

General News.

The Roman correspondent of the *Liverpool Daily Chronicle* writes—"It is probable that the constant reference to Rome by the Ritualists will cause many individual secessions. The general of a religious order who resides here has received a letter from several of the members of an institute which adopts the title and follows the rule of which he is the chief exponent. The document sets forth that the writers are gravely anxious about their position, and ask counsel from one whom they claim as their lawful superior. An answer has been sent to the effect that the archives of the Order have been consulted for the last twenty-five years, and that the names of the petitioners are not in the list of novices received during that period. Two of these gentlemen have already been received into the Church Rome, and it is not unlikely that their example will be followed by many more.

Once more the Indians have expressed their desire and preference for Catholic priests. "Spotted Tail" said recently: "I would like to get a Catholic priest—those who wear black dresses." And "Red Cloud's" plait was this: "We should like to have a schoolhouse—a large one, that will hold plenty of people. We would like to have Catholic priests and Catholic nuns, so they could teach our people how to write and read, and instruct us how to do." "Red Cloud" and "Spotted Tail" are two prominent chiefs. "Young Man Afraid of His Horses," "Little Big Man," and every influential or observant savage approached by the commissioner duplicated these desires. "Without an exception," says a correspondent from the Indian country, "the entire race regards the presence of Protestant missionaries as inutle, if not demoralizing."

Neal Dow makes the following suggestive comparison:—In 1866 Portland, where I reside, was visited by a tremendous conflagration. Ten thousand people were turned out into the streets, and ten millions of dollars went up in smoke in a day. But, notwithstanding that, the valuation of the city was never so large as now, and last year its valuation was increased by the sum of 480,000 dollars, while Boston, with free rum, ran down 70,000,000 dollars, and that city and New York have run down their valuation in the last five years many hundreds of millions of dollars. They have been wasting the products of their industries in the purchase of alcoholic liquors, while we have been saving as well as earning, by putting the liquor traffic under the ban of the law, and crushing out the grog shops and the beer shops—those horrid instrumentalities for the pauperizing, the brutalizing, and criminalizing the people—all of them who come under the malign influence.

The *Cincinnati Commercial* has published a horrible detailed list of the misdeeds of Protestant clergymen in the United States during the year 1878. The names of fifty-five ministers are given, with the charges against them which are unfit for publication in a respectable paper. Fifty-five convicted culprits out of a class that is expected to lead in morality and intelligence is a showing that may well cause people to stop and demand what it all means!

A post office clerk in France has invented a new sort of envelope which will record the post-marks in colour on the letter inside, even more legibly than the original stamp, which is often blurred and rendered indistinct by too much or too little ink. This result is accomplished by applying to the inside of the envelope a cheap preparation by a process that does not increase the price of the envelope. The pressure of the dark stamp contermarks on the letter inside, in a distinct and durable manner, the figures and letters of the stamp. The introduction of this envelope would be a boon to business men who have correspondents who forget to date their letters.

THE DECLINE OF PORTUGAL.

THE *Indo European Correspondence*, after summarizing the masterly pastoral of the Archbishop of Goa, continues in the following strain:

Thus far his Grace of Goa. We think there are few who will not own that he has touched a chord which is in harmony with their Christian feelings. The decadence of Portugal has been so complete, so irremediable—the contempt for all that is Portuguese is so general and so deep-rooted—that we listen with all the greater admiration to the lesson to be drawn from fallen greatness pointed out to us with a truthfulness and simplicity which is a touching picture of dignity in misfortune. It has always been a glory of the Church when powerful nations have laid their renown and influence at her service; but it has been a still greater glory to such nations that they did so. While Portugal remained true to her traditions, she was the champion and patron of Christian faith, and on her was reflected the halo of glory of her many missionaries and heroic soldiers of the Cross—nay, their glory was almost identified with hers. But when the wantonness of power and the canker of increasing wealth began to sully and corrode her loyalty; when the reins of power, which had been once firmly grasped by high-minded Christian heroes, fell into the uncertain hold of Freemasons and Atheists, her downfall was awful in its suddenness and completeness. In vain does the Portugal of Pombal and the Masonic sects invoke the memory of her saints and heroes; in vain does she boast that she is the seed of Abraham. For God can from the very stones raise up children to Abraham.

We say this in no unkind spirit, for the whole conception and tenor of his Grace's Pastoral is eminently calculated to disarm and abash so unworthy a feeling. Goa is a standing monument of fallen greatness, and this is what is pointed out clearly and with much reason, calmness, and dignity by the eminent prelate who administers that see. His Grace draws the attention of his flock to the true source of Goa's greatness—the faith and zeal of those who made it truly the "Rome of the East. The sun of her earthly greatness has set, and set for evermore; and if her spiritual greatness may yet revert to her, it will be through the patronage of the Apostle of the Indies, and by the faithful imitation of his zeal and virtues.

PROFESSOR GUSSCOTT, THE GREAT AMERICAN HERBALIST,

has now removed to Christchurch, where he may be consulted daily, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Address—Tully's Buildings, opposite Laurie's, Timber Merchant, Christchurch.

The undermentioned testimonials will suffice to prove the efficacy of his treatment.

To Professor Gusscott,

SIR,—Having for the last four years suffered from bad eyes, being totally blind in one, and from using a solution of nitrate of silver as a lotion, which had penetrated my whole system causing me the most acute pains, which, added to rheumatism, prevented my sleeping at night, and rendered my life absolutely burdensome to me, I have consulted and been treated by doctors in different parts of Canterbury, as also in the Christchurch Hospital, but without obtaining the slightest relief. Determined to leave no stone unturned while the smallest chance remained of an abatement of my sufferings, I applied to you immediately I heard of your arrival, and the cure which you have effected would seem to many incredible, but as I am still here a living proof of the success of your treatment, as can also be testified by hundreds in Christchurch, who knowing what I was like for so long up to a week ago, look with astonishment at the change which you have wrought. Wishing you many years of happiness and prosperity in pursuing your useful career, I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

PATRICK BURNS.

Sexton's Allenton House, St. Asaph Street, Christchurch.

To Professor Gusscott,

SIR,—I am happy to inform you that you have fulfilled your promise. I have been suffering from bleeding piles for the last eight years. I have tried eight doctors, but could only get temporary relief. I came down from Mount Ida, and hearing so much talk about you being so clever in curing so many chronic complaints, I thought I would give you a trial, and I am happy to say, with the most satisfactory result, and that you have made a perfect cure of me. I know several in Mount Ida who have been troubled with the same complaint for years, and many of them know that I have had to give up work having been so bad. I give you this statement as I am well-known at Mount Ida, and believe me, I shall be happy to let anyone know where they can get a perfect cure, and at a small fee, for I have spent scores of pounds without receiving any benefit.—I am, yours ever thankful,

DAVID JONES.

Mount Ida, June 14, 1878.

P.S.—I have told several here of the cure you have made of me, so you may expect many orders for medicine.—D.J.

To Professor Gusscott,

SIR,—I have been troubled with a bad leg for two years. I attended the Hospital as an outdoor patient for several months. They healed it up, but it broke out worse than ever. Hearing of the wonderful cures you had made, I was advised to give you a trial. I can say thank God, that you have made a perfect cure of me. You told me if you did not cure me you would refund me my money, but I am better pleased than if I had three times the money that I have paid you to be as I am to-day. Hoping this may meet the eye of sufferers the same as I have been, that they may know where to get a perfect cure.—I remain yours thankfully,

GEORGE MOIR.

Port Chalmers, June 18, 1878.

To Professor Gusscott, George-street, Dunedin,

SIR,—Having been troubled with liver complaint for the last ten years, so as almost to incapacitate me from work, and being also afflicted with palpitation of the heart, and being tired of throwing away my hard-earned money; having also tried the herbal treatment, which only afforded me temporary relief, I have been induced by seeing so many letters in the papers concerning your successful treatment of these diseases, and knowing the benefit Mr. Smith received by your treatment, as well as by the advice of many friends, to place myself in your hands. The result has been that now I can eat, where formerly I was wasting to a skeleton from the want of necessary nourishment. The pain between my shoulders and in my right side has entirely disappeared, my bowels are regular, and I am now able to sleep on any side I wish. After six weeks of your treatment, I am happy to inform you that I feel as good a man as ever I did in my life. I am well known in the Taieri district, and I give you this testimonial in the hope of others similarly afflicted being induced to seek your aid.—I am yours, very gratefully,

W. H. CAMPBELL.

Taieri, Dunedin, Sept. 30, 1878.

To Professor Gusscott, George Street, Dunedin

SIR,—I have been troubled with rheumatism for the last four years, part of the time I had to use crutches, and in sitting down the pain in my limbs was sometimes so great that I nearly fell, and found it impossible to get up. The pain in my back was so great that I lost the use of one side from the hip downward, and was utterly unable to assist myself. I thought at times my feet and legs would burst from the dreadful swelling, and I did not care how soon the end would come. But when I saw the letter of Thomas Ferguson's in the paper I again got hope, believing that there still existed a chance for me. When I called on you you told me that if I complied with your instructions you could still make a cure of me. I did so, and the result is all the swelling is rapidly disappearing, my pains are all gone, my evacuations are regular and healthy, and I find myself a new man. The first three days' trial of your medicine convinced me it was good, and through its aid alone I am able to attend to my business. I give you this in the presence of Mr. Williams and Mr. Campbell, who have known me for many years, and how I have been afflicted.—Your grateful friend,

HENRY MILLS.

Peninsula, Dunedin, 8th October, 1878.