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CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

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EUSTACE; OR, SELF-DEVOTION. CHAPTER VIII.—Continued.

Then came, amid the darkness of the night, only now and then illumined by the still vivid flashes of lightning, a loud and awful crash—the chase had come in contact with the tomb, and was dashed in a thousand pieces, its occupant was thrown on one of the many grassy hillocks, which were around us, and the horse, still dragging with it a remnant of the destroyed vehicle, made a little detour to the right, and galloping furiously in the direction of the high-road, was soon lost to sight.

But my dear sister lay insensible; and the piteous moan she had uttered had told me she was injured, nay, perhaps, mortally; but the stranger, how had he fared? Was I the only person who in that night of horrors had escaped unscathed, or left in the possession of consciousness?

I approached the mound on which he lay. I heard him moan, then, rising, place his hand on his head, and to my inquiries as to whether he was much hurt, he replied,—

“Thank God, I was merely stunned by the fall. I believe I am un hurt, save a few bruises which I have received; but the young lady,” he uttered, “I heard a shriek—have either of you been injured, or was it merely occasioned by fright?”

“My sister lies by yonder grave,” I exclaimed, “injured, perhaps fatally, and a friend has swooned. If you are well enough to watch by them, while I seek a doctor’s aid, promise me to do so, for not one moment must be lost. I know that there is a surgeon residing within a few yards of the high-road, and servants from the Parsonage will, I am sure, give us their aid.”

“Allow me to hasten thither for you,” he exclaimed; “yet pause one moment, while we see what injury has been done.” As he spoke thus he knelt beside the grave, and raised my sister in his arms. The cold and heavy rain had restored that unfortunate Lucy, whose limidity had caused this accident, to consciousness, and was also working its effect on my dear Margaret, who, uttering a deep moan, pronounced my name.

“Maggie, love,” I replied, “what is the matter—are you much injured?”

“I fear my arm is”—broken, she was about to say, when the stranger, raising her in his arms, chafed her cold hands within his own, for she was about to relapse into insensibility; and as the pale rays of the moon now rose from behind a cloud, the storm having ceased, I saw before me, in the stalwart form and bronzed face of the stranger, our friend Eustace Maxwell.

In that one moment the recognition was mutual, and the words Minnie Herbert and Mr. Maxwell fell simultaneously from our lips.

“This is, indeed, a sorrowful meeting,” he exclaimed, as he desired his sister to hasten to the Parsonage, and ask for help, whilst he ran for the surgeon; and he then left me for a few moments, supporting my dear Maggie until aid should arrive.

A very few moments later two servants arrived from the Parsonage with a polite message from the vicar, offering the accommodation of his own house, till the young lady should receive surgical aid; and my sister was borne between them to the Parsonage, which was situated in the vicinity of the churchyard.

Margaret, poor girl, was quite correct as to the nature of the accident—it proved to be a fractured elbow; and but for the great skill with which it was treated, it is probable that poor Maggie would have been much longer an invalid than she really was.

It was getting very late ere we reached Rose Villa, and the good Maxwells were full of uneasiness as to the cause of our absence. Their surprise may be better imagined than described on the coach drawing up which contained our little party, and that tiresome Lucy (I do dislike timid young ladies if they let their feelings get the better of them, as much as she did) was the first to rush into the house, and explain how she had fainted during the storm, and Margaret been run over by Eustace’s horse, which had taken fright; and the surprised parents could scarcely believe her eager tale till they beheld him bearing in my dear Maggie, pale, and suffering great agony.

Then there was so much to tell and so much to do, for there was a chamber to be prepared as we prepare things for an invalid, and many, many times before midnight did Eustace steal gently to my door, his countenance betraying his anxiety, and softly whisper his inquiries as to Maggie’s state.

“Now, God bless you, darling,” I said, “I trust yet you will get a little rest. We must thank God together that the accident has not been worse than a broken arm—it might have been productive of a broken heart.”

CHAPTER IX.—THE WEDDING IS POSTPONED AND SHADOWS DEEPLY.

It is August now, and rich and dark are the hues of my floral favorites, the dahlia, and the scarlet geranium, and the rich bell-like fuchsia, are growing in profusion before our cottage, and though autumn is closing in unusually quick, and the leaves are falling here and withered in our path, still our hearts are light, our home a happy one, and content resides therein. Again, too, I hear my Maggie’s laugh, the injured arm is still in a sling, and her face a little paler, but we have reason to hope that that useful member will do duty again before very long; and we have, indeed, much cause to rejoice that the accident was no worse. On the table there are sundry little articles which would inform any one who entered the parlor that Maggie is about to change her state; there are white roses and wreaths of orange blossom; and a dress of white lace tells that the day fixed for a certain important ceremony about to take place is drawing rapidly nigh. I feel somewhat melancholy now and then. I have ever had a yearning after a certain state of life, too; in that life there is, and there is not solitude, if I may so speak. And as each sister passes down the vale of life, the progress is so gentle, and they are aided so kindly, that they are scarce made to feel the infirmities of age.—Alas, alas, a childless, solitary old age, I have often thought, must be very sad and dreary.—Youth is apt to be so selfish, as forgetful, that the snows of age will ere long chill its own young blood; and we fear that old people’s feelings are not so blunted as young ones would fain think. It must be a sad thing to know that the young ones around us imagine we have lived too long; and it needs but very, very little carelessness and want of attention and kindness on our part to lead the aged friend or relative to think thus—and then deep and sharp, indeed, must be the pang.

“Ah, ye young and happy ones, who revel in all the golden wealth of youth, and health, and strength, heed not the anxiety such as these may cause you; stoop lovingly down and remove away with your own gentle hands those thorns that grow so thickly in the path of that aged one who looks to be the comfort and the stay of their declining years!”

Very, very easily may they be made to feel that you think they have lived too long, so be careful how you act; it will be one of the richest jewels with which God will deck the crown he will give you in his own bright land, if with soft words and cheerful smile, and gentle ready hand you have helped on the aged and infirm in their passage to eternity.

Old age hath much to bear; its own peculiar trials of infirmity and declining health are alone sufficient without morose looks and harsher words. A neglected old age, with no child, no gentle friend to smooth the pillow beneath the aching head—ah! what a fate; may it never be mine. But let me pause, and not give way to such melancholy musings; who knows to whom it shall be given to see length of days?

The sickly need no look for the silver locks and tottering gait of age; and yet they sometimes live on, while the strong and healthy are cut down in the full possession of their youth and strength.

Poor Margaret, she little thinks that I indulge in these melancholy musings; if she knew what the current of my thoughts often is, I think, instead of laying down a rule for me to be often with her, the request would be always, instead; such an idea has, indeed, been already started, both by her and Eustace, who seconded it by every argument in his power. I turned a deaf ear, though I fear I may have pained them by so doing, for I remembered my brothers and their necessities; and I had no wish that when Eustace married my sister he should be harassed with the affairs of her family.

Little did I think of the storm that was at that moment to burst over our heads. I have already said that to our great discomfort and annoyance Edgar persisted in remaining at Ashdale, which place, indeed, in contradiction of his solemn promise to the contrary, he had never left, aware, no doubt, that whilst he remained, he could, whenever he chose, molest and harass us. For nearly six weeks, indeed, we had so fairly lost sight of him, that we had flattered ourselves that he had really left the place; alas! it was only a pleasant illusion on our parts; he feared, perhaps, to meet us whilst the loss of the articles he had so unworthily purloined was still fresh in our memory; he had kept himself quietly at home, and we had been absent from the place nearly three weeks, and on our return we were speedily informed by our maid that the fact was Mr. Herbert had been in Ashdale the whole time.

Suddenly, we missed him from the village, his occasional visits stopped, he came to us no more for such odd trifling sums as we could spare, and the relief we experienced was inexpressibly great. “But coming events cast their shadows

before.” And as we thought and mused over his unaccountable and sudden disappearance, an apprehension of evil looming in the distance filled our minds.

We had passed a pleasant day in the company of Lucy and Eustace, who had just bidden us farewell, and were sitting at our respective employments, when the postman delivered a letter at the door. It was directed in Arthur’s handwriting. “Some new request,” exclaimed Margaret, with a sigh. My hands trembled as I broke the seal, and my cheek grew pale as my eye rested on the first words of the letter. It ran somewhat as follows:—

“My Dearest Minnie,—Write if you can without delay, and tell me if Edgar has any means by which he can honorably come into the possession of £100. Whatever may be my errors, or however low I may have sunk my own position in life by an undue love of liquor, and then by early and unequal marriage, I have, at least, not disgraced my family by any want of honesty. Edgar is now in my house. He says he is acquainted with a gentleman in Ashdale who has bestowed upon him this sum as a generous gift; and he showed me a draft made payable at a banking-house in London for the amount I have named. Lose no time in writing to me, should you fear he has come by this money in any bad way. Margaret and yourself will be more likely than I to know who his associates were when he was in the north. Your affectionate brother,

“ARTHUR HERBERT.”

I cannot describe what my feelings were as my eyes glanced over this letter. The whole horrible truth flashed across my mind, till the dreadful suspicion which had crossed it, as my eyes fell on the first line, ripened into a horrible certainty as I read on. I dropped the letter on the ground. I knew not how to reply to poor Maggie’s questions: my own fears quickly communicated themselves to her; she read, and as she read her own face paled, and my horrible fears were expressed by my wretched sister in a few short words.

“Great God, he has forged; and Eustace is the victim.”

I was alarmed, fearfully alarmed, then, at the scene which followed; she shed not a tear, but ever and again pressed the cold hand still at liberty on her burning forehead. I endeavored to reason with her, to bid her hope that such was not the case; but all my efforts were of no avail; she either heard me in silent indifference, or paced the room in such a state of mind that I had every reason to dread the consequences.—Then suddenly advancing to the table, she with the greatest deliberation took up a sheet of note-paper, and penned a few lines to Eustace.

She gave them to me to read. In a brief and somewhat incoherent worded note, she begged him to inquire if the money at his banker’s was correct as to the sum lodged in their hands; that we had heard that Edgar was known to have nearly one hundred pounds in his possession; and that a suspicion, too dreadful to be entertained for one moment, had floated through our minds; this unworthy brother had seen his handwriting. She felt as if her brain would turn at the very faintest possibility of the hideous suspicion being correct; if, unhappily, it was so, then the wedding which was to take place, must be broken off, she would never bring dishonor, which would thus be affixed to her name, into his family.

Thus wrote my noble-minded Maggie. The struggle with self had, however, only commenced. I had little doubt but that she would carry her words into effect, for I well knew how indelible her character was, and especially where, what she termed, honor was concerned, I knew her determination would be fixed and decisive.

But the hope of many happy days was suddenly dashed away. All the virtues, both in a religious and social point of view, which man could possess, shine in the character of our good friend; hers would be a marriage in every way prudent, and I had the comfort of knowing that my loved Maggie would have a natural protector, whenever I should be removed from her. But now, how hideous the reverse; could I wonder that she lay so coldly in my arms, now the picture of calm despair; then, again, almost frantic between the alternate emotions of shame and grief?

Alas! alas! I could not say much to comfort her; for had I not one day seen him sitting at our writing-table, when, unknown to him, I softly entered the room, copying the signature of Eustace Maxwell, a note of whose was on the table. I cannot say that at that moment our present horrible suspicion crossed my mind, yet I did not like the action; and snatching the letter, which contained a few lines of invitation to Rose Villa, from his hand, I asked him if he could not find a better employment than in copying the letters of others.

“A business I am rather expert at,” he replied,

with a laugh: “there are few persons who can imitate the writing of others as expertly as I can.”

I attempted to seize the paper on which he was writing, but I was too late. He tore it out of my hand with a light fit of laughter, and I remember I said, “Have a care, that with principles like yours, you do not use that dangerous game to your own destruction.” I repeated this to Margaret; we neither of us liked finding him employed in such a way; and now we felt a moral certainty that in an unlucky hour the most fatal event of our lives had befallen us—the most fatal I have said, nor can I recall the words, for hitherto no taint of dishonor was affixed to our names. Guilty as the male members of our family had been, they were more their own enemies than ours.

The same post that conveyed dear Margaret’s letter to Eustace, also took one to Arthur, which he would receive early on the following morning, I told him we shared his own fears, and begged him to keep a close watch on Edgar’s movements till he heard from me again.

Before nightfall, Margaret was a tenant of the sick room, her face flushed, her head heated, I knew that fever arising from the fearful excitement of the day was doing its work; she rambled incessantly, and the first remark of the medical attendant was,—

“Something very distressing is on the mind of this young lady, some great excitement only could have produced such a high state of fever, in one strong in health only this morning.—Are you aware of any such cause having occurred?”

“I am,” I immediately answered; “she has received a terrible shock, which for some time almost deprived her of her reason.”

Two days only elapsed before the whole hideous truth lay open before us. Eustace received my sister’s note with feelings which may be better imagined than described. At first, he was willing to hope that Margaret’s sensitive feelings had made her take the alarm, where no real cause existed; everything appeared inexplicable to him, for he was not conscious that Edgar had ever seen his handwriting, still less that he could be aware of the name of the banker with whom his accounts were lodged. It was, therefore, rather with a view of calming Margaret’s apprehensions than otherwise, that he wrote to the firm, to inquire if any moneys in his name had been withdrawn from the bank within the last week, and he was both surprised and shocked to find, by the return of post, that a forged check had been presented and paid for the amount of £100.

Two days later, I received a letter to say that by the end of the week he should be in Yorkshire, to talk with us over this most unhappy business, adding, “a stop must be put to such base and criminal conduct on the part of this wretched man, who must be made aware that I am already acquainted with it; at the same time, though I would prosecute in another case, I am powerless here; had Edgar defrauded me of £1,000 instead of £100, he is safe, because he is the brother of Margaret Herbert, and,” he continued, “I leave my cause with you, Minnie. I grieve far more for the knowledge of Edgar’s utter abandonment of principle, than at the loss of the money itself; reason with Margaret, and implore her not to make me the sufferer, by voluntarily breaking the engagement which subsists between us; tell her she must bear this cross patiently, for her own soul is not less pure, her honor not one whit sullied, because her brother chooses to play a dishonorable part.”

Eustace’s kind letter did honor both to his head and his heart; but I placed it in my desk with a sigh. I knew that when this sad fit of delirium had passed away, that Margaret’s determination would stand firm—that on this point she would prove immovable as a rock. Nor, much as I grieved at the utter desolation of our former happy prospects, could I wish it otherwise for while our unhappy brother lived—if he remained in England—destruction, infamy and disgrace seemed before us, and, aware of the baseness of his mind, I felt morally certain that unhappiness would ensue, if, after her marriage, further annoyances were to take place; for that then Eustace’s connection with our family would only give him more effrontery in requesting pecuniary favors; or rather, I should say, demanding them, for such was the tone our unhappy brother constantly assumed.

Ah! better, I thought, any fate than this, as I looked on my dear sister’s flushed face that evening; better far that every engagement should be broken, than that you should have to blush, when you bear another name, for the dishonor your own brother may occasion.

But was this wretched man wholly to escape? was the leniency of Eustace and his affection for my sister to be the means of his becoming quite triumphant in his villainy? I thought this should not be. I would fain have gone to London, but

to leave Margaret was impossible, so taking up my pen I wrote the following lines:—“Doubtless, Edgar, your knowledge of the near connection which was shortly about to subsist between my poor Margaret and Mr. Maxwell, acted as an incentive to the crime you have committed. Your detestable fraud was detected almost immediately after it was committed. It is known to Eustace that you are living in Westminster, that you have robbed him, disgraced us, and laid yourself open to a chance of the severe punishment which the law of your country inflicts on those who so flagrantly transgress the rules of honesty. You escape prosecution because you know how great is the love and the generosity of him whom you have wronged; you are well aware that the sutor for the affections and the hand of a sister cannot drag a brother into a criminal court, and stamp with an everlasting disgrace the name of his betrothed.

“But if your heart be not, indeed, dead to every virtuous emotion; if you yet know what it is to feel, perhaps it may occasion you a pang which perchance may lead you to repentance, when I tell you that Maggie lies on the bed of sickness, perhaps of death, and that she is stretched thereon by your hand; if she lives, it will be with prospects for ever blighted by you, her brother; for never will Margaret’s noble nature stoop to bring disgrace into the home of him to whom she has been affianced.

“I can say no more, nor have I much hope that these weak words of mine will soften one who was deaf to the voice of our gentle Kathleen, who but for your neglect would now have been living happy and beloved. Nay, even the wretched Eleanor, who suffered at your hands, died repentant, after much trial, in no small degree your work. Will you still continue to disgrace, nay even kill those whom every law, both of God and man, binds you to protect and love.

“Farewell, my unhappy brother; it may be that on earth we may not meet again, for here your foot may never rest, your presence may never—when the course of time shall perhaps rear over in Margaret’s heart the wound your hand has afflicted—obtrude itself upon her sight thus bringing fresh to her mind all that she has suffered. We have done all that lay in our power for you, the man strong in health and strength, yet in every opportunity, on every occasion, you have repaid our sisterly affection with injury, disgrace and wrong.

“We can only pray that ere death calls you, you may retrace your steps; the path in which you are now walking is beset with dangers.—Pause, Edgar, in your career, ere it be, indeed, too late.”

Two days later, I received a note from Arthur; he informed me that Edgar, after a scene of violent altercation—for he, of course, felt certain that his brother had corresponded with me, and had betrayed him—had left his house, nor did he know whither he had gone.

Gloomily wore away the days. Margaret slowly recovered her health, but her spirits were gone; our little funds had been sorely diminished during her illness; she had, of course, lost her situation, nor could I think of her resuming another.

Poor Maggie! my heart bled to see her at the time of which I speak; not a murmur ever fell from her lips, not one repining word escaped her; she never spoke of our wretched brother, who had cast (thus blight over her life, she never alluded to Eustace or his family, and seemed to have settled down into that quiet dejection of manners so painful to behold in one who, under ordinary circumstances, is blessed with buoyancy of spirits.

It was a fine autumn evening, and Margaret and myself were about to leave home for a short walk, when a well-known voice struck upon our ear, and the next moment our old friend, Mrs. Maxwell, stood before us.

“How much longer, my dear friends,” she commenced, “are you going to punish yourselves and us, by estranging yourselves from our society.—Come, come, Maggie,” she continued, tenderly drawing my sister to her side, “your face and form both show how you have suffered; relent, now, be less punctilious in your notions of honor where you are not yourself concerned, and allow things to be as if this unhappy affair had never taken place.”

“Never, Mrs. Maxwell,” replied my sister—“never, while Edgar lives will I bear any other name than Herbert. This,” she continued, “is the first time I have uttered his name. I have striven to banish thoughts of the dreadful past from my mind; oftentimes in vain; but, oh! let not your affection for myself deceive you as to the inevitable consequences which would be the result of my admission into the bosom of your family.—It is my misfortune to be nearly allied to one who has hitherto appeared as dead to the voice of natural affection; as he is dead to the recognition of those social virtues which man is bound to exercise. He has, sorely tried the patience and the leniency of—of—Eustace, your

estimable son. Were that son his sister's husband, I tremble to think of the further acts of business he might perpetrate, of the misery I should endure, the self reproach I should feel for, believe me, added Margaret, 'Minnie and myself are always, as it were, on the verge of a precipice, trembling lest the post should bring us some painful intelligence from or concerning this unhappy man. Spare me, then, dear Mrs. Maxwell, continued Margaret, with a tremulous voice, which betrayed her excessive emotion, much as she strove to conceal it, 'I should ill return your love, and that of your noble-minded Eustace, could I, for one moment, revoke my determination.

Poor dear Mrs. Maxwell! she fumed and fretted, and fidgeted about the whole time Maggie was speaking; and taking off her spectacles, the tender-hearted woman wiped away the tears which had gathered in her eyes; then she paused for a moment, as though to think what she should say. Poor soul, she was one of those good, simple people we sometimes meet with in this cold world: open, frank, unsuspecting; innocent of guile herself, never imagining that evil existed in others; not over sensitive, therefore little capable of understanding this disposition in those with whom she might come in contact; and not likely to appreciate the high sense of honor by which such a woman as Margaret was likely to be guided. She tried to look angry, but those calm, placid and comely features could ill assume a wrathful expression; and taking Maggie's hand within her own, she said,—

'It is all pride, Margaret; I am shocked to see so much of it, both in yourself and Minnie; honor indeed; quite right, of course, to be honorable, and so forth, to a certain degree; but not to carry it to the length you carry it to.—Breaking such an engagement, too,' she added, now fairly bursting into tears, 'and torturing both yourself and Eustace on account of those high-minded, silly notions of honor, forsooth.'

(To be Continued.)

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

The Bulls for the consecration of the Very Rev. Dean Kieran, as Lord Primate of Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh, have arrived to the delight and gratification of the clergy and laity of the diocese, especially of his devoted flock in Dundak. The day for the solemn ceremonial has not yet been fixed.

In one of his letters to the London Times, Lord Dufferin (Conservative) gives an answer to the question of the Kilkenny Parliament, quoted by Mr. Bright.—'Why is it that the King is none the richer for Ireland?' Because, in substance, says Lord Dufferin; because of British commercial jealousy, and British legislation:—

It is to the discovery of this enigma that I now address myself, and in its solution it is possible we may find an answer to the famous question originally put to the Kilkenny Parliament, and lately repeated with considerable point by Mr. Bright.—'How is it that the King is none the richer for Ireland?'

Of course, any perfect retrospect of the economic career of Ireland would necessarily involve a review of her political history, but so large a treatment of the subject would not be adapted to your columns, nor is it necessary to my purpose. I am only anxious to point out, in a very few sentences, what have been those influences which have stunted the development of our material prosperity as prematurely, and perhaps more permanently, than even the religious intolerance of former days has vitiated our social atmosphere. I allude to the commercial jealousies of Great Britain.

It has been rather the custom of late to represent the landed interest of Great Britain as the sole inventors and patentees of protection. The experience of Ireland does not confirm this theory. During the course of the last 250 years we have successively tasted the tender mercies of every interest in turn—whether landed, trading, or commercial—and have little reason to pronounce one less selfish than another. From Queen Elizabeth's reign until the Union the various commercial confraternities of Great Britain never for a moment relaxed their relentless grip on the trades of Ireland. One by one, each of our nascent industries was either strangled in its birth, or handed over, gagged and bound, to the jealous custody of the rival interest in England, until at last every fountain of wealth was hermetically sealed, and even the traditions of commercial enterprise have perished through desuetude.

The owners of England's pastures had the honour of opening the campaign. As early as the commencement of the 16th century the heaves of Roscommon, Tipperary, and Queen's County undersold the produce of the English grass counties in their own market. By an Act of the 20th of Elizabeth Irish cattle were declared 'a nuisance,' and their importation prohibited. Forbidden to send our beasts alive across the Channel, we killed them at home, and began to supply the sister country with cured provisions. A second Act of Parliament imposed prohibitory duties on salted meats. The hides of the animals still remained, but the same influence soon put a stop to the importation of leather. Our cattle trade abolished, we tried sheep farming. The sheep breeders of England immediately took alarm, and Irish wool was declared contraband by a Parliament of Charles II. Headed in this direction, we tried to work up the raw material at home, but this created the greatest outcry of all. Every maker of fustian, flannel, and broadcloth in the country rose up in arms, and by an Act of William III. the woolen industry of Ireland was extinguished, and 20,000 manufacturers left the island. The easiness of the Irish labor market and the cheapness of provisions still giving us an advantage, even though we had to import our materials, we next made a dash at the silk business; but the silk manufacturer proved as pitiless as the woolen. The cotton manufacturer, the sugar refiner, the soap and candle maker (who especially dreaded the abundance of our kelp), and any other trade or interest that thought it worth its while to petition was received by Parliament with the same partial cordiality, until the most searching scrutiny failed to detect a single vent through which it was possible for the hated industry of Ireland to breathe. But, although excluded from the markets of Britain, a hundred harbors gave her access to the universal sea. Alas! a rival commerce on her own element was still less welcome to England, and as early as the reign of Charles II. the Levant, the ports of Europe, and the oceans beyond the Cape were forbidden to the flag of Ireland. The colonial trade alone was in any manner open,—if that could be called an open trade which for a long time precluded all exports whatever, and excluded from direct importation to Ireland such important articles as sugar, cotton, and tobacco. What has been the consequence of such a system, pursued with relentless pertinacity for 250 years? This: that, debared from every other trade and industry, the entire nation flung itself back upon 'the land' with as fatal an impetus as when a river whose current is sud-

denly impeded rolls back and drowns the valley it once fertilized. For a long time, however, the soil of their own island proved sufficient for the three or four millions which then inhabited it. The cheapness of provisions used to be the bane of the English manufacturer. But each successive century found the nation more straitened within its borders. At last a choice had to be made between the sacrifice of domestic happiness or of physical comfort; the natural liveliness of their affections, combined with a buoyant temperament, led the people to accept the latter alternative. The mildness of the climate, the cheapness of fuel, and, above all, the suitability of the potato to what is technically called 'la peste culture' contributed to turn the scale, and early marriages continued to remain a characteristic of the Irish peasantry. Even had the landlords interfered their remonstrances would have been vain, and the downward impulse once communicated, it naturally acquired a continually accelerated momentum, for the simple reason that each succeeding generation were accustomed from infancy to a lower standard of comfort than that which had satisfied their fathers. Extraneous circumstances, such as the rise of prices during the French wars, stimulated the popular tendency of self expansion, until by a logical sequence of events the spectacle was presented of a nation doubling its population every 50 years, yet entirely dependant for its support upon an agricultural area which had been found barely sufficient for its needs when it was a third less numerous; under such conditions, high rents, low wages, and all the other indications of destitution would be as inevitable as famine prices in a beleaguered city.

But I may be told this frantic clinging of the Irish to the land is natural to their genius, and not a result of commercial restrictions. History supplies the perfect refutation of such a theory. Though the hostile tariff of England comprehended almost every article produced in Ireland, one single exception was permitted; from the reign of William III. the linen trade of Ireland has been free; as a consequence, at this day Irish linens are exported in enormous quantities to every quarter of the globe, and their annual value nearly equals the entire rental of this island. Many attempts were made by the rival interest in England to deprive us of this boon, and in 1785 a petition—signed by 117,000 persons—was presented by Manchester, praying for the prohibition of Irish linens, but justice and reason for once prevailed, and the one surviving industry of Ireland was spared. How has it repaid the clemency of the British Parliament? By dowering the Crown of England with as fair a cluster of flourishing towns and loyal centres of industry as are to be found in any portion of the Empire. Would you see what Ireland might have been—go to Derry, to Belfast, to Limerick, and by the exceptional prosperity which has been developed, not only within a hundred towns and villages, but for miles and miles around them, you may measure the extent of the injury we have sustained. Would you ascertain how the numerical strength of a nation may be multiplied, while the status of each individual that comprises it is improved,—go to Belfast, where (within a single generation) the population has quadrupled, and the wages of labor have nearly trebled.

Thomas Hammond, Esq. J. P., has been sworn in as High Sheriff for Drogheda for the present year. There have been two wrecks on the Wexford coast. Of the crew of one, the Undine, only two out of six were saved. The other drifted ashore without a soul on board.

THE REPRESENTATION OF ARMAGH.—It is probable that the election for Armagh, which the promotion of the present representative Mr. Miller, to the judicial bench will render necessary, will not take place sooner than about the 22nd of January. Captain Kieley, who died from the effects of the lance thrust at the election in Dungarvan, was buried on Friday. The funeral was attended by a large concourse of people, including the most respectable inhabitants of the town and neighborhood. The deceased being a Catholic, there was a procession of priests and High Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of Abbeyside.

The severity of the weather at the close of last week, although not so intense as in England, caused acute suffering amongst the poor. A very large number of coast casualties have taken place, some of them attended with loss of life.

The inquest in Dungarvan appears to fix a charge of drunkenness upon the Lanear who stabbed Captain Kieley in the recent election riots.

There is no doubt that there will be a petition against the return for the county of Waterford, and if intimidation and mob violence be sufficient grounds for invalidating an election, there is as little doubt that a committee of the House of Commons would declare the return to be null and void. In one of the placards conspicuously posted through the county the electors are called upon to remember 1826, and they are asked,— 'Who raised the triangle in the County Waterford? Who used the pitch cap and the gibbet, the car and the cat-o-nine-tails? The Beresfords. What did O'Donnell say of them in 1826? 'Beresfords, who were never known to smile except when their victim was writhing on the gibbet.'

EXTRAORDINARY EXPLOSION.—A fearful explosion of some combustible material, the nature of which is as yet a mystery, occurred on Sunday, at the house, No. 8, West Essex street, it attended with considerable loss of property, and, it is feared, loss of life. The facts of this singular transaction, so far as they can be ascertained, appear to be as follows:—On Friday evening a stranger called at the house No. 8, Essex-street, and inquired for lodgings. A man named Edward Connolly occupied the drawing-room floor, and as the stranger said he required nothing but a bed, the former agreed to set him a small closet adjoining the drawing-room. The man minutely inspected the room, and expressed himself satisfied with the accommodation it afforded. He then went away, and afterwards returned with a small box, which he carefully placed on the table. Saying he would be shortly back, he again left the house, but did not return, and he has not since been heard of. On Sunday Connolly, being disengaged, and having his curiosity aroused by the non-appearance of his tenant, resolved to ascertain the contents of the parcel. Accordingly he proceeded with great care to open the little box and examine the contents. The first articles met with were two round bottles carefully corked, and covered on the top with chamois leather. He placed the bottles on a table at the window, and proceeded to further investigate the contents of the box. A large paper parcel next presented itself, and on being touched by him exploded with such terrific force as to knock down the side walls and partition of the room, and blow the windows completely out of the house. Connolly was immediately prostrated, and received most serious injuries about the head and hands. Inspector Armstrong, of the A Division, who happened to be in the neighbourhood at the time, heard the explosion, and immediately hastened to Essex street. On his way thither he met a police constable, who informed him that a house was on fire in Essex-street. The Inspector desired the constable to alarm the Fire Brigade, and proceeded himself to the locality indicated. On arriving in Essex-street he found the air strongly impregnated with gunpowder, and saw a large crowd assembled round the house No. 8. The Inspector entered the house, having heard what had occurred, proceeded to the drawing room, where he discovered Connolly lying on the floor writhing in agony, while the apartment itself was in a perfect state of ruin. From the force of the concussion consequent upon the explosion, the windows in the house 38 and 40, on the opposite side of the street, were all broken; and it was stated that the persons in the house No. 8 were either all knocked down or violently thrown against the walls. Fortunately, the two bottles,

supposed to contain Greek fire, which Connolly had removed from the box, remained uninjured on the table. Lying on the floor the Inspector discerned a large parcel of hall cartridges. The packages were on fire, and the cartridges had already ignited, when the Inspector's attention was attracted to them. They were immediately extinguished, however, and taken in charge by the police, as were also the bottles. Connolly was then removed to hospital, and Captain Ingram having arrived in the interim with fire engines, and finding that his services were not required, left some of the brigade men with Inspector Armstrong to clear the house of the debris. This having been effected the premises were taken charge of by the police. Up to the present the owner of the box has not been discovered, neither has it been ascertained what material actually caused the explosion. It was believed by the inmates of the house at first that the explosion was a thunder-storm, and it was not till after the discovery of some cartridges in the street that their minds could be disabused of this impression. Connolly was removed to Mercer's Hospital, where he lies in a very precarious state. It is believed that if ever he recovers he will be deprived of the use of his sight. The police have no doubt that the combustible which exploded was portion of Fenian munitions of war.

The man, Edward Connolly, who was injured by the explosion in East Essex-street on Sunday, is still lying in Mercer's Hospital in a very precarious state. The whole of the right side of the head is injured seriously. The design of the person who is alleged to have placed the 'infernal machine' in the closet, is pointed by the circumstances that on Friday last the governmental authorities were informed through the medium of an anonymous letter that in Connolly's premises arms and ammunition would be found, and requesting that a search would be made by detective officers.—Evening Mail.

EMIGRATION.—There was a time when we might have guided the stream of emigration towards our own settlements in the Southern Hemisphere. There, under the influence, not of prosperity, but of distance, the Irish emigrant might have forgotten all bitter remembrances and vindictive feelings. Too happy to brood over past wrongs, and too remote to meditate future mischief, he might have united with his English compeer in founding a community which in its children should combine the poetry and imagination of one race with the stubborn energy of the other. Two races of characters so different might have blended into a people which, while it represented the special virtues of each ancestral country, gloried in the fame and happiness of both. Fate has willed it otherwise. Those who might have remained our more fortunate fellow-subjects have rid themselves at once of their calamities and of their nationality. They have made themselves aliens and enemies, and in the novelty of an unwonted prosperity cherish the recollection, not only of their own, but also of their fathers' sufferings. While those that they have left behind enter on a career free from the pangs of a fretful and hungry competition, enjoying plenty where they once knew starvation, and learning independence where they once cultivated servility, the malignity of English faction, and the blind fury of class-hatred, make this improvement of their fortunes a reproach to the landlords, whose greatest folly and greatest crime would have been to obstruct an emigration which had been already proved so beneficial to Englishmen, and which has since proved the economical salvation of Ireland. The fact that pauper and starvation banished, discontent and dissatisfaction survive, shows quite as much the impracticable nature of the Irish people and the insoluble difficulties of Irish questions, as the injustice of the Government or the cruelty of the landlords.—Saturday Review.

The Cork Examiner reports the substance of a sermon delivered at Dungarvan on Sunday by Father Moran.—'The reverend preacher said he had expected that day to be able to wish his hearers the joy and happiness belonging to the holy time, and to preach to them, as usual, the Gospel of joy and peace. But those unholy men who had been let loose among the people had cruelly robbed them of their joy and their peace. They had brought sorrow and mourning into our midst. They had brought desolation to more than one home. They had brought anxiety and insecurity to every one among us, and we are not able, as we would wish, to turn our minds to the sacred truths. But we have only to thank God that we have escaped so well— that many more are not been cut down, many more added to the killed and wounded. Soon, please God, after the investigation that will be made this coming week—and the whole truth before the public—and the perpetrators of these foul deeds branded, and when found guilty punished, then we shall be able to dispose our minds and rear again to the sacred memories appropriate to this holy season! This painful subject was brought before the Dungarvan Petty Sessions on Saturday, and the Examiner gives to its long report of the proceedings the sensational heading, 'The Dungarvan Massacre.' On the bench were: Sir Nugent Hamble, chairman; J. R. Dower, R. Kennedy, Lord Hastings, S. E. Maguire, H. A. Fitzgerald, J. P. Sherlock, and Capt. Barry, R. M. Mr. S. R. Fitzgerald refused to act upon the bench, as being concerned in certain cases fixed for trial at the present sitting. For some time previously to the opening of the court a number of persons had congregated abroad and near the court-house, and waited under the pelting rain for the arrival of the magistrates, when they poured in and quickly filled every available spot in the building. Eight men were charged with having rescued a number of prisoners from the custody of the police at Cappagh, during the riots in connection with the county of Waterford election. The prisoners were being escorted by the police for the Limerick Quarter Sessions, when they were set upon and liberated by a large crowd of country people, under the impression, it is said, that they were voters. Mr. Blake, who defended the traversers, earnestly pressed on the Bench the wisdom of allowing the bad feeling excited in the county by the deplorable events of the election to subside, and of not proceeding further with the prosecutions, especially as there had been faults on both sides. He proposed to enter a plea of guilty, on condition that his clients were liberated on their own recognizances. This suggestion was supported by Mr. Dower, and opposed by Mr. Fitzgerald. After considerable discussion between the magistrates, the informations taken in the case were read, for the purpose of ascertaining what was the nature of the case against the prisoners. The information of Mr. Fitzgerald alleged that a serious riot took place at Cappagh, in which the police, assaulted by the mob with sticks and stones, used their bayonets freely and wounded several persons. Ultimately the majority of the Bench decided on granting Mr. Blake's application, and a plea of guilty having been entered, the prisoners were admitted to bail and discharged. A man charged with having assaulted Mr. Maguire, J. P., was ordered to give security for his good behaviour.

IRISH DISCONTENT. To the Editor of the Times. Sir,—I see that you have most justly objected to Lord Dufferin's economical theory of the ills of Ireland as totally inadequate to account for the sad phenomena which it professes to explain. You may, therefore, think it worth while to say before your readers a wider and more impartial view of a question which unhappily cannot yet be dismissed to the calm regions of history, but is still a present power in the world of politics, and may effect the destinies of Ireland for good or evil according as it is rightly or wrongly understood by politicians in this country and in Great Britain. This view, taken by a statesman-philosopher of the culture and most accurate intellect, will be found in Sir G. C. Lewis's work upon 'Disturbances in Ireland, and the Irish Union Question.' When discussing the causes of discontent, Sir George Lewis says:—'The treatment of the na-

tive Irish as an incurably barbarous race, before the Reformation, and the various civil wars and confiscations which took place after the Reformation, had, at the period of the Revolution, when King William's power was finally established in Ireland, so completely broken up the framework of society, and so utterly destroyed men's notions as to the obligations of law and morality, that it would have been almost impossible for the wisest and most beneficent Government to raise the mass of the Irish people to the general level of European civilisation. Instead, however, of attempting a course of policy which was at least sure of partial success, the Government, alarmed at the strength of the Pretender's party, and acting on the persecuting maxims which were then still current in Europe, introduced the penal code against the Catholics, and treated the majority of the Irish people as outlaws. According to this system (which has to a greater or less extent been acted on nearly up to the present day) every Irish Catholic was presumed to be disaffected to the State, and was treated as an open or concealed rebel. The entire Government was carried on by the Protestants and for their benefit; and the Protestants were considered as the only link between England and Ireland. The English thought it for their interest that Ireland should belong to them, and they supported the Irish Protestants in opposing the Irish Catholics;—

imagining that the subjection of Ireland to England could only be maintained by giving a monopoly of power to the Protestants of the Established Church. At the same time that a wide and impassable line was drawn by law between the two religions in Ireland, and the one persuasion was made a privileged, the other an inferior class, the whole of Ireland was treated as a province or colony, whose interests were to be sacrificed to those of the mother country. Hence arose the restrictions on Irish commerce, on the exportation of corn, cattle, and woollen goods, avowedly for the benefit of England. A system of government administered in this spirit, and in a country where the people were already in a state of great rudeness and disorder necessarily led to the degradation and demoralizing of the bulk of the population. The relation between landlord and tenant was affected by two ways by the treatment which Ireland had experienced from England. In the first place the large grants which the Government had made to Englishmen naturally led to the non-residence of many of the chief landed proprietors. These persons were forced to manage their Irish estates by agents, or more frequently they were tempted to let them in large portions to middlemen, who then divided the land into small holdings and sublet it to the occupying tenantry. In this manner the landlord (the reckless resident, Sir G. Lewis might have said, as well as the absentee) secured a man who undertook for the property; but he lost the difference between the rent paid by the occupying tenants and the rent paid by the middleman, and he prevented the possibility of a respectable tenantry being ever formed on his property. In the second place, the landlord if resident and an Irishman was almost invariably a Protestant, as Catholics were incapacitated from holding land, and as in the three southern provinces nearly all the tenants were Catholic, the landlord exercised over his tenant not only that influence which a creditor necessarily exercises over a debtor, but also that power which the law gave to the Protestant over the Catholic, to the magistrate and grand juror over the suspected rebel. In these two ways all friendly connection between the landlord and the tenant of the soil was broken; either the landlord was represented by an oppressive, grasping middleman, or he was the member of a dominant and privileged caste, who was as much bound by his official duties as he was prompted by the opinion of his order, by the love of power, and by the feeling of irresponsibility to oppress, degrade, and trample upon his Catholic tenants.

Arthur Young, who travelled in Ireland in 1776, appears to have been much struck with the difference between the relation of landlord and tenant in England and in Ireland, and in describing the wretched condition of the latter he makes use of expressions which might be brought hyperbolical if they had not proceeded from a dry, matter-of-fact writer on the details of husbandry. 'It must be very apparent to every traveller through that country,' he says, 'that the labouring poor are treated with harshness and, are in all respects so little considered that their want of importance seems a perfect contrast to their situation in England. . . . The age has improved so much in humanity that even the poor Irish have experienced its influence, and are every day treated better and better; but still the remnant of the old manners, the abominable distinction of religion, united with the oppressive conduct of the little country gentleman, or rather viceroy of the kingdom, who never were out of it, altogether still bear very heavy on the poor people, and a subject them to situations more mortifying than we ever behold in England. The landlord of an Irish estate inhabited by Roman Catholics is a sort of despot, who yields obedience in whatever concerns the poor to no law but that of his will. . . . The labouring classes (continues Sir G. Lewis) suffered most of the evils of slavery without enjoying any of its advantages. Deprived of all self-respect by the operation of the penal statutes, prevented from rising in the world or from bettering their condition by legal disabilities and the legalised oppression of their landlords, without education, excluded from a public participation in the rites of their own religion, they endured all and more than the evils which belonged to the lot of a serf without looking forward to the interested protection and relief which a master would afford to his bondman.'

Well may be add to this description the observation that,—'The poor class in Ireland seem to have been in that precise state which is the most favourable to the growth of population, namely, where the moral checks on increase scarcely operate at all, and the physical checks operate but feebly. . . . Such are some of the broad facts of Irish history (among which its selfish commercial policy of England is by no means the most important) which account for the reckless multiplication of the peasantry and the excessive subdivision of the land, with all the consequences of intense poverty, discontent at home, flight to another country, and hatred of England among the Irish settlers there, which still, in spite of great and manifold changes for the better, make up the Irish 'difficulty.' They are facts, I think, which the Protestant landlords of Ireland ought not to forget, because they may induce many an enlightened and patriotic member of that class, to make some sacrifice of extreme rights and hereditary feelings for the sake of curing the evils left behind it by a false and unjust system of which his predecessors, if they were in truth the victims, were certainly the abettors and the instruments. Lord Dufferin would, I am sure, be the last man to desire that anything proceeding from his pen should weaken the motives which, it is to be hoped, may lead the Protestant gentry to concur in the improvement of the land laws of Ireland and an equitable settlement of the Church question. When we shall have done this, and made some sacrifice of our interests and prejudices in the doing of it, we may put back the volume of Irish history upon our shelves with a good conscience, but not till then. Such, at all events, is the moral drawn from its pages by your obedient servant,

AN IRISH LANDLORD. A meeting was held at Valentia of the farmers and other inhabitants of the island, under the auspices of the Knight of Kerry and the clergymen of the parish, both Protestant and Catholic, at which the resolutions given below were unanimously adopted. The meeting was limited to the proprietors of land, farmers, and other inhabitants of Valentia. The chair was occupied by the Knight of Kerry who is owner of the greater part of the island. The Knight of Kerry addressed the assembly at some length on the objects for which they were met, and expressed his great satisfaction that those who attended there on that occasion gave evidence of those feelings of

loyalty which in times past, and times even more critical than the present, had characterized their fathers, and made the loyalty and quietness of the county of Kerry almost proverbial. He challenged any man to point out where the honest exertions of any person to improve their condition was impeded by the action of Government or the laws of the land; and, after showing to the satisfaction of the meeting the utter uselessness of success for the Fenian projects other than the lamentable success with which the leaders were filling their pockets at the expense of their deluded followers, he asked, even if success were possible, what benefit could redound to the country, and proceeded to illustrate what the probable consequences would have been in Ireland generally by showing step by step what must have been the pounds, shillings, and pence results to themselves in Valentia if Mr. Stephens's projects had there been put in execution some 30 or 40 years ago. Nothing could exceed the attention with which he was listened to. The first resolution was proposed by the clergyman of the Established Church and seconded by a Catholic gentleman; while the second was proposed by the Parish Priest, and seconded by Captain Needham, agent to the Protestant and Ecclesiastical Corporation of Trinity College, Dublin:—

1. Resolved.—That this meeting, on the part of those present, as well as of the rest of the inhabitants of Valentia, desire to record their unshaken loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

2. Resolved.—That this meeting desires further, on the part of the inhabitants of Valentia, to express their determination to prevent the introduction into this island of any secret or illegal societies, and their readiness in case of necessity to take any steps that may be deemed advisable for the protection of persons and property, more especially for the security of the Atlantic Cable and Telegraph establishment, the introduction of which has already done so much good to this locality?

The proceedings of the National Association on Tuesday will be read with interest. The important letters from the Cardinal Archbishop, the Primate Elect the Archbishop of Cashel, and seven other prelates afford the strongest evidence of the deep confidence reposed by the Hierarchy in the wisdom, prudence, and energy of the executive committee of the Association, and also their warm and grateful recognition of the marked success that has attended their labours in promoting the objects for which it was founded. The letters of all these prelates imply, whilst that of his Eminence explicitly states, that the Association is the recognised organ of the Catholic body, so far as the public questions with whose promotion it is charged are concerned and that its utterances thereon are endorsed by the popular voice. The report with the speeches of the chairman, Alderman M'Sweeney, whose zeal and devotion in the good work are so fittingly noticed by the bishops, Mr. Daunt and Professor Kavanagh afford a clear sketch of the successful labours of the Association since its foundation two years since.— One of the most important incidents in the proceedings is the distinct and emphatic repudiation by the meeting by former resolution unanimously adopted as well as by the able and opportune letter of the venerated and patriotic Bishop of Ross, Dr. O'Hea, and the speeches of Mr. Daunt and Professor Kavanagh, of all and every scheme for the settlement of the Church Question other than total disendowment. With well-grounded confidence I have assured your readers, for some weeks past, that the 'levelling-up' scheme of Mr. Aubrey de Vere, well-meaning and ably recommended by that excellent gentleman, would find no large or influential support amongst Irish Catholics. The Association, by this timely declaration, pending the next meeting of the bishops, has simplified the settlement of the Church Question, and removed all doubt as to the determination of Catholics to accept no remnant of the temporaries.

GENERAL SWEENEY.—The paragraph which went through the Cork papers stating that a woman upon whose death an inquest was lately held in this city, was the mother of the Fenian General Sweeney, is, as has been already mentioned in our column, incorrect. The statement has not even the least foundation. General Sweeney has relatives in Cork, which city he left at the early age of eight or nine years, but they are all of a respectable class, and his mother died in America some fourteen or fifteen years since. Though we have no responsibility in connection with the communication which contained the statement, we are sorry that it should have appeared in this journal, because of its being calculated to give pain to a high-minded and excellent man. We have always discontemned the project with which General Sweeney's name was for a while identified, but we have abundant testimony that it was on his part conceived 'all in honour,' and in a spirit of the most sincere, if mistaken patriotism.—Cork Examiner.

Dr. F. R. Cruise, writing in the British Medical Journal, gives details of the recent outbreak of cholera in Mountjoy Prison. They will serve to correct various erroneous statements that have been made on the subject. There has been no new case since December 27. The attack commenced on Sunday, December 23, the health of the establishment having been previously quite satisfactory. The epidemic lasted five days, during which time nine cases of Asiatic cholera with collapse, occurred, and four terminated fatally. The inhabitants of the prison are convicts, together with about 140 untried prisoners, now confined under the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act. Most of the cases of cholera occurred notified to the Government, and the most active sanitary measures were at once put into force, under the direction of the medical officer of the prison, Dr. McDonnell. To the promptitude and energy with which these measures were carried out undoubtedly may fairly be attributed the rapid suggestion of the attack. Perhaps the most interesting point in connection with this particular visitation is the difficulty in tracing its origin. No case of cholera has taken place among the officers of the establishment or their families. The prisoners in the various divisions of the prison do not communicate with each other, nor with the same officers; nevertheless, cases arose simultaneously in these divisions. The water supply is derived from the reservoirs of the north side of the city. It is received in a supply-tank, from which it is pumped by a steam-engine to cisterns on the top of the building. This supply-tank is pumped empty every 24 hours. From its situation it is absolutely secure from all risk of contamination from sewage, &c. The adjoining Female Convict Prison it supplied from the same tank. But no case of cholera occurred in the Female Prison. The food recently supplied has, on examination, been reported of unexceptionable quality. The different divisions of the prison are not on the same diet, neither is the food for them cooked in the same vessels. Nevertheless the disease appeared in all the divisions. The disease could not be ascribed to atmospheric influences for the prison is on one of the healthiest situations in Dublin.

The frost has been terribly severe here during the week. Yesterday and the day before it was dry and very pleasant for the skaters, who crowded round a sheet of water in the Zoological-gardens, Phoenixpark. The intensity of the cold was greatest last night, and to day it is blowing fiercely with sleet from the east, which must be very trying indeed to a large number of poor in this city who are ill-fed, ill-clad and miserably lodged. It is stated in the papers on good authority that there are hundreds of poor families in our back streets and lanes who are without food, and whose sufferings have been greatly augmented by the want of fuel to mitigate the severity of the intense cold. Similar accounts of the severity of the frost reach us from all parts of the island. Happily, cholera has almost entirely disappeared.—Dublin Cor. of Times.

Whiles, the Belfast journals were ridiculing the precautions of the authorities in Dublin, as calculated to produce unnecessary alarm, the manufacture of pikes, bullets, percussion caps, and cartridges was going on briskly in their own town, while quantities of powder were being carefully stored and kept in bottles in order that it might be perfectly dry.

The Pall Mall Gazette says it is the intention of the Irish Government to call up the militia for training. At the banquet given to Lord Cole in Baniskillen, on the occasion of his attaining his majority, the Earl of Baniskillen stated, as evidence of the confidence of the people of the county of Fermanagh in the Government, that during the whole period of Fenian alarm they had £83,000 in their local savings-bank which there was no disposition manifested to remove.

GREAT BRITAIN.

SIR GEORGE BOWSER, M.P., ON THE ROMAN QUESTION.—The hon. member for Dundalk addressed a meeting of Catholics in the Exchange, Wolverhampton, on Monday night. He said that lately a great deal had been heard in the newspapers and elsewhere about the solution of the Roman question. He, however, denied that there was any Roman question at all. (Applause.) He could not better illustrate this Roman question than by the following question—Supposing any of them going home that night should be met by two or three stout ruffians, who were to say, 'Your money, or your life!' (Laughter and applause.)—that was the Roman question.—(Resounded laughter and applause.) It was simply a question of robbery. (Applause.) The Piedmontese, the Government of Victor Emmanuel, were acting in the most hypocritical manner possible.—They talked about the desire of the Pope to introduce reforms into his Government, but they did not want reform at all. What they wanted was to take Rome; and no reforms would satisfy them. Then they talked about the impossibility of a reconciliation between the Pope and the Government of Florence. He thought that he could illustrate that proposition in a manner which would rather resemble the illustration he had just given. It was just precisely as if a man, after robbing them of their watch and their money, were to say, 'I will be reconciled to you, provided you will make over to me all the rest of your property.' (Laughter and applause.) Their reconciliation was this:—They said, 'Give us Rome; give us the whole of your dominions; give us everything you have got left; we have taken the greater part of it, give us all the rest, and we will be reconciled to you.' (Laughter and applause.) Now, how very kind that was: was it not? (Laughter.) But he would not give much for such reconciliation. Then he said, 'We will not take the whole of your power from you; we will have a garrison in Rome. That was very much like the wolf protecting the sheep. Such a protection could not be listened to; and it could not be offered without a great deal of bad faith and dishonesty. If the Pope allowed these people to have possession of Rome, he would be a prisoner, and he would be compelled to leave his capital and lose the independence absolutely necessary for the performance of his sacred duties. But there was another object; they did not only want territory and that magnificent city of Rome, but they wanted another thing. Rome was the centre of the whole civilized world. In that city were all the threads by which the affairs of Christendom were managed. Everything centred at Rome. They wanted to get hold of that centre of the Catholic Church. It was the object of the impious people who composed the Secret Society to effect the complete destruction of the religious orders. They foolishly thought that they could destroy the Church by getting hold of Rome and of the head of the Church. If they should do this they would subvert the Providence of God. (Applause.) But they did not want them to get hold of Rome, for if they did they would produce a great deal of mischief, and plunder the rest of the Church. In proof of this, let them bear in mind what had just happened in Venice.—The people who had been deprived of their livelihood because of the departure of the Austrian troops cried for 'bread, bread!' at the doors of the Government offices. Upon that there came out one of Victor Emmanuel's officers, and said that the Government would do everything they could; and in order that they might have work, the Government had ordered the destruction of two religious houses. If these people were allowed to get hold of Rome, the devastation of the Church would follow, and a great and serious calamity to the Catholic Church would ensue. Sir George discontinued the habit of some in denouncing the Emperor of the French, who he said, had promised to send his soldiers back to the relief of the Pope if their aid should be required; and he concluded by urging the assembly to contribute Peter's pence, by which hitherto the Holy Father had been enabled to fulfil punctually and exactly all demands as they became due, while the spoiler and the robber, King Victor Emmanuel, remained upon the verge of bankruptcy. (Cheers.)

THE NEW COMMENTARY ON THE BIBLE.—Strange Treats of Protestantism.—Some three years ago it was announced that a new commentary upon the Bible would be issued, written by some of the leading theologians and scholars in the English Church. That promise has not yet been fulfilled, but it is likely very shortly to be so. A large part of the commentary has been completed for some time. The delay in publishing it has arisen chiefly in connection with the historical books of the Pentateuch, which of course have to appear first, but are the last to be ready. They have been entrusted to Dr. Harold Browne, Bishop of Ely. Professor Rawlinson has had charge of some of the later historical books, Professor Plumptre of Proverbs, Mr. Kingsbury of the Song of Solomon. From what has been seen and heard of the commentary, it is not at all likely to be of the narrow school of criticism which was predicted by some of the Broad Church party. It will embody the results of the most recent criticism in Germany, as well as in our country. By the way, it may not be known that the 'Speaker's Commentary,' as it is called, had its origin under the following circumstances. Soon after 'Essays and Reviews' began to get talked about, the Speaker of the House of Commons was one day walking with the Rev. Mr. Cook, now Canon of Exeter, and asked him whether there was anything like an authoritative exposition of Scripture to which laymen might refer for an answer to the objections raised by the Essayists. Mr. Cook replied that there was not. Thereupon Mr. Denison suggested that the omission should be supplied, and this suggestion led to a meeting of the distinguished theologians and critics who have ever since been engaged in the work, whereof there is reason to hope that the first instalment will appear during the present winter.

ENGLISH MORALITY.—The deaths of 17 infants, all of whom had been accidentally suffocated in bed, were registered in London last week. A number of cases entered for hearing in the Divorce Court is 120, of which 84 are to be tried without juries.

THE COMMISSION.—For the benefit of those who are weary of wading through the detail of the electioneering corruption it is worth while to note a few of the most surprising revelations made before the commission now re-opening proceedings at Lancaster. It certainly is astonishing to find how high up in the social scale the purchasables are to be found. John Ball, farming 50 or 60 acres of land, received £10 for his vote for the Liberals. Robert Easton, paying £180 a year rent for his farm, voted for the Tories for the honorarium of £10. John Bond a publican, was paid £10 by the Tory side. Three other farmers, named Cottam, paying good rents, voted for the 'farmer's friend,' but took care to get £10 apiece for the patriotic act; and so did Joseph Crossell, who pays £250 a year for the land he rents. It is to be remarked, too, that these easy folks were not 'high' in their demands, for it appears that the votes of the farm laborers were secured at the same cost as those of their employers. A master blacksmith voted for the Tory and received only the usual market price, £10, which was scarcely fair inasmuch as he took £13 from the Liberals, and gave them no vote in return. One personage, an innkeeper, satisfied the demands of conscience and pocket with much ingenuity, voting for one Liberal 'for love,' and for the Tory 'for money.' It is but just to this worthy publican to add that he sold his vote for half-price. The sharpest practitioners of all was a farm laborer, who was paid by the Liberals to work on their side, and then went and voted for the Tory for £12. A lawyer who had 20 guineas as his 'retainer' says that he gave it all away in charity. We should be glad to know whether he did this before the commission was appointed or afterwards.—Pall Mall Gazette.

LAST AND NEXT NOVEMBER STAR SHOWERS.—A comparison of the whole number of meteors observed with the numerical results of previous showers shows that this shower was far less significant than some of its predecessors. Whether other parts of the world witnessed a grander phase in the display than we in England did we cannot say, for there is at present no authentic information on the point. M. Couvier Gravier, who ought to be an authority, at a recent sitting of the French Academy of Sciences, suggested that the maximum display of the epoch might be expected in November, 1867; because, he said, the really great showers are 84 years apart instead of 33, and the last of these was that of 1833. Moreover, he called attention to the fact that every very grand shower is preceded by one not so grand in the year before it. This was the case in 1832-33; whether it will be so this time we must wait till next November to learn.

AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.—A series of returns have just been issued by the Board of Trade showing the acreage of land under crops, and in other agricultural districts, in the United Kingdom during the present year. In England and Wales, out of a total 37 millions of acres, 24½ millions are under crops of all kinds, of which 1,920,000 under cereals, 2,800,000 under green crop, and the rest grass or bare fallow land and permanent meadow. In Scotland, out of a total acreage of 19,630,000 there were 4,159,360 under crops; of which 1,360,540 under corn, 663,000 under green crop, and the rest bare fallow, under grasses, or in permanent pasture. Another return gives the comparative statistics of the acreage and employment of land in Scotland and Ireland in 1857 and 1866—showing that in both countries the acreage under corn decreased during that period, but in Ireland in much larger proportion; while in Scotland there was an increase under the head of green crops, against a decrease in Ireland.

OUR MILITARY ORGANIZATION.—The German war has had the effect of calling the attention of several of the great Powers of Europe to the organization of their armies, and special Commissions have been appointed in Austria, France, and our own country to consider the subject. We have imperfect accounts as yet as to what has been done in Austria; the French Commission has recommended most extensive changes; and our own Commission, which was confined to the important subject of recruiting, has also made its report. There are other questions relating to our army which require careful examination and reform quite as much as the recruiting system; and when this latter has been dealt with we hope Parliament will force upon the Executive a less cumbersome system in the higher departments, and a less divided responsibility, residing either in the Horse Guards or the War Department. Another question of vital importance is the condition and amount of our Indian army, which has grown so enormously of late years, and constitutes a drain on the country which the increasing demand for labour and the rise in wages will render it each year less able to bear. Our army in India has increased from about 45,000 men, which was its strength at the time of the mutinies, to upwards of 70,000 at the present time; and it is an important question whether or not, by the increase of railways, by judiciously placed fortresses, by a higher class of soldiers, who might train levies under them in time of need, and by encouraging old pensioners to settle in India, this large amount may not be reduced to something like the number which was sufficient to gain our Indian Empire, and keep it, until Lord Dalhousie's unfortunate and short sighted policy was adopted.—Fortnightly Review.

LEPROSY.—A report on leprosy by the Royal College of Physicians has been prepared for her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is a very bulky, very elaborate, and very valuable contribution to our knowledge of this intricate subject. The college have performed this great labour at the request of the Government. The suggestion arose out of a letter from the Governor of Barbadoes to the Duke of Newcastle, stating that this fearful malady is on the increase in that colony, and suggesting that, hopeless as the case of the unhappy leper may be, the collection of reports from all the colonies on the character and progress of the disease, the treatment and dietary observed, and the general regulation of leper-houses, might be attended with some possible advantages, and tend to ameliorate the condition of these unhappy sufferers. The college assured the Duke of Newcastle of their willingness to co-operate in this humane work. On the nomination of the President, Dr. Budd, senior censor, Dr. Owen Rees, Dr. A. Farr, Dr. Gill, Dr. Milroy, and Dr. Greenhow were appointed a committee to frame interrogatories and report on the disease. These were despatched to all the colonies and a considerable mass of evidence has thus been obtained, and is here elaborately digested and collated. One most important conclusion at which they have arrived discounts entirely the belief that leprosy is contagious or communicable by proximity or contact with the diseased. The evidence derived from the experience of the attendants in leper asylums is especially conclusive on this point. Thus there is not in this great mass of reports from all parts of the world 'anything which justifies measures for the compulsory segregation of lepers.' In India no such segregation is attempted, but in many countries, including some British colonies, the slightest ascertained taint of the malady carries with it a sentence tantamount to banishment from the rest of the community, or even to perpetual detention in a lazaret. Enactments for the arrest and imprisonment of lepers have been proposed or passed over within the last few years in some of our Indian colonies. In the villages of Syria lepers are required to go to Damascus, or some other town where there may be a public asylum; and if they will not conform to this rule they are made to live in a cave or hut outside the village, where they remain in perpetual quarantine. All such enactments or regulations should be abolished.—British Medical Journal.

Mr. Bennett, jun., offered to make a New Year's present of his yacht, the 'Henrietta,' to the second son of the Queen. The offer was declined in a most courteous letter.

THE BISHOP OF CHESTER ON RITUALISM.—The Protestant Bishop of Chester has returned the following answer to a memorial signed by 128 clergymen of Liverpool and the district:—

Hawarden Castle, Chester, Dec. 26, 1866. My dear Sir—I have been requested to send to you my answer to an address signed by 128 clergymen of Liverpool and the neighborhood.

In connexion with one of the heads of complaint contained therein—viz., 'practices,' which the memorialists consider 'unwarranted,' which are afterwards explained to mean 'gestures, ceremonies, and vestments,' they with good reason regret that 'the law is ambiguous.' That ambiguity has recently been aggravated by the conflicting opinions given by very eminent lawyers. And no good result could be expected from any exertions of authority which cannot be sustained by law.

In the exercise of 'free thought,' with which the memorialists 'deprecate any undue interference,' they will, doubtless, be prepared to allow that our public service, according to local circumstances, admits of various degrees of embellishment, when such embellishment is not employed to symbolize doctrines repudiated by our church, but is kept within its due limits, as offering additional legitimate attraction, as ministering to the ascertained edification of the congregation, and, therefore, adopted with their concurrence.

The particular ceremony specified in the address, 'the elevation for worship of the consecrated elements,' appears to me to be contrary to the concluding paragraph of the 25th Article, to the declaration subjoined to the rubric at the end of the Communion Office, and to the obligation under which our clergy place themselves, to 'give their faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine and sacraments' as this church and realm hath received the same.

The second head of complaint is 'the use of services not contained in the Book of Common Prayer.' As no case of this kind has been reported to me from either archdeaconry, it may, I hope, be concluded that no presentation of such practices has been made by any of the churchwardens, to all of whom this question is put year by year. 'Does your officiating minister, properly habited, perform the service of the church as prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer?'

The use of such services is in my judgment irconcilable with the declaration solemnly made by our clergy, that they will 'use the forms in the said book prescribed and none other.'

I have no sympathy with ceremonial innovations or revivals. But, while I offer my thanks to the memorialists for the respect which they express for my office, I will beg their permission to remind them that if the law is invoked for the suppression of errors on the side of excess, it must be expected that strict conformity to the Rubric will be insisted upon whenever variations or omissions in any of the offices of the church have come to have the sanction of custom.—I remain, my dear Sir, very faithfully yours, WILLIAM CHESTER.

THE HORSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.—The following protest, signed by some hundreds of clergymen of the Established Church, appeared in the London Times of last Tuesday, the signatures, in small type, taking up nearly two columns of the paper:—

'We, the undersigned, being clergymen of the diocese of London, desire to make our public and emphatic protest against the introduction under cover of an elaborate Ritualism, of some of the fundamental and most pernicious errors of the Church of Rome into the Protestant and Reformed Church of this realm.

'We are not insensible to the objections which may be urged against such voluntary declarations on the part of clergymen who have already made the subscriptions legally imposed on them.

'But we are convinced in our consciences that the time is fully come, when, for the satisfaction of the great majority of the lay members of the Church of England, and for the vindication of our church in the eyes of others, some authoritative check should be put to practices which are confessedly introduced and maintained as symbolical of doctrines against which our Reformers protested, and in protesting against which many of the 'coble army of martyrs' loved not their lives unto the death.'

'Having waited anxiously for the effective application of any such check, by lawful authority, we now make public this our solemn protest against all doctrine and ritual, the tendency of which is to assimilate the teaching and worship of the United Church of England and Ireland to the teaching and worship of a Church which we have declared to be 'idolatrous,' and whose 'sacrifices of masses' have been called on to renounce as 'blasphemous fables and dangerous deceits.'

'And we declare our conviction that the claim of our church to be the Established Church of the realm rests mainly upon her fidelity to the principles of the Reformation.—Nov. 30, 1866.

As a set off to the above, two Ritualistic clergymen are announced as having subscribed £1,000 each, to form the commencement of a fund out of which the expenses of prosecuting those clergymen who don't observe the rubrics are to be paid. A pleasant state of things, truly, to exist amongst a body of men calling themselves a Church. Comment on these things would be useless; but do our Protestant friends not remember an apt text about a house which is divided against itself?—Weekly Register.

ON WEDNESDAY, the Evicted Tenants' Association waited upon Lord Derby to represent their case, which is this. Fifty thousand poor persons have been evicted in London within four years, and the overcrowding is killing alike morality and civilization.

It has been discovered at the General Post Office that many persons in America are in the habit of sending over to this country sums of money wrapped in newspapers. Notes for various amounts of dollars are the practice American papers are now examined at St. Martin's-le-Grand. It is impossible to examine every paper; but selections are made at London, and frequent seizures are the result.

whose welcome arrival causes so much anxiety and bustle in more than three hundred London homes within every twenty-four hours, were borne to the City by their nurses, as the neonati in Italy are borne through every inclemency of weather to the churches within a few hours of birth, it would require a train conveying fifty nurses each carrying a baby, to arrive daily at six of the main railway stations. From the four other principal stations, with equal punctuality would daily despatched the grim convoy of fifty coffins. How little does the habitual residents of London see of the 200 daily funerals! To accommodate the permanent daily increase in the metropolitan population of 120 souls, we require the daily erection, from foundation to roof, of seventeen houses at least, two of which must be furnished with stables. Were these houses erected in a single line, that line would run a mile into the country in the course of a fortnight, and an observer at the distance of the moon might detect the monthly increase of the orbit of the city as if it were the result of some giant process of crystallization.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE POLES.—We have much pleasure in recording an act redounding to the honor of the Prince of Wales's private character.—While in St. Petersburg, during his late visit, he solicited the Emperor of Russia, as a personal favor, the liberation of Count Stanislaus Zamoycki (son of Count Andrew Zamoycki) confined in Siberia, which request was readily and gratefully acceded to. The Count has since returned to Warsaw, to the great joy of his family, who, so less than the whole Polish nation, feel most grateful to His Royal Highness for his noble conduct.

THE ANNUAL CONTROVERSY.—One of the periodical controversies as to the effect of the Forbes Mackenzie Act with which the Scotch newspapers have been themselves has just broken out. There seems to be an idea among some good people in Dublin that a measure of this kind is very much wanted there, and so they have written to Edinburgh for information. Mr. McLaren, M. P., expresses a strong opinion in favor of the Act, and he declares that it has reduced the cases of drunkenness in the Scottish capital by 4,000 a year, and has especially lessened drinking on Sunday. To this the Scotsman replies that the Act, if it has not diminished drunkenness, has rendered it less easy of detection, since it now takes place not in public but in private houses and illicit dramshops; that before the Act came into existence its regulations as to closing public houses at eleven o'clock were enforced in Edinburgh, and that it has therefore introduced on change in that respect; and that the real reason why people now drink less whiskey is because within the period referred to the price of a commodity adds our contemporary, 'is doubted, it is certainly needless to look any further for the cause of any decrease in its consumption. Moreover, that there is no cause is painfully obvious from the fact that we sober people of Scotland now spend every year about a million and a half of pounds sterling more for drink than we spent before our reformation.' The Glasgow papers also afford some curious information as to the working of the Forbes Mackenzie Act in that city. The druggists of Glasgow, it seems, supply the general craving for drink during the hours when the public-houses are shut up. Whiskey scented with camphor and tinted with burnt sugar has long been a popular dose; and lately we are told, 'a liquor known as 'finish,' a compound of methylated spirits and french-polish extensively used by furniture polishers, has, from its superior cheapness and strength, come into vogue, and its effect upon its victims is so dangerously maddening that the police have taken the matter in hand with the view of suppressing the traffic.' It has also been observed that there is a large and regular demand for 'cholera mixtures' in which spirits form a strong element, on Sundays.—Pall Mall Gazette.

UNITED STATES. TORY LIBERALITY AND JUSTICE.—Archbishop Connolly, of Halifax, has obtained from the Tory Government of England, after fourteen days of unremitting effort, what the bishops of the lower provinces of Canada has labored in vain, for forty years, to accomplish, namely, the right of Catholic Bishops to select and dismiss school teachers, choose school books, and disburse all monies belonging to the educational fund, for Catholic schools, and to have those, their acknowledged rights, engrained on the Constitution of the new confederation of the British North American Provinces. This information came to us direct from the Most Rev. Archbishop Connolly. Would to God our own good and wise Legislature of Ohio would do for us nearly as well Catholic Telegraph.

NEW ENGLAND SYMPATHY WITH GREECE.—Wendell Phillips, having satisfactorily demonstrated that Truth is one of the 'Lost Aris,' naturally takes up with much eagerness the cause of the Cretans, whom St. Paul long ago denounced, on the authority of one of themselves, as 'always liars.' The good man's fervor in their behalf, however, does not seem to originate solely on his sympathetic admiration of their genius for romance. He calls upon New England to hold out her hand to Greece because the Turks are such horrid wretches. This is a negative sort of support, to be sure, to give to the heirs of Midlades and Plato, as well as of Dionysius and Theristes. But is precisely the support which New England always delights to give to any cause. The elect of the Lord take no real pleasure in anything save the damnation of the un baptized. It is not because Wendell Phillips loves the Greeks that he turns on the Domesticates stop upon the big Boston organ, but because it is impossible for him to resist the temptation of blackguarding the heathen. These abominable creatures with urbane, he exclaims, have the impudence to pose upon our good old Puritan major. They actually refuse to believe that anybody can be in the right but themselves, whereas it is notorious that we of New England are not always in the right, but that Heaven has bestowed upon us the inalienable privilege of being always in the right, even when we contradict ourselves.

Now, it is not quite true that the Turks are aggressive in their intolerance. If Mr. Phillips had given less time to the platform and more to the library, he would know that the Turks in Europe have never poached on the Puritan manor. The Puritans drove Robert Williams and his Baptists into Rhode Island, hunted the Episcopalians up to Springfield, destroyed Morron's colony at Merry Mount, hanged Ananapists, whipped Quakers, and generally put a stop to all worship of God in their borders not conducted after their own will and pleasure. The Turks have done nothing of the sort. They have been despot in a political sense; but they have never seriously and officially interfered with the religious belief of their subject races in Europe. The immense preponderance at this hour of the Greek communion throughout the European dominions of Turkey is the obvious and irrefutable evidence of this. But it is not the less amusing and instructive to see the champions of the New England domination flaring up in this hot and impressive fashion at the notion that a knot of fanatics in Constantinople should dare to be as insolent and intolerant as themselves. The idea has thrown them into such a rage as to make them quite overlook the trivial circumstance that they are giving aid and comfort to some obstinate and irreclaimable rebels. When the talk is of Southern reconstruction, rebellion seems to these worthy children of Cotton Mather the blackest of crimes. When it is a question of Turkish dissolution, rebellion is altogether blessed and lovely, and of good report. There is something almost touching in this purblind inconsistency, this grave and unaffected straining at Carolina gnat and deglutition of Cretan camels.

The contributors poured into the Boston Orelan Fund must be exquisite characteristic. General Butler, for example, blubbering of the accounts of the cruel behavior of a Pacha in Candia, runs up to the platform from which Mr. Phillips is setting forth the sufferings of the Greeks, and flings down a dozen albatross spoons taken by him as being pure silver from an obstinately rebellious old lady's cupboard in New Orleans. General Banks, scandalized at the confiscation of several drums of figs by a Turkish Admiral, offers two bushels of damaged Red River cotton and a bottle of Portland elixir. Ex-Collector Goodrich, of Boston and Berkshire, sends a package of counterfeit currency put off upon him in liquidation of fines from a corrupt importer who has subsequently emigrated to Australia. An eminent Unitarian clergyman, who gave his son to his country a simple second lieutenant, and got him back again a full major general, hands over to the valiant defenders of Arkadi a set of coral children's bells and a damaged piano obtained in the nursery of a malignant Carolinian aristocrat. We hope that the good work may go bravely on. And when all that can be collected has been collected, we devoutly trust that Mr. Wendell Phillips, General Butler, General Banks, and Charles Sumner may be appointed a committee to take the New England contributions out to Candia, with instructions to remain in the East until they shall have reconstructed not Crete alone, but all Hellas and Asia Minor, together with Mesopotamia and Syria, into the exact likeness of the ancient and fish like Commonwealth of Massachusetts.—N. Y. World.

THE MYSTERIOUS EXPEDITION.—The frequent allusions to a secret expedition to the West India Islands, or some point in that neighborhood, are the occasion of much conjecture. Admiral Porter is believed to be in command, and the steamers Gettysburg and McCulloch constitute a part of the squadron. Mr. Frederick Seward is among those who accompany Admiral Porter. These facts, in connection with a rumor that the squadron takes out one million dollars, embrace all that is positively known. It is, however, understood that the officers expected to return to the United States within two or three months. Has the expedition some diplomatic purpose to execute, with the object of securing a naval station at St. Thomas in the far-famed Bay of Samana, on the north-east coast of San Domingo?—These are among the questions naturally suggested. Something has been said about the acquisition of the Island of St. Thomas from the government of Denmark, but the Bay of Samana probably would be a more desirable possession. It will be remembered that in 1844, during the administration of President Pierce, a secret diplomatic agent (Gen. Canzano) entered into negotiation with Santamania, then President of the Dominican republic, and a treaty was formed, but never executed, which provided for the cession of this Bay to our government. The Bay lies on the south side of the peninsula of the same name, and is forty-three miles long by eight in width, forming one of the finest harbors in the world, valuable alike for its commercial and military position. The town of Barbara on the north shore, affords rare natural facilities for repairing vessels, and choice timber is found in abundance within a few miles. There are reasons why the United States should covet these possessions, but of events yet future, it is hard to predict. A telegram from Washington, referring to the revenue-cutter McCulloch, merely says, 'she is understood to form one of the expedition to the port of Samana.'—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

The Reverend Henry Ward Beecher held forth the other day at the Southern Relief meeting in New York to the following effect:—

'I often wonder at the great woe that takes place in the operations of nature. Why can't God have just as many blossoms on an apple tree as he intends to have apples? Why should half the human race die in infancy? Why should there have been any occasion for that complaint of the man who lost his child?—

'If you was so soon to be done for I wonder what you was begun for? (Great laughter.) The mechanics, the goldsmiths, the physicians—all economize in material. How is it that God has such an enormous waste?'

The Reverend Mr. Spurgeon, of London, and the Reverend Mr. Beecher, of Plymouth Church, in respect to their grossly outrageous decency and propriety, are very much alike, especially Beecher.—Blasphemy may be very taking with some people, and it certainly pays well in New York. Mr. Beecher, no doubt, does his best to accommodate himself to the tastes of his auditory, and the 'great laughter' with which his vulgar doggerel was received, only too plainly indicates his success.

POLITICAL PRISONERS TORTURED BY THE YANKEE GOVERNMENT.—St. Leger Grenfell, a prisoner at the Dry Tortugas, is an Englishman of an honorable family, who, in the early part of the late war, made his way to Richmond, and took a commission in the service of the Confederacy—recognized as a 'ballenger' by England. After some years, Mr. Grenfell resigned that commission, for whatever cause, and, passing the lines, made a journey into Illinois.—After sojourning there some months, he was seized by the military of the United States, and thrown into prison. He was afterwards, 'tried' before one of those bogus 'Military Commissions' that the Supreme Court has declared to be lawless bodies and their sentences null and void. We saw and spoke with him, while he was there. He is a young man of delicate frame, and good education. In consequence of the sentence of that 'lawless body' he has been, for twenty months, subjected to a cruel and ignominious slavery at the Dry Tortugas. We have heard, from authority perfectly reliable but which we have had too much discretion to divulge—since our informant is, also, subjected to the same 'slavery'—that Mr. Grenfell's treatment has been atrocious, and horrible, though he has given no occasion for such severity.

This Englishman, more than a year ago, laid the particulars of his case before the British Minister at Washington. We happen to know that Sir Robert Bruce received that statement, and read it, and wrote that he would do what he could for Mr. Grenfell.—Time has passed on. An alleged letter of Mr. Grenfell, detailing the horrors that are committed by the officers at the Dry Tortugas on both prisoner and United States soldiers, was impudently published by the New York World. On accusation of writing this, Mr. Grenfell has been most cruelly tortured, and exposed to the most ignominious treatment.—All this has come under the notice of Sir Robert Bruce. The Supreme Court of the United States has declared that the very military Commission that condemned Mr. Grenfell was a lawless body. It was the same Commission that tried Colonel Miligan and Bowles. Sir Robert Bruce has this information before him. Treaty stipulations between the United States and England secure to Englishmen in this country the protection of the laws. Mr. Grenfell continues, subjected to cruel and unusual punishments, in a United States fortress, without any warrant of law, but in violation thereof. 'Sir Robert Bruce has had knowledge of all this, and yet he sits dinners with William H. Seward, drinks wine with him, and plays lunkey, generally!'

The English Government used to swagger more than any other, about how it protected British subjects all over the world. If it had been the Napoleon Government, under its late Bourbon king, that had in prison an Englishman, how stout would have been the demand for his release, and for compensating damages to him! If it had been Portugal, that had been one of the South American States:—But the roaring lion is now a many dog, cowering while lashed by the United States, and licking the boot that was used in the kicking of O'Brien's such base-ness! Let all the world learn to insult and degrade this expelled bully. England! If Grenfell lives? get out of the Dry Tortugas, let him down the craven country that did not see the law executed in his regard.—N. Y. Freeman.

A forty-two mile sleigh race for \$3,000 was run in Providence. Three hours and twenty-five minutes was the winning time.

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**TERMS YEARLY IN ADVANCE:**  
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**MONTREAL, FRIDAY, FEB. 8.**

**ECCLIASTICAL CALENDAR.**

FEBRUARY—1867.

Friday, 8—St. John of Martha, O.  
Saturday, 9—St. Raymond of Penafort, O.  
Sunday, 10—Fifth after Epiphany. Ste. Scholastique, V.  
Monday, 11—Of the Feria.  
Tuesday, 12—Of the Feria.  
Wednesday, 13—Of the Feria.  
Thursday, 14—Of the Blessed Sacrament.

**NEWS OF THE WEEK.**

There is a great dearth of political news from the Old World. There is as yet no sign of the expected Revolution at Rome, and Garibaldi, it seems, has published a letter condemning an outbreak at present as inopportune. The British Government we are told is applying for the restoration to its protection of the rascal Lamirande. The fellow was tried for, and convicted of swindling; but according to the definitions of English law his crime was not forgery.

In the United States the strife of parties is as bitter as ever. The extreme revolutionary party dominant in the Northern Congress seem determined to push matters to extremities by the impeachment of the President. Their only difficulty, at present, lies in the finding of the *corpus delicti*; or some particular crime wherewith to tax him, but this difficulty will no doubt be got over. The Supreme Court too is an object of intense dislike to the revolutionists, and Mr. Wendell Phillips openly declares that it must be crushed or stamped out. In the House of Representatives a motion has been carried for withdrawing the U. States Legation from Rome. From the tone of the debate, say the Washington correspondents of the New York papers, it was easy to gather that the majority of the House entertain a deep, and ill-concealed hostility to the Catholic Church. Indeed it cannot be otherwise; for betwixt the Church, and the party now dominant amongst our neighbors there never can be amicable relations. The Church is always and everywhere the enemy of the Revolution, and its partisans hate her accordingly.

The Fenian convicts, whose sentences have been commuted to imprisonment in the Penitentiary, were removed on Saturday last from Toronto to Kingston. Before leaving, Lynch and the Rev. Mr. McMahon in the name of the prisoners drew up a card, acknowledging the kind treatment they had received from the Sheriff and his subordinates.

The Imperial Parliament was opened on the 5th inst. In the speech from the throne, Her Majesty alluded to the union of the B. N. American Provinces, for which a Bill will be laid before the Houses. The attention of the Commons is called to the Franchise question, and a measure for giving relief to the Irish tenant is promised. The seare the most important items.

**THE ROYAL SUPREMACY.**—Hitherto this has been the one cardinal doctrine of the Protestant Church of England; on this one point alone have all its adherents hitherto been unanimous. Differing on all other matters—on the authority and inspiration, and even the historical credibility of Scripture; on the Person and Office of Christ; on the number, nature, and efficacy of the Sacraments; on the state of the wicked after death, and in short upon every article of the Christian faith—the members of the Anglican sect have all ways agreed in asserting the doctrine of the Royal Supremacy, or Headship of the Sovereign of the British Empire, over their church, or sect. This has been the sole bond of union amongst them; the *alpha* and the *omega* of their faith, in the keeping of which pure and undefiled, fellowship and communion with the Church of England consisted. Every spirit that confesseth that the king or queen of Great Britain and Ireland is Head of the Church, is *ipso facto* a member of the Church of England; no matter what he may believe or deny in other matters; and every spirit that confesseth not the king or queen for the time being of Great Britain and Ireland as Head of the Church, is excommunicate, and alien to its fold. The negation of the Royal Supremacy has been in the eyes of every true, genuine Anglican, that spirit of Antichrist, to which in his first Epistle, the Beloved Apostle alludes.

The constancy with which, through good repute and evil repute, the Church of England has adhered to this, its great essential or formal doctrine, is that which has chiefly distinguished it from all other Protestant communities; for

alone of all the sects which came into being in the sixteenth century, it has maintained to the present day intact, the principle with which it started into life. We have seen in Geneva, the sect founded by Calvin rejecting his characteristic doctrines; in the United States the children of the Puritans and the Pilgrims have for the most part discarded these doctrines of Election, and Absolute Predestination for which their fathers braved persecution, and suffered exile.—But the Church of England alone amongst the sects, has remained true and faithful to its one characteristic doctrine of the Royal Supremacy.

Most important therefore is the change, that, in so far as the British Colonies are concerned, has just come over the faith of that church; for it seems that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to renounce her Supremacy in these parts of her dominions, and even to waive her right to the appointment of its pastors. In Toronto the other day a Protestant Bishop was consecrated without any royal license or permit; and so far from this being looked upon as a sort of spiritual contraband, or ecclesiastical smuggling, it seems that the perfect legality of the proceedings was recognised by no less a person than the Colonial Secretary Himself. In the Colonies henceforward then, the "Royal Supremacy" is no longer an article of the Anglican Faith.

And what then is? seeing that hitherto this has been the sole article of the creed, in which all Anglicans were united! the one profession of faith which they could all, from their hearts, and without mental reservation of any kind, repeat in common, and into which they had all been baptized! What bond of union will now exist betwixt the different so-called dioceses of the Anglican Church in Her Majesty's Colonies—seeing that the sole bond of union hitherto existing betwixt them has been lost? Till such time as they can manage to get another head they will be but a lot of acephalous and independent or rather disorganised communities, incapable of enforcing discipline of any kind, or of exercising any vital functions. They cease in fact to be members of the Church of England at all, since all members of one body have, and must have one common head; and just as Catholics who, though adhering to their Bishop, should renounce their connection with the Pope would no longer be members of the Catholic Church, but at best schismatic—so the several so-called Anglican dioceses of Canada no longer form any part of that body known to history as the Church of England and Ireland, as By Law Established. We should much like to know how, and from what source henceforward, Protestant Colonial Bishops will claim to have received their jurisdiction; how and upon what grounds they will assert their superiority over the other Protestant sects into which the people of Canada are broken up.

"The New Testament does not teach in a logical and systematic form an order of Church Government, any more than a dogmatic creed."—*Echo (Low Church)* Jan. 30.

This is a fact patent to all men; and therefore is it that, with unanswerable logic, Liberal Christians, as they are called by their friends—or Unitarians, Infidels and Rationalists as they are nick-named by their enemies, who arrogate to themselves the title of Evangelical—contend that, if the Bible alone be the rule of faith, Christ Himself has appointed no particular order of Church Government; and that a dogmatic creed is no essential part of Christianity but rather an excrescence, and an incumbrance.

These premises admitted—1st. that the Bible is the sole rule of faith, and the religion of Protestants; and 2nd. that it does not teach in a logical and systematic form any order of Church Government, or any dogmatic creed, the above is the only possible logical conclusion; and the position of the Liberal Christians, who reject all definite creeds, and confound Christianity with a vague sentimental republication of the natural law, is impregnable. So well aware are evangelicals of this fact, that in their controversies with their more logical Protestant brethren, they invariably pick up, and try to use the weapons of the Catholic controversialist. As against Romanists, they fight like Rationalists; as against the latter, they do their best to assume the posture, the discipline, and the tactics of the Catholic. This is it that renders them an object of ridicule to all intelligent men, whether Papists or Free-Thinkers. Of these last-named both are logical: The Free-Thinkers, in rejecting all dogmas, all mysteries, all supernaturalism, all inspiration of Scripture, and everything in short which is not systematically and logically taught in the New Testament; the other, or Papist, in that recognising the fact that the writings of which that book is composed, contain no logical or systematic teaching of dogma, he concludes that, if Christ intended His disciples to hold any such dogmas, He appointed some other, clearer, more systematic, and better defined rule of faith, than the book in question.

Miss Ellen O'Mahony, late Head Directress of the Fenian Sisterhood, is exposing the tricks and rascalities of the Brotherhood in a series of articles to the New York News.

**THE MORMONS AND THE ALBIGENSES.**

There is scarce a Protestant penny-a-liner who has not enlarged upon the enormities of the Catholic Governments of medieval Europe, in putting down by force, when all gentle means had failed of effect, the Bulgars or Albigenes whose Manichean doctrines threatened to overthrow the entire religious and political fabric of Christendom; and whose unmentionable impurities, like their monstrous creed, of Oriental origin, were undermining the social life of Europe. What then will Protestants say when they learn that the liberal and enlightened Government of the United States, in this enlightened and liberal nineteenth century, is about to put down by legislation, and by force of arms if necessary, a Protestant sect—that of the Mormons, whose religious and political tenets, compared with those of the Albigenes, are perfectly harmless; and whose morality it would be an injustice to compare with that of the infamous Bulgars, and which we hesitate not to say, is not a bit worse than that which under the name of divorce obtains amongst all Protestant communities.

That which the U. States government proposes to put down is styled "polygamy;" but as polygamy is an impossible crime, seeing that no man can be married to two or more women at the same time, in the Christian sense of the word marriage—what Congress really aims at is "concubinage." This it proposes to make illegal, and punishable as a civil offence, in so far as the Mormons and Utah are concerned. Others however, Protestant citizens of New York for instance, who may be living in a state of concubinage quite as filthy as that wherein the Mormon elders indulge, are to be left undisturbed.

By what right does the Government of the U. States undertake to legislate against the Mormons, and their peculiar immorality? How can such legislation be defended upon Protestant principles, or be made to square with the boasted right of "private judgment?" That a Protestant State should undertake to punish the act of him, who fraudulently, and by misrepresenting himself as single, when he is in reality already married, obtains possession of the hand, person and fortune of a woman whom he had deceived; we can understand; for it is the right of every government to punish frauds, and to repress injuries. But in the dealings of the male Mormons with the females of their sect, there is neither fraud to punish, nor injury to repress or avenge. The men openly proclaim their true condition, and intentions: the women accept willingly those conditions; and to the willing no injury is done. What then is there in the case of the Mormons which the State assumes the right to punish and repress?

It assumes to itself the right to punish immorality, and to repress or prohibit concubinage amongst a certain class of its subjects; whilst it dares not so much as attempt to punish or prohibit precisely the same immorality amongst any other class of its subjects, amongst whom however immorality and concubinage notoriously obtain. It declares that to be illegal in Utah, which is perfectly legal and very common in Boston and New York; cities which far surpass in scandalous immorality the capital of Brigham Young, and the holy city of the Mormons. Amongst the latter, Christian marriage does not exist at all, and their sexual crimes can therefore never attain the height and malignity of adultery; whilst in the first named cities adultery, a crime of far deeper dye than mere concubinage, is of by no means uncommon occurrence. If then it is immorality which the State seeks to repress and punish, why does it not deal with the immorality of the Eastern States? why does it single out the Mormons from amongst all the other Protestant sects, as the especial object of its hostile legislation? Why does it undertake to visit with civil penalties the concubinage of the former, whilst it tolerates divorce, and winks hard at the adultery so prevalent amongst the latter? Like the hypocrites denounced in the Gospel, our Yankee Congressmen pretend to be scandalised by the mote in their neighbors' eye, whilst perfectly indifferent to the beam in their own.

The *Globe* which speaks approvingly of this class legislation quotes some of its provisions—one of which we cite as showing how it understands the principles of civil liberty, and of even-handed justice.

"That no man in Utah shall have a right to the society or the services of any woman who is not lawfully married to him."—*Globe*.

Extend this law, if it be a just law, to the kept mistresses of New York and other large cities of the U. States! They dare not so apply it, for there would be an insurrection from one end of the country to the other. Neither can they enforce any of the provisions of their anti-Mormon legislation, without making public display of the inconsistency, or rather mendacity of Protestant principles. Listen to the *Globe* justifying the action in this matter of Congress:—

"If it should be necessary to draw the sword before the evil can be suppressed, the sword could not be drawn in a more justifiable cause."—*Globe*.

Rich this in a Protestant writing against his brother Protestants! in a Liberal who denounces

Catholic Governments which endeavor, not to extirpate by the sword hereby amongst their own subjects, but merely to prevent its introduction amongst them by foreigners! What however shall we say of the drawing of the sword against the Manicheans of the Middle Ages—whose most characteristic practices are punished by death in most civilised countries to-day, and have rendered their very name of Bulgars as infamous, as that of the Cities of the Plain.

**MISSIONS.**—The annexed paragraph is from an article under the caption "Crime in Canada," that appeared in the Montreal *Daily News* of the 30th ult. The *Daily News*, being a Protestant paper, must be accepted as a disinterested, and therefore competent witness, as to the truth of the facts which it asserts:—

"How are we to account for the fact that some sections of Canada enjoy almost an absolute immunity from crime, while in others the soil seems red with blood? Take, for example, that long stretch of country extending along the north and south shores of the St. Lawrence below Quebec, where such abundant facilities for crime and its concealment exist, yet within living memory only one murder has been perpetrated throughout that region, and the actor in that case—Holmes—destroyed Tache's life under circumstances of singular atrocity. Holmes was not a Canadian, and he was not a resident of Canada in the correct sense of the term, when he travelled from Sorel, where he dwelt, to Kamouraska, specially to destroy a man whom he had much wronged; therefore, his case does not invalidate our argument. We are aware that lower down the river St. Lawrence, in that wild uninhabited island known as Anticosti suspicion fixed on Gamache, the wrecker, as a systematic murderer of disabled seamen. But leaving Anticosti aside, and confining our researches to the north and south shores of the St. Lawrence, it is indisputably true that the population of these parts merit the reputation of being singularly free from sanguinary propensities; in truth, offences against the person are almost unknown, and the traveller may traverse every part in the region described in the full confidence that he will not be molested. This safety, be it remembered, is not due to a detective or any other kind of police force, while regular troops have never been seen on the north shore, and only rarely on the south shore, when on the march from Halifax.

The cause of the phenomenon indicated by our contemporary must be looked for in something wherein the population of that part of Canada whose moral excellence he recognises, differs from that of the population in those parts of Canada where in his own words, "the soil seems red with blood." Now there are three such points of difference: 1st. Climate—for the "stretch of country" by our contemporary alluded to, is colder than those parts of the Province which lie to the South of it; 2nd. Race—for the population of the said "stretch of country" is almost exclusively French; and 3rd. Religion—for they are also almost exclusively Catholic. Their immunity from crime must therefore be due to one of these three causes, i.e.—their colder climate, their French origin, or their Catholic religion.

But we must reject the first of these causes as insufficient to account for the phenomenon, since as a general rule, we do not find that severity of climate has anything in connection with purity of morals, or immunity from crime. Neither can we accept the second, since certainly there is no reason for believing that, naturally, the French Canadians are a whit better than their neighbors, and because we find that in the United States, and when they throw off their religion, French Canadians are by no means conspicuous for their regard for the laws of morality and decency.

Remains therefore only the third point of difference—to wit Religion; and to this, that the stretch of country extending along the north and south shores of the St. Lawrence below Quebec is inhabited by a people almost exclusively Catholic, and strict in the observance of the duties imposed by their religion, do we attribute the moral phenomenon indicated by the *Daily News*. We do this with the more confidence, because a strictly analogous phenomenon displays itself amongst the Catholic portion of the population of Ireland—as is testified to in the last number of the *North British Review*—(Evangelical Protestant)—where assuredly no one can expect to find a bias towards Popery, or a prejudice in favor of Catholic morality:—

"The good effect which the Roman Catholic Church—(to use the words of Dean Byrnes)—has done in 'strengthening the fabric of society, by enforcing the obligations of moral duty,' is proved by the increased temperance, sobriety, and morality of the Irish. The male portion of them—said Lord Morpeth in 1841—'exhibit at the present moment, more sobriety, and the female portion more chastity, and both show more power of endurance under calamity the most trying, and aggravating, than could be attributed to the inhabitants of either of the sister countries.'"—*North British Review*, Dec. 1866, p.p. 184, 185.

Discarding therefore all theories, we have here a set of facts testified to by two independent Protestant witnesses; to wit:—That in those districts of Canada where the population is most exclusively Catholic, where the admixture of the Protestant element is least, there the people are conspicuous for their "almost absolute immunity from crime;" whilst in the other districts of the same Province, where the Protestant element largely obtains, "the soil seems red with blood." And again, that in Ireland the result of Romish teaching upon the people is to be found in the temperance of the men, in the marvellous chastity

of the women, and in the resignation to the will of God displayed by both sexes in affliction; and under the most trying circumstances.—*North British Review*.

We have thus endeavored to answer the question propounded by the *Daily News*—How are we to account for the fact that some sections of Canada enjoy almost an absolute immunity from crime, while in others the soil seems red with blood? May we venture to hope that our contemporary will deal equally frankly with us, and favor us with a response to the question:—

"How are we to account for the fact that those sections of the Province where the soil seems almost red with blood, subscribe largely towards Missions for the conversion of the people who enjoy almost absolute immunity from crime?"

**FENIANA.**—The N. Y. *Irish People* of the 2nd inst. states positively that Stephens sailed for Europe in the *Ville de Paris* on Saturday the 26th ult. The *Irish American*, another Fenian organ, but representing the Roberts party, denies this; and asserts, on the faith of an affidavit made by one Donohue before H. S. Anderson *Com. of Deeds*—that the C. O. I. R. is still in New York. A party of three men ostentatiously disguised, and making a great parade of secrecy, did indeed embark on board the *Ville de Paris* on Saturday the 26th Jan.; but having effected their object they returned on shore when the steamer was in the Narrows. Here is the account of the transaction as given by the *Irish American*:—

"Touching the 'Fenian Chiefs,' whose departure for Europe, the *Herald* has so mysteriously chronicled,—probably with the expectation of giving the managers of the Outham street 'headquarters' another pull at the pockets of the Irish people here,—we may be allowed to throw some light on those 'muffled' individuals. It is true that three of the aforesaid 'Chiefs' of Outham street, to wit—General Gleeson, F. N. Dwyer, above-mentioned, and a person named O'Mahoney,—did go on board the *Ville de Paris* in a most ostentatiously 'mysterious' manner (the *Herald* reporter, probably, 'seeing double about that time; but it is also certain that, when the steamer got outside the Narrows, the 'mysterious Chiefs' left her in the same boat that brought off the pilot; that they were brought back to the city by the tug *Relief*, and landed, late on Saturday evening at the foot of Hammond street, where our informant witnessed their disembarkation; and that they are still to be seen about their usual haunts, if any one be curious enough to 'look after them, like the enterprising gentleman who won his bet by shaking hands with Stephens on Saturday evening.

The last act of the atrocious farce which these knaves have been carrying on—to the inevitable loss of the Irish people, and the loss and ruin of so many confiding and patriotic men—is almost finished. The 'red flag' is at last hung out in the Outham street 'headquarters,' in the shape of a placard placed upon the half-closed door, announcing that 'the goods remaining from the Fenian Ladies Fair are for sale on the first floor.' The steamer, on which O'Mahoney's 'agitation' spent some \$60,000, without her ever quitting her dock, was disposed of, we are informed, some time since, for \$12,000. The title in her was stated to be vested in 'Colonel' (or Captain) Kelly and Jeremiah O'Greed; the former has left for parts unknown; the latter is still here, and may throw some light on the disposition of this part of the funds. But, for those who so long upheld James Stephens and his abettors, and who so lavishly contributed their money in response to his demands during the past twelve months, there remains only the mortifying reflection that they persistently disregarded the warnings of the true friends of Ireland, and turned their backs on those who worked honestly and disinterestedly in her cause; and now they find that, instead of benefiting their native land, they have only been supporting, in idleness and luxury, a band of swindlers, who have done more to bring odium on the Irish name than all who have gone before them."

How to reconcile these contradictory statements, we know not. On the whole we are inclined to think that there is a great deal of truth in the following complaint, made by the *Special Correspondent* of the *Irish People* of the 2nd inst. The said correspondent, writing from Belfast under date Jan. 5th, and noticing the constant seizures of arms made by the police, acting no doubt upon information received, breaks out as follows:—

"There must be great scoundrels in the ranks of the I. R. B."—*Irish People*, 2nd Feb.

This is highly probable: the only wonder is that the discovery was not made sooner.

**JUVENILE CRIMINALITY IN TORONTO.**

The Police statistics for the City of Toronto published in the Toronto *Globe*, indicate a great and steady increase of juvenile criminality in that happy region of common or State schools. In the year 1860, the number of criminals from 10 to 15 years of age was 91; in 1866, it had increased to 149; and the Report shows that, year by year, the amount is steadily increasing. From this we conclude to one of two things.—Either that common school education fails to reform the morals, of those subject to it; in which case the proposition that ignorance is the mother of crime is disproved. Or else that the common school system of Upper Canada fails to reach the lowest strata of society, and where it is mostly needed—i.e. in which case it is evident that the Upper Canada school system is a humbug and a failure; a humbug, because while calling itself "common," it is practically confined to the children of the well-to-do, of the well-dressed, and of those in short who are well able to educate their children at their own cost, a failure, because in spite of its expense, and the monstrous violations of the rights of the family, it entails, the amount of juvenile criminality, Toronto is always and rapidly on the increase.

A correspondent of the Toronto Globe, over the signature W. J. Bickell, enters upon a defence of the Quebec Relief Committee...

My twenty-eight years residence in Quebec, of which I am a citizen, although temporary resident in this place, enable me, I believe to place the matter in question in a true light.

The vast majority of those burned out were proprietors of the houses they resided in, are poor men laboring in the ship yards, were uninsured in consequence of their houses being wooden constructions...

When I was in Quebec, about three weeks after the fire, the zealous and good curate of St. Roch's exhorted his parishioners to combine and assist one another in putting up these buildings...

It is a custom, and a good custom too, in Lower Canada, that when an unfortunate inhabitant loses his buildings by fire, for his neighbors to rebuild them for him...

All the great congregations elsewhere have elicited the Christian spirit of charity that happily exists in the world, by large amounts being collected to assist those to build who were unable to do so by their own means.

If the contributors to the fund now in question had intended that their contributions should have been applied only to the relief of the immediate wants of the sufferers, they would not have been so lavishly generous.

A large amount has already been expended in temporary relief, and more is to be expended, a much larger amount than would have been required, but for the exceptional condition of the ship-building interest at the present time in Quebec...

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR.—A writer in the Montreal Gazette of Saturday last, pertinently asks what has been done by the people of this City to show their appreciation of the services of Dr. Carpenter during the past year...

LA REVUE CANADIENNE—Jan. 1867.—The contents of this number are as follows:—1. La Loi du Travail; 2. De Quebec a Mexico; 3. Nelda, ou les guerres Canadiennes de 1812; 4. Charles et Eva; 5. Notices Bibliographiques; 6. Les Evenemens du Mois.

"THE DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY."—Rev. Maurice Baldwin said,—"He would say that the Church of England was the people's Church."

Dear Sir,—We have had many a foolish remark from evangelicals respecting the Church of England, but I think the above quotation should have the first place in the lists of heretical nonsense. "The Church of England, the Church of the people!"

Now, for a "Diocesan Meeting" this may be all very fine, but "facts are stubborn things." If any man amongst that assembly of shining lights dare try the issue, he will find that this "people's Church" instead of christianizing, elevating or instructing the masses who are nominally subject to its jurisdiction, has actually deprived them of even the slightest tinge of Christianity.

Simply because the English nondescript called a Church has always been the Church of the titled, of the wealthy, of the worldly great. The poor cannot pay for such an expensive system, therefore, they discard religion altogether.

Could the "reverend" parson have forgotten the late charge of the Bishop of Oxford? Referring to the County, the mining districts, the sum and substance of his lordship's jeremiad is this: "The people are infidels."

When the bishop's pastoral, or address, or hobbledency, or whatever you may call it, was published, our indignant parson resolved to test its accuracy by personal investigation.

"My friend, can you tell me, who is Christ?" "Christ," answered the gentleman of the "people's Church," "Christ,—there's naw such a man working in our mine!"

Rather discouraging, certainly, but our "reverend" incumbent did not lose heart. He met another gentleman of the "people's" &c.

"My dear friend, have you ever heard of God?" asked the poor man very handsly. "Naw, naw, but a' ha' heard o' 'other fellow."

"The Church of the people," of course! Were not those admirable proofs of the truth of Mr. Baldwin's assertion. Nevertheless the indignant parson went back again and said nothing about the bishops' pastoral.

Such things may appear laughable on the surface, but in reality there is a terrible significance about them. The stupid doctrine of freedom of opinion in matters of religion has caused all the trouble. Poor people, however ignorant, can reason, and they cannot help being logical sometimes.

We would be very glad to think that Mr. Baldwin knew what he was talking about in this matter. Every body knows how important it is to make a point in a speech, and tickle the ears of one's hearers; and if we can only play upon their prejudices, or run parallel with their opinions, so much the better.

The following clergymen have kindly consented to act as Agents for the TRUE WITNESS in the undermentioned localities:—

Rev. J. M. J. Graham for Westport and vicinity. Rev. Mr. Masterson for St. Raphaels and vicinity.

FATHER O'FARRELL'S LECTURES.—It has often been said that the Kingston public were not a people to patronize lectures, but any one who was in the City Hall on Tuesday night could see in fact how false is such an assertion. It is not the want of taste for lectures that is to be complained of, but the want of able lecturers.

The Sherbrooke Freeman is informed on good authority that the information which led to the recent despatch of the Government Police to that town came from the United States, and was of so reliable a character that Government would have been to blame had not steps been taken to guard against any raid which might be made.

A POPULAR BISHOP.—Bishop Mullock has recently returned to St. John's after an absence of some months in Great Britain. His reception was of the most enthusiastic description.

Dr. Mullock, we are happy to notice, returned here from Dublin, via Liverpool and Halifax, on Sunday evening. Although the mail steamer in which His Lordship took passage, was not expected before Monday, her usual time, the moment the gun announced her arrival, although it was near midnight, people by hundreds flocked to the wharf to welcome His Lordship's arrival.

Dr. Hunt's Lectures before the Lowell Institute.—A correspondent of the Boston Advertiser speaks of the admirable course of lectures recently delivered in that city on Chemical and Physical Geography.

Dr. T. Sterry Hunt, of Montreal, who has been engaged, during the past fifteen years, in association with Sir William Logan in the geological survey of the Canadas, gave the closing lecture of his series last Friday.

Dr. Hunt's introduction to the people of Boston through the Lowell Institute, again gives him a claim upon our sympathies as an American, of which his long residence in Canada and Europe had well nigh deprived him.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PAWNBROKERS.—A case now undergoing investigation in the Police Court is of some importance to many, who through misfortune or it may be from their own fault, have been compelled to pledge their property for temporary relief.

WARRANTS TO SMOGGERS.—The captain and second mate of the ship Hibernia, from Quebec, have been sent to prison for six months by the magistrates of the port of Kingston, near Dublin, in default of paying a fine of £100 each, for having on board, concealed in a locker in the cabin, nearly 20lb weight of foreign manufactured tobacco.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.—Garden, M Heapy \$1; St Basile N B Rev H McGuirk \$5; St Modard, Rev L Pothier \$2; N D de Betsiamists, Rev Peres Oblats \$2; Toronto, J Bain \$2; Stratford, P Mongavin \$1; Alexandria, G O'Brien \$2; Berthier, H Meek \$2; Farnham West, Rev Mr Springer \$2 50; Point, W Young \$1; Edwardsburgh, P Curley \$2; St Andrews, J Gillies \$4; Orillia, O Oshman \$2 43; Invergois, R King \$1 25; Melbourne, J Phelan \$2; Ramsay, M Foley \$2; Paris, W Healy \$4; South Dorco, J Boyd \$2; St Johns, J Cain \$2; P McGinnis \$2; Severn-bridge, D McCormick, \$2; Gracebridge, Jos Caribrie, \$2.

A Big Business.—The full extent to which the lumbering business is carried on along the shores of the Upper Ottawa and its tributaries, together with the vast amount of capital, labor, and produce required to keep it in operation during the winter, when the timber, saw logs, &c., are being prepared for transportation to the mills and foreign markets, is scarcely ever realized except by those actually engaged in the business, or by persons who are acquainted by observation with the process of "getting out" timber.

LUMBERING.—At no former time in the history of our country, were lumbering operations more extensively carried on than during the present season; and, from present appearances, parties engaged therein are likely to meet with considerable success, as prices will probably continue high.

GOLD IN DYSART.—We have been shown by Mr. Lucas, Reeve of Dysart, a rich specimen of gold embedded in quartz, broken off from a surface rock, which is said to have been found in that township by Edwin Pickett, about four months ago.

UNKNOWN REGIONS.—The Rev. Mr. Prevost has, in a lecture recently delivered in Montreal, and published in the Minerve, given an account of an exploring expedition to the Mantawa, one of the tributaries of the St. Maurice.

A great part of the valley, through which a new colonization road has been marked out, is level and rich, and there are considerable spaces in which a stone is not to be seen. The wood is maple, cherry, pine, &c. in going up this valley, the mountain of Lake Quareau seems to terminate the view towards the north.

The object of this expedition was to trace out a road which would be a great artery of colonization, and in returning they made some important corrections of their first route.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.—The London, C. W. Prototype, hears on good authority that, on the opening of navigation, a considerable reduction will be made in the force at present stationed in this garrison.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.—Garden, M Heapy \$1; St Basile N B Rev H McGuirk \$5; St Modard, Rev L Pothier \$2; N D de Betsiamists, Rev Peres Oblats \$2; Toronto, J Bain \$2; Stratford, P Mongavin \$1; Alexandria, G O'Brien \$2; Berthier, H Meek \$2; Farnham West, Rev Mr Springer \$2 50; Point, W Young \$1; Edwardsburgh, P Curley \$2; St Andrews, J Gillies \$4; Orillia, O Oshman \$2 43; Invergois, R King \$1 25; Melbourne, J Phelan \$2; Ramsay, M Foley \$2; Paris, W Healy \$4; South Dorco, J Boyd \$2; St Johns, J Cain \$2; P McGinnis \$2; Severn-bridge, D McCormick, \$2; Gracebridge, Jos Caribrie, \$2.

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AN ADJOURNED MEETING of the above Corporation will take place in the BONAVENTURE BUILDING, ON MONDAY EVENING NEXT, the 4th inst. A full attendance is particularly requested as business of importance will be brought before the Meeting.

NOTICE.—ON and after the 2nd day of JANUARY next, this institution will allow interest at the rate of FIVE per cent per annum on deposits.

The barque 'Blanche' recently made the passage between Halifax and Liverpool in fourteen running days, loaded, and was home two days of the time in a gale.

Married, On Wednesday morning, at the Archbishop's private Chapel, Quebec, by the Very Reverend Vicar General Casan, Thomas McGreevy, Esq., on Miss Georgiana Woolsey, only daughter of the late W. Woolsey, Esq., all of Quebec.

Died, At Plantagenet, C. W., at the residence of his nephew, Obs. LaRocque, Esq., on the 1st inst., of a poplexy, Louis Isaac LaRocque, Esq., of Rigaud, aged 56 years.

ST. PATRICK'S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY. THE Regular MONTHLY MEETING of the above Society will be held in the ST. PATRICK'S HALL, (Bonaventure Building) on this (THURSDAY) EVENING, 7th instants.

NORTH AMERICAN GRAND GIFT CATHOLIC CONCERT To take place at DURHAM'S HALL, KANKAKEE, ILL., FEBRUARY 25th, 1867, Under the Authority of the Government.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF TWO CHURCHES, ONE CONVENT AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS. SPLENDID MUSIC CAN BE EXPECTED. After the Concert the Company will make a Gift of \$108,000 to the ticket holders, present or not.

Address, JOHN B. LEMOINE, At Montreal, No. 1, St. Theresa St. or at Box No. 835.

GOOD AND RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED to form clubs, to whom great inducements are offered. A reward of \$100 will be given to the agent selling the most tickets.

SPECIAL TERMS OF CLUB RATES. 5 Tickets to one address ..... \$4 50 10 do do ..... 9 00 20 do do ..... 17 00 30 do do ..... 26 25 40 do do ..... 35 00 50 do do ..... 43 50 100 do do ..... 85 00

IN CANADA MONEY ONLY. In every case send the name of each subscriber and his Post Office address, with town, county and State in full, and the number of his ticket, so that it can be recorded in a book kept for that purpose.

\$4,000 will be given to the Church of Kankakee, \$1,000 for a Church in Ohio, Ill., and the balance for one Convent and Catholic Schools.

LEMONE, LUSIGNAN & Co, Kankakee, Illinois. JOHN B. LEMONE, Manager, Montreal, Post Office Box 835.

The object of our concert is to assist in the erection and completion of two Catholic Churches, one Convent and several Catholic Schools, in the county of Kankakee, Illinois, to protect our children from the persecution of the enemies of our holy religion—

Our religious position is the same as that of a great portion of the Catholics in Ireland. Our Concert is got up by prominent members of the Clergy, and is warmly approved of, and recommended by most of the Bishops of Canada, and every Catholic should, at least buy one ticket, and thereby give his aid to a good cause.

Catholics are respectfully requested to answer, at once to the call of our Venerable Prelates, who are so desirous to see our enterprises crowned with success, the time is fast slipping away, and very few Catholics are so poor as not to be able to sacrifice one dollar for such a good purpose as above set forth.

A certificate of deposit made at the Jacques Oatier, Bank payable at the order of Rev. Auguste Marchal, Pastor of Kankakee, Illinois, will be received in payment of tickets. Tickets can be had at our office at No. 1 St. Theresa Street, Montreal, or by letter Box 835, Montreal.

JOHN B. LEMONE, First Manager. COLLEGE OF REGIOPOLIS KINGSTON C.W. Under the Immediate Supervision of the Rt. Rev. E. J. Horan, Bishop of Kingston.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Jan. 9.—A writer in the Presse, M. H. Vignault, gives his impressions of Fenianism, which he observes that many people erroneously confound with what is called 'The Irish Question.'

Fenianism has had its rise on the American soil. In the eyes of many persons this is a splendid quality, and from the very fact that it is of Yankee origin it has gained the sympathy of numbers.

The Duke of Argyll and Messrs. Gladstone and Cardwell have arrived in Florence on their way northwards from Rome. It appeared that Lord Russell, when he left Florence, went to stay at St. Remo (on the road before getting to Monaco), and that while there he received the visit of a deputation from the municipality, consisting of the Syndic and two assessors.

SCIENCE OF SIG. CASSINIS, SENATOR OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.—On the morning of the 18th December, John Baptist Cassinis put an end to his life by a pistol shot.

THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT are greatly excited by the apprehensions arising from the threats of the Fenians. They are still under the impression of the recent attempts in Canada, and they hear the low mutterings in Ireland of all the vengeance which years of injustice have heaped up against their authority.

Fenianism will either be triumphant or vanquished. There is, however, a third hypothesis, which is the most probable. It is this, that Fenianism, being forced to work in secret, will end by being rooted in the habits of the Irish people, and become what is the worst of all, a permanent secret society.

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THE PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF THE Pall Mall Gazette, in a letter dated 11th inst., says—

M. Emile de Girardin has taken up the pen to expose the underground diplomacy at work for a settlement of the Eastern question. His article, headed 'The Accomplishment of a Prediction,' reiterates the statements referred to in my letter of yesterday, to the effect that Russia, Prussia and England have resolved to get together for the accomplishment of the destinies of Turkey.

According to official reports, the strength of the French army on the 1st ult., including the reserve, was 610,000 men. The French community in Rome is greatly saddened by the conduct of the Archbishop of Paris. It would be out of my place to do more than mention that his pastoral letter is compared to the tartness of the pastrycooks, much crusted with very little jam.

ITALY.

Florence, Jan. 10.—The Nazionale of to-day, in correcting a statement respecting financial operations with a Belgian house having reference to the ecclesiastical property in Italy, says—

The Minister of Finance is really engaged upon a general financial scheme which will include a large operation, based upon the ecclesiastical property.—This scheme will be submitted to the approval of Parliament. Signor Scialoja will make his financial statement on Monday next.

Italy is now at peace, and her finances must be put on the peace footing. Signor Scialoja has laid his Budget before the Chambers, and the result is a

deficit of 7,459,096l. The revenue is estimated at 84,616,862l., against an expenditure of 42,074,769l.—half that of the French Empire. Agreeably to a very valuable article in the semi-official Opinions, however, the Minister has been too sanguine in his calculations, and the deficit cannot be far from 250,000,000f. Something like 10,000,000f. must be procured to be thrown into those same inextinguishable maws into which State railways, Crown lands, and so great a part of the Church-property have already gone, whose yearly requirements have already, besides, swelled the national debt to 200,000,000f., and introduced into the country that most obnoxious innovation of paper money.

The taxes in Italy have, perhaps, been doubled within the last six years; they are now about 27f. per head, while in France they are 42f. or 43f.

The Duke of Argyll and Messrs. Gladstone and Cardwell have arrived in Florence on their way northwards from Rome. It appeared that Lord Russell, when he left Florence, went to stay at St. Remo (on the road before getting to Monaco), and that while there he received the visit of a deputation from the municipality, consisting of the Syndic and two assessors.

SCIENCE OF SIG. CASSINIS, SENATOR OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.—On the morning of the 18th December, John Baptist Cassinis put an end to his life by a pistol shot. Cassinis was an able advocate of the Turin courts, an intimate friend of the Count de Cavour, and figured in politics as Deputy to the Chamber, Minister Keeper of the Seal, President of the Chamber of Deputies, and lately Senator of the Kingdom.

FLORENCE, Jan. 30.—Admiral Persano, who has just been acquitted of the charge of cowardice, is now to be placed on trial for incompetency and disobedience to his superior officers.

ROME.—Writing from Rome on New Year's Day the special correspondent of the Daily Telegraph (Mr. G. A. Sala) makes the following observations on the behavior of our Protestant countrymen and women in Rome. Coming as this reproach does from a writer who never misses an opportunity of garnishing his letters with the most ultra-Protestant sneers at everything which Catholics consider holy, they have a double force.

Right or wrong, the Germans in Austria are in a terrible rage at the Government having suspended the Vienna Parliament, the better to treat with the Hungarians. Their feelings have just been illustrated by a pert little anecdote, which I cannot refrain from communicating. The other day a bewildered Englishman asked a member of the Vienna Parliament to explain to him why there seemed to be no end to the constitutional question in that embarrassed country.

RUSSIA.—The Russische Correspondenz, a semi-official organ of the St. Petersburg Government, published an article containing the following passage:—

There is not the slightest doubt that the Western Powers, France, and more particularly England, are aspiring to the acquisition of Ottoman territory, and that the execution of their design has been put off to a more favorable time, when the Christian tribes in the East will have become the tools they want them to be.

People in England will not understand that in Italy there are no native Protestants, and that many of those who, being foreigners are allowed to worship after their own forms, return the kindness by the most infamous libels and even indecent pictures of the Pope, the cardinals, and all the authorities in Rome.

SWITZERLAND.

A letter from Switzerland in the Bologna Cerriere dell'Emilia of the 3rd instant says that the Prussian General Moltke has been stopping at Glyn, a mountain village, at a considerable elevation, in the Canton de Vaud, and at a short distance from the eastern extremity of Lake Lemman.

It is said that he has come to rest himself after the fatigue of the war, but, meanwhile, he has with him the whole of his staff, all dressed as civilians, and they are assiduously at work on topographical studies and plans. The Federal Government was warned of it by the French Government, which had conceived suspicions on learning that the Prussians were assiduously studying all the passes of the Jura chain, and that they had also studied the passages of the Rhine to enter Switzerland.

PRUSSIA.

THE NORTH GERMAN PARLIAMENT.—Incomparably important for her future, and for that of the whole of Germany, is the form which Prussia will give to the North German Parliament. The English Reform party has drawn the conclusion from the universal suffrage which is to form its basis that Count Bismarck intends to create an extraordinarily liberal Parliament, more liberal, at any rate, than ours, which is not based on universal suffrage, and nearly as liberal as the American Congress.

AUSTRIA.

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TURKEY.

It is considered certain at Constantinople that the Eastern complication will result in war. Turkey has called out 150,000 reserves, and the Government of Russia has ordered that all military furloughs shall end on the first of March.

INDIA.

While plague and pestilence were afflicting Europe

during the past eventful year, a famine more destructive than any modern epidemic was desolating whole Provinces of our Empire in the East. India is a land of famines. No frequent have been these visitations that on the recurrence of the scourge it is always possible to compare the affliction of the moment with the calamities of the past; and to measure the ravages of one famine by the recorded effects of another.

THE POISONED FLOWER.

AN INCIDENT IN THE LIFE OF ONE OF THE EARLY KINGS OF FRANCE.

There are various traditions as to the origin of the Golden Lily upon the shield of France. Among these is the following incident, which is said to have occurred in the latter part of 11th century, during the reign of Philip Augustus.

Among his train was Geoffrey, Count de Neville, the natural son of Louis VII., the King's half-brother. He was a mild, inoffensive man, and apparently well contented with the title and estate bestowed by the late King upon his mother, and which he had inherited upon her death, but unfortunately, he married a haughty, ambitious woman, who was but ill inclined to forego her claims to royalty.

At the death of Louis, she openly asserted that there had been a secret marriage between him and the late Countess de Neville, and upon the head of her son should rest the crown of France, he being the eldest born, and urged her husband to assert his claims. But this the Count refused to do, being unfeignedly by nature to act a part requiring more than usual energy and ability, besides entertaining too strong an affection for the young King, who had treated him with unusual kindness, to seek to deprive him of his rightful inheritance.

As Philip looked upon the still sweet features of the child, and then upon his father's life eyes softened. 'You are right. God knows that I would fain have spared your royalty such a severe test.'

UNITED STATES. ALBANY, Jan. 27th.—The Rev. Joel Lindsay, who had been on trial at Albion, Orleans County, for whipping his child to death, has been found guilty of manslaughter in the second degree, and sentenced to imprisonment for four years and a half.

During the six years ending December, 1864, 788 persons, from 20 to 80 years of age, died in Massachusetts from intemperance and delirium tremens, 581 of whom were males and 207 females, or 35 women to every 100 men.

THREE MEN IN NEW YORK GET CONTROL OF \$35,000,000.—The New York correspondent of the Boston Journal tells the following story:—

One of the most villainous attempts to create a panic came to light on Thursday afternoon. Three men whose names are now well known, who have hitherto stood high in connection with mercantile affairs in this city, engineered a scheme through which had for its aim the depreciation of government and bank stock, and but for its timely discovery would have ruined a large class of men.

An elder in Michigan preaching about the triumphal march of Christ into Jerusalem, remarked that 'Christ came with his disciples, mounted on an ass, and the men, women and children came out of the city, throwing their hats, shawls, cloths, and even pulling bushes from the trees to throw in his way;—but, spite of all obstructions, he rode into Jerusalem in triumph!'

The honest hearted fellow, was sincerely attached to his royal master, and he listened gravely to Marie's account of the strange conduct of her visitor, and the suspicions to which it gave rise.

I have a bad look, said he thoughtfully; 'though I believe there is nothing in it. By good luck, I have orders to attend his Majesty in his private apartments an hour hence, I will put him on his guard; then surely no harm will come of it.'

Somewhat to the surprise of Francois, the King manifested no disquietude at this disclosure, though the grave look and attentive manner with which he listened, showed that he considered it of no light import. He bade him charge Marie to tell no one what she had discovered, but to come to the palace an hour earlier than was her wont, by no means forgetting her gold lilies.

King Philip sat in his audience hall surrounded by his retinue. A number of the royal family stood near him—among them the Count de Neville, his wife and little son, a sweet boy of three, whose winning and sprightly ways made him a favourite with the King.

Marie had never seen King Philip in his robes of state, and the royal pomp that surrounded him impressed her with a feeling awe as she entered. But this was quickly dissipated by the King's gracious manner as he bade her approach.

'I see you have not forgotten my favorite flower,' he said, taking the basket from her hand.

Then turning to the Countess, he said:—'Just admire these queenly lilies, fair Countess, and inhale the fragrance from the roses. But why do you start and turn pale?' he added, as with an involuntary shudder she drew back from the flowers which he would have placed in her hand.

'I—I crave your Majesty's pardon,' she stammered 'but the odor of the roses affects me thus.'

The King's eyes followed the Countess as she retreated to the window at the further end of the hall under the pretext of obtaining air. He fixed them searchingly on her husband's face, whose mind seemed to be entirely occupied by the laughing boy he held in his arms.

Attracted by the bright color of the lilies, the child stretched out his hand for them. A sudden thought struck the King as he observed this.

'See how eagerly Louis is regarding them!' he said, turning to the Count. 'Let him have them.' With a fond smile, the father took the flowers, and held them before the boy, who, catching them with both his dimpled hands, raised them with a gleeful shout to his lips. Instantly a deadly pallor overspread his face, and with a faint gasp he fell dead in his father's arms.

The Countess had kept a furtive watch on the King's movements from her retreat, and forgetting everything in her terror, she sprang forward to arrest her husband's arm.

'Monster!' she exclaimed, glaring upon him like a tigress robbed of her young, 'you have destroyed your child!'

'And you,' said Philip, pointing significantly to the flowers still clasped in the child's rigid fingers, 'you would have murdered your King.'

'Is this the woman that called at your cottage this morning,' he inquired, turning to Marie.

'The same, your Majesty.'

As soon as the Count comprehended the full meaning of these words, he cast a look of horror and detestation upon his wife, then taking his dead boy, he laid him on the pile of cushions at the King's feet.

'I can lay before you no stronger proof, sire,' he faltered, 'that I was ignorant of this base plot against your life.'

As Philip looked upon the still sweet features of the child, and then upon his father's life eyes softened. 'You are right. God knows that I would fain have spared your royalty such a severe test.'

'I wish you all to bear witness,' he said, addressing those around him, 'that I fully exonerate Count de Neville from all complicity with his wife in this attempt upon the life of your King.'

'As to you,' he added, turning to the guilty woman, 'I give you twenty days to leave the kingdom. If after that time you are found in my dominions, you shall suffer the full penalty of your crime.'

King Philip did not forget the debt of gratitude he owed to Marie and his faithful attendant. He was present at the marriage which occurred a few days after, bestowing a dowry on the bride, and other substantial marks of favor; and ever afterwards, in commemoration of his Prædial deliverance, he bore upon his shield the 'Golden Lily.'

With a light step the young girl took a pitcher, and passed out to the spring that was but a short distance from the door. As she glided by the window on returning, she glanced in, and saw much to her surprise, her visitor bending over the stand of flowers, and sprinkling something from her hand upon those which she had laid aside for the King.

When she took it away, her eye caught the gleam of a small golden flask, such as the ladies of that period used for their cosmetics and perfumery. But when she entered the room, she found her in the same position in which she had left her.

She could not refrain from an exclamation of surprise, as she perceived how deadly pale her countenance had become.

'It is but the odor of the flowers,' said the Countess, as drawing her robes around her, she turned to the door. 'Take my advice my good girl; place the stand nearer the window, and be not much over them; their perfume is quite too strong for so small a room.'

There was something about these words, carelessly spoken though they were, that deepened the undefined suspicions in the young girl's heart; and, following her suggestion, she placed the stand of flowers directly in front of the open window. Then, by a close examination of the bouquet which was intended for the King, she detected the presence of a fine white powder, imperceptible to the eye upon the white petals of the roses, but clearly visible upon the lilies, whose peculiar shape, by exposing the leaves to the full rays of the sun, as well as their vivid coloring, threw it into distinct relief, and as she bent over them, the faint but penetrating odor that arose made her so giddy that she would have fallen, had it not been for the tall shapely youth who entered just at that moment, and whose livery showed him to be in the service of the King.

It was her lover Francois, King Philip's body servant, and who, happening to be passing by the house, had called in to have a chat with his betrothed.

'How now, Marie?' said he, looking into her face. 'What has frightened the roses from your cheeks, and given you such a strange look?'

Near the city of St. Joseph, Missouri, a few years since, the rite of baptism was performed on several women by immersion in the river. As it was winter it was necessary to cut a hole in the ice, and the novelty of the scene attracted a large crowd, among whom were several Indians, who looked on in wondering silence. They retired without understanding the nature or the subjects of immersion were females, and getting a vague idea that it was to make them good, the Indians came back a few days afterward, bringing their squaws with them. Cutting another hole in the ice, near the same place, immersed each and all of them, in spite of their remonstrances.

London proper only covers a little over 632 acres in Lombard Street it has been sold at nearly £70 per acre, or over £2,000,000 per acre. Alderman Meach says a friend of his thought he had got a bargain when he purchased at the rate of £1,600,000 per acre. About 600,000 persons come into that acre to do business every forenoon, and leave again in the afternoon and evening.

CONSTITUTIONS IN RUINS.—The idea that the constitution is ruined is in most cases a vulgar error.—elasticity of the vital forces is marvellous. Because they are depressed do not despair. Try the experiment of renovating them with that most powerful and genial invigorant—BRISTOL'S SARSAPARILLA. You may be feeble, attenuated, lethargic, infected with constitutional disease of the skin, the glandular system, the fleshy fibre, the nerves; but under whatever complication of disabilities or maladies you may labor, local or general, do not fancy, until you have tried this great restorative in vain, that your constitution is shattered past help. In seventy-five cases out of a hundred it will re-establish a so-called ruined constitution. It is important to use BRISTOL'S VEGETABLE PILLS at same time with the Sarsaparilla, as they carry off from the system large quantities of morbid matter set free by the Sarsaparilla, thus hastening cures that would otherwise be slow and tedious. 511 Agents for Montreal, Devins & Bolton, Lamplough & Campbell, Davidson & Co., K. Campbell & Co., J. Gardner, J. A. Harte, H. R. Gray Picanit & Son, J. Goulden, R. S. Latham and all Dealers in Medicine.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE OF THE NURSERY.

The following is an extract from a letter written by the Rev. O. U. Weizer, to the German Reformed Messenger, at Chambersburg, Penn.—

Just open the door for her, and Mrs. Winslow will prove the American Florence Nightingale of the Nursery. Of this we are so sure, that we will teach our 'Says' to say, 'A Blessing on Mrs. Winslow for helping her to survive and escape the griping, colicking, and teething sieges. We confirm every word set forth in the Prospectus. It performs precisely what it professes to perform, every part of it,—nothing less. Away with your 'Oordial,' 'Paregoric,' 'Drops,' 'Laudanum,' and every other 'Narcotic,' by which the babe is dragged into stupidity, and rendered dull and idiotic for life.

We have never seen Mrs. Winslow—know her only through the preparation of her 'Soothing Syrup for Children Teething.' If we had the power, we would make her, as she is, a physical saviour to the Infant Race. 25 cents a bottle Sold by all Druggists.

Be sure and call for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP." All others are base and dangerous imitations. February, 1867. 2m

A 'COUGH,' 'COLD,' OR IRRITATED THROAT If allowed to progress, results in serious Pulmonary and Bronchial affections, oftentimes incurable.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES Reach directly the affected parts, and give almost instant relief. In Bronchitis, Asthma, and Catarrh they are beneficial. Obtain only the genuine Brown's Bronchial Troches, which have proved their efficacy by a test of many years. Among testimonials attesting their efficacy are letters from—

- E. H. Chapin, D.D., New York. Henry Ward Beecher, Brooklyn, N. Y. N. P. Willis, New York. Hon. G. A. Phelps, Pres. Mass. Senate. Dr. G. F. Bigelow, Boston. Prof. Edward North, Clinton, N. Y. Surgeons in the Army, and others of eminence. Sold everywhere at 25 cents per box. February, 1867. 2m

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864

In the matter of G. H. LAROCQUE, Trader, St. George de Henryville, Insolvent. The creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects, under the above Act, to me, the undersigned Assignee, and they are required to furnish me, within two months from this date, with their claims, specifying the security they hold if any, and the value of it; and if none stating the fact: the whole attested under oath, with the vouchers in support of such claims. T. SAUVAGEAU, Official Assignee. Montreal, 4th January 1867.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864.

In the matter of FRANCOIS XAVIER BEAUCHAMP, Trader, of the Parish of Montreal, Insolvent. The Creditors of the Insolvent are by these present notified that he has made an assignment of his property and goods, in virtue of the above Act, to me, Syndic undersigned; and they are required to furnish me, within two months of this date, with a statement of their claims, specifying what guarantees, and their value, they may hold, if they have any; and if they have none, stating the fact, the whole attested under oath, together with the documents supporting their claims. FRANCOIS PERRIN, Syndic. Cote St. Louis, Parish of Montreal, } 16th November, 1866.

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864.

In the matter of J. BTE. MILETTE, Trader, (formerly of Sherbrooke, C. E.) Montreal, Insolvent. The Creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects, under the above Act, to me, the undersigned Assignee, and they are required to furnish me, within two months from this date, with their claims, specifying the security they hold if any, and the value of it; and if none stating the fact: the whole attested under oath, with the vouchers in support of such claims. T. SAUVAGEAU, Official Assignee. Montreal, 31st December, 1866. 2w

IS HEALTH WORTH THE TROUBLE OF AN EXPERIMENT?—If you think so, sick reader, you are invited to follow in the footsteps of the great multitude who have found relief, when they had almost ceased to hope for it, in BRISTOL'S SUGAR COATED PILLS. The scope of their remedial operation is wide. Not only do they produce the most beneficial effects in all immediate diseases of the stomach, the liver, and the bowels, but in a great number of contingent complaints. In spasms and fits of every description they are considered by medical men of eminence, as well as by the non-professionals, the most thorough of all remedies. They renovate the general system, while they gently relax the bowels, and hence, in cases of physical prostration, whether arising from age, a weak constitution, or a specific ailment, they are invaluable. Where other purgatives would exhaust and sicken the patient, they recuperate and refresh. Their effect upon the appetite is most remarkable. Ordinary aperients create a distaste for food, but they produce a desire for it.

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A young man 23 years of age Speaking and Writing French and English with facility, wishes to obtain a Situation in this city, either in an office or Warehouse as Book-keeper, or Clerk. Can furnish the best recommendations. Address, G. W. MANSEAU, Jacques Cartier Normal School, Montreal. 29th November, 1866. 2m.

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INFORMATION WANTED,

OF James Murphy, who left Lower Canada some ten years ago. When last heard of he was in Philadelphia. Any information of his whereabouts will be thankfully received by his brother, EDWARD MURPHY, Durham, Ormstown, C. E. American papers please copy. Jan. 24th, 1867. 4w

AGUA DE MAGNOLIA.—The prettiest thing, the "sweetest thing," and the most of it for the least money. It overcomes the odor of perspiration; softens and adds delicacy to the skin; it is a delightful perfume; always headache and inflammation, and is a necessary companion in the sick room, in the nursery and upon the toilet sideboard. It can be obtained everywhere at one dollar per bottle. SARATOGA SPRING WATER, sold by all Druggists.

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LOCKPORT, N. Y., Feb. 4th.

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