JAPAN.

Progress of the Civil War and Aristocratic Reaction Against the Mikado.

Hierarchical Complications and New Difficulties.

Foreign Interests and British Diplomacy.

By overland mail from San Francisco we received yesterday our special correspondence from Japan, dated at Yokohama on the 4th of June, embracing the following important details of our mail telegrams, forwarded also from San Francisco, lately published in the HERALD. The receipt of the written correspondence, given to-day, at the HERALD establishment places Yokohama and New York within thirty-seven days of communication by letter, in itself a wonderful feat.

Civil War and Social Disorganization—Surrender and Humiliation of the Tycoon—The Mikado in Possession of Yokohama—Aristocratic League and Reaction—Clerical Complications—British Diplomacy "Ahead"—How the Mikado Looks—The American War Ram Stonewall—Emigration of Laborers.

YOKOHAMA, June 4, 1868.

Political news in Japan is exceedingly difficult to obtain, and when obtained is not often very reliable. One day we read that the rebellion is at an end, and the next this is contradicted by a statement, which, in its turn is declared to be erroneous within the next twenty-four hours. One thing is certain, however; the Mikado has undoubtedly possession of the principal cities—such as Osaca and Yokohama. The late Tycoon has surrendered at discretion. The terms were rather hard. He had to cede all his private possessions north of Seruga, disband almost his entire army, surrender his navy and seclude himself at Mito during the pleasure of the Mikado. All these conditions have been fulfilled, except that what has become of the navy is a puzzle. The Tycoon ordered his Admiral to lower his flag and hoist the Mikado's; but instead of doing this that officer left Jeddo with the whole fleet and has not been heard of since.

Yokohama was formally taken possession of on the 11th ult. by a Daimio in the service of the Mikado, whereupon the "Allied Army of Occupation," consisting of English and French troops and Prussian and American marines, was called off, the marines returning to their vessels.

But notwithstanding the successes of the Mikado the political troubles of this country are far from having arrived at a complete settlement. Although there is a good deal of dissatisfaction expressed by the Tycoon's followers at what they call his ignominious surrender, his friends have by no means deserted him. Several of the Northern Daimios are said to have formed a coalition and have placed an army in the field stronger than any that backed the Tycoon. Aidzu, the most daring and truest friend of Siotsbashi, heads it. He refuses to recognize the proclamation of the Mikado, and has averred that if he be deserted by all he will continue to fight by himself for the interests of the late Tycoon. To him are now joined Kanga-no-Kami, the most powerful Daimio in Northern Japan, and Sendai, only second to Kanga. Had these two Princes joined the Tycoon in the early stage of the troubles the result would have been vastly different. However, quiet and resigned as the Tycoon pretends to be to the present condition of affairs, the signs are at present much more in his favor than they ever were before.

Two battles have already taken place, both resulting in the defeat of the Mikado. On the 10th of May fighting commenced at Oyama, a few miles northwest of Jeddo, and the Mikado's troops had to retreat and give up a strong fortress formerly the property of the Tycoon. At Yinshi, on the 17th of May, Aidzu attacked a large body of the imperial troops, routed them, captured three hundred prisoners, among whom were two Daimios, and beheaded them all. He has now taken up a strong position between Osaka and Jeddo. Should the Mikado's forces be forced to leave Jeddo—an event not improbable—their retreat to Osaka will be cut off, and they will have to fight their way out through an enemy's country. This will give Aidzu an opportunity of marching on to Osaka, now the residence of the Mikado, and that place once in his possession the Mikado will have to accept, instead of dictating terms. Another thing that promises success to the Tycoon lies in the fact that the people are getting aroused and desire his return to power. It is well known now that all the retainers of the Tycoon's family have armed themselves and have sworn to defend his rights with their lives. Although the Mikado's troops have possession of the fortifications around Jeddo the city itself has not been molested, but is still in quiet possession of the Totugawa (Tycoon's) family. Kanga-no-Kami, who has already left the capital with all his retainers, has dared them to occupy Jeddo, and has given warning that he will hold the Mikado himself responsible for any harm being done to the place. This demonstration has struck terror into the hearts of the Mikado's party. Another event has happened which complicates still more than ever the condition of affairs, but which promises well to the Tycoon and the Northern Daimios.

The High Priest of Kioto, who seems to occupy a position, as regards the rulers of Japan, very similar to that held by the Pope towards all sovereigns in Europe during the early ages of Christianity, has issued a proclamation warning the Mikado that he has lately interfered too much in temporal affairs and threatens him with the terrible wrath of Buddha if he does not desist. This has had the effect of frightening the Southerners, who fear for their own territories, and many of them have already recalled their troops homeward for fear that the priesthood might cause an uprising against them at their own homes.

Thus matters stand. And whoever desires to see Japan opened will be pleased to see the old party in power. The Tycoon was always steadfast in endeavoring to carry out the terms of the treaty with the foreign Powers; in fact it was this very circumstance that elicited the hostility of Satsuma and Choisu. Already the Mikado has reissued proclamation punishing with death any native that takes to Christianity, and it is more than likely that should his power be thoroughly established, there will be trouble between the Western nations and Japan. In spite of these circumstances, which are patent to almost everybody here, the course of her Britannic Majesty's Minister has been somewhat remarkable. The Tycoon resigned the latter part of January. Before the first week in May is past Sir Harry Parkes delivers his credentials as Minister accredited to the new government. Three months is scarcely sufficient time for his report to have reached England and a reply to have been received. But Sir Harry states that he foresaw what was going to happen some six months ahead, and wrote on in advance for his new credentials. This is possible. But there is one circumstance to be taken into consideration. The Southern Daimios are greatly in debt to England, the latter country having supplied them with vesses and munitions of war. Had the Tycoon remained securely in power this debt would have looked rather shaky. Consequently, it was to the immediate interest of England to raise a disturbance in Japan, provided there was a chance of the Southern Daimios being able to come out ahead. Whether the sagacity of the English Minister will stand the test of time and events remains to be seen. As far as present indications go he had better give an immediate order for a new set of credentials.

The person of the Mikado has been described as a dull, stupid looking man, who might be any age from eighteen to twenty-five. You can scarcely credit the gross state of ignorance in which he has been reared. He has been so mewed up at his old palace at Kioto that it is said to be a positive fact that he never saw a green field, the sea or even a river until he left that place for Osaka. It is said that Satsuma is trying to make something of him, but a person who has reached man's estate totally without education or mental culture, grovelling only in the enervating luxuries of such a demoralizing existence as his must have been, can hardly be expected to turn out anything very great. Besides, I very much doubt whether his present councillors will overexert themselves to make a man of him, considering that in his present condition he is too easy and useful a tool.

In my last I informed you of the arrival of the American naval ram Stonewall. This vessel is still lying here, subject to the orders of the American Minister, who will not surrender her until the money due on her is paid and the government of the country settled without room for doubt. It was currently rumored that the vessel had to put into Honolulu, and that the Hawaiian government advanced money for her repairs and outfit to the Japanese government. This is erroneous. Captain Brown, commanding the Stonewall, drew what money he required on himself, payable to the Hawaiian Consul at Yokohama, he being unwilling to allow any other government but the United States to have any claim upon the vessel. The drafts have been honored, and therefore the Japanese are not indebted to anybody for the Stonewall except to the United States and Captain Brown individually. All the officers and crew have been paid off. Most of them return home in the China—their passage and forty-five days' extra pay having been paid them according to the terms of their contract. I do not think it will be very long before she will again fly the Japanese flag.

Another event has lately occurred in Japan which seems significant of a closer relationship being about to be cultivated with other countries. The Japanese government has always placed the greatest possible difficulties in the way of any of the people leaving the country. But within the last three weeks two companies of emigrants have left the country under contract to work for a certain time for regular wages. One of these, consisting of four hundred men, has been sent to Saigon on a contract to some Dutch merchants. Another company, consisting of eight hundred men, left here some ten days ago for Honolulu, having been engaged by the Hawaiian government for a period of three years. It seems that these expeditions somewhat frightened our staid American plenipotentiary, who immediately issued a proclamation, warning American citizens from engaging in the coolie trade. If we can induce *bona fide* emigrants to go to America I cannot see what there is to be frightened about, even if said emigrants be Japanese.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Ritualism vs. Catholicism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

That Ritualism and Catholicism are closely allied—one seeming to be the perfection of the other—many would admit; this much, however, is certain, that Catholicity owes its greatest attraction to the ritual, while the Ritualists, by their nice adherence to symbolic rites, are fast rivalling their coreligionists. In the former the worshipper has many things that are grand in the Roman Church. Though he may only believe in Christ's prefigurative presence in some of the sacraments, still he beholds the personification of the same eucharistic sacrifice which was consummated on Calvary, while he never tires admiring the lovely hozannas, the sweet song of vesper, or Easter halelujah. It is true he does not strictly adhere to St. Paul's injunction for bodily castigation, thinking the apostle dealt too largely in metaphor; nor does he believe in that blind and slavish devotion that Catholics put in their priests, well knowing they are far from being immaculate in their own lives, while yet he has in his Church the gorgeous display, all the pomp and ceremonies of the new law as practised in the Roman Church.

With the Ritualist Lenten devotions are not distracted by the craving of a hungry body, nor the sweetness of holy communings in prayer with his God on Sabbath, embittered by weekly appeals to his empty exchequer.

The money required by him for the necessities of his family is not extorted from him on pain of non-admittance into the Church by some fat sexton or croaky churchmouse collector, to purchase expensive property or supply some burly slavedriving priest with the choicest dish, the best vintage and the finest flavored cigar. The Ritualist, believing in apostolic simplicity, despises all extravagance and blind, ignorant devotion to men who often prefer drawing forth, in God's name, money from a poor man's pocket to pouring forth words of comfort into a dying soul.

These facts are exercising a powerful influence on the American intellect, and shall eventually, if not counteracted by a wise system of priestcraft, be the greatest enemy Rome encountered since the thunders of the Vatican fell harmlessly on the devoted Reformers. In the coming conflict the Roman Church will have the advantage in the age, ability and experience of its generals, after piloting the bark of Peter for near nineteen centuries, while the Ritualists will have as faithful allies the progressive spirit of the age and every opponent of intolerance.

The Pope has issued no bull against them as yet. Certain it is, Ritualism is sure to have a beneficent effect, and, while the old religions established by the fathers of this country cannot suffer thereby, it will overawe many unscrupulous priests from imposing too much, by inventing rubrics and ceremonies, on the credulity of the people.

Ministerial Relief.

The *Evangelist* learns that a real impetus was given by the discussion in the last Presbyterian Assembly to the ministerial relief enterprise of the Presbyterian Church. Three months since the warning went out that the liabilities at the June quarter could not be met without a prompt supply of $4,000. Information now comes that every appropriation has been paid, and thirty parishes have thereby been relieved of anxiety. Of the larger contributions to this result mention may be made of one of $200 by Mr. F. H. Bartholomew, of this city, and one of $500 from the Third Presbyterian church of Pittsburg. These and smaller contributions are supplemented by a $1,200 bequest by the late Mrs. Eliza J. Warren, of Rensselaer county, N. Y., and thus the solicitude felt by the committee in behalf of the class toward whom this aid is not a charity, but a simple justice, is for the present relieved. But while this immediate relief has been afforded, it must be remembered that the wants of this needy and deserving class still continue, and the September payment will soon be here, requiring a like sum to meet it.

Intolerance Among the Quakers.

The *Chicago Herald*, the Western organ of the Society of Friends, cites an aggravated case of persecution in that denomination very much like several that have lately occurred in other churches. It is certainly encouraging to note how instantaneously and how widely these acts of intolerance call forth merited reprobation. Christian sentiment is now more easily shocked than formerly by an over rigid denominationalism, and sectarian discipline is found sufficient to silence protest from leading men in the various guilty churches. The *Herald of Peace*, after commenting on the manifestations by other Christian sects of what it terms "a kind of spiritual slavery," says that the same evil appears among the Friends in the proscribing of a particular dress as the costume of the order. In the West, it says, each member of the society is left free to follow the dictates of his own conscience in this matter; but some of the Eastern brethren refuse to tolerate such laxity. They even venture on a species of persecution in order to enforce their views. The latest example of this was given by a few Philadelphia Friends, who would not allow Mr. Daniel McPherson to speak in the Philadelphia yearly meeting on account of his personal appearance. "We cannot," says the *Herald*, "impute the act to the Philadelphia yearly meeting as a body; but they must bear the blame until they are able to overthrow the spiritual slave power that now seeks to stop the mouths of all who do not happen to suit their taste. Daniel McPherson is a minister, properly recommended and properly licensed to go forth as a minister, and it is not for a few Friends in Philadelphia to say that he shall not preach if they do not give a better reason for the restriction than that his dress is not to their notion; but time will adjust the wrong and obliterate the prejudice existing in the minds of many well meaning Friends and teach us all that men must be allowed to exercise full liberty of conscience in all things, particularly in nonessentials.

Three Hundred and Thirty Thousand Lutherans in the United States.

Professor Scholl was a delegate from the Lutheran General Synod to the General Synod of the Reformed Church, and in addressing that body gives the followng admirable and compendious statement of the members and strength of the Lutheran Church in this country:—"We have had a home in this land for two hundred years, working not alone through those who came from Germany, but from Holland also. Our General Synod was organized in 1820. I bring you the greetings of 22 synods, 579 ministers, 949 churches and 70,000 members. Nor is this the strength of our Church in this country. We hope to be all united. The General Synod of our Church is only advisory—a voluntary association. There is also another General Synod in the South, consisting of six synods, 120 ministers, 214 churches and 17,000 members. The General Council, a part of which was once connected with us, through the mother Synod of Pennsylvania, formed its organization last. It has 12 synods, 538 ministers, 1,010 churches and 118,000 members. There are ten other synods not connected with any of these, having 523 ministers, 944 churches, and 109,000 members. The entire number of our ministry is 1,750; our synods, 50; 3,112 churches and a membership of a third of a million. These branches differ somewhat. We all receive the Augsburg Confession. The General Council receives also the Formula of Concord, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession and the catechism of Luther. We have more liberty. Yet we stand firmly, determinedly upon the faith of the Bible and upon that venerable confession which is very dear to us, and which does not contain the heresies which are ascribed to it."

Growth of Mormonism in London.

The London *Star* says:—In the London district there are nine branches of the Mormon Church, 107 elders of conference, 53 priests, 24 teachers, 30 deacons; in all, 1,172 Mormons in the London Conference. Here is a fact that may induce the ritualists and their enemies to make up their differences as soon as possible. The statistics were given at a synod of the Latter Day Saints, held at the Music Hall, Store street, on Sunday last. Four and twenty gentlemen in black, including the president of the day, were on the platform, and delivered reports. They were called elders, though twenty were rather above their average age. Among other interesting facts in their report it was stated that during the last six months 132 persons have been baptized, four have died, ten have been cut off. It appears that Utah is filling so rapidly that it is doubtful whether all the Latter Day Saints in England will be able to get away there this year. By a show of hands Mr. Brigham Young and his councillors, the twelve apostles, the bishops and other officers, were "sustained" in their present relations.

Gleaning for a Sunday School Library—Disciples of Ruth.

The convention of Sunday school workers recently in session at Faribault, Minn., to the number of five or six hundred, seems to have had a profitable and agreeable season. A single fact brought out in the notes of Sunday school work deserves a report. A school of some fifty scholars in a country school house in Goodhue county found itself too poor to buy a much needed library, and with too much self-respect to beg one that it could obtain by its own efforts. A happy thought last summer, just before harvest, led to the organization of a Gleaner Society, composed of the pupils of the school. Each scholar under ten years, nor less than seven, became a member by gleaning four quarts of grain after the reapers in the harvest field; if over ten years of age, by gleaning a peck. Special honor in the society was given to those who gleaned larger amounts. One little boy gleaned, head by head, three pecks, others one or more bushels. The total amount of wheat gathered by the society that season was thirty bushels, furnishing the school with a fine library from its sale. Even richer schools might take lessons from this in raising money for benevolent purposes.

Interesting Note from Major Shaler, the Compatriot of General Scott.

ORMO, WINNEBAGO COUNTY, WIS., July 2, 1868.

EDITORS NEW YORK EVANGELIST:—

GENTLEMEN—Through the unbounded and wonderful goodness, mercy and long suffering of my Heavenly Father, I have been permitted to live to see almost the close of my eighty-third year of earthly existence, and am now, and have long been, striving to put my house in order, so that when the messenger shall come to call me home (which I think will be soon) he may find me at my post watching his footsteps. Since the death of General Scott I am, as far as I can learn, the oldest officer now living. The General and myself started for the Canada lines in the early part of the war of 1812; we fought side by side in all the principal battles in Canada during that war down to the battle of Lundy's lane (and a terrible battle it was), in which we were both severely wounded. The General was shot in the right breast, if I remember right, with a grape shot, and I was shot through the arm and side, which marked me for life, and both had our horses killed. The General and myself were about of an age; I was a few months his senior when he died. General Scott was one of our best officers, and a braver man never trod the battle field; but he has gone from earth to meet his God and I shall soon follow him. Where, oh where! are all my old companions in arms I knew fifty years ago? They all have left the earth, but where are they? Echo answers, where?

I am too feeble to write you any more.

E. SHALER.

Young Men's Christian Associations.

Among the papers laid before the International Christian Convention at Detroit was the following abstract from the report of the Executive Committee:—

Ten local conventions have been held during the past year against five during the year previous; at Elmira, September 18 and 19, where twenty-seven associations were represented by seventy-eight delegates; at Elizabeth, N. J., October 1 and 2, where eight associations were represented by seventy-five delegates; at Chicago, October 3 and 4, where thirty-six associations were represented by a large number of delegates; at Halifax, October 3, 4, 5 and 6, one hundred and twenty delegates being present; at Burlington, Vt., October 8 and 9, delegates being present from more than one hundred and twenty-five towns; Springfield, Mass., October 16 and 17, two hundred and thirteen delegates being present, representing thirty-eight associations and seventeen towns; Hartford, Conn., October 29; Washington, October 30 and 31 and November 1, seventy delegates present, representing six associations; Columbus, Ohio, November 9 and 10, seventy-five delegates being present, representing fifteen associations; Portland, Me., in May.

The following associations are reported as occupying buildings of which they are the owners:—Meriden, Ct.; Bethlehem, Pa.; Newtown, L. I.; Philadelphia, Pa. Total value, $77,000. Buildings are now being erected by the following associations:—Chicago, Washington, Plantsville, New York, Omaha. The following have building funds:—Boston, Montreal, Poughkeepsie, Bristol, R. I.; North Shore, Staten Island, N. Y.; Springfield, Ohio—in all amounting to not less than $625,000. It is safe to estimate the amount of property owned by these associations for building purposes at not less than $750,000. Ninety of these associations have libraries embracing 61,826 volumes, which are valued at $100,601. One hundred and seventy-one report their expenses for the current year at $211,202 45. Ninety-two report courses of sermons for young men; seventeen report more than five weekly prayer meetings; eighty-nine report two or more weekly prayer meetings; one hundred and twenty-six report at least one weekly prayer meeting; fifty-two report a daily prayer meeting; 268 conversions are reported, a large number besides reporting religious interest; two hundred and fifty-seven report 52,774 members, leaving 1,656 unreported. It is, therefore, quite safe to estimate the present membership at 70,000.

As directed by the Convention, the call for a day of prayer in November last was issued, and no pains spared to make the day a success. From the report we learn of but sixty-five associations that observed the recommendation. The observance by even the few was undoubtedly a means of good. The letter from the Dublin Association is only a type of those received from others. The committee requests that the Convention may set apart a day of prayer in accordance with the resolutions of the two preceding conventions, and that it will take into consideration the means by which a thorough observance of the day may be obtained.

The committee was instructed by the Convention to maintain a correspondence with kindred associations in foreign lands. So far as possible this recommendation has been observed. From our best information there are now in Europe seven hundred and fifty-seven associations, with twenty-five thousand members among them.

Commencement Week at Hamilton College.

SUNDAY, July 12—10½ A. M., baccalaureate sermon by Rev. President Brown; 7½ P. M., address before the Society of Christian Research by Rev. S. M. Campbell, D. D., of Rochester.

MONDAY, July 13—9 A. M., entrance examination; 3 P. M., Kingsley prize debate; 7½ P. M., Kingsley prize declamation.

TUESDAY, July 14—9 A. M., entrance examination; 3 P. M., "class day" exercises; 7½ P. M., concert by Dodworth's band.

WEDNESDAY, July 15—10 A. M., annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in the College chapel; 2½ P. M., presentation of the Perry H. Smith Library Hall; address by John D. Caton, LL.D., of Ottawa, Ill.; response by Hiram Denio, LL.D., of Utica; poem by Rev. Charles D. Helmer, of Chicago; 7½ P. M., annual meeting of the Society of Alumni.

Analist's Letter, by Gerritt Smith, LL.D., Peterboro (class of 1818).

Oration by Joseph R. Hawley, of Hartford, Conn. (class of 1847).

Poem by Albert L. Childs, of Waterloo (class of 1861).

THURSDAY, July 16—10 A. M., commencement exercises.

Williams College.

The programme for the next commencement of Williams College is as follows:—Sunday, July 26, baccalaureate, by President Hopkins, and an address before the Mills Theological Society, by Rev. Horace James, of Lowell, in the evening. Monday, addresses before the Adelphic Union, by Collector Thomas Russell, of Boston. Tuesday, dedication of the Soldiers' Monument, with address by Professor William D. Whitney, of Yale College, and poem, by Samuel Burnham, of the class of 1865, before the Society of the Alumni; and in the evening prize rhetorical exhibition by members of the junior and sophomore class. On Wednesday the exercises of the graduating class.

The Catechism and Premium Bibles to Children.

A few years ago a worthy gentleman in this city devoted himself with great industry and zeal to two good works:—

1. The encouragement of children to learn the Shorter Catechism, by

2. Offering the reward of a Bible to each one who should commit the Catechism to memory.

He distributed a vast number of Bibles in this way, and induced multitudes of children to study the Catechism. The good man was furnished with funds to do this work by benevolent persons, and the surplus he invested to be a permanent fund to carry it on after his death. He named the fund after the late Rev. Dr. Spencer and Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen—"The Spencer-Frelinghuysen Fund"—and appointed a trustee to manage it and apply the proceeds to the object.

We are now requested to announce to pastors, parents, and especially to teachers of Sabbath schools, that the offer of the premium Bible is made to children under the following conditions:—

1. To any child who does not now know it, and will commit to memory the whole of the Westminster Shorter Catechism, will be given a handsome gilt edge clasp Bible.

2. The minister of the congregation to which the child belongs must accompany the name with his certificate that he has heard the child recite the whole correctly.

3. Letters containing the name and address in full must be sent as follows:—"To the Catechism and Bible Fund, Bible House, station D, New York city."

Catholic Gossip.

The children of the parish of the Holy Innocents (Thirty-seventh street) to the number of over one hundred, made their first communion yesterday (Saturday) morning.

The exhibition of the schools attached to the Church of the Immaculate Conception will take place next Wednesday at the hall of the school house in Fourteenth street. There are over twelve hundred girls attached to these schools and the exercises promise more than the usual interest. The ladies who have charge belong to the zealous Sisters of Charity, whose unostentatious zeal and patient works are known throughout the world. The Mother House of this great branch of the religious institute of St. Vincent de Paul is at Font Hill, on the Hudson, formerly the seat of Edwin Forrest, but now a part of the well known Mount St. Vincent. From this house some four hundred Sisters are employed to do the work of Catholic charity in our midst, and the majority of these find their labors in the city proper. Two hospitals (one in Eleventh street and one in Brooklyn), two large industrial schools (Forty-second street and Brooklyn) and three asylums (one in Prince street, one in Brooklyn and one on Fifth avenue, to which a fourth, now nearly complete, on Madison avenue, is soon to be added), form only a small proportion of their visible work. The city institutions on Blackwell and Ward's Islands, the New York and Bellevue Hospitals, as well as the bedsides of thousands, not among the poor and wretched only, but among the better classes of our citizens likewise, bear daily testimony to the self-denying devotion of these faithful exponents of the genius of Christianity. At the different parish schools and in the various academies and institutions under their charge from eighteen to twenty thousand children receive the benefits of a sound, practical instruction, the thorough character of which is attested by the large number of Protestant families whose daughters participate therein.

The recent exhibitions of the various Catholic boys' schools, at the close of the scholastic year, demand a notice likewise of another powerful means used to guide the studies and train the minds of the young, without subjecting them to the irreligious influences of the public schools. We refer to the Christian Brothers—a body of men whose founder (the venerable J. B. de la Salle) flourished at the close of the seventeenth century. These zealous laborers have some fifteen schools in the city, conducted by about 115 Brothers and feeding the minds of nearly eight thousand boys.

Thus we see that about 250 or 275 Sisters and 115 Brothers supply in our midst the educational wants of over twenty thousand children at an extra expense of many thousands of dollars.

The sermon at the consecration of Bishop McQuaid, at St. Patrick's cathedral to-day, will be by the Rev. Father Preston, of St. Ann's church.

The Redemptorist Fathers attached to St. Alphonsus' church, in Thompson street, have acquired possession of the estate in the rear of the present edifice, and they intend to enlarge and remodel the building, which is wholly inadequate to the wants of their large parish.

Religious Notes.

The church at Port Huron, Mich., has forfeited its ceiling in consequence of a battlement roof. The pastor says:—"Let others take warning. New roof and new ceiling, at an expense of $3,000, on a church completed but eight years ago is not to be coveted by any people, much less by those who have barely struggled through the payment of the house."

A new church of over twenty members was organized at Clio, Mich., June 22.

Rev. Dr. Adam Poe, lately senior agent of the Western Methodist Book Concern, died on the 26th of June.

The ordination and installation of G. W. Martin, a licentiate of the Fourth Presbytery of New York and graduate of the last class at Union Theological Seminary, as pastor of the Congregational church of Saugerties, took place June 25. Rev. John Reed was installed pastor of the Presbyterian church in Angelica June 30, 1868, by the Genesee Valley Presbytery. Thomas Tracey, who has just completed his theological studies in Princeton Seminary, was recently licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Louisville, Ky., and on the 14th inst. was ordained as an evangelist to labor in Brazil.

Mr. Samuel Holmes, of New York city, who has heretofore manifested his interest in Yale College by endowing scholarships to the amount of $5,000, has recently offered $25,000 to the theological department, in successive payments, on condition that the subscription for the new theological hall and other endowments be completed within the present year.

Mr. John H. Sprague, an elder of the Mercer street Presbyterian church, and well known in this city for the liberal and efficient personal interest he took in religious and benevolent institutions, died suddenly at his residence on the afternoon of the 1st inst. His departure was instantaneous, and while he was sitting in a chair in conversation with a friend. His age was about fifty, and he was apparently yet in the full vigor of manhood.

At the late meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Centre College at Danville the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on the following persons:—Rev. Thomas H. Cleland, Lebanon, Ky.; Rev. J. G. Reasor, Leavenworth, Kansas; Rev. E. Erskine, editor of the *Northwestern Presbyterian*, and Rev. Henry Neill, Pittsfield, Mass.

Rev. Reuben Hill, pastor of the Lutheran church in Rhinebeck, N. Y., has been nominated by the Pennsylvania Synod to the Franklin Professorship in Pennsylvania College, made vacant by the resignation of Professor Muhlenberg.

The Old School Assembly have just erected a new Synod within the bounds of the Southern States. It is composed of three Presbyteries—to wit, Catawba, Atlantic and Knox. The latter is composed exclusively of colored ministers and churches. The ministers were set apart to their work by one of the Southern Presbyteries. The Assembly also erected two new Presbyteries in the far West—the Presbytery of Santa Fé, in New Mexico, and the Presbytery of Colorado, in the Territory of that name.

Mr. M. Hughes was ordained as an evangelist by the Presbytery of "Missouri river," at Bellevue, Nebraska, on Sunday morning, June 21.

During the past thirteen years the Old School Presbyterian Board of Church Extension has received nearly $858,000, and made grants in aid of the erection of eight hundred and fifty churches. Of this amount $50,000 was received the past year and has been expended in aid of one hundred and twenty-two houses of worship. These churches average a cost of $2,500, of which the Board gives not quite one-fifth. It is said that sixteen hundred churches of that order took up no contribution last year in aid of this important object. Of the 122 churches aided last year 29 are in North Carolina, 14 in Iowa, 12 in Illinois, 9 each in South Carolina and Pennsylvania and 6 in Indiana.

The church of the (Dutch) Reformed order on Twenty-first street, in this city, has just been incorporated, under the title of the "St. Paul's Dutch Reformed Church." Its pastor voted with the minority against dropping the name "Dutch" from the title of the denomination, and, it will be seen, adheres to it in the designation of his own church. But he is not so opposed to all innovation as to prevent him from following the example of Roman Catholics and Episcopalians and giving it also the name of one of the saints. This is the first case in which one of the canonized saints has been adopted by the Dutch.

The Congregational church in Richland, N. Y., one of those churches which in 1801 were united with presbyteries according to the plan of union, has accepted the advice of the General Assemblies that such churches should perfect their organization, and has become thoroughly Presbyterian. The *Independent* thinks that the present indication is that most of these churches will perfect their organization in the other way, by becoming thoroughly Congregational.

The recent anniversary exercises of Rockford Female Seminary gave much satisfaction to its friends. Sixteen young ladies received diplomas, eleven in the collegiate and five in the normal department. Rev. C. D. Helmer, of Chicago, gave the address. There are 218 names on the seminary catalogue this year, and about 2,500 have in years past shared its educational privileges. An effort is now being made for more thorough endowment of the institution.

It is well known that the sacrament of the Supper must not be taken after eating in the Romish Church. The Ritualists now add reading newspapers to the disqualifications. In London the Rev. C. J. Le Geyt issued the following singular announcement:—"The incumbent begs to express the hope that strangers who have breakfasted and done the *Standard* or *Times* will abstain from communicating at the celebration of the festival."

Rev. Dr. Hornblower, of Paterson, N. J., with whose people we had the pleasure resently of worshipping, spoke to them of the necessity of forming a new church on the outskirts of the present congregation. "All of you who live beyond —— street, go out there and be organized into a church; if it leaves half of these pews vacant, we will see them all filled again in a few years and you shall have our prayers and blessings if you will go." This is the right spirit; and if our New York ministers would talk to their people in the same way we would have new churches springing up in our destitute localities every year.

The Rev. Mr. McQuaid, of Seton Hall College, N. J., who has been appointed bishop of the new diocese of Rochester, will be consecrated to-day by Archbishop McCloskey in the cathedral of this city.

The Philadelphia *Ledger*, July 8, says:—The Apostolic briefs erecting the new sees of Scranton and Harrisburg and appointing the Right Rev. William O'Hara bishop of the former and the Rev. Dr. J. F. Shannahan of the latter, were received last week, and the ceremony of consecration will take place in the cathedral in this city on Sunday next, the Right Rev. J. F. Wood, Bishop of Philadelphia, to be the consecrator. The sermon will be delivered by the Rev. M. O'Connor, S. J., and the ceremonies will be conducted by the Rev. A. J. McConomy, Master of Ceremonies. The choir will number between forty and fifty voices, accompanied by the German orchestra.

The Trustees of Washington College, Virginia, at their recent meeting, passed a resolution appointing a Board of Survey, composed of President Robert E. Lee and the professors of pure and applied mathematics, natural philosophy and chemistry, to gather exact information of the geography, mineral resources, industry and natural history of the South, and particularly of the State of Virginia, and to publish the same for the benefit of the institution in its instruction and the country.

Rev. J. H. Gulliver, D. D., pastor of the New England church in Chicago, has been elected President of the Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., in the place of Dr. Curtis, who lately resigned that office.

Amherst College has recently had a gift of $30,000 from William Stearns, son of President Stearns, and a wealthy merchant of Bombay.

The Passaic Classical Institute, under direction of the Rev. P. E. Stevenson, held its annual commencement in the Broadway reformed church, at which the Rev. Dr. Irenæus Prime, of the New York *Observer*, made an address.

CHINA.

The Rebel Demonstration at Tien-tsin and Disgrace of an Imperial General.

National Development and Foreign Diplomacy.

Treaty Revision and Work and Opinions of the Foreign Ministers—The Rebellion and Its Bar to Progress—The Insurgent Movements at Tien-tsin—An Imperial General Disgraced—Steam Travel and Trade to America—Post Office and Mail Services.

SHANGHAE, May 26, 1868.

Our political position in China is at the present moment an unpleasant subject to dwell on, as nothing definite can be given to foreign readers. Politics in Pekin seem at a standstill. Of the United States Chargé d'Affaires (Mr. Williams) we hear nothing, though his policy is probably co-operative still. The British Minister (Sir Rutherford Alcock), who as Consul was always looked on as an able and judicious officer, has in his present position shown himself almost incompetent for the high position he now fills. In a recent despatch in reply to the memorials on the revision of the treaty which have reached him from each port he broadly accuses the whole foreign mercantile community of China of commercial immorality, and specially charges the once famous house of Dent & Co. with committing a fraud on the revenue at Yankow, owing to which, he says, the Chinese have been fully justified in postponing many very necessary measures of Custom House reforms for a couple of years. Dent & Co. have fully exonerated themselves from the charge their Minister brings against them—a charge which it seem he took no trouble to inquire into, taking the Chinese report of the affair as gospel. Can it be much wondered at, therefore, that such a mandarin worshipper as this should hold the opinion that the treaty requires no revision at all, or if it does that the revision should tend rather against than in favor of the foreigners?

Rebellion is once more rife in China. No sooner does the movement appear to die out in one quarter than rumors of its reappearance in another reach us. The Viceroy, Trengkuo-fan, was on his road to visit Shanghae to inquire into the scheme for a railway between this and Soochow (the Chinese say), and was towed by a Chinese steamer, the Tenella, from Naukin to Chinkiang. Thence he was to visit Yangchow, a great imperial salt depot, and subsequently was expected to travel to this place by the inland route. A few days since, however, we received intelligence that his Excellency is compelled to defer his visit to Shanghae indefinitely, the appearance of rebels at Lechow, north of Yangchow, having compelled him to return to Nankin and make arrangements for opposing them.

Steamers from Tien-tsin bring us contradictory statements of the doings of rebels in that locality. They are apparently in great force, and it was at first supposed they intended to capture the imperial grain junks now lying in the river. Had they on their first appearance suddenly attempted this they must have been successful, for the place was quite undefended. Now the imperialists have greatly strengthened themselves, another British gunboat and a French frigate have arrived to assist in protecting the place. Li-hung-chang, the Chinese Generalissimo, has been disgraced and ordered to give up his two-eyed peacock's feather, his yellow jacket and his command for permitting the inroad of the Lonan Nemfer rebels. This order he has declined to obey, and he is too powerful for the government to enforce it. They have therefore resorted to the subterfuge of nominating the Tunching-wang, a prince of the blood, to the supreme command; and General Tso, the rival and political opponent to whom Si was ordered to surrender the command, as well as Si himself, are both placed under his orders, and their pride thus saved. Meanwhile the government is, doubtless, watching General Si very narrowly. He is, in a military point of view, the strongest man in the empire, and, if driven to desperation and opposition to the government, would be a most formidable opponent. It has, therefore, been resolved on, doubtless, to abase him and crush his power the first opportunity he gives his enemies at court a chance of doing so with success.

These disturbances in the north and the prospect of Tientsin falling into the hands of the rebels at any moment have naturally caused the most disastrous consequences to trade at our northern ports, all business being at stagnation point. The latest news we have received to hand, per Yuentszefei, to-day, is to the effect that the rebels have again retired from the neighborhood and are said to be hemmed in between the imperial forces and the sea. With such contradictory advices as we are now in the habit of receiving it would not astonish us if the next steamer brings news that Tientsin has been taken and Pekin itself in danger.

Affairs seem improving in the Pacific mail, for the steamer arrived here only five days after time, and has thus seven days to lie in port, the mercantile community having time to answer their correspondence. On the last occasion the steamer had to turn round again in twenty-four hours, and great was the wailing among all parties. If the Pacific Mail Steamship Company wish to maintain their supremacy in this part of the world they must give us more than one mail in six weeks, and if that is all they can for the present afford us, for goodness sake let them arrange to be punctual at that. The report of the President of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company to the stockholders has been published in our local journals and very favorably commented on. If the report is correct in its figures it shows that the China branch, for the first year, on five voyages, made a profit in the currency of $147,772 57, and the earnings of the Panama and Atlantic steamers, on through business in connection with the China branch, for the same five voyages, amounted to $125,000 currency.

It is a great pity we cannot in Shanghae have an international post office, for at present we are bothered with four offices under different controls, each making up its own mails, and the confusion reigning is great in the extreme. First in order of course comes our own United States Consular postal department. Here mails are at present only made up for the departures of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamers, and letters are by them only conveyed to Japanese ports and to California and beyond. Here of course our own postage stamps only are available. It is supposed that before long this department will also make up mails for American steamers leaving for the Yangtsze river and coast ports, and they would of course have a perfect right to do so. The revenue from this source would be considerable, as the bulk of the steamers on the great river are under the American flag. The British have a post office of their own, and here the mails arriving and departing by the Pacific and Oriental steamers are dealt with. We also make up mails for despatch by any steamers leaving for Japan, the northern ports of Tientsin, Newchwang and Chefoo, and the coast ports south of Ningpo. A third postal establishment is known as the "Local Post." This was established by the Shanghae municipality to serve the purposes of a town delivery, but it gradually extended its operations and grabbed all letters it could get to forward or deliver, whether it had means of securing the safe delivery at other ports or not. The nuisance became intolerable, but matters have now been considerably modified by the execution of a convention between it and the British post, under which the town delivery, Yangtsze river ports and Ningpo, to which we have a daily steamer, is left to the charge of the local post, all other places being delegated to to the charge of its imperial rival. Matters seems working better now, though confusion frequently reigns supreme, as it is only residents that can comprehend the complicated machinery under which letters for Ningpo, to our southward, must be sent to one office, adorned with a postage stamp which is supposed to bear a dragon as its effigy, generally known locally as a "dancing catawampus," while letters for Chefoo, to the northward, must go to the British post and bear on the right hand corner the image and superscription of Queen Victoria. To add to the conf