

The French papers announce the death of Madame de Léséleuc, mother of the late Bishop of Autun. She was celebrated for her wit, and also for her extensive charities. One day some of her friends informed her that the Count de Chambord had accepted the tri-colored flag. "Oh!" she exclaimed, "I do not believe it; but if it were true, I do believe that the count will see the head of Louis XVI. fall out of the unfolded flag."

His Highness, the Prince of Travancore, India, has presented to the monastery at Ettumanoor, a fine picture of the Madonna and Child, copied by a native Hindoo artist from an Italian picture of the period of Fra Angelico. This prince, although a Mahomedan, has on several occasions manifested a special interest in Catholicism.

The Prussian government has suppressed the publication of a poem by the celebrated poet Lactance, entitled—"The Fate and Death of Persecutors." It has not, however, been equally energetic in suppressing a pamphlet, attributed to Mgr. Strossmeyer, against the Pope, although that prelate has published a letter denouncing it as an impudent fraud.

Mgr. Langenieux, Archbishop of Rheims, has been lately in Rome. He was received by the Pope on February 1, and had a long conversation with his Holiness. Amongst other things, whilst speaking of Italy, Pius IX. said, "I could easily support my own sorrows, and even the troubles of the Church, but when I see them drag from me the children, the poor little children, and give them an infidel education, it breaks my heart. I am always telling Catholics to do all they can for the children. Save the rising generation. I entreat you Monseigneur, to exert your energy in the same course. Save children from corruption."

Ex ore tuo te judico. During the late debate in the Italian parliament about the arrest of conspirators at the Villa Ruffi, near Rome, Signor Cantelli, the Home Minister, announced that there were over 1500 secret societies in Lombardy, Tuscany and the Romagna, which possessed more than 11,000 members. All of them are socialistic and depend upon directors who are in Switzerland, and whom each member has made a solemn vow to obey.

Some little time since, a body of Methodist preachers met in Baltimore to discuss that aggravating subject, "The Encroachments of Romanism." They had a very enjoyable time in comparing notes on the subject and in endeavoring to convince each other that there was great danger to be looked for in the direction of the Pope of Rome, and that it was the duty of all good Protestants to combine and check the progress of his myrmidons. One enthusiastic speaker looked forward to the time when it would "come to war and blood," and felt certain that in that event the American people would rally to the Protestant banner. The harmony of the occasion would have been perfect if one speaker, with very "peculiar views," had not made the ill-judged remark that "Between Catholicism and Infidelity he would choose the former"—a sentiment which was decidedly hostile, as may be supposed, to the general spirit of his brethren. "Considerable dissent," says a Baltimore correspondent of the 'Christian Advocate,' "was manifested from some of his positions, especially in regard to the preferableness of Papacy to downright Infidelity." At a second meeting this rash speaker found it necessary to explain his views and perhaps render them more palatable. No nonsense of that sort will do at a "Preacher's Meeting."

On the eve of Kaiser Wilhelm's voyage to Italy, *L'Epoca* of Florence publishes a series of papers which are destined to produce a greater sensation than the Arnim letters. These papers consist of the correspondence between Mazzini and Count Usdom, the object of which was to induce Mazzini to make a common cause of the Italian revolutionary party with Prussia against France. The Count makes the offer, and Mazzini declares, that if Prussia will give him 2,000 guns and 1,000,000 francs, he will cause sufficient trouble to the Italian government, to induce it to make a division in favor of Prussia, and to abandon France. The publication of these letters has produced a lively sensation in Europe, and shows to what mean tricks the Prussian government condescended, in order to obtain its ends, before 1870.

The papers announce that her imperial majesty, the unhappy Charlotte, ex-Empress of Mexico, is sinking rapidly. This poor lady has had a few lucid intervals of late, in which she has been able to confess and receive religious instruction, but, like Ophelia, her mind runs back to her love, and she sits singing fragments of old songs all day long, and talking to her attendants of her beloved husband, as if he were still alive. Nothing can be imagined more pathetic than the deep love of this poor empress for her gifted but unfortunate husband, and her loss of reason is one of the most mournful events in history. It is said that the religious character of the luckless lady predominates everything, and that her insanity is of a gentle kind. She will often ask her attendants to join her in saying the Rosary, believing that when she has finished it her husband will return; "or I shall be allowed to go to sleep and dream about him." His Holiness the Pope has frequently sent messages to this afflicted lady, and has mentioned her sad condition with deep interest. The 'Bien Catholique,' of Belgium, asks the prayers of the faithful for the Empress of Mexico who was always, when in health, an energetic and zealous defender of the interests of the Church. It is perhaps fortunate after all that she has lost her reason for she is thus spared the knowledge of her husband's terrible death, of which she is still completely ignorant.

The Italian papers relate the following remarkable story: A very distinguished young gentleman, brother of the Syndic of Brienza, in the province of Naples, recently fell so dangerously ill that his recovery was despaired. His relatives and friends, after having tried all possible remedies and consulting several clever physicians, at last determined to invoke the assistance of the saints. They prayed to the Blessed Virgin, and finally one of the servants said, "Let us invoke St. Francis," and forthwith they asked the brother of the sick man for the keys of a suppressed church in which still stands a miraculous image of the saint of Assisi. From

this statue they took a cord which fastened its monastic robe and brought it to the invalid. He ordered it to be tied round his waist and cried out three times: "St. Francis, pray for me." He was immediately cured, and rose up perfectly healed from his bed to the astonishment of all present. The syndic in gratitude has ordered the church to be restored to divine worship, and the convent to be given back to the Capuchins to whom it formerly belonged. A *triduo* was afterwards celebrated, and on each successive evening the city was splendidly illuminated in honor of St. Francis.

Ernesto Rossi, the celebrated Italian actor, recently paid a visit to Garibaldi, in which he said: "General remain in Rome. The priests will soon leave it, if you stay." Garibaldi is said to have made no reply, but to have smiled bitterly when the next day he learned, that Rossi had been to the ball at the German Ambassador's, and wore jewels to the value of 30,000 francs. Sig. Rossi is a democrat in words, but, like all revolutionists, at heart he adores wealth, and is ready to lick the boots of a nobleman. He has been greatly assisted to his present theatrical fame by the socialistic press, and has been recently playing the part of Julian the Apostate in the anti-Christian drama of that name, and also "Nero" in another and equally villainous play, in which the author has endeavored to rehabilitate the character of that tyrant and to justify his persecution of the Christians. These are the kind of spectacles which are offered the inhabitants of the capital of the Catholic world in the year of the Jubilee.

The February number of the 'United Cattolica' contains a very interesting account of the patrimony of the various Italian charitable institutions. It seems that in Piedmont alone there were 1825 establishments of charity possessing a capital of 154,000,000 francs; in the province of Genoa there were 316, with 54,000,000 francs capital; in Lombardy, 2902, with 275,000,000 francs capital; in Venetia, 715, with 93,000,000 francs capital, and a revenue of 10,000,000 francs; in the Marches, 699, with 28,000,000 francs capital; in Tuscany, 572, with 142,000,000 francs capital and 8,000,000 francs revenue; in the Abruzzi, 2508, with 19,000,000 francs capital and 1,000,000 francs revenue; in the Campagna, 3660, with 139,000,000 francs capital and 10,000,000 francs revenue; in the Puglie, 1247, with 28,000,000 francs patrimony and 15,000,000 francs revenue; in Calabria, 547, with 7,000,000 francs capital; in Sicily, 3149, with 95,000,000 francs patrimony and 6,000,000 francs revenue; in Sardinia, 158, with 4,000,000 francs patrimony and 100,000 francs revenue; in Rome, 475, with 63,000,000 francs patrimony and 5,500,000 francs revenue. All these establishments were founded under the papal rule, and in those days nobody died from starvation in Italy. Now that death from want of food is common in the dominions of Victor Emmanuel, his government is endeavoring to despoil the charitable institutions of the poor.

DEATH OF O'CONNELL'S WIG-MAKER.—A local celebrity by name of Southwell, who many years since was in the employment of Mr Dallas, then a well known and respectable hair dresser, et al in George street, Limerick, and who has been residing in the city as a hair cutter since Mr Dallas's death, died on Friday, at his residence, Henry street. He was said to be one of the most accomplished members of his art in Ireland, and he was usually employed by the local gentry, with whom he was a favorite. While at Mr Dallas's, he made several of the wigs which the illustrious Liberator was accustomed to wear, and which formed a remarkable feature of his dress. These wigs the great O'Connell used to order in pairs; and there was also always a pair in reserve. The cost was four guineas each wig. Southwell was the artificer, and it was the Liberator's boast that in no part of Europe could he have been better fitted than he was in the city of Limerick. Mr Dallas was, in politics, a thorough O'Connellite, and he took particular delight in fixing to the crown of each elegantly silk-lined wig, some patriotic motto, etc., from one of the Irish melodies, in reference to the patriot's labors for Ireland. O'Connell was quite delighted whenever he received the wigs, for he was certain to have in them some token of Dallas's regard for him. When the health of the Liberator was waning, the wigs were made larger than usual, in order to enable the illustrious wearer to have inside a flannel cap which he was accustomed to wear for warmth sake. Southwell, who had frequent intercourse with the Liberator, was proud of his having made wigs for the "Man of the People, and proud of telling it. Poor Southwell, who during life was a rather careless Protestant, expressed a wish when he got ill to see a priest. Accordingly the Rev. Father Doherty, C. SS. R., from St. Alphonsus Convent, called, and ministered to him constantly until his death, which was pious and resigned, and on Sunday last the mortal remains of this famous hair dresser and wig maker were conveyed for interment to Mt. St. Laurence Cemetery.—'Limerick Reporter.'

THE CLAW OF A LION'S TAIL.—There is at the extremity of a lion's tail, a small claw concealed in a tuft of hair. It is a horny substance, and resembles a small cone, a little inclining upon itself. This claw adheres by the base to the skin alone, and not to the last vertebra from which it is entirely separate. The commentators of Homer endeavor to explain, by the presence of this claw, the singular circumstance mentioned by that great poet of the lashing his sides violently, when irritated, as if to excite himself to augmented fury. Blumenbach ascertained the existence of that claw several years since, but the work in which he noticed it has unhappily been lost, and naturalists would probably have remained ignorant of the fact, had it not been pointed out by the indefatigable M. Deshayes.

Sir Geo. Westhall, who died recently, was the officer who executed Lord Nelson's order to hoist the famous signal, "England expects every man to do his duty," before the battle of Trafalgar. He was then a flag-midshipman in the Victory.

The women of Guanajato, Mexico, in their protest against the new law abolishing convents, say: "We promise not to recognise, as father, brother, or husband, anybody who, directly or indirectly, took part in the action of Congress expelling the Sisters of Charity."