British should be in the painful position of begging necessities, and even clothes, for their troops from the French, and that the name of the former should have become associated in the East with disorder, weakness, and imbecility?"

Exhibitions of this character are harmless enough, however, compared with the recent proceedings of a similar association in Liverpool. It appears that a few weeks ago the Catholic Bishop of Shrewsbury announced his intention to preach a sermon in aid of one of the charitable institutions of Liverpool. At this the members of a fanatical clique—the Liverpool Reformation Society—thought proper to become intensely indignant, and they threatened personal violence against the Prelate, should he dare to carry out his intention. He did come, however, and preached his sermon, the Reformers, prudently letting the ceremony pass over without disturbance. Immediately afterwards they published a manifesto to the following effect:—"We only abstain from taking summary and effective measures of redress on the evil-doers and their places of worship—in the hope that the authorities may do that in proper form, and therefore it would, to them, seem essential that the nobility, magistrates, and clergy of the town should take that resolution into their most serious consideration as friends of order," and save the town from a popular convulsion." Of course it is impossible that a brutal menace like this could impel the authorities of Liverpool into the proposed No-Popery crusade; but we are glad to perceive that the Catholics are taking counsel together as to the means necessary for their own protection."—*Nation*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AS BY LAW ESTABLISHED.—CONVOCAION OF THE CLERGY.—At seven o'clock on Friday evening the session of Convocation was brought to a close, terminating, curiously enough, with a conflict between the two Houses. It will be remembered that such a disagreement in the time of Bishop Hoadley compelled the Crown to suspend the business of Convocation, whose functions in consequence remained in abeyance 130 years. The business in the Upper House on Friday was of a formal character, their Lordships having met only for the purpose of receiving reports from the Lower House. The Prolocutor took the chair in the Jerusalem Chamber, and for several hours the House discussed the Clergy Discipline Bill, making a few alterations in the bishops' report. Aichdeacon Dinison strove very hard in favour of a resolution declaratory of the fact that the Convocation was a court of heresy, but it was stoutly resisted by Dr. McCaul and other gentlemen, and at length was defeated. The resolutions in reference to the proposed alterations in the Prayer-Book, which were passed at a previous sitting, were referred by the Prolocutor to the Upper House, but the bishops peremptorily refused to accept them; whereupon Dr. Wordsworth moved that the House should pray for more time to consider the matter, a course to which the Upper House with readiness assented. The business in the Lower House was of a most unbusiness-like and disorderly character. Three or four gentlemen spoke at a time, and resolutions and amendments were so jumbled together that it was impossible for anybody accurately to know what was going on. The same resolution was put three or four times—first it was affirmed, then rejected, then postponed, and finally declared negative—only however afterwards to be affirmed. This was the case not only with one resolution, but with every resolution and every amendment that was proposed. The next meeting will take place on the 29th of June.

ARCHDEACON DENISON'S CASE.—There is no truth in the statement which has appeared in some of the papers, that the proceedings against Archdeacon Denison have been abandoned. Some delay has taken place in prosecuting the matter, but it has been occasioned by a desire to obtain from the ecclesiastical lawyers an opinion as to the best manner of proceeding in reference to the report which has been made to the Archbishop of Canterbury by the commissioners to whom the preliminary investigation was entrusted.—*Herald*.

On Sunday morning there was publicly posted on the doors of St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, a monition from the Bishop of London, addressed to the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Liddell, the incumbent of the church, at the instance of Mr. Charles Westerton, the churchwarden, directing that the high altar in that church shall be removed, and a decent communion table substituted.

PROVISIONS FOR THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—The *London Times* says, that a company of merchants have offered, and are prepared to bind themselves in the heaviest penalties which the jealousy of Government can impose, to supply to the British army in its present position, or anywhere within two hundred miles of the coast, food consisting of three meals a day, to be cooked and delivered at head-quarters of each battalion. The breakfast is to consist of tea, coffee, or cocoa, according to choice, and of fresh baked bread; the dinner, of bread, meat, and potatoes, with a quart of malt liquor, and the ordinary allowance of rum. They undertake to give fresh meat twice a week, and vegetables besides potatoes. To this is to be added a substantial evening meal. They are willing to bind themselves under the heaviest penalties, not merely for the performance of the contract in general, but for the punctual delivery of every meal to the soldiers. They ask no assistance whatever from the Government for performing this task, except their forbearance and non-interference. They want neither our ships, our houses, our carts, nor our men. They are contented to take the roads as they find them, and to relieve the British soldier from any care or thought for his own maintenance. And this service they are ready to perform at the rate of 3s. 3d. a-head per diem, expressing every confidence that they shall gain at least ninepence a head by the contract!

The construction of a temporary camp at Aldershot, near Chobham, to be composed of wooden houses for 20,000 men, with a due proportion of officers, stores, &c., is to be completed by the 15th of March.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER.—It is said that when Sir C. Napier returned to England, and presented himself at the Admiralty, he was ushered into the presence, and the first Lord rose, and offered the Admiral his hand. Sir Charles put his behind his back, and gruffly said, "I didn't come here to shake hands with Sir James Graham, but to report to the Admiralty that I had returned from the Baltic Sea."

We are gratified to learn that the expediency of re-appointing a Secretary of State for Scotland is likely to be brought before the House of Commons, our member, Mr. Macgregor, being about to give a notice of motion on the subject.—*Constitutional*.

THE MORMONS IN THE WEST.—For some time past there has been a small colony of Mormons in Taunton, and their practices have rendered them so offensive that they have on more than one occasion been attacked by mobs. These attacks have at last become so serious that the matter was brought before the magistrates a few days since. A large crowd of persons, it appears assembled round the meeting-house of the Mormons and broke the windows and did other damage, which rendered it necessary to call in the assistance of the police, when several of the offending parties were apprehended. The magistrate said that, however objectionable the doctrines of the Mormons might be—and no one felt stronger on the subject than himself—they must be protected by the law, and he therefore inflicted a small fine upon the offenders.

TRIANGLE PROSELYTISM.—We read in the *Graham's town Gazette* (Cape of Good Hope).—"The other day a Catholic convict was punished, and threatened with flogging, for refusing to join in Protestant prayers. This has happened within a few miles of this city.—Punished and threatened with flogging in the nineteenth century, for one's faith! This surely begets the Madia, of Tuscany; they, poor people, were nicely lodged and well-fed—after an attempt, too, to destroy the happiness of the Grand Duke's subjects. But here a poor prisoner, an earnest well-conducted Catholic, who conscientiously may not join in the service of a religion out of from his own, is confined to his cell on bread and water, and told that if he persist in his obstinacy he shall be stripped of his clothes, tied to triangles, and flogged."

REMITTANCES

ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND & WALES.

SIGHT DRAFTS from One Pound upwards, negotiable at any Town in the United Kingdom, are granted on The Union Bank of London, London. The Bank of Ireland, Dublin. The National Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh. By HENRY CHAPMAN & Co., St. Sacramento Street. Montreal, December 14, 1854.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1855.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On Friday the 16th ult., Lord Palmerston rose in the House of Commons to explain the circumstances connected with the late Ministerial changes. He asked the House to refrain from acting upon Mr. Roebuck's motion for a committee of enquiry into the management of the Crimean expedition, as it was the intention of the new Ministry to perform that duty itself. His Lordship then stated the intentions of the Government respecting the reforms about to be introduced into every branch of the service. But, above all, he said, was it the duty of the Government to seek after an honorable peace, and with this object Lord John Russell was about to proceed to Vienna. If the noble Lord failed, it was the resolve of the Ministry to carry on the war with vigor; and he looked forward with confidence to the support of the people of England.

Sir James Graham rose to reply to the strictures upon his conduct, contained in Sir Charles Napier's speech at the Mansion House Dinner. Sir J. Graham denied that the fleet was ill manned or ill disciplined; but he added, he had not recommended Her Majesty to take any notice of the said speech, as he had no desire to make a martyr of the somewhat eccentric, though gallant admiral. In Committee on the Navy Estimates, Sir James Graham said that it had been determined upon to employ only steamers in the Baltic during the coming season, on account of the confusion caused by combining in one fleet, sailing vessels, and ships propelled by steam. Twenty steam line-of-battle ships would be sent to the Baltic this year, together with twenty gun boats, and ten floating batteries. This would increase the expenditure considerably; but the most decided results might be expected.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

On the 1st inst., a petition was presented in the House of Assembly by Mr. Rhodes against Mr. Justice Aylwin, who was accused of having appeared on the Bench in a state of intoxication upon several occasions—especially on the trial of one Muoro for murder. Mr. Rhodes moved that the petition be referred to a committee of five members. This was opposed by Mr. Drummond; because the charges against Judge Aylwin were not precise enough, as to place and time, to give that gentleman an opportunity of replying to them; and because, if the Judge were to be called upon to reply to such charges at all, it should be publicly and in the face of the whole House. The motion of Mr. Rhodes was then negatived; only two members voting for it.

On the 2nd, the House was engaged in a long discussion upon the Toronto Lunatic Asylum. Mr. Spence assured the country of the intention of the Government to proceed with the Legislative Council Bill. Sir Allan McNab remarked that the Ministry were prepared to introduce a Militia Bill for Canada; but he requested a short delay, in order to give time to look into the Report of the Commissioners on the subject. Bills—one to repeal the law authorising Sheriffs' Sales on Sundays, the other to incorporate the Evangelical Society of Grande Ligne Mission—were read a third time and passed. Notice was given by Mr. Clark of his intention to move in amendment to the Liquor Law Bill, a clause prohibiting the importation of all alcoholic liquors. Mr. Cauchon, in reply to a question, stated that it was not the intention of Ministers to alter the Lower Canada School Act, though they might do something with regard to School Inspectors. Sir A. McNab said that the subject of separate schools in Upper Canada was under consideration, and alluded to certain scandalous occurrences at the College in Toronto.

Upon the whole, the proceedings have been totally devoid of interest.

PROTESTANT CALUMNIES.

We read in the American journals that Dr. Ives—known once as Protestant Bishop of North Carolina, and whose conversion to Catholicity, from the Anglican heresy some two years ago, caused no little stir in the Non-Catholic world—is now living at New York in a state of great external destitution, and is suffering from the want of the common necessities of life. The Newark Mercury represents him as reduced to solicit alms for his daily sustenance.

We have no doubt, however, that these statements, even if partially true, are greatly exaggerated by the American Protestant press, for the purpose of causing pain to the gentleman to whom they refer; and whose abandonment of ease, wealth, and social position as a Protestant Bishop, for the toil, poverty, and lowly state of a Catholic layman, they can not forgive, and which they at first did their best to represent as an evidence of mental derangement. They could not indeed assail Dr. Ives' moral character; they saw that it was in vain for them to attempt to represent him as actuated by sordid or interested motives in his change of religion; they knew well that he had not—like a Garuzzi or an Achilli—been cast

out like an unclean thing from the communion to which he once belonged—and that there was no similarity betwixt his conversion, and that of those miserable creatures whom indomitable passion, brutal lust, and love of money, occasionally lead into the slough of Protestantism. It would not do to accuse Dr. Ives of immorality, or to attribute his conversion to worldly motives—and this the Protestant journals saw clearly. For in the first place, no one would believe them if they did so accuse him; and secondly, Dr. Ives would rather gain than lose, in the estimation of the Yankee Protestant world, if they could obtain credence to such calumnies against him. In that happy land, so well represented and delineated by the Hon. Phineas Barnum, it is only by a few that a man is thought the worse of for being a knave, a cheat, and a swindler; so long as he has, or is supposed to have, plenty of hard cash. Villainy, if Barnum may be believed, is the sure path to success in a pecuniary point of view in the United States; and pecuniary success—no matter how attained—in that elysium of humbugs, and in that paradise of impostors and fraudulent bankrupts—is all that is required of the candidates for fame and honor.—To be a millionaire—even if your millions be acquired by long continued frauds, and though every cent be accompanied with the curse of the fatherless children and widows—is to be a Yankee aristocrat, one of the Wall Street noblemen.

In such a country, evidently you gain nothing by proving your opponent to be a knave; you must convict him of poverty, if you wish to be avenged on him, and to bring him into disrepute amongst the aristocracy of dollardom, and its grovelling worshippers. As to be reputed a coward, a liar, or unchaste is in other countries the deadliest reproach under which man or woman can labor, so in Protestant Yankeeedom the suspicion even of poverty brings disgrace unutterable upon him on whom it falls.—Poverty in fine, is the one, the only unpardonable sin—the only offence for which there is neither sympathy nor forgiveness amongst a people who know no God but the Almighty dollar, and no religion save the worship of cash.

We may therefore be excused if we put down this dreadful accusation of poverty brought against Dr. Ives to the malice of his Protestant enemies.—Not indeed as if, even were it true, there were anything therein of which Dr. Ives or his Catholic friends should feel ashamed. On the contrary; if pride were ever permissible to, ever pardonable in, sinful man, it would be the pride of Dr. Ives in his poverty. Yes; if there be a legitimate subject of pride, it is poverty in the United States—where any man who will but cheat, can be rich; it is poverty, the result of a faithful obedience to duty, and to the dictates of divine truth. But Dr. Ives is a Catholic; and just as amongst gentlemen no man is one whit the more, or the less considered, on account of his wealth or poverty, so amongst Catholics, no man can find in any act of his own, the slightest cause for pride or boasting. Dr. Ives has no doubt made great sacrifices in a worldly point of view; but how trifling are they, how worthless in their nothingness, when compared with that which he has already, and even in this world, received: how unwilling would he not be to exchange even the poverty and external destitution with which his Protestant enemies reproach him, for all that they have to offer—for all which they most esteem, and do most profoundly worship.

PROTESTANT ALLIANCE.—What meaning Protestants attach to their shibboleth—"religion has nothing to do with politics"—we may learn from the report of the speeches delivered at a meeting of Protestants of various sects, held on Friday the 23rd ult. at Toronto, with the view of concerting measures to put down Popery.

A minister of the Anglican sect, called Mr. Sanson, took the chair, or tub, and was ably supported by his reverend brethren from the convective over the way. The chairman led off in a most dolorous whine over the abominations of the "Scarlet Woman," and her hinder end, which covered the land with thick darkness. A Methodist, or Juniper, of the name of Gemley, followed suit, and gave it as his opinion that, as Popery is of its nature unchangeable, it required to be rooted up. Having delivered himself of this opinion, the rev. gentleman groaned in spirit, rolled his eyes, "got happy," and sat down, much to the relief of his audience.

A Mr. John Holland figured next. He loved the souls of his Roman Catholic brethren. O! he loved their dear souls. O! he loved the soul of the Pope; and, O! he hoped that Pio Nono might die in a knowledge of the truth. But he too thought that his dear Roman Catholic brethren, whose souls he so tenderly loved, should be put down. Though biased in favor of no political party, he thought that politics should be made to bear more upon religion. An organisation against the growth of Popery was wanted; such an organisation as the Protestant Alliance was necessary; and religious belief, rather than political opinions, should be made the ground of support.—Roman Catholics were one. In all matters touching their religion, they acted in concert, whilst Protestants were divided; therefore Popery must be put down. Roman Catholics were actually—unheard of audacity—working secretly and quietly for the reduction of "their beloved separated Protestant brethren" into the true fold; therefore Popery must be put down. The mild gentlemanly lectures of the Rev. M. Bruyere were, doubtless, having their effect; therefore Popery must be put down. Though Jesuitical meekness might lead some to deem a Protestant Alliance unnecessary, a glance at the state of matters where Roman Catholics were in the ascendant would dissipate any such illusion, and convince the most sceptical that Popery must be put down. Mr. McLean, and a Rev. Mr. Borland, spoke in a similar

strain. They loved their Popish brethren—they were ready to die like martyrs for "religions liberty"—but, Popery must be put down. The following resolution was then put and carried unanimously:—

"That a Protestant Alliance be formed embracing all the evangelical denominations in the city; and that the following gentlemen, together with the clergy, compose a committee to draw out a form of rules to be adopted by the Toronto Protestant Alliance, viz.:—Messrs. Holland, Brown, McLean, Milloy, McLearn, Miller, Tyner, Reynolds, and Pyper."

We trust that the Church may yet survive the fury of all the "evangelical denominations" of Toronto. She has withstood, during the last eighteen hundred years, many a severer trial; nor should we think that this, which menaces her from the formation of a "Toronto Protestant Alliance," was worthy of notice, were it not that it affords another proof, if proof were needed, that Protestants would persecute if they had the power; and that being unable to check the spread of Catholicity by peaceable means, they seek to crush it beneath the load of penal statutes, and barbarous political enactments.

A PROTESTANT INDEED.—We find in the American papers a notice of a work on "The Nature of Evil" written by a Protestant, a Mr. Henry James, in the form of a "Letter to the Rev. Ed. Beecher," a well known Protestant minister of the U. States. In this "Letter," the writer puts forward his opinions upon the Incarnation, and of course on the Mother of the Word Incarnate. These are expressed in the following passage:—

"He took upon him a body born of a woman, and she, in all probability, as to her natural characteristics, one of the basest of her kind."

Protestantism cannot Protest much further than this. Having declared the Blessed Mother to have been "one of the basest of her kind," it only remains for it to declare the same of the Son, and then the great work of the Protestant Reformation will be complete. "Ecraser l'infame" was the watch word of Voltaire and other leading French Protestants of the last century; the Protestants of this century seem well disposed to carry out the principles of their predecessors.

From other quarters it must however be admitted that "Mary" meets with better treatment than she does from Mr. H. James. The Knickerbocker Magazine grows enthusiastic even on the name of Mary. "In all ages it has literally been exalted.—From Mary the Mother of Jesus, to Mary the Mother of Washington, the glory has not departed from the name." To some perhaps, this compliment to the Blessed Virgin will be more distasteful than the ribaldry of Mr. H. James.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—On Monday afternoon, His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, accompanied by Lady Head and suite, arrived in town to assist at the inauguration of the Industrial Exhibition, which event came off under the happiest auspices at noon on Tuesday last. The different fire companies with their bands turned out; the streets were decorated with triumphal arches, and the whole City seemed astir to celebrate with fitting splendor the arrival of Her Majesty's representative. Several addresses were presented, and responded to by His Excellency, who then declared the Exhibition opened, and proceeded to examine the different articles. In the evening, His Excellency was entertained at dinner by His Honor the Mayor and the citizens of Montreal. The evening passed over most agreeably.

In the course of Tuesday afternoon, His Excellency, according to announcement, visited the Seminary, where he was received by the Reverend Superior, the Rev. Mr. Connolly, and other gentlemen of that institution, by whom he was subsequently accompanied on a visit to the Grey Nunnery, the St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, and the Providence Convent. His Excellency expressed himself much delighted with all that he witnessed, and, by his frank gentlemanly demeanor, won golden opinions from every one, as a worthy representative of our most gracious Sovereign. His Excellency also visited the McGill College, and the Montreal Bank, with whose arrangements he showed great satisfaction.

On Wednesday, His Excellency the Governor held a Levee, which was attended by all the principal residents in Montreal. In the evening, a Drawing Room was held by Lady Head, where the ladies hastened to pay their respects. On Thursday forenoon, the Governor, Lady Head, and suite, started for Quebec.

STATE-SCHOOLISM.

"THE COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM OF UPPER CANADA—ITS PRINCIPLE, OPERATION, AND RESULTS." By Mr. Angus Dallas, Toronto.

We have to return thanks for a copy of this able and very instructive pamphlet, in which the author—a Protestant gentleman we believe—points out the radical defects, and dangerous fruits of the Common School System now in vogue in Upper Canada.—Mr. Dallas shows, that, in that system we have but a miserable copy of all that is most objectionable in the Massachusetts system—which may do well enough for Yankees indeed, but which must be rejected with disgust by every lover of freedom—by every man who recognises the right of the parent to educate the child, and the parent's responsibility—not to the State, whether represented by king, or rabble—but to God and to Him alone, for the manner in which he educates his children.

Mr. Dallas condemns the Upper Canada School system as tyrannical, as subversive of the rights of the individual, and as tending solely to the glorification of "Jack-in-Office," and his touchies:—

"The sentiments of respectable sections of the people against the very principle on which the whole su-

perstructure of our Common Schools is based" have been repressed. "These utterances have, however, without exception been either combated or stifled by a powerful machinery, maintained at the public cost, under government auspices, and directed by an influential political leader"—p. iii. "Enquiry is dreaded; not a word must be tolerated against the experiment now so long in progress." [The body upon which these experiments are being made, being, of course, the population of Canada]—"Insult has been offered to whomsoever curiosity or duty may have led to the expression of an opinion. Now such treatment might have carried some share of plausibility, had it come from persons not deriving their subsistence from the school fund, and no way interested, directly or indirectly, in its pecuniary concerns. But such is not the case. Those who have shown the greatest eagerness to frown down attempts at enquiry, are, the Chief and Local Superintendents, . . . and numbers who speculate, prospectively, on some recompence in return for support, in most cases, obsequiously tendered to the head of the Education Office"—p. iv.

What is the consequence—asks Mr. Dallas—of this state of things? What are the fruits of "Jack-in-Office-ism"?

Answer—"A degree of ignorance almost incredible, with respect not only to the source of the history, and the general principles of American Common Schools, but even on the facts as they have been developed, within our own borders, and amongst ourselves"—p. iv.

This is what the country has received in return for the high salary which it pays to a Methodist minister to superintend the education of the youth of Canada.

But Mr. Dallas condemns the Upper Canada School system, as irreligious; as being nothing but a servile copy of the irreligious and tyrannical Yankee system:—

"The care with which everything having reference to the Christian doctrines is excluded from the schools appears in the regulations"—p. 21. "The religious study prescribed for the Normal Schools is all comprised in the following words:—'The principles of piety and morality common to all sects of Christians'"—p. 20.

Rather a "vague expression" this, as Mr. Dallas justly complains; seeing that "the principles of piety and morality common to all sects of"—self-called—"Christians," include the right of divorce, polygamy and the obscene practices of Methodist "Camp Meetings." Well may Mr. Dallas remark that:—

"It will baffle the most patient enquirer to discover what the principles are which are common to all sects"—p. 20.

Mr. Dallas has also some excellent observations on the inconsistency of the following regulation:—

"That a portion of the Holy Scriptures be read morning and evening. The portion of the Scriptures to be selected by the Local Superintendent; subject to the approval of the Board"—p. 20.

"All Scripture," says the Protestant, "is profitable." Then why select only "portions" as profitable to be read?—and why allow "Local Superintendents" to "select" what portions shall be used?—"Why"—asks Mr. Dallas:—

"Why all these precautions? Why subject the teachers to the Local Superintendent, and in addition require the supervision of the Board? What do the Scriptures contain that the Board is afraid should be read?"—p. 22.

Here perhaps the Board is right. Though incompetent to say what portions should be read, yet common decency will tell them that there are many, many passages, which it would be highly immodest and demoralising to read in the presence of young boys and girls. Is it not the fact, that, in Protestant schools where the unrestricted reading of the Bible is allowed, it is from the Bible that young lads learn their first lessons in obscenity? Who that knows anything of our English schools—of Eton, Westminster, or any other of the chief educational institutions of England—but must at once recognise the truth of our assertions? The only use that Protestant boys make of the Bible, when its unrestricted use is permitted, is, to look out for, and show one another, the obscene passages in the Old Testament. "There now! Mr. Pecksniff, don't look so horrified; you know you did so yourself when you were a boy, and so will your sons, after you." Therefore is it that we, Romanists, do not approve of the unrestricted use of the Bible in our schools.

But, asks Mr. Dallas, why should the selections be made by Local Superintendents, or by Boards?—

"Or wherein is any member of the Board, or the Local Superintendent collectively, more competent than the teachers to make selections—unless it be that the collections may contain nothing which is essential to the character of the Christian religion, or which may conflict with the sublimated piety prescribed by the Boston educationists? The principle of the Protestant Reformation must be bad, and Luther and his associates must have made a great mistake, when it becomes necessary to establish a complicated censorship on the reading of the Scriptures"—p. 23.

Finally, Mr. Dallas concludes that the basis of the Upper Canadian school system is—"exclusively secular":—

"And, that what it assumes as a religious foundation, namely, 'piety,' 'love for religion,' and 'morals' are nothing else than genuine deism, with the human manners of 'the man Jesus' superadded. This is a lamentable conclusion, and a melancholy fact"—p. 23.

But a fact nevertheless; and one whose existence must be deplored by every one, Catholic or Non-Catholic, who believes that man is endowed with an immortal soul to be saved, as well as with a belly to be filled; who recognises that there is a God; and that man's first duty is to love and serve Him here on earth, in order that he may love, serve, and adore Him in heaven for all eternity.

We cannot bid farewell to Mr. Dallas' pamphlet without expressing our gratification at finding how closely his views upon education agree with those which the TRUE WITNESS has always advocated.—Education without religion we believe to be a curse; and therefore not worth paying for. But if in a

mixed community like ours, composed of men of all denominations, we would desire to preserve the union between the two—if we would not eliminate all distinctive Christian teaching from our public schools—if we would not degrade Christianity to the miserable emasculated latitudinarian deism which is contained "in the principles common to all sects of Christians"—and if we would not at the same time encroach upon the rights of any—we must at once adopt the Denominational, instead of the Yankee system; and endeavor to bring our schools into harmony with the actual condition of society. Where we have—a "Common Faith," and a "Common Church"—there also, but there *only*, can we expect to have "Common Schools." Where we have separate denominations, separate religions, and rival creeds, there must we have "separate" schools as well. It is from ignoring this self-evident fact—from their obstinate adherence to infidel theories—and a determination to see things, not as they are, but as they wish them to be—that our Legislators and Ministers have proved themselves, hitherto, incompetent to frame a School Act suited to the wants, and social condition of Upper Canada.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Lower Canada, for 1853. Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly.

With many and serious difficulties to contend with, and which are clearly pointed by Dr. Meilleur in his "Report," it appears that the cause of Education is steadily progressing in Lower Canada; and that as the system is better understood, it is also becoming more generally popular amongst the people. Much has been done, but much still remains to do. Many prejudices, and obstacles arising from the heterogeneous nature of the population of this section of the Province, from the differences of language and religion, have yet to be overcome; the active hostility of some has to be softened down, the supine indifference of others, stimulated into zeal, before our Lower Canadian school system can be brought to anything like perfection. From what has been done, however, and is still doing, we have ample reasons to hope the best for the future; and the thanks of the community are certainly due to Dr. Meilleur, for his unremitting efforts to carry out the benevolent intentions of the framers of the existing laws. We trust that he may meet with the encouragement which he well deserves.

Dr. Meilleur's "Report" is plain and unpretending; standing in this respect in striking contrast to the elaborate and somewhat inflated documents, periodically issued under the sanction of the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, the great "Absolute Me" of the school system of Upper Canada. Dr. Meilleur contents himself with a plain unvarnished statement of facts; and having no personal ambition to gratify, and no pet theory of his own to carry out, he leaves the reader to deduce his own conclusions from the facts so unostentatiously laid before him. In perusing Dr. Meilleur's Report it is impossible to avoid the conviction that we have to do with an unassuming, honest man, less intent upon gaining public applause than upon meriting it by the faithful, conscientious discharge of his duties. Dr. Meilleur aims, in fact, rather at being useful, than brilliant; and seems to care more about what he tells us, than how he tells it.

The "Report" which is far too lengthy for our columns, is followed by statistical Tables, showing the manner in which the Legislative school grant has been appropriated, and allotted to the different School Municipalities. To these are subjoined the Reports of, and letters from, the School Inspectors and School Commissioners, giving an account of the state of the schools in their respective districts. Of these many are very interesting; others again are but little creditable either to their authors, or to the public document in which they are given to the world. Many of these blemishes to which we allude are no doubt typographical errors, for which the printer's devil is mainly in fault; though certainly more pains should be taken in correcting the proof sheets. Others again are indubitably attributable to the writers; and though for neither can Dr. Meilleur be held responsible, we trust that more pains will be taken with the printing of the next Report; and that the School Inspectors will for the future endeavor to write intelligibly, and eschew the singularly complicated style of Mrs. Gamp, ingeniously blended with the marvellous cacography of the author of the "Yellow-Plush Letters." We will give an illustration or two of our meaning.

From page 87, to p. 95, the "Report" is taken up with the official correspondence, Statements, General Remarks, Recommendations, &c." of John Bruce, Esq., Inspector of Schools, a gentleman who rather piques himself upon the "clearness and brevity"—p. 87,—of his style. Strange to say, the grossest errors, and most incomprehensible nonsense, of which we have to complain are to be found in this very gentleman's contributions to the Report. Our readers may judge for themselves from the following extracts, which we assure them are literal transcripts of the original before us.

"My present can differ little from my last," he begins, "in much of marked importance. More Schools are in operation. The improvement of systems mentioned in my last continues."—p. 87.

"Speaking Generally of schools, I would state that still a number is doing but little good. A considerable number are in a flourishing state. Their scholars are advancing to my entire satisfaction. The subsoil of the juvenile mind is beginning to be turned up with a deeper. The teachers in discharging their duties are beginning to show more skill, diligence, and sound judgment. Of about 20 schools (including the Academy of Huntingdon) I would state that the expanding minds of youth are beginning to get fair play—trash is intelligently and interestingly conveyed and done with earnestness and fervour."—p. 87.

We contend that the above passages are not clear; nor are the following:—

"Difficulties, however, and serious, and not easily overcome or removed, exist. Prejudice and notions—the offspring of ignorance—are not the least of these. Some would be content with the mere elements of a little learning to their children; a great many consider reading and writing and a small amount of arithmetical knowledge are sufficient education to the population of rural districts; and anything proposed beyond this, is by such received with cool indifference, if not run down as a thing that can serve no purpose save that of unnecessary expense. Whoever is engaged in establishing and improving schools must expect to meet with such and many more. Difficulties must be opposed—and opposed to be overcome. With the intelligent and earnest they serve but to urge on to redoubled efforts. The most formidable difficulties, however, are the want of intelligent well trained teachers, and sufficient means for encouraging such to make teaching a profession; and so dependent are these on each other that whatever effects the one influences the other. Could we succeed in getting good teachers, the manifest advantages of having our schools conducted by such would soon exert an influence on our communities favorable to education; in disposing them to give more of their means for school support, and taking a greater interest in the advancement of education. Or could the salaries be so raised; either by an increase of property rates, or of the Legislative grant, or of both, as to induce men of superior acquirements to engage in teaching, every such teacher secured would be a lessening of the other."—p. p. 88, 89.

At page 90, our author insists upon the necessity of a strict scrutiny, by the School Inspectors, into the management of the "school funds":—

"By its improper management, mal-appropriation, or unjust distribution, it may become a source of evil rather than good, causing jealousy, strife, and prolonged contention, and sacrificing the interest of education to party discord or edacious difficulties."

Under the head—"Contention—Causes of"—we find the following lucid exposition of the difficulties which a School Inspector has to encounter:—

"Since I left the Education Office, end of April last, I have not had one day of leisure time. I complain not of this. I go through my labour with pleasure. But when I have to face the strife and contention of parties; when I have to contend with the prejudice and malice of hostile opponents fostered for years; and that suspicious jealousy and insidious treachery of equivocating partisans, I look upon the duties they create as the most painful and difficult to discharge of any which the law imposes upon me not less perplexing than the solution of Chancer's Delicium. These have for their sources points of law, real or imaginary—school funds and their appropriations—engaging of teachers, especially when this is left to the people—boundaries of school Districts and Municipalities, as the latter respects paying rates without receiving any benefit—location of school houses, &c. The most noted Municipalities for contention are, Elgin, Hinchinbrooke, and St. Andrews. In this Dundee also cuts a figure. The analysis of the disease is long: I hope its paracure is near."—p. 91.

Such is the marvellous vision which meets the eye—we pretend not to be able to give the interpretation thereof. All that can be said in extenuation of these extraordinary figures of speech, is, that the "man is mortal," and may perhaps himself "have been a schoolmaster."

Enough, however, of criticism. It is a far more pleasant task to turn from these blemishes to the abundant evidences which we find in the "Report" of the steady progress that education is making amongst the people. The number of schools is increasing, the attendance upon them is larger, and certainly nowhere in Catholic Canada do we meet with that brutal ignorance which is the disgrace and curse, as it is the characteristic, of Protestant England. Of none, not even of the worst, of our schools, scholars, and school teachers in Canada could a visitor justly complain as Mr. Bowyer, Inspector of Schools for the Eastern and Midland districts of England, complains of the establishments under his control. Here is an extract from his Report. Of one school he says:—

"A wretched school. Children extremely ignorant, and destitute of intelligence. To the question, 'What is a graven image?' the least dull of the boys replied—'Lightning, Sir,' and everything that is in the air above." On questioning him, I found that his answer was not a random one, but expressed his real opinion.

In another place, Mr. Bowyer says:—
"At my first visit the school was vacant. At my second, I found a new Mistress, whose ignorance surpassed anything within my experience. To the question—'What remarkable event occurred when Our Saviour was twelve years old?'—she replied—'I believe he was put in the butrashes.'"

Of other schools Mr. Bowyer reports in almost precisely the same terms: of one at Grantham he says:—

"None of the boys could point out Egypt on the map, or explain what was a graven image. One boy said 'it was going to school.'"

Our Canadian schools may be deficient in many respects; but they are not so bad as this. The most ignorant of our Lower Canadian population are familiar with the truths of our holy religion. At the least they are Christians; whilst the most that can be said of the masses in England, is, that they are Protestants. With all our short comings in Canada, we should be loth to exchange our "least" for England's "most."

"FABIOLA; OR THE CHURCH IN THE CATACOMBS." Messrs. Sadlers, New York and Montreal.

A tale, well known to be from the pen of the Archbishop of Westminster, needs no recommendation to the Catholic public; but its intrinsic merits would suffice to procure for this interesting volume an enthusiastic reception. In our next, we shall have the pleasure of laying some extracts from *Fabiola* before our

readers; in the meantime, we content ourselves with the following notice of the work, which we copy from the *Dublin Review* of January last:—

"*Fabiola*" is published anonymously. But it is clear that the authorship cannot long remain a secret. No habitual reader of this journal, especially, can fail to discover it without an effort. He will recognize at once the ease and brilliancy of style, the lively fancy, the singular faculty of illustration, the quiet but racy humour, the graphic skill, as well as the more solid qualities, the curious scholarship, unobtrusive from its very richness, the profound philosophy, the elevation of thought, the lofty piety, the exquisite tenderness, the vast and various erudition,—in a word, the mastery over all the manifold sources of human knowledge, and all the graceful arts by which knowledge is made useful and attractive, which he has been accustomed to admire in each successive number of our Review, and which have ever sufficed to identify at a glance every emanation of one illustrious pen, however careful the disguise under which it had sought at times to conceal itself. All the best and most striking characteristics of this brilliant pen, are distinctly traceable in every chapter of "*Fabiola*,"—poured out in its pages with a prodigality which fills us with wonder, and yet with an ease, a simplicity, an absence of every kind of effort, which reconciles the reader to his own intellectual inferiority, and makes him almost feel a sharer in the wealth which is thus prodigally spread out before his eyes.

"*Fabiola*" is entirely free from the polemical character. At times, it is true, philosophical and even profound; always dealing frankly and boldly with all the great questions of natural religion; occasionally probing to the very depths those mysterious and painful longings of the human heart, whose realization is the great problem of all philosophical and theological science; the theology of this charming book is always, nevertheless, perfectly simple and popular in its tone.

"In a word, no one need shrink from "*Fabiola*," as from that most repulsive of all classes of literature—an essay on Natural Theology."

To this we need only add, that we recommend every one to procure a copy of *Fabiola*, as a work, fitted to amuse, to instruct, and to edify; equally valuable to the theologian, the antiquarian, or the simple unlettered Christian.

INSTITUTE OF THE HOLY CHILHOOD. (Concluded from our last.)

"7—ORGANISATION OF THE HOLY CHILHOOD.

"The 'Holy Childhood,' that army more numerous and more mighty than ever was that of Alexander, or of Napoleon, is constituted in nearly the same way as the Society for the 'Propagation of the Faith,' which now embraces the entire world. It is composed of Dozens, Sub-divisions, and Divisions. Every Dozen, Sub-division, and Division, has its own chief. That chief is usually the person who formed the Dozen, Sub-division, or Division, and on him or her devolves the task of inscribing the names of the associates, distributing the annals, and receiving subscriptions.

"The subscription is only 12 sous (cents or coppers) a year, or one sous per month. In order to increase the amount of subscriptions, zealous persons who are at the head of the Institute, often get up little lotteries or bazaars, &c., availing themselves of such opportunities to make many acquainted with the Association and its objects.

"There are no prayers to be said, except a *Hail Mary*, with this invocation: 'O Mary and Joseph, pray for us and for all poor heathen children.' When the child is too young to say this prayer, another person may say it for him or her.

"Every two months there is usually a distribution of new Annals. It is well to have them read by as many as possible.

"Every year, about Easter and Christmas, (where the Institute is properly encouraged) there is a general meeting of the associates, together with a conference, collection, consecration to the Infant Jesus, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; in short, a solemn festival.

"8—INDULGENCES GRANTED TO THE 'HOLY CHILHOOD."

"The Sovereign Pontiffs, Gregory XVI. and Pius IX., have granted the following indulgences to the 'Holy Childhood':—

"1st. A Plenary Indulgence from Christmas till the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple;—from the 2nd Sunday after Easter till the end of the month of May, applicable to the souls in Purgatory, for all the associates who, having fulfilled the usual conditions, assist at a Mass said for the Institute; to be gained even by children who have not yet made their first communion."

"Also a Plenary Indulgence on the patronal feasts of the Institute—namely, the Presentation, the Holy Angels Guardian, St. Joseph, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Vincent de Paul."

"2nd. A partial indulgence of one year, for the members of councils instituted, or to be instituted, in any place whatsoever, for each particular meeting."

"9—FACILITY OF THE WORK—THERE CAN BE NO EXCUSE FOR DISPENSING WITH IT.

"To be a member of the 'Holy Childhood,' it would scarce seem necessary to be a Christian: it is enough to be human. How, indeed, can any one contemplate such butchery of children, such wholesale massacre, without being affected? Nothing less than an insurmountable obstacle ought to prevent persons from coming to the rescue of these poor children. But, far from that—in order to give the 'Holy Childhood' the greatest possible extension, the conditions are of the simplest kind: to say one *Hail Mary* every day, to give one *sous* every month. Can any one ask less? Who would venture to complain of such conditions?—who would refuse to concur in a work so easy? Never was so much good effected by means so small.

"But I have not much time to devote to this work," some will say. Ah! it is not time that is wanting, but good-will. 'Oh! but there are so many charitable associations already!' Yes, but there is none like this. 'We have our own poor to support!' You can support them, and, at the same time, contribute to save deserted children. 'Well! after some time, perhaps I may—' and, in the mean time, myriads of children may perish. 'But there are many persons who do not yet belong to the 'Holy Childhood,' and who have a better right to join it than I have.' That is because they do not know it.

"Thus we see that there is no pretence for keeping aloof from this work of charity. It is so beautiful, so

easy, that unless one has a heart insensible to good, it is impossible to overlook its claims.

"10—APPEAL ON BEHALF OF HEATHEN CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF CHINA.

"The misfortunes of the heathen children were no sooner known than thousands of voices were heard on their behalf. The missionaries especially, on reaching the scene of carnage, sent back the most piteous supplications. One would require to read in the Annals of the Institute the touching letters wherein they call upon the faithful of every age, sex, and condition, to come to the assistance of these unfortunate children. But as it is impossible to give in this brief sketch, even fragments of these letters, we will, in conclusion, lay before our readers the words of the missionary Bishop, who was the founder of the 'Holy Childhood':—

"Behold these poor little ones," cries that holy Bishop, addressing himself to all tender hearts, especially those of Christian mothers—'behold these poor little ones whose salvation we ask of you. Imagine them stretching out their suppliant hands to you..... begging of you, not only their corporal life, but still more urgently, the grace of Baptism..... They die, and are for ever deprived of the vision of God, if you desert them..... They die by hundreds of thousands—smothered, drowned, crushed, devoured alive by dogs and swine..... They will live, on the contrary, if, by a trifling alms, you procure for them the treasure of redemption and eternal happiness.

"They shall live as living monuments of your charity—they shall live, growing up as your children, and, by their prayers, incessantly drawing down new graces on themselves and you; or, otherwise, dying in great numbers, but covered with the blood and the merits of Jesus Christ, heaven will receive for you and your children, that rich harvest of little angels.— They will watch over you, and all that you hold dear, returning to mingle in your joyous festivals, and those of your children..... Yes, the eye of faith will be able to recognise them..... They will accompany you to the Sacred Banquet, and protect you in all dangers..... They will assist you in your last dread combat; they will come to meet you and conduct you in triumph to our common country, and even there, where all desires are merged in perfect happiness, it will increase yours to see them partakers in the everlasting joys of heaven."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Philoponos" in our next.

Several book notices unavoidably delayed.

INCREASED USE OF WINES AND ARDENT SPIRITS IN THE UNITED STATES.—Whatever may have been the effects of prohibitory Liquor Laws in Maine and other States where they exist, it would appear, by the following figures, which we (*Montreal Herald*) find in the Portland "State of Maine" of Saturday last, that their effects have been altogether nugatory, as affecting the Union at large. Our contemporary says:—

"The prohibitory Liquor Law of Maine, was passed June 2d, 1851. Similar laws were passed in Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, and other States, in the following year.

"It is a matter of the gravest inquiry among all classes of men, as to the effect of prohibitory statutes upon the public morals.

"We do not propose in this paper to discuss the principle of prohibition, but simply to give certain facts furnished us by the Reports on Commerce and Navigation, by the Secretary of the Treasury, showing the comparative consumption of liquors before and since the passage of the Liquor Law of Maine, and the corresponding enactments in other States.

"We give below a table showing the value of the imports of wine, spirits, ale, &c., for 1852, 1853, and 1854:—

	Wines.	Distilled Spirits.	Ale, Beer, &c.
1852,	\$2,203,321	\$2,220,473	\$257,440
1853,	2,995,632	3,523,798	365,492
1854,	3,370,902	2,990,262	567,009

"In 1853, the importation of brandy was 3,747,378 gallons, valued at \$3,143,607. In 1854, the importation was only 2,029,570 gallons, valued at \$2,083,165.

"The value of brandy imported in 1853, was 83 cents per gallon. In 1854, it was 102 cents per gallon. This fact serves in part to explain the falling off in the imports of brandy in 1854. There was a short crop in France.

"The import of all other descriptions of drinks increased largely in 1854 over 1853, as will be seen by examination of the above figures.

"The scarcity of brandy in France has caused an increase in the manufacture of domestic spirits in this country the past year, which has been extremely profitable."

The state of the jails in Upper Canada is such as to call for the immediate attention of the public authorities. Prisoners walk out, almost when and how they please; and, according to the Upper Canada journals, most of the jails are altogether unfit for the safe custody of criminals.

Married.

In the City of Ottawa, on the 2nd inst., by the Rev. T. Stobbs, Mr. George Nolan, of Montreal, Printer, to Mary Ann, second daughter of W. K. Hodges, Esq., of Aymer, C.W.

Died, In this city, on the 5th instant, Dame Veuve Hyppolite Donault, of Laprairie.

In this city, on Tuesday, the 6th instant, Mary O'Brien, aged 63, relict of the late Patrick McNally; a native of the city of Dublin.

YOUNG MEN'S ST. PATRICK'S ASSOCIATION.

AN ADJOURNED MEETING of the above named Association will be held on FRIDAY EVENING next, the 9th instant, at EIGHT o'clock, in the Room adjoining the Recollet Church.

Members requiring BADGES will have to make application at the above meeting.

By Order, F. DALTON, Secretary.

March 3, 1855.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.

AN ADJOURNED MEETING of the ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY, will be held at St. PATRICK'S HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, 12th instant, at EIGHT o'clock.

Members requiring BADGES will, on application, be supplied at the above meeting.

By Order, W. F. SMYTH, Sec. Soc.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S VISIT TO THE CRIMEA.—A letter received from Paris, speaking on this subject, says:—"The project, however unlikely it may appear, was actually discussed in the Council of Ministers; and Admiral Hamelin was consulted as to the time the voyage out and back would occupy. It appears that even now it is not certain that Louis Napoleon will not persist in his idea; for, although the Ministers have unanimously disapproved of it, the Emperor has not yet intimated that he has abandoned his determination."

Another letter says:—"The rumor which has taken every one by surprise, which has disconcerted most of those who have heard it, and which has produced so great a fall in the public securities, is still persisted in. I allude to the departure of the Emperor to the Crimea. It continues to be the topic of conversation, and though there are a few who still disbelieve it, yet several who were yesterday and the day before among the most incredulous now begin to give way. They call to mind that the Emperor is a sort of fatalist, that he is firmly persuaded that he has a mission to fulfil, that no dangers, no difficulties, are great enough to prevent that fulfilment, that he is destined to restore the glory of his name and the nation he rules over, and that the capture of Sebastopol under his own eye, and perhaps under his command would give his reign a prestige far beyond that of Algiers, and nearly equal to that of his great uncle."

It is currently reported in Paris that the Emperor will pay his long expected visit to London, at the end of February or the beginning of March.—*Globe*.

Every one now feels that we must make up our minds to a long, an obstinate, and a bloody war (says the *Chronicle* Paris correspondent.) The accounts which reach us from Germany show less and less confidence in the conclusion of peace. Not only do the German papers begin to doubt the sincerity of the propositions made in the name of the Czar, but some of them go so far as to say that Prince Gortschakoff did not give in his adhesion without an amount of reserve which renders whatever he has done worthless.

THE FRENCH "ARMY OF THE RHINE."—The camp of Boulogne, or, as it now begins to be called, the "army of the Rhine," is now completely organized, and prepared to take the field at a very short notice. It is said that it is to be raised to 200,000 men, and to be divided into four corps d'armée. The Emperor himself will be the commander-in-chief, with General Schramm as second in command. All the officers have received orders to be in readiness to march at short notice, and no congés are now given.

CONVERSION.—The Count de Stolberg (grandson of the celebrated historian of that name, who was converted to the Catholic faith in 1808) has followed the example of his grandfather, and returned to the bosom of the Catholic Church at Kaltern, Tyrol.—*Univers*.

The *Univers* of the 30th Jan. states that Mr. Robert Belaney, formerly member of the University of Cambridge, and Anglican Minister, entered about four months since l'Ecole des Carmes to study theology and prepare for the Priesthood. His Eminence Cardinal Wiseman, who placed him there, visited the house on Saturday, celebrated the Holy Mass, and conferred Minor Orders on Mr. Belaney.

The *Messenger de la Charité* gives the following interesting letter from a French chaplain at the seat of war:—"The spirit of our army is admirable.—We are between two fires, from the walls of Sebastopol, and from the Russian army in the field. Amidst all our perils the camp is pervaded by a spirit of calmness, tranquillity, joy, and devotion, which makes it a very school of French magnanimity and honor. The most cruel sufferings cannot damp the ardor of our soldiers. One of them came the other day to the ambulance, carrying the half of his arm which had just been shot off, in his hand. While the surgeons were dressing this frightful wound, two men fell struck by a bullet. 'They are worse than I am, go to them,' and he escaped from the hands of the surgeons to force them to attend to his comrades. It is needless to add that these acts of virtue and devotion spring from the spirit of Christianity. 'Oh! M. l'Abbé,' cried the soldiers, 'come to us.' We have neither father nor mother, we are far away from our own country, but you are the representative of God, you will be to us in the stead of all others. 'M. l'Abbé,' said a captain, with whose name I am unacquainted, who accosted me as I passed through the camp. 'You are one of us, may God bless you, the cross and the sword are inseparably united, come with us, bless us, help us to do our duty, and prepare us for death, we can brave all; and we fear not for the future.' 'M. l'Abbé, come to us,' cried a party of officers, whom I saluted, taking their supper in the open air, 'come to us that we may become acquainted with you, you will tell us that you are one of us, and you will accompany us to the field of battle, and we shall do our duty, because the mercy of God is with you. It must be owned, M. l'Abbé, that the Russians are better than we are, they are more religious, and yet they are not like us Catholics. It is a disgrace to us Frenchmen. 'There must be an end of this,' said a Soubien, with an open countenance and a noble soul, who had just left the hospital to return to his battalion and encounter fresh dangers. In very original and picturesque terms, which I am unable to translate, he informed me how human respect had been the scourge of the enemy, and how it was rapidly disappearing from the army of the East. Certainly, their united testimony is very satisfactory and encouraging amid all the good which is being so noiselessly accomplished. I am fortunate in being a priest among the flower of the children of France, and in offering my life to take part in a providential movement towards those religious ideas, which can

alone be the salvation of society. I have been received with the most touching kindness by officers of every rank, perfect harmony reigns throughout the camp, all are drawn together in closer union on this foreign soil, and the bond is strengthened by fellowship in suffering and the absence of all comfort. The courtesy of the French and English officers recalls the best days of chivalry, and the care lavished on the Russian prisoners and wounded reminds us of the brightest days of Christianity."

THE BROTHERS OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE.—The government of the Brothers of Christian Doctrine is at present divided into twenty provinces, of which ten are for France, Algeria, and the colonies; the ten others for Belgium, Prussia, Switzerland, Savoy, Piedmont, the Pontifical States, the Levant, Canada, the United States, and Malasia. At this moment England is being organized as a province.—The General, Father Philippe, resides at Passy.—There are in these twenty provinces, 750 establishments, 1,353 schools, 4,126 classes, and 275,000 pupils.—*Journal de Bruxelles*.

The Father General of the Society of Jesus has addressed the following paper to the Provincial:—

"My Rev. Father—The public and the public press have been saying much, and in different tones, of the doctrines and line of conduct adopted by the Society of Jesus on the subject of different forms of political government. In consequence of this, I feel obliged by duty to my charge to remind the provincial Fathers of what are the principles of the Society on this subject. The Society of Jesus being a religious Order has no other doctrine or rule of conduct but that of the Holy Church, as my predecessor, Rev. Father Roothaan, was called on to declare publicly in 1847:—

"The greatest glory of God and the salvation of souls—this is our true and only end, to which we tend by the apostolic labors which belong to the Institute of St. Ignatius. In fact, as in right, the Society of Jesus is, and declares itself to be, exterior to all political parties whatsoever. In all countries and under all forms of government, it confines itself exclusively to the exercise of its ministry, having its one end only in view, which is raised far above all interests of human."

"Always and in all places, the Religious of the Society acquit themselves faithfully of the duties of good citizens and loyal subjects of the ruling authority of the country. Always, and everywhere, it teaches by word and deed, 'Render to Cæsar that which belongs to Cæsar, and to God that which belongs to God.'

"These are the principles which the Society of Jesus has always professed, and from which it will never depart. In the present circumstances, as Superior of the Society of Jesus, I feel bound to renew this declaration, which alone is to be received as authoritative, in order to silence and correct all contrary assertions as to the doctrine of the Society, or its chief theologians, as to the form of its interior government, or as to the education given to its young religious, whatever may have been the source of those assertions. Notwithstanding my extreme repugnance to see my name mixed up in the newspaper discussions, I can perceive, Rev. Father, that your situation may become such as to make it possible for you to refuse permission to make such use of this letter as circumstances may demand."

"I recommend myself to your, &c.—Your servant in Jesus Christ,
"PIERRE BECCO.
"Rome, Jan. 10, 1855."—*Univers*.

GERMANY.

The Cabinet of Vienna has forwarded to the Prussian Government another note, under date of January 24th, urging its former arguments in favor of a mobilization on the part of Prussia, her obligations to which it endeavors still to educe out of the treaty of April 20. In this last attempt it has been no more successful than on former occasions, and Prussia has replied to it by another despatch, under date of January 31, adducing the same grounds as before for not complying with the application. The said treaty is shown to have been a defensive treaty, of which the possible offensive character turns on a contingency that has not yet supervened. Should it subsequently supervene, Prussia is ready and willing to march instantly to Austria's assistance. She refuses, however, to call out troops for the mere purpose of making an offensive demonstration against Russia in whose assurance she trusts, that no attack will be made on Austria. Within the last week or ten days, the representations of the latter Power have lost much of their weight on this subject, seeing that the resolution for putting the entire Federal contingents on the war footing has been adopted in the committees of the Bund, and that Russia has considerably drawn back her forces in Poland from their former threatened position.

Prussia has been for several months past perfecting all her preparations for an eventual mobilization, so that whenever the word of command is given, a large force, in addition to the regiments already on foot, will be collected around the standards with such a rapidity as to produce the amount of dramatic effect that is so much valued in high places here. But the rapid movements of Generals to and from the capital just now must not be misunderstood to imply immediate mobilization; their business is to help to constitute the Fire-arms Committee which I lately mentioned as sitting here under the Presidency of the Prince of Prussia. The object of General Willisen's visit to Carlsruhe has also been the examination of certain improvements lately introduced into the fire-arms of the Baden troops. General von Willisen and Lt.-Colonel von Schlegel have the management of the Royal Prussian fire-arms' manufactory at Suhl.

Very extensive preparations are being made for war in Bavaria, but, as in the case here, everything

is done as quietly as possible. The Artillery department is extremely active; the furloughmen are about to be called in, and the recruits of this year are to be drilled without delay.

SWITZERLAND.

THE CURSE ON CHURCH ROBBERY.—The political situation of the country offers no novelty; but, at the present moment, when the threatened suppression of religious corporations in Sardinia, excites so much attention, it may be of interest to review the results which a similar revolutionary measure has produced in Switzerland. Since 1840, the Progressionist Cantons have successively taken possession of the wealth of the richest convents, and have, by this means, poured many millions of francs into the cantonal treasuries, and what good has come of it? The budgets of these church-robbing cantons present, at this very time; enormous deficits, and the misery of the people is greater than ever. Lucerne, for example, has a deficit this year of 211,592 francs; Fribourg of 205,600 francs; St. Gall of 341,000 francs; and we do not speak of Argau, the Valais, and the Tessin, all whose finances are in a most deplorable condition. Thus the State has gained nothing by the spoliation of the convents; but the people have lost much—pauperism is making fearful progress in these countries. At Lucerne, the pauper tax has risen in some communes, to 20 to 50 per cent. And the canton actually expends nearly a million francs for the relief of the poor. In Argau, there are some communes where two-thirds of the population are in receipt of pauper relief. At Fribourg, the pauper rates absorb an immense sum, and so of all the rest. In all the cantons in which the convents have been suppressed, we observe two clear results: 1st. The budgets of those cantons, which were formerly in a flourishing condition, are now burdened with debts. 2nd. That the misery of the people, and the number of the poor is greatly augmented in proportion to the pauper-tax, where formerly there existed no pauperism, it has now assumed very alarming proportions. Thus the suppression of the convents, so far from enriching the Swiss government, has rendered the people much more miserable. In its political aspect, the suppression of the religious corporations has not in any way answered the intentions of the party of progress; they hoped to strengthen their cause and to strike a mortal blow at the religious inclinations of the people, to place themselves in the van of public opinion, and to silence the "Ultramontane" opposition. In all these points they have failed, for the suppression of the convents has so irritated the people, that many times since 1840 they have taken up arms to restore the convents, and drive away the government robbers, as at Fribourg, Argau, Tessin, &c. If a civil war should ever again arise in Switzerland, the suppression of the convents will have been one of its principal causes. Instead of overcoming the opposition, it has only strengthened it, and thus this measure of the Progressionists has been not only a crime but a blunder. Will the experiment be more successful in Sardinia.—*Univers*.

ITALY.

REVOLUTIONARY SYMPTOMS IN ITALY.—There are two great events taking place in Italy at this moment—France and Austria are withdrawing their troops, and symptoms of revolution are appearing in the Roman States and in Tuscany. Meanwhile the Italian Princes (especially Naples) are recruiting largely in Switzerland at a ruinous cost. As matters now stand the telegraph may any day tell us that a rising has taken place in the Roman States, in Tuscany, or in Naples.—*Morning Post Correspondent*.

The Holy Father declares null and void all the laws and ordinances made by the Sardinian Government against the rights and authority of the Church, and of the Holy See as well as that law proposed for the destruction of the religious houses.

DEATH OF ANOTHER CARDINAL.—The *Univers* of Friday announces from the *Roman Journal* the demise, which has just taken place, of His Eminence Cardinal Giovanni Serafini. The "Catholic Almanack" gives as the date of his birth October 15, 1786, and of his elevation to the purple February 12, 1843. This makes the fourth death amongst the members of the Sacred College since the commencement of the present year.

SPAIN.

It would appear that the present Spanish government is determined on the confiscation of the entire property of the Clergy. We translate the following on this subject from the *Univers* commenting on the speech of the new Minister of Finance, M. Pascal Adoue, who is stated to have said:—"As to the goods of the Clergy, they will be sold immediately, without asking authority from any one. We will then see appear in a few days the decree of spoliation in the official gazette, and a new inquiry will be consummated, notwithstanding a recent treaty, the Concordat of 1851, which the Spanish government guaranteed to the Clergy the property of which it now despoils them. How are the revenues derived from the property of the Clergy appropriated? To support poor families who could not, since the spoliation of the property of the Religious Orders obtain elsewhere the bread of charity; to maintain some necessary Priests exclusively of those to whom the state gives or rather promises such limited support. These revenues serve also to maintain the churches which, if depending solely on the government funds, would be in the most wretched condition. This is the use which the Clergy made of the revenues arising out of this property."

RUSSIA.

Some of the semi-official organs of Russia in Germany, have recently informed us that the Czar now has 685,000 men in the field, and that within six months a reserve army of 200,000 men will be organized. There is no reason to suppose that this is

an exaggeration, but it must not be forgotten that the Russian line of operation extends from the Baltic Sea to the Caspian.

RUSSIAN REVENGE AT BOMARSUND.—It is reported from Bomarsund that the Russian Government is taking strict measures against those who are in the slightest degree suspected of having rendered assistance to the allies. Between seventy and eighty inhabitants have already been punished.

EXPULSION OF ENGLISH MISSIONARIES FROM RUSSIA.—A Königsberg paper has received information from a private source that all English missionaries in Russia have been commanded by Imperial ukase to quit the country within fourteen days.

RUSSIAN PRISONERS—THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.—The *St. Petersburg Journal* publishes the following:—"We experience real satisfaction in informing the public that the wounded Russians conveyed to Constantinople receive in the French hospitals the most tender care on the part of the Sisters of Charity. Faithful to their holy vocation, these Nuns manifest a solicitude eminently Christian while succouring human sufferings, without making any distinction as to the nationality or religion of the sufferers. We know, moreover, that in their beneficence they have bought and supplied our prisoners with the most indispensable articles of apparel. They have shown themselves worthy of all admiration in compassionate and tending our poor wounded men precisely the same as if they had been Frenchmen. May the homage of our sincere gratitude find its way to those worthy Nuns, whom God can alone reward according to their deserts for the mission of charity they so sublimely fulfil in this world."

WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The accounts from Sebastopol contain unmistakable evidence that, in the midst of sickness and sufferings of our troops, the operations of the siege have gradually assumed a more decisive character, and the attack upon the town is likely to be soon commenced. The operations so resolutely pursued, have now assumed an aspect of some promise. Our allies have exerted themselves with incredible energy, determination, and dexterity. Notwithstanding the unremitting fire and ceaseless attacks of the enemy, they have carried on approaches of a scientific character up to the very walls of the place. The extent and importance of their works may be judged from the fact that they cover a space of two miles in depth by five or six miles in length, and, having thus established themselves in a commanding position, they will be ready, it is said, to renew the experiment on the 17th of October, with chances more favorable than before. On our own side we have also accomplished much. We have got our batteries in very good order, and three nights, it was said, would be sufficient to arm them. When all the preparations have been completed, it is supposed that the strength of the enemy will again be tested by a repetition of the regular attack.

Hitherto it has been all artillery work, and the siege guns of the allies, brought up with difficulty from the shore to the heights, and supplied with ammunition by the same laborious process, have proved no match for the countless cannon of the enemy, drawn from the stores of a prodigious arsenal in their rear, served by the thousand gunners of a disabled fleet, and worked with a vigor and even a wantonness showing the most lavish profusion of all the munitions of war.—What is now desired is to bring, if possible, another weapon into operation, and to clear the way for these daring hands and that resistless steel, which defended the gorges of Inkermann against legions after legions of fanatics, and carried the colors of France and England in glorious triumph up the heights of Alma.—*Times*.

A military writer in the *Frankfurter Postzeitung* says that the Piedmontese troops will probably land at Kassa, a point of great strategical importance. This place, as everybody knows is situated on the south-east coast of the Crimea. It was originally a Genoese port, and a harbor in the neighborhood is to this day called Porto Genovese. The fortress of Kassa has been razed. The writer remarks that Kassa commands the road to Bakschi-serai and Simpheropol; and an army stationed at this point would not only cut off the communication between Sebastopol and the Russians, but would threaten them in the rear."

SALE OF PLACES.

(From the *Tablet*.)

In the columns of the London newspapers a puzzling variety of reasons are paraded for the calamities of the Crimea. The public are bewildered by a perplexing profusion of alternate and contradictory charges of Ministerial corruption and military ignorance—official incapacity and aristocratic imbecility. But it is not in the leading columns—it is in the advertising pages that the readers of those newspapers will find a solution of the enigma. There they will see infamous advertisements like these—"Two hundred pounds will be paid at once to any lady or gentleman who will legally procure for advertiser a permanent Government situation;" or "a bonus of £500 cash will be given to any person procuring for a gentleman a permanent public appointment;" (or) "An appointment of £100 per annum will be procured by the advertiser, &c."

We think these advertisements throw on the incompetence and blundering which procrastinates the fall of Sebastopol more light than all the leading articles which are written to explain our calamities. Will any man (can Ministers expect it) who is solely indebted to his pocket for his place, perform any duties in the Crimea or elsewhere which can be avoided? Does he owe any duty to the Government who is advanced by his own coin? On the contrary, when such a person evades his duty he betters his bargain; and, in his own belief, when his salary is pocketed his duties are accomplished. It was for this he paid money not to serve the public. The strength of Russia is the veracity of Protestant Britain. The advertisements of the *Times* account for the disasters of this war, and it is useless to swap and alter the Ministers until such

corrupt practices are likewise altered. The fountain of British misfortune is the corruption of Protestant morality. In Protestant Britain—

This is the real age of gold,
For everything is bought and sold.

The votes of constituents and the seats of legislators are bought at the hustings, and those who incur the costs of an election and reimburse themselves by the sale of situations can best explain the official stupidity and impracticability which strips the British soldiers to the freezing winds of Tartary. The sale of situations to "incapacity with two hundred pounds" will enable us to understand why it is that the English are unable to get a few shiploads of timber to construct a road from Balaklava to the camp, and why it is that a kingdom which traffics in everything cannot make a road as efficiently as France, where places are not saleable.

If the infamous advertisements which we have quoted from English newspapers swarmed in the newspapers of France, and were answered as satisfactorily, negligence and incapacity would visit their army with famine and pestilence. The soldiers would shiver in rags and flounder through mud precisely like the British soldiers. It is the venality of the Protestant public and the British press which originates these "shortcomings, blindness, blunderings, carelessness, indifference, incompetence in the civil and military departments," on which the English journals ring the changes. Those very journals contribute to do it. The blind and devouring greediness of gain, which stripped the Priests in the "Reformation" and plunders the Clergy of Piedmont in our day, precipitates Britain to ruin in the Crimea, and the curse of sacrilege is on the English army. If the roofs of the huts were sent out in one ship and the bodies in another, so as to retard their erection for a fortnight while the soldiers dropt dead from cold, we believe the cause of the blunder is to be found in the sale of situations, and we believe we could remedy all the disasters of the Crimea if we could impress upon the Protestant people, and, above all, the salesmen of situations, the neglected truth that the possession of £500 does not imply the possession of moral integrity and diligence in business in the owner. In this the mistake lies. Money is not invariably the concomitant of virtue. An ignorance of this fact has heaped up in inextinguishable confusion all the necessities of life in Balaklava, while for the want of these very necessities the soldiers are perishing on the heights of Sebastopol. Shiploads are lying pell-mell at Balaklava, but the brain to bring them up does not exist among the officials; and as the *Times* said the other day:—

"The Russians—serfs, brutes, savages, as we are accustomed to think them—and borrowers, as they notoriously are, in all arts and sciences, beat us at every turn. They have dominated us in their artillery, and overreached us in their earthworks."

Because there is no *Times* in Russia in which to advertise for places—no political undertakers to sell situations—because, in short, a traffic in appointments is unknown among these Muscovite barbarians.

UNITED STATES.

New York, March 3.—A meeting of delegates from the various Irish civic societies was held here last night. The president was opposed to any public procession on St. Patrick's day on account of the general depression of business. A large number of societies announced their intention of turning out, and a committee was appointed to secure the co-operation of the Irish militia companies.

New York, March 5th.—The steamship "Black Warrior" arrived here this morning with Havana dates to the 27th. The blockade of the different ports of Cuba still continues, but the steamers were not retarded in their movements. No new arrests had transpired, but great military preparations were going on. H. B. M. frigate "Vestal," was in port. A grand military review and mock battle had taken place near Port Principe, in presence of the Captain General. The numerous volunteers were undergoing numerous drilling. A report was in circulation that all foreigners would shortly be required to take arms or quit Cuba. The officers appointed in the various volunteer troops are gazetted, and the *Ceta* rooms with offers of assistance to repel the invasion from various citizens in all directions. A martial spirit seems to have been aroused, and the filibuster expedition would stand but a poor chance just now.

REACTION AGAINST THE KNOW-NOTHINGS.—Senator Slater has introduced a bill in the Indiana Legislature to break up Know-Nothing Lodges. It declares it to be a conspiracy for persons to band themselves together under solemn oaths, for the purpose of depriving any citizen of the State of his political rights under the Constitution.

There is at present one new vessel building in New York. Such dull times were never known among ship builders.

The Board of Governors of the New York Almshouse have passed a resolution removing from the institution all officers who are not natives or naturalized citizens.

The New York Fire Department, are about introducing a new kind of hose made of hempen strings, knit and plaited together so close as to be impervious to water. It will be much lighter than the hose now in use, and will come about 35 per cent cheaper.

Some young scholars who were celebrating Washington's birth-day, at Provincetown, Mass., were seriously injured by the premature discharge of an old cannon.

William Poole, a New York pugilist, was shot and severely wounded by a party of blacklegs, on Saturday evening last, and died of his injuries on Monday morning. His murderers have been arrested.

The Detroit *Free Press* says that in all parts of Michigan the winter wheat is looking exceedingly well. The quantity upon the ground is greater than in any former year, and with no intervening calamity, the crop will be unprecedented.

The Buffalo *Republic* says.—"Every day serves to confirm our belief that flour will be sold in this market, on or before the first of June next, at five or six dollars a barrel."

Cattle are said to be dying of starvation in some parts of Ohio; the drought last summer having cut off the usual supplies necessary for their sustenance.

An Irishman who was overpaid \$100 about a year ago, by one of the Indiana Banks, a few days ago called at the Bank on his return from "out West," and returned the identical \$100, which he had kept sewed up in his pantaloons for a whole year.

CHURCH BURNED.—We regret to learn that St. John's Church, Long Green, Baltimore, was accidentally destroyed by fire on the 25th ult. The loss is over \$3,000.—*Catholic Mirror*.

A young candidate in the State Prison, Imlay by name, fourteen years old, stole two thousand two hundred dollars from his employers in Boston, bought a horse for which he paid \$175, eloped to Providence, was arrested there, and brought back, and on searching the house where he lived, it was found that Colt's revolvers, hunting knives, smoking caps, and other useful and ornamental articles adorned his room. Considering that his wages were \$1.75 per week, and that he had a short time before loaned, his employers \$300, given \$425 more to a friend for safe keeping, and was flushed when arrested, he must be set down as a very precious young gentleman.—*State of Maine*.

PUBLIC EXECUTIONS.—The *Galena* (Illinois) *Jeffersonian* relates the following occurrences at the execution of Taylor a few days ago:—"One man was drowned in crossing the Mississippi; another was killed by a blow on the head near the place of execution, by a team's running away; a mother fell from the fence near the scaffold with a child in her arms, and broke its arm; another woman's foot was crushed in going to the execution, and the poor creature, indifferent to the pain, wept bitterly because she couldn't see the man hanged!"

A house, mounted on runners, and drawn by eight oxen, passed through Watertown, Wisconsin, two or three weeks since. It was the dwelling of a pioneer, bound farther West. Within, the wife was discharging her domestic duties, whilst six or seven young heads were seen peeping from the windows.

SOLEMNITIES OF AN OATH.—The February number of the *Knickerbocker* gets off the following, for the benefit of courts, lawyers, witnesses, &c.

"A correspondent in Ottawa county Michigan, from whom we are always glad to here, gives us the following 'Scene in the Mayor's Court, Grand Rapids,' Mayor Church Presiding. Witness called up to be sworn by the clerk.

Clerk. 'You do solemnly swear ———'
Mayor, (with dignity.) Stop! The witness will hold up his right hand.'

Clerk. 'The man has no right hand your Honor.'
Mayor, (with some asperity.) 'Let him hold up his left hand then.'

Clerk. 'He has had the misfortune to lose his left hand also, as your honour will perceive.'
Mayor, (savagely.) Tell him to hold up his right leg, then; a man cannot be sworn in this court without holding up something! Silence gentlemen! our dignity must be preserved? (Witness sworn on one leg.)'

DISEASE OF THE LIVER.

When the celebrated Dr. Rush declared that drunkenness was a disease, he enunciated a truth which the experience and observation of medical men is every day confirming. The many apparently insane excesses of those who indulge in the use of spirituous liquors, may be thus accounted for. The true cause of conduct, which is taken for intonation, is very frequently a diseased state of the Liver. No organ in the human system, when deranged, produces a more frightful catalogue of diseases. And if, instead of applying remedies to the manifestations of disease, as is too often the case, physicians would prescribe with a view to the original cause, fewer deaths would result from diseases induced by a deranged state of the Liver. Three-fourths of the diseases enumerated under the head of Consumption, have their seat in a diseased Liver. (See Dr. Gunn's great works.)

Purchasers will be careful to ask for, DR. M'LANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, and take none else. There are other Pills, purporting to be Liver Pills, now before the public. Dr. M'Lane's Liver Pills, also his Celebrated Vermifuge, can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores in the United States and Canada.

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March 6, 1855.

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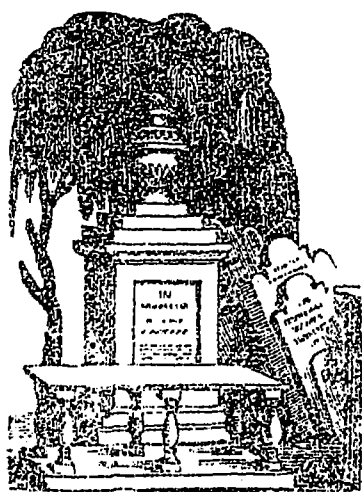
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