

or Longchamps; were amazed, not unpleasantly, at the licentiousness of the stage, or filled with a complacent horror—if we may use the expression—by the scenes witnessed at a *bal masqué* or some other place of amusement equally questionable, if not more so. They were entertained with tales of social scandal, or amused by gossip connected with the Tuilleries, which most frequently was false, and thus they believed themselves to have acquired an intimate acquaintance with the great heart of the French people. They knew nothing of the industry that underlay all this—of the attention to the realities of life, the benevolence, the tender devotion to parents, or the fostering care here, perhaps more than in any other country on earth, bestowed upon children.

They saw the sinfulness of the Cities of the Plain, but they knew nothing of the just by whom the mass was leavened, and who existed to a far greater number per cent., probably, than that which in itself alone would have sufficed to ward off the fiery doom from the famous towns of old. Vice was apparent, but virtue was hidden. The mind of GEORGE SAND was printed in books and disseminated far abroad; that of EUGENIE DE GUERIN was written only to meet the eyes of her brother. If there were ladies of high birth and breeding whose names were tarnished, and whose persons were conspicuous in their paint and attire, all but meretricious notwithstanding its elegance, amongst the crowd, there were others, such as were the Sisters DE LA FERONAY, passing their days in a manner that rejoiced the choirs of angels. Nay, even amongst those who were themselves of vicious life, some there were who, in the inmost chambers of their being, revered all that was pure and holy. It has been said that there are many who conform to the ordinances of religion, not from faith, but from policy, and believing them necessary to the preservation of propriety and order. Be it so. Some such there may be, for the human mind is various, but we are persuaded, and there is ample proof on which to ground our conviction, that the opposite to this is generally the case, and that the faith still smoulders in many a heart while the surface is cold and hard—

— ignis
Suppositos cineri doloso.

If ever there was a man who might have been supposed to have restored and professed religion from reasons of policy, it was NAPOLEON; yet NAPOLEON, when all cause for his carrying the heavy cloak of hypocrisy had ceased, and he was wearing away the sad remnant of his life in banishment, gave sincere evidences of what his belief had been all through his career, however obscured it might have been by ambition. He bequeathed to posterity from his place of imprisonment a testimony to the divinity of CHRIST that would have done honour to the intellect and eloquence of the most renowned of theologians,—words that might almost have flowed from the lips of ST. JOHN of the Golden Mouth himself. The PROMETHEUS of the ancient world supported his sufferings by the thoughts of the influence that still remained to him and of deliverance to come. The modern "Prometheus" comforted himself on his rock by looking forward to the mercy of that God whom in his childhood he had learned to revere, but from whom, alas! the storms and passions of an eventful life had long turned away his mind. Let it do what it will, that clear-eyed and tender-hearted French nature cannot shut out from itself the grandeur and beauty of religion. It is still the comfort of affliction and the source of lofty sentiments. BERANGER, for instance, scoffed at all that was sacred, yet he recognises the solace of her rosary and of the piety its possession bespeaks, as the sustaining treasure of the poor woman whose sad story he relates with such deep pathos, and who had been reduced from being a great prima donna and the reigning favourite of Paris, to beg for bread at the door of *Notre Dame*. ALFRED DE MUSSET likewise was no believer, but still he records the impressing powers of sanctity.

"Go in peace, it is impossible that the child of these tears shall perish," said a holy bishop to St. MONICA, when she had repeatedly implored him to intercede for the salvation of her son,—afterwards the great St. AUGUSTINE. Far too many unblemished hands, and voices sweet with purity, have been uplifted on behalf of France, to permit of its growing utterly reprobate at any time. The land of Sts. CLOTILDE and GENEVIEVE, of St. LOUIS, St. FRANCIS, and St. VINCENT, cannot become wholly corrupt. True, there are and have been many evil men there, but others have been found of exceeding goodness to expiate their wickedness. A hundred such as TALLEYRAND might well be atoned for by AFFRE or DARBOIS, and one like DUPANLOUP outweighs many GAM-

BETAS. As the elements of resurrection from her prostrate state were present at the time of France's deepest humiliation, in the vigour and elasticity of her people, so the promise of the ultimate triumph of religion, of which we have lately seen an earnest, lies in the virtues that have been overlooked by foreigners.

While England is astonished, and Germany troubled, by the recent victory of the Catholic party in the country of which we write, the Italian Government stands aghast at it. HOMER has a metaphor, where, speaking of the Trojans' pursuit of ULYSSES, interrupted by MENELAUS and AJAX, he likens it to the chase of a wounded deer by hyenas. They seize the prey and are about to devour it, but a lion appears, and the growling vermin slink away relinquishing their booty in affright. Is the Government of the *re galantuomo* afraid that some such retribution is about to overtake them? Let us hope that their fears are well grounded, and that the day is not far off when they will be fully realised.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We understand that the Bulls appointing the Very Rev. Dr. Chareyre Bishop of Auckland have arrived in New Zealand. The Rev. Doctor, however, is at present absent from the colony, *en route* for Europe, and it is by no means certain that he will accept the proffered See.

We have received from the Government Printer the Statistics of the Colony of New Zealand for 1876, together with the first number of "Hansard" and other Parliamentary Papers.

We learn the following from the Hawkes Bay *Herald* of the 28th ult.:—"The Catholic Bazaar in the Oddfellows' Hall yesterday was again well attended, both in the afternoon and in the evening, and we are informed that considerably more money was taken than on the previous evening (the amount taken on both the days exceeded £100). The stalls were very tastefully decorated with branches of fern, brought down from Taupo by Mr. Peters. There were also very fine specimens in pots on the stage. The number and variety of French toys displayed on the stalls were something surprising: some of the better class of them being fitted up with very clever mechanism, they created a good deal of amusement, not only to the children, but to those further advanced in years. The Napier Artillery Volunteer Band enlivened the proceedings with some choice musical selections.

The *New Zealand Country Journal* for July contains several interesting papers relative to agricultural matters. Besides affording much information to persons engaged in farming pursuits, the publication in question gives copious notes on sporting. It will be found an acquisition both by the agriculturalist and the sportsman.

The *New Zealand Magazine* for the quarter ending with July last reached us rather late to admit of our reviewing it. It is, however, a fair average number of the periodical, but the publication might with advantage be popularised by the addition of a certain amount of matter suited to the requirements of general readers.

A VETERAN settler, named Quinlan, died lately at Panmure. Mr. Quinlan, who had served in the Chinese Campaign in 1841, had been settled in this colony for thirty years.

THE United Trades' Demonstration came off in Dunedin on Saturday evening last, and was a most unqualified success. The torchlight procession was a beautiful spectacle, and is said to have been one of the finest things of the kind ever seen in the colonies, if no more. The public meeting was held in the building of Messrs. Guthrie and Larnach, where the chair was taken by his Worship the Mayor. The first resolution was proposed by Mr. Dungan, as representative of the Typographical Association, and was to the effect that Government, by pursuing their present course of importation, not only injured the artisans of the colony, but the interests of the country at large. Messrs. Hogg and Moss, representing severally the Tailors' Society and the Engineers and Ironworkers, proposed the second and third resolutions. A great deal was said from which it is clear that the artisans of the colony have been, and are being, extremely ill-used by the action of the Government to the detriment of all classes of the community; and it is to be hoped that this meeting, which was a most important one, and evidently represented the state of feeling of the public in general, will have a good effect, and that the resolutions carried at it will meet with due attention.

We learn that the Dunedin Jockey Club have at length appointed a committee. A meeting will be held this evening, at which the various officials and a sub-committee will be appointed. As it is well known that the success of all race meetings depends on the handicapper, and the confidence that may be placed in his impartiality, it is to be hoped that a gentleman will not be chosen to fill the post at whose establishment jockeys and owners of horses are likely to assemble, so that it would be next to impossible for him to escape a bias.

THE Turks have been driven to bay, and bid fair to turn the tables upon their invaders. The advance upon Adrianople seems about to be changed for a stampede backwards in the direction of the Danube. We do not, however, look for more than a temporary check to the Russian arms. We were indeed amazed to find that hostile forces had been allowed to penetrate so far into the country without serious impediment. It is only now that the real work of war may be said to have begun, and the climax will, no doubt, speedily be reached. It is certain that the greater the losses of