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OUR ROMAN LETTER.

Details of a Horrible Sacrilege Committed in the City of Venice.

Crispi's Suit of Armor.

ROME, ITALY.
A horrible sacrilege has just been perpetrated at Venice. The sacristan, on opening the doors of the Church of the Discalced Carmelites, placed the keys of the tabernacle upon the altar, and entered the sacristy to prepare the vestments for the sacred functions. About half an hour afterwards one of the Fathers went to the High Altar to distribute Holy Communion to several persons who had entered the church in the meantime. He found the tabernacle open and the pyx containing two hundred consecrated particles gone. He dismissed the communicants without confusion, and at once informed the Superiors of the theft. While the Fathers remained bewildered as to what to do, they were informed that some boys had found some particles outside the door of the church, and, believing them to be unconsecrated, had consumed several of them. They at once went out and succeeded in getting back several of the Hosts from the children. Continuing their search they found several Hosts along the bank of the canal and in the street called the Lista di Spagna, as far as the Ponte delle Guglie. Beyond this point they could find no more. The sacrilege was evidently not committed in the desire of plunder or robbery, for its perpetrator left behind him the rich silver theca containing the large Host used for exposition together with many other valuable objects much nearer his hands in the rich church. It seems, therefore, to have been dictated by a diabolical desire to outrage our Savior, whom the sacrilegious ruffian knew to be present beneath the consecrated species. The sacrilege has aroused a profound indignation against its unknown perpetrator. The Cardinal Patriarch has ordered a Triduum of reparation and other solemn services of atonement.
It has for a long time been known that the Italian Premier, both at home and when he goes abroad, is well guarded by a number of police agents and detectives. We are told now that Crispi is clad in armor. The Aisno has what follows:—"By a person likely to be exactly informed we are assured that the Hon. Crispi wears under his clothing a light but solid vest of steel, which surrounds his body and is doubled in the region of the heart. This vest of wonderful make is the work of a celebrated Roman armorer, and cost his Excellency the small sum of 700 lire. The thickness and resistance of the numerous links are such that, not only would they break the point of any white weapon, but a bullet from a revolver would be unable to pass them. Since, in the full light of the 19th century, a Prime Minister has to vest like a warrior of antiquity, we are forced to own that institutions, their upholders, and interpreters do not feel assured of the absolute consensus of the people as they pretend to."
But if the Minister is well guarded against the knife of the assassin, it must be confessed that at no time of his life was he more the victim of universal taunts. When his daughter was recently married, the Satanic poet, Carducci, graced the occasion with a hymeneal in which, among other things, he styled the Premier the greater Prociada (Il maggior Prociada), and since that time, as far as journalism is concerned, the Minister may be said to have lost his old name and acquired a new one. No one, in fact, styles him Crispi now. His name is Prociada, and his policy is Prociadismo. On his side, however, Prociada is far from being idle; he is busily engaged in the revision of the lists of electors in the provinces of the kingdom. Complaints are every day reaching Rome against the arbitrary manner in which this revision is being made. Hundreds of citizens who have the right of voting have been deprived of this right, and hundreds of men who have no right to vote have been inscribed upon the list of electors. The reason of these measures is very clear. The country must return a working majority of Monarchists, and Crispi means to see that it does so. The lovers of order naturally desire to see such a majority returned, though they must all regret that such arbitrary measures have to be resorted to in order to secure

the desired effect. It is believed that the Parliament will be dissolved about the end of the month, and that the General Elections will quickly follow the dissolution. Despite the efforts of the Opposition, it seems certain that the result of the elections will be a triumph for Crispi and his Party, though all do not feel equally certain as to whether the majority will be as effective as he himself would desire.
The eight centenary of the first crusade will be celebrated this year not only at Clermont, but also at Piacenza. Mgr. Scalabrini, Bishop of that city, has just addressed a letter to his diocesan inviting them to celebrate the centenary of the Council of Piacenza held A. D. 1098, at which Urban II. assisted, and which was the forerunner of the decisions taken at Clermont. His Lordship has also ordered a Triduum to be held in the sanctuary of Nostra Signora della Campagna, built upon the site of the church in which Urban II. of blessed memory addressed to the Blessed Virgin that loving and sublime canticle which the Church afterwards inserted in her liturgy.

At the Convent of the Sette Dolori in the Via Garibaldi a robbery of sacrilegious nature has just taken place. The robbers carried off the numerous silver ex-voto offerings and other precious gifts that used to hang near the picture of Our Lady. From the sacristy they stole some silver chalices. They also carried off the vases containing the holy oils. They likewise forced the tabernacle and carried off the pyx containing several consecrated particles. The articles stolen amount in value to 1,500 lire. Some arrests have been made, and it is believed that the authors of the crime have been discovered.

Twenty years have passed since the foundation of the Catholic University of Lille, and very opportunely the members of the Higher Council of the Institute, Mons. Sonnois, Archbishop of Cambrai, Mons. Willier, Bishop of Arras, Mons. Monnier, Bishop of Lille, and Mons. Hantecens, Domestic Prelate of His Holiness, have addressed to the subscribers a circular letter which is highly interesting as showing how beneficent an institution is a Catholic University.

From 1875 to this year 4,000 students have taken their degrees, and while acquiring science have not lost their Faith. In this year 1895 611 students have matriculated, including the two extra courses of industry and agriculture, the faculty of Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacy comprehends more than 130 that of Theology 55, that of Law 150, that of Letters 60, that of Science 61 other courses 62. The majority of the students is composed of Frenchmen, but other nations are represented there—e. g. England, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Portugal, Luxemburg, Canada, and the Christian East. Italy is conspicuous by her absence. It is, moreover, especially worthy of note that the candidates have constantly obtained brilliant successes in the examinations for which they have sat before the State examiners. Their average has ever been from 78 to 80 per cent, a proportion considerably higher than that obtained by their rivals in the State universities. This is a clear proof that Christian education is far superior to lay teaching, not only in primary and secondary, but even in the higher schools.

At Brescia, 20,000 persons have been struck off the list of electors. Brescia has favored Crispi's opponents.
The Riscossa, of Sicily, is a new organ of the Opposition, and attacks Crispi. It has so far only had five numbers. It has also had five sequestrations.

PATRICK RYAN.
"Living Stones" of Falkland.
The most curious specimens of vegetable or plant life in existence are the so-called "living stones" of the Falkland Islands. These islands are among the most cheerless spots in the world, being constantly subjected to a strong polar wind. In such a climate it is impossible for trees to grow erect, as they do in other countries, but nature has made amends by furnishing a supply of wood in the most curious shape imaginable. The visitor to the Falklands sees blocks of what appears to be weather beaten and moss-covered bowlders of various sizes. Attempt to turn one of these "bowlders" over and you will meet with a surprise, because the supposed stone is actually anchored by roots of great strength. In fact, you will find that you are feeling with one of the native trees. No other country in the world has such a peculiar "forest" growth, and it is said to be next to impossible to work the odd shaped blocks into fuel, because it is perfectly devoid of "grain," and appears to be nothing but a twisted mass of woody fibers.—St. Louis Republic.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The new attraction booked for the Academy is Marché's French Folly Company, an excellent aggregation of talented burlesque and vaudeville artists, who will present a first-class entertainment in the way of variety of refined and novel specialties, and extravaganza, introducing singing, dancing, marching and picturesque groupings. Several clever comedians will entertain the audience with their comicallies and antics. As an additional feature to this complete burlesque company, the Yoshimie's Imperial Japanese Troupe, ten in number, six young ladies and four gentlemen, genuine natives of Japan, singers, dancers, posturers, balancing ladder actors, wire-walkers, jugglers, and magicians, will appear, in conjunction with the novelty of the act, the only Japanese living pictures on earth, the best drawing card of the day. As an extraordinary strong company, this should prove one of the best shows of the season, and will no doubt draw crowded houses at every performance.

WONDERLAND.
For the coming week Manager Scott announces that he has secured the sensation of two hemispheres, Henri Caman, Europe's leading escamoteur and master shadow-walker, also Mamele Flossie, England's damnest eccentric dancer, and Prof. Joe Monk, assisted by his sister Miss Lillie Monk who will appear in duets and solos on the piano and euphonium. These three attractions will be supported by a monster vaudeville company and three wonderful features in the curio hall. Four performances are given daily.

DUCKS FIRST SWIM.

The eggs from seven to 18 in number, are creamy white in color. Home-keeping is begun in May, and the young are ready to leave the nest early in June. I was curious to know how the little ducks reach the water from their lofty homes. I had often seen them, when hardly clear of their shell, swimming about with their mother and felt convinced that they never could have left home unaided.
One bright June morning fortune favored me. I had rowed along the lake shore to pay a visit to a houseful of noisy red wing blackbirds. My boat was lying motionless among the tall cattails that fringed the shores of the lake. Suddenly I heard a loud splash behind me, and turning to look I saw on the water a short distance away, just shaking the spray from her wings, a female wood duck and near her two tiny yellow balls, so small that they resembled water lilies floating on the surface.

The old bird took wing, hovered and circled above her babies for a few minutes and then flew to a cavity in a tall tree, a short distance away. In a short time the male bird, arrayed in the handsomest of plumage, joined his mate. Then for a few minutes I could hear a soft cooing noise, which reminded me of husband and wife discussing some important point relative to the welfare of their children.
The cooing soon stopped and the mother duck appeared in the doorway of her home. Then she dropped toward the water at a slight angle. As her breast struck the surface she immediately dived, and where her head had been I was surprised to see two little ducklings swimming about as unconcerned as though they had been traveling in the water for years.
The routine of flying to the nest was repeated four times in rapid succession, and each time it resulted in an addition of two to the family in the water, which kept growing until it numbered 12. Then the mother duck swam out in the lake, followed by her brood, while the male bird brought up the rear of the procession, acting, no doubt, as a guard and protector.—C. S. Shick in Philadelphia Times.

He Got the Sugar.
The following anecdote of a tame monkey, to whom was given a corked bottle with a lump of sugar inside, indicates that the animal, though unable to invent, could imitate. A phenologist would say that the monkey had "perception," but not "causality." How to get at the sugar was a problem that bade fair to drive him crazy.
Sometimes in an impulse of disgust he would throw the bottle out of his reach and then be distracted until it was given back to him. At other times he would sit with a countenance of intense dejection, contemplating the bottled sugar, and then, as if pulling himself together for another effort at solution, would sternly take up the problem afresh and gaze into the bottle.
He would tilt it one way and try to drink the sugar out of the neck, and then suddenly reversing it, try to catch it as it fell out at the bottom.
Under the impression that he could capture the sugar by surprise, he kept rasping his teeth against the glass in futile bites, and warming to the pursuit of the revolving lump used to tie himself into regular knots round the bottle.
Fits of the most ludicrous melancholy would alternate with spasms of delight as a new idea seemed to suggest itself, followed by a fresh series of experiments.
Nothing availed, however, until one day a light was shed upon the problem by a jar containing bananas falling from the table with a crash and the fruit rolling about in all directions. His monkeyship contemplated the catastrophe and reasoned upon it.
Lifting the bottle high in his paws, he brought it down upon the floor with a tremendous noise, smashing the glass into fragments, after which he calmly transferred the sugar to his mouth and munched it with much satisfaction.—Youth's Companion.

Lyons.

Mrs. Marie Deming, of Newark, visited Lyons, France, last week.
Mr. and Mrs. William Hartz, of Batavia, spent Sunday in this village, the guest of C. Hartz, on Geneva street.
Mr. J. Keller is making extensive repairs on his residence on Phelps street. The house is rapidly nearing completion, and when finished will be very handsome, and a decided improvement to Phelps street.
A hot wave has been hovering over this city for the past week, and many have suffered greatly from the intense heat.

Mrs. C. Walsh is visiting her son Gerald in Syracuse.
Mr. Fred Law, who has been suffering with broken ribs for some time past, is able to be about again.

It was with deepest regret that the people of Lyons received the news of the removal of one of Lyons' most prominent citizens, to Geneva, N. Y. He will be greatly missed in the community, and although it is Lyons' loss and Geneva's gain, we all wish him the best of success in his new field of labor.

Stephen Mery and Frank Hartz attended the funeral of a friend at Sodus Sunday.
It is rumored that John Finegan has succeeded Mr. Bowers, as superintendent of the Lyons Water Works.

Miss Agnes Lester spent Sunday of last week in Clyde, Genesee.

At a meeting of the Altar Society held on Sunday afternoon last, the following officers were elected:
President, Miss Nellie Thompson.
Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Anna Kelly.
Advisory Committee, Miss Margaret Houston, Johanna Cahill, and Lucy Haey.
Under the supervision of Rev. J. A. Hickey the grounds around St. Mary's Church have been beautified by grading and setting out trees.

Mrs. Thomas O'Meara visited her husband at Niagara Falls on Sunday last.
John P. O'Leary, of Buffalo, was home on Sunday.

Michael O'Grady, of Rochester, was in town on Sunday last.
Miss Carrie Gibbons, of Rochester, visited relatives and friends here last week.

Newark.
Mr. and Mrs. F. White have the sympathy of their many friends here in the loss of Mr. White's youngest brother, Charles, who died after a brief illness with pneumonia. The funeral was held Saturday last at half past ten at St. Michael's Church. About the same time Mrs. White's younger sister in New York city died suddenly. The remains were brought to her home in Rochester. The funeral was held Monday morning.

Mr. Michael Bradley, of Lyons, called on friends here Sunday.

The prolonged dry weather is beginning to affect the farming interests in this vicinity.

The Protectives gave an entertainment in the Opera House on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of last week.

The funeral services of Roy Culver, who disappeared from this place a short time ago, and who was found in the Clyde River, were held Sunday in the Presbyterian Church. Roy was an unusually popular young man. When in school he was always popular with his schoolmates, and was a favorite with his teachers. He was the joy and pride of his mother. When he lived in East Palmyra he was one of the favorite young men. His age was 23 years.

Mr. Albert Sherman, of East Palmyra, called on friends here Thursday.
Wilford Purchase will enter Union College this fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright, of Geneva, are guests of relatives on West Miller street.

Academy of Music.

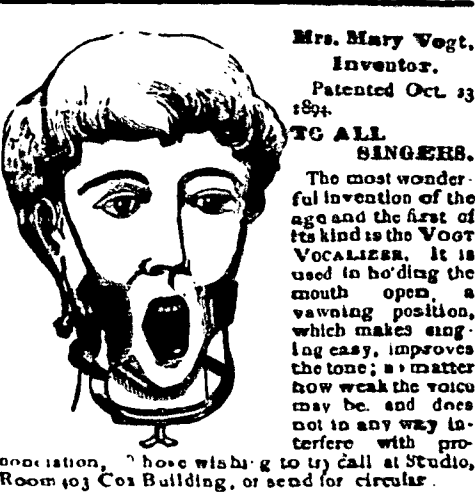
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The sensation of two hemispheres,
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Europe's leading Escamoteur and Master Shadowing of the world.
MAM'ELLE FLOSSIE,
England's daintiest Eccentric Danseuse.

PROF. JOE MONK, assisted by his sister, Miss LILLIE MONK, in duets and solos on the piano and euphonium.
These three great attractions will be supported by a monster Vaudeville Company, and three wonderful features in the curio hall
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Afternoons at 2:30 and 4:10
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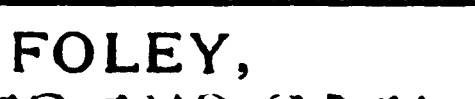


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