

A SAD CALAMITY.

ONE of the saddest occurrences it has ever been our lot to chronicle, says the 'Roseburg Independent' of the 5th August, occurred last Tuesday on the North Umpqua, near Lorenzo's place, resulting in the death of a mother and two sons, the wife and children of Mr. W. Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler had gone to Oakland to purchase some flour, and about the time his wife expected his return she, with her children (five boys), went down to the boat landing, there to await his arrival. As was natural the children began playing, chasing each other up and down the bank of the stream, and while thus engaged one of them, aged six years, slipped into the water. The child's cry of distress was answered by another brother of 16, who sprang into the river without a moment's hesitation. He caught the drowning child as it came to the surface a second time and started for the shore. At this juncture Mrs. Wheeler, who was wildly excited, started to wade out into the stream on a shelving rock, and she too slipped into the deep water and began to drown. The brave and noble boy, who first went to the rescue; now became a hero. With a love in his heart for his mother that knew no bounds, he let go his brother, and tried to save her whom he loved best. But he was already too much exhausted to be of service, and when she came up the third time he caught her by the arm, and both sank to rise no more. The other boy went to the bottom when first released, and of course was drowned. While this terrible struggle for life was going on in the water, two of the children ran up and down the bank screaming for help that never came; the third procured a boat and tried to help, but he failed to do any good. All they could do was done, and that was to wait until their father returned, and between their sobbings tell him the terrible news. Search for the bodies was commenced as soon as possible, and by the aid of grappling hooks they were found on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, not far from where they had fallen in.

CRUELTY IN GERMANY.

UNDER the caption of "Unprecedented," the 'Mainzer Journal,' June 13th, relates the following occurrence which certainly seems to be an unjustifiable outrage:—

The Nuns known as the "English ladies" have been forcibly stopped in the teaching of their schools in that city. Some of their own buildings have been seized, and strange school-mistresses brought in to teach the children whom hitherto they had taught. And all this in the most high-handed way. These Nuns first came to Mainz in 1752. Eleven years later a citizen named Casper Altenauer, bequeathed to them the charge of a girl's school which he had founded, leaving them a house for a residence, and various funds to provide a maintenance. The teaching was to be free of charge. The house was given to them, subject only to the condition, that two places in it should be set apart for the purpose of the school. The Nuns have never been disturbed during all those years in the possession of those properties. Out of their own means they purchased a house out of which has grown their present boarding school. At the request of the authorities of the City of Mainz they opened first one, and then another, and subsequently a third additional school, of a higher class of instruction than the original free schools established by Altenauer. About the middle of May the Burgomaster called on the Superior and demanded that, over and above the places already devoted to school purposes, she would give up five other commodious places, for common schools, under the direction of the municipality. He was even good enough to point out on the spot the places which he desired for this purpose.

They were two day schools, which the Nuns had for the girls of the middle class from the city, and the two large dormitories of their boarding school, and the recreation hall—these three latter having been built by the Nuns out of their own private property exclusively. The Superior explained the facts of the case, but all in vain. On the 30th of May an ordinance appeared assigning those localities for the common schools, and desiring the city architect to see that they were put into proper order. The Superior renewed her protest. On the 11th June the Burgomaster came to the place, and brought a smith to force open the locks. He ordered the Superior to quit those rooms at once; he brought laborers, who swept all the beds and bedding into one mass out of the rooms, while others set up the school. Next morning strange schoolmistresses were teaching school in rooms of the boarding house. An appeal has been made to the courts of law. Meantime it is worth noting that those ladies are daughters or sisters of some of the chief citizens of Mainz.

ANOTHER MIRACLE AT LOURDES.

THE Paris 'Univers' publishes the following letter from its correspondent at Lourdes:—

LOURDES, July 3.

"I have just witnessed a wonder which I hasten to communicate to you. Many other miracles have occurred during the last two days, but I have said nothing about them, not being able to obtain reliable information concerning them. The following one I can testify to, and it was witnessed by many persons.

Madeleine Lansereau, born at Montreuil, Canton of Vouille, Diocese of Poitiers, and for the last thirty years a resident of that city, where she has charge of the clothing of the poor of the parish of St. Radegonde, has, for the last nineteen years, had her hip broken and dislocated, with a shortening and contortion of the left limb. After being confined to her bed a long time, she was enabled to walk with the aid of two crutches for fourteen years, and for the last five years she walked with one crutch and what is called a crochette. She came with the Poitiers' Pilgrims, with the intention, no doubt, that numerous witnesses might behold her re-

covery; she was radically cured at 7.45, at the moment that Mgr. the Nuncio, delegated to crown the Blessed Virgin, was saying the *Pater Noster* in the Mass he was celebrating in the Grotto. She told us that when she first went into the spring she did not experience the slightest impression; then, all of a sudden, she felt a very strong interior emotion which she could not describe. "But," she adds, "I am cured," and she came out of the spring; and, indeed, she walked, as I can testify, as if nothing had ever been the matter with her.

"Where are your crutches?" some one asked her.

"Ah!" said she, "I don't know where they are."

It would be impossible to describe her feeling, her joy, her gratitude.

"How did you spend last night?" she was again asked.

"Well," she replied, with simplicity, "I spent it praying in the grotto, where I went to Holy Communion at one o'clock. I prayed to St. Radegonde, to St. Joseph, but especially to the Blessed Virgin, and now I am healed."

None of her companions from Poitiers, who were also her neighbors, could believe their eyes. "Is it really you, Madame?" they said to her, and they shed tears of joy and of surprise. Mgr. the Bishop of Poitiers coming up at this moment said to her:

"Madeleine, give thanks to the Blessed Virgin; I am going to say Mass for this intention."

THE MAN-EATING TIGER.

[From 'Chambers's Journal.']

DR. FAYRER caused some sensation by showing that during the one year 1869, 6,219 deaths from snakebite occurred in the Bengal Presidency alone, among a population of something more than 43,000,000 of souls. He now horrifies us with accounts of the devastation caused by man-eating tigers, which occasionally cause villages, and even whole districts, to be deserted. In one instance in the Central Provinces a single tigress caused the desertion of thirteen villages, while 250 square miles of country were thrown out of cultivation before the creature was shot. Another tigress in 1869 killed 127 people, and stopped a public road for many weeks before it, too, succumbed to an English sportsman. In 1868 the magistrate of Godavery reported that part of the country overrun with tigers, no road safe, and that a tiger had recently charged a large body of villagers within a few hundred yards of the civil station. It is impossible to give accurate statistics for the whole of so vast a country as Hindustan; but Jerdon corroborates these statements by asserting that in the district east of Jubbulpore, in 1856 and previous years, on an average between 200 and 300 villagers were killed annually. Tigers apparently develop into man-eaters when they are old and sluggish, and the teeth are somewhat decayed. Preferring human flesh, they find, when once the awe natural to wild animals at the presence of man is shaken off, that he offers an easy and tempting prey. In some districts they abound; while in others, as in Oude and Rohilcund, one is only heard of about every six years. The natives are extremely superstitious respecting tigers, and in many parts dread the wrath of the slain tiger's spirit almost more than they feared the creature when alive. The small clavicles or shoulder-bones, which are deeply imbedded in muscle, are esteemed valuable charms; while every sportsman, or, indeed, every one who is familiar with tiger skins, knows how difficult it is to save the tiger's claws. The whiskers, too, are immediately plucked out by the sportsman's servants, on the tiger being shot, before their master can come up, as they are deemed a valuable love philter. Those who are most rigorously honest in all other respects cannot refrain from thus mutilating a skin. On the spot where a tiger has slain a human being, in the district round Mirzapore, the natives erect a curious conical mound of earth, which is ornamented with some colored wash for a coating, a few flowers, and one or more singularly shaped pieces of pottery. It is considered sacrilege to touch these, and once a year the inhabitants of the neighboring village visit the memorials, and worship there.

It is related that while Don Pedro was at Newport, R. I., he made a request to have Oliver Caswell—an educated deaf and blind mute, of whom he had heard—visit him. The request was complied with; and when Mr. Caswell was brought before the Emperor he exhibited a small basket made by his own hands, in proof that he was not a drone, but could do something towards gaining a support for himself. The Emperor was so touched by the incident that he ordered the basket to be filled with gold pieces. A ruler like that is sure to win respect wherever he travels. In the United States his memory will always be fondly cherished for the many excellent traits of character exhibited during his sojourn.

In 1873, the Catholic Church in England and Scotland had 1,893 clergy of all ranks, and 1,253 churches, chapels, and stations. In 1875 these numbers increased to 2,024 and 1,294, an increase of 131 priests and 41 churches in two years. The number of priests ordained for England in 1875 was 71, of whom 28 were regulars and 49 seculars. There were also 7 priests ordained at St. Joseph's College for foreign missions. The whole number of priests in Scotland is 244; in England, 1,780. Of the whole number of 2,024 priests, 611 are regulars, who have 90 houses. Of houses of Religious women there are 289, of which 270 are in England and 19 in Scotland. The whole number of Catholic Archbishops and Bishops in Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Colonies and dependencies is 126, of whom 18 are Archbishops.

Another monster telescope, the largest yet attempted, is in course of construction at Dublin for the Austro-Hungarian Government. The object glass will have an aperture of 27in., and the total length is to be about 32ft.