

TELEGRAMS.

(From our Daily Contemporaries.)

The following late telegrams by the Mail are up to August 23 :—
The All-England cricket team is now finally announced, and is a strong professional team.

Turkey is issuing a loan of £3,000,000 by means of notes and a forced currency.

Queen Isabella has re-entered Spain, the King being now able to agree to her return. He himself went to meet her, and received her on Spanish soil.

Information from Colonel Gordon encourages the belief that by the discovery of another branch of the Nile, a water-way into the heart of Africa, navigable for 2000 miles, may be secured.

It is reported that Mr. Perder intends applying through the Foreign Office to the American Government for £30,000 compensation for the submarine cable being cut in two places by a Yankee whaler, which carried off the Fenian prisoners from Australia.

Public meetings have been held throughout the country to sustain the Government in their policy of non-intervention.

LONDON, September 18.

Preliminaries of contract have been arranged with Messrs. Green, of Blackwall, for a monthly line of steamers, via Cape to Australia, 4000 tons burthen, doing the outward passage in forty-two, and the homeward in forty-four days.

The Board of Admiralty have instructed Commodore Hoskins to report as to the suitability of New Zealand coal for naval use on the Pacific station.

At a special rifle practice, the Irish beat the Australian team by one point, leaving the American and Scotch teams far behind.

Wool, moderate, unchanged. Wheat, firm; New Zealand, 45s to 48s.

WESTPORT, September 22.

A human skeleton has been found buried on the bank of the Ohika River, twelve miles from Westport. The flood washed away the bank, revealing the bones partly shrouded in a sack. On the feet were watertight boots. The skull was smashed, evidently indicating murder.

AKAROA, September 23.

A man named George Bouncer committed suicide by hanging himself this morning at German Bay. He mounted a stool and suspended himself to the roof of a cowshed by a leg rope, and then kicked the stool from under him.

WELLINGTON, September 23.

The heaviest gale experienced for very many years passed over Wellington last night. One house and numerous chimneys were blown down, fences were destroyed, and great damage otherwise done. Perfect calm prevails to-day.

GRAHAMSTOWN, September 25.

The result of a fortnight's crushing of stone from the Queen of the May mine gave 440 ozs. A dividend of 2s per share is declared, which is the first paid by any Waikoraka Company. The Queen of Beauty crushing yielded 205 ozs. for a fortnight.

The Thames District Rifles' Belt was won by a Maori, and was presented to him on Saturday.

NEW PLYMOUTH, September 25.

The ironsand furnace was tapped for the first time at 2 o'clock on Saturday, and metal ran freely. It was tapped again at the same hour yesterday, with another successful running; also again last night and this morning, both occasions successfully. There were hundreds of people to witness the running.

A smart shock of earthquake was felt on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

CHRISTCHURCH, September 25.

Heavy rains on Saturday night flooded part of the town and suburbs. At Kaiapoi great damage was done to the railway embankment—a large portion was washed away. Much of the low-lying country was under water.

LONDON, September 19.

The Porte refused to grant an armistice; but will consider proposals for peace submitted by the powers.

Lord Hartington, addressing the assembly at the Cutlers' feast, advocated Parliament to be at once convoked to consider what should be the future policy of England in regard to Turkey.

At an indignation meeting in reference to alleged atrocities in Bulgaria and other places, Mr. Gladstone said there would be hearty co-operation between England and Russia to endeavor to settle the Eastern question.

An address to the Queen has been carried, urging the Government in concert with the other great powers, to exclude Turkish rule in insurgent and disaffected Provinces. Earl Derby defended the Government against the charges of supineness in not protesting against the alleged atrocities, and the charge that the British fleet in Besica Bay was abetting the Turks in cruelties.

The Sultan Abdul Hazi is being invested with the sword of Ottoman.

An attempt of the Turkish troops to penetrate into Montenegro was frustrated with great loss.

ST. LEGER.

Petrarch	...	...	1
Tournay	...	...	2
Cesar	...	...	3

At the International Rifle Match at Creedmoor, the American team was first, the Irish second, and the Australian third.

Degrees conferred by the University of New Zealand will for the future have equal rank with those granted by the Universities of the United Kingdom.

Wheat market steady, New Zealand, 48s to 50s.

It is proposed to celebrate the Pope's Episcopal Jubilee, which occurs in June, 1877, by a pilgrimage of American Catholics to Rome. The Xavier Union of New York has appointed a committee of organisation.

GENERAL NEWS.

A TRUSTWORTHY person is the authority for the truth of the following fact, which occurred in the beginning of the present year in a Protestant town in Germany. A Catholic met in an hotel a young Protestant who was just reading the best liberal newspapers. A conversation began between them, which soon turned on the early years of the Holy Father. The Protestant mocked at the sickness the Pope had before his Priesthood, boldly affirming, that he contracted it through his own fault; because all who suffer from that sickness, are always themselves the cause of it. And then, said he, your Holy Father does nothing but swear and blaspheme, condemning every one that does not hear him as often as he opens his lips. The Catholic defended the Holy Father bravely, and did his best to persuade his opponent not to believe the newspapers only, which say every thing except the truth. The Protestant would not heed and continued swearing at the Holy Father. What happened? Within 24 hours the young healthy man had the falling sickness!—'Bombay Catholic Examiner.'

The 'Pall Mall Gazette,' advertising to the great celebration at Lourdes on the 2nd July, says 'that the incredulous are surprised "that this ceremony, ordered by the Pope, is not a dogmatic definition of apparitions of the Virgin, and people may still doubt the miracle" Catholics feel no such surprise, because they know that no dogmatic definition of a miracle, or of any other religious fact subsequent to the Divine Revelation contained in the Deposit of Faith, ever has or will be given. Belief in the apparition and miracles of Lourdes is simply a matter of evidence. The approbation of the Pope given to the devotion assures us that the statements on which it is based are credible. Such approbation is not given until the investigations of competent authority have disproved the possibility of fraud or delusion. But in this case we are not aware that the Holy See has given any formal judgment as to the truth of the apparition. It must be evident, however, that such statements, if believed at all, cannot fail to produce devotion in pious minds. This devotion may be permitted, or approved, nay even encouraged; but to impose a compulsory reception of the statements in question would be repugnant to the whole practice of the church. She does not even make the rigidly proved facts on which a saint's canonisation is based matter of dogmatic definition or of compulsory reception by the faithful.

On Tuesday, 27th July, the Pope gave an audience to the students of the foreign colleges in Rome. He called upon them to combat impiety and defend religion, and spoke of the attempts of the enemies of the Holy See to destroy its authority. His Holiness reminded his hearers that the present age rested for its foundation upon the Church of Christ, and he proceeded to remark upon the condition of Rome, deploring the disorder which prevailed, and especially the great number of suicides which had recently been committed. He also alluded to the project advocated by dissenters of choosing the next Pope by a popular vote, in order to dissolve the mystic tie which unites the faithful throughout the world. The Pope concluded by exhorting the students to become worthy ministers of God.

There was a large and enthusiastic meeting of the people of Castlereagh and its vicinity on the night of 4th July to celebrate the American Centenary of Independence and recent escape from Western Australia of the political prisoners. There was an immense bonfire lighted in the centre of the town, which kept blazing up to a late hour. Many of the houses had their windows fully illuminated.

The Lord Bishop of Ossory has raised a voice of warning against the society of the Ancient Order of Forresters, which he stigmatises as "a new form of Freemasonry," and as having entailed the greatest misery on its unhappy dupes. His Lordship issued a pamphlet on the subject to prevent a branch being established in Kilkenny, and authorised the clergy to announce the withholding of the sacraments from the members of the society.

The notorious assassin Luicani, by whose dagger Sonzogno the Italian Radical journalist fell, and who has been condemned for this crime to the galleys for life, was *Venerable* in the first Masonic Lodge established in Rome. This fact is recorded in the Italian 'Masonic Review,' May 1, 1874. It is also mentioned as a fact, that the man named Cavaletti, who recently assassinated his son, was a dignitary in Freemasonry.—'Bombay Catholic Examiner.'

The total number of Catholic Indians in the United States is 151,049, divided as follows:—In the State of Maine, 1,400; in New York, 990; in Michigan, 4,000; in Wisconsin, 1,430; in Minnesota, 10,800; in Dakota, 2,000; in Kansas, 2,800; in Montana, 7,829; in the Indian Territory, nearly 100,000; in Arizona, 1,500; in Idaho, 700; in Washington Territory, more than 10,000; in Oregon, 1,600; in California, more than 6,000.

Most people will be glad to know that the Suez Canal, as a property, yields something to the bold shareholders who originally subscribed its capital when the rest of the world looked coldly on, as well as to the investors who came in at a later period, and only acquired a preferential interest in the undertaking. At the general meeting held in Paris on the 27th June, the report by M. de Lesseps stated that, out of a total revenue last year of rather more than £1,200,000, a profit of £45,000 remained, after paying all charges and preferential interest. This is not much, and, of course, if the shares which England has acquired participated in a dividend at present, the rate of distribution would be even less than the modest sum per share which M. de Lesseps has been enabled to give to his not always placable fellow-proprietary.

Pic-nic parties in the environs of Metz must sometimes be subjected to rather unpleasant surprises. A woman who was recently gathering wood in the neighborhood came upon a nest containing six young wolves. She called to her husband, and he, with the assistance of two other men, secured the prize. About the same time last year a nest containing seven young wolves was discovered not far from the same spot.