

SAN FRANCISCO MAIL NEWS.

(From our Exchanges.)

Most of our Irish readers know of the infamous character of the bad Beresfords, who were so long identified with the Established Church of Ireland. It will, perhaps, interest them to know that there was one of them—and he a Protestant Archbishop of Armagh—who was an exception to the family rule. An interesting note in the last number of the 'Irish Monthly,' edited by Father Russell, a Jesuit, says:—"If we were asked to name a member of the same family, as a striking set-off against John Claudius, we would name his cousin, the late John George Beresford, Protestant Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland. No one who had once seen him could ever forget his handsome face and truly noble appearance. He was a man of discerning mind and generous feeling, and showed these qualities in the way in which he ruled his see, and in his relations with his clergy. The large revenue he derived from the Church he employed chiefly in its service. He contented himself with his private fortune, and died not rich. On his cathedral choir he spent £700 a year; the expenses incurred by the publication of a valuable antiquarian work were defrayed by him; and he built, at a cost of £11,000, the Campanile in the grand square of Trinity College. Our late venerated Primate, the Most Rev. Dr. Dixon, had the sincerest esteem for Archbishop Beresford; and on one occasion, when speaking of him, he said:—"He is a large-hearted, large-minded man, and each night in prayer I ask God to preserve his life, and to prolong the term of his benevolence and charity."

Mrs. Coulter, of Dundalk, is about to imitate the example set by Mrs. Brennan, of Dromin, and has instituted ejectment proceedings against a number of tenants living on her property at Stump, a few miles from Dundalk. Some months ago a notice was served on each of these tenants, informing them that their landlady had thought fit to make a considerable increase in their rents. It was stated that the new rents had been fixed by a "competent valuator." If the tenants refused to comply with the new arrangements they were not left in any doubt as to the consequences that would follow their refusal; for, on the back of the notice informing them of the proposed increase in their rents, was another notice "to give up quiet and peaceable possession of their holdings" the 1st Nov. The tenants declined to pay the increased rent on the ground that their holdings were not worth the sum demanded. They did not object to a re-valuation of their farms, and were prepared to pay the full value of their holdings. They made a proposal to Mrs. Coulter's agent, to have the value of their land ascertained by competent and impartial valuers, and expressed their willingness to abide by the result of such valuation. Mrs. Coulter and her agent have appealed to the law to enable her to recover an amount of rent which the tenants allege is unjustifiable, or else subject them to the dreadful penalty of eviction from house and home. The ejectment processes will be heard at the January quarter sessions in Dundalk, and will, we understand, be defended.

On the 4th December, at Genoa, was discovered a depot of Orsini bombs, firearms, swords, and other weapons. At about six o'clock on the morning of the fifth a loud explosion was heard, and immediately afterwards two smaller detonations in a lane called "Del Fico," attracted the notice of the inhabitants, and spread alarm throughout the neighborhood. The explosions occurred in a large shop which was ostensibly a second-hand goods store, and which was set on fire by the explosion. The fire brigade, and the soldiers from the neighboring barrack of St. Ambrogio, were at once upon the spot, accompanied by the King's Procurator-General, the Questor, and the Commander of the Division. The flames were soon subdued. On proceeding to ascertain the cause of the explosion, it was discovered that the shop, which is a very large one, instead of being a second-hand clothes store, was in reality a depot and manufactory of Orsini bombs and guns, swords and daggers. The explosion was the result of attempts to charge the bombs. The pretended shopkeeper was badly burnt, but was able to escape to the house where he slept, and where he was soon after arrested in bed. An immense quantity of weapons and munitions of war, including about four hundred Orsini bombs, were found in this magazine, and were seized by the authorities. The place where this explosion occurred is one of the most thickly inhabited quarters of Genoa. It is very remarkable that the police were ignorant of such an extensive depot of destructive weapons. The secret societies and revolutionists seem to be active at present in Italy.

The great love of the people for the late Duchess d'Aosta is being manifested in the numerous funeral services being held for repose of her soul all over the country. Her example as a faithful wife and Christian mother in these days of immorality and infidelity, her unostentatious piety and her steady and consistent refusal to countenance by any act of hers the sacrilegious proceedings of the family into which her destiny had brought her, all tended to endear her to the true Italian people.

The Benedictine monks of Monte Cassino are engaged in printing a description of the manuscripts contained in their library, with fac-similes of some of the documents, and reproduction in chromo-lithograph of the remarkable illuminations. This work is entitled "Bibliotheca Cassinensis." Two volumes have been already printed, with a preface by the learned Abbot Luigi Tosti.

A Roman correspondent of a New York paper—we think it was the large-minded person who rebashes the Italian liberal papers for the New York 'Times'—has indulged in an original but not overwhelming sarcasm concerning the deceased Cardinal's legacies to the institutions in Rome and Jerusalem. What these really meant is explained by M. Veuillot in the following paragraph:—"In the Pontifical State, in order that a testament shall be pronounced valid, it must contain a minimum legacy of five francs in favor of the Hospice of the Holy Spirit and of the Holy Places at

Jerusalem, or else the testator, questioned by a notary, shall have declared his unwillingness to make such bequests. Such was the admirable forethought of legislation in almost the whole of Christian Europe, and more particularly in Italy. At Turin a legacy was required for the Hospice of Sts. Maurice and Lazarus, or else the testator must distinctly refuse under a penalty of invalidating the will; the same conditions existed at Genoa for the Hospice of Ponnatione. At Rome the obligation was absolute; and this accounted for the wealth of those institutions without any charge on the budget. The poor were partially provided for by the dead; the law did not permit that a testator should forget the poor either at the tomb of Jesus Christ or that of St. Peter. It contained many of those 'barbarities' the last traces of which are being attempted to be removed. But Cardinal Antonelli, under many aspects, was still a man of the Middle Ages, and, dying at the Vatican, he has conformed to the old traditions."

Monday, January 1; was "a great day" for Dublin. The civic year was inaugurated by a Catholic lord mayor, a Catholic sheriff, and a Catholic sub-sheriff. The new Lord Mayor of Dublin (Alderman Tarpey) has been long known in that city as the active friend of every good work. His very last act before assuming his present dignity was to preside at a public meeting convened for the purpose of paying a well-deserved compliment to the Rev. Michael Barry, of St. Andrew's, Dublin, who has been promoted to a parish after twenty-seven years' labor as a curate. The new Lord Mayor of Dublin just comes in good time to make up for the masonic tendencies of his predecessor, who (though in many respects a worthy man) too often forgot that he was the ruler of a city the great majority of whose inhabitants are Catholics.

Paul Feval, the great Breton novelist whose conversion was announced some time ago, wishing that his writings should be conformable to the principles of the Catholic Church, is now engaged in the preparation of an expurgated edition of all his works. Not wishing to depend entirely on his own judgment in this matter, he has asked and received the assistance of a well-known Catholic author of several romances which might safely be put into the hands of any person. In submitting his works to this religious censure, the author, to his great credit be it said, has given his generous assistant only one advice, which is a very characteristic one: "Don't spare them; be severe, as severe as you can." Paul Feval's example is one that ought to be imitated; but, like all good examples, we fear that it will not be imitated as widely as it needs to be.

Notwithstanding the great number of Christian Brothers there are in France, the supply is far from being equal to the demand. To meet this necessity there has been created, under the patronage of the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, the *Œuvre du Vénérable de la Salle*. In the committee of administration and the council of this work are some of the most distinguished inhabitants of the French capital. Branches have been established with wonderful success in most of the dioceses of France, and it has even taken root in other countries. Encouraged by the bishops, it has, under the name of "little noviciates," preparatory schools in which boys who have a taste for teaching and for religious life complete their primary education and are prepared with particular care to enter the great noviciate, which is solely for the training of religious teachers.

The famous university of Louvain has this year nearly 1,500 students attending its courses. The State University (Ghent), has something more than one-third the number, and this notwithstanding its numerous benefits, purses, scholarships and other advantages. It is a consoling fact that while the number of students of theology in the various Protestant colleges and universities of Europe has so decreased that it is not now one half of what it was five years ago, the number of Catholic students of theology is continually increasing, not in one country alone, but all over the face of the globe.

"French criminal statistics show that the proportion of illiterates among criminals is steadily decreasing." But the number of criminals is not decreasing. It is your educated man, now, who is your greatest and most dangerous rascal—that is, your man who has been educated in his head only and not in his heart, and who has been taught the false science which eliminates God and His laws from the world. This is the sort of education which has been given to many Frenchmen during the past few years, and it is from them that the literate criminals come.

More than 2,000 workmen are engaged day and night in the Champ de Mars and Trocadero preparing for the Paris Exhibition of 1878.

On Monday, November 29, was founded at Crosshaven, on the southern shore of Cork Harbor, a new house of what may be truly described as the great institute of Nuns of the Order of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin. This Order is now fulfilling a world-wide mission, the leading purpose of which is the education of the children of the poor, and in any locality where they have been enabled to prosecute this important work, but especially in Cork, the cradle of the institute, it must be superfluous to say with what holy zeal and signal success that work is accomplished.

According to statistics recently published, there are in Spain 22,711 public schools of every grade 16,888 are for males, and 6,676 are for females. 5,224 more schools are needed to complete the number required by law. The number of primary schools is 5,406, with an attendance of 1,200,720 pupils. There were 209,736 pupils attending private schools. In the public schools there are 13,508 teachers, male and female, and in the private schools 4,080.

The St. Gothard tunnel, the greatest engineering work of its kind in the world, is being steadily pressed towards completion. Work is progressing upon it from both ends through the mountains—from Groschenen toward Italy, and men are employed, divided into gangs, which labor day and night. The work has now been four years in progress, and it is thought four years more will be required to complete the stupendous undertaking. The tunnel