

FOREIGN ECHOES.

Horrible Religious Exercises—Jews and Cholera—Liquor in Paris—A Courageous Act—Murder and Robbery, &c., &c.

In an article on the religious exaltations of the Orient, Dr. Zambaco describes the sect of Rafais, who in their religious ceremonies jump, dance, oscillate, and shriek for two hours at a time, or until they fall into convulsions.

Nantes, France, has had a Charley Rose case. A sweep decoyed away a boy of 9, and put him to climbing chimneys. One day the man and a comrade, when half drunk, stripped the child and whipped him with whistles.

The Ravel Gazette gives an account of a preliminary investigation in which a girl, aged 8 years, was charged with having murdered a companion only 5 years old, by stabbing her with a knife, which penetrated the heart.

The European Jewish papers comment on the remarkable exemption Jews have enjoyed from cholera. At Naples the number of victims has been very small, at Toulon none.

An interesting article in the Deutsche Rundschau shows how extraordinarily rapidly railroads have increased the growth of inland capitals. In 1740 Berlin was already the capital of a powerful kingdom.

The importance of the liquor traffic in Paris may be judged from the fact that more than \$12,500,000 is annually drained there by octroi duties on alcoholic drinks alone.

Leo XIII. will create eight new cardinals at the secret consistory to be held on the 10th of November—one Austrian, Mgr. Ganglbauer, archbishop of Vienna; one Spaniard, Mgr. Gonzalez Diaz Tunon, archbishop of Seville; and six Italians—namely: Mgr. Massaia, the venerable African missionary; Mgr. Merosi Gori, secretary of the consistorial congregation; Mgr. Laurenzi, assessor of the holy office; Mgr. Massotti, secretary of the congregation of bishops and regulars; and Mgr. Nerga, secretary of the congregation of the council.

Vice Admiral Close, of the British navy, has offered a singular explanation about the loss of the gunboat Wasp recently, off the Irish coast. There exists, it seems, a form of defective sight known as "moon blindness," persons afflicted with which are unable to perceive a light shining in darkness.

The Ethnological museum at Berlin has been lately enriched by a fine collection of South American antiquities, which have been gathered during many years by Herr Mehring, a German resident in Brazil.

Naples has just lost her oldest painter in Tommaso de Niva, who has died at the age of 94. From early youth to advanced age he was active in his profession, and only two weeks before his death he gave the finish-

ishing touches to his last picture, the "Virgine Immaculate." The public buildings of Naples contain many of his works, and specimens of his art are to be seen in various parts of Italy and other European countries, as well as our own.

A Boulogne correspondent reports a courageous act in life-saving at Eszaco-sur-Mer, a village in the Derdougne department, France. Four little boys, two sets of brothers, of ages ranging from 11 down to 6 years, were crossing a bridge over the mill-slucie when one of the lads fell into the water which was at that part over ten feet deep.

Every now and then facts come to light, says The Pall Mall Gazette, which seem to conflict strangely with the theories of the doctors. For instance, at Howdon, a dirty, desolate village on Tyneside, a boy was born who, at the time of his birth, had four grandparents and five great-grandparents alive, each of whom was in active work.

A most determined murder and robbery was committed recently by five Italians at Negent-sur-Meuse, near Paris. The murderers broke into a wine-shop in the high street, and overpowered the gargon, who vainly endeavored to defend himself.

In spite of the occasional slaughter of 500,000 Chinese before breakfast by the French troops in Tonquin, according to the dispatches to the War Office, in Paris, it must be pretty dull for the reporters there.

According to a Parisian paper tells a very thrilling story of a reporter attached to an "esteemed contemporary," who, with his comrades, signed a promise not to send any information by telegraph or mail, without submitting his manuscript to the commanding officer, on penalty of subjecting himself to martial law.

He became enraged as he found that it was a severe stricture upon the conduct of the campaign. On finishing it, he informed the correspondent, that inasmuch as he considered himself a competent military authority he should have a taste of martial law to add to his military knowledge.

A court-martial was convened. The trial was short. The sentence read: "Condemned to be shot at 6 next morning at the capital city." He was put upon a special train, which arrived there half an hour before the execution was to take place.

The music harmonized in four parts of this venerable church tune was composed by Claude Goudmel, about the year 1544. The composer, who was chapel master at Lyons, France, died in 1572, a victim to religious opinion. The harmony of this hymn has since been altered, as may be seen by comparing the same as arranged in the present collections of church music with the original. It is a popular music-historical error that Luther was the composer of this choral.

Oddities of Wills.

Among the curious wills and bequests that deserve mention is that of a French merchant who in 1610, left a large legacy to the lady who had jilted him, in order to express his gratitude to her for her forebearance and his admiration for her sagacity in leaving him to a lappy bachelor life.

A testator cannot it need scarcely be said be too careful in drawing up a will. "My black and white horses" do not bear the same meaning as "my black and my white horses." A near friend of Victor Cousin, the philosopher, lost a large legacy through a trifling accident and delay.

Of requests to animals a few may be mentioned. In 1781 a peasant of Toulouse made his horse his universal heir. Doctor Cristiano, of Venice, left 6,000 florins for the maintenance of his three dogs, with a condition that at their death the sum should be added to the University of Venice.

The following circumstance is as true as it is singular: A few years ago, two gentlemen, who had been left executors to the will of a friend, on examining the property, found a scrap of paper, on which was written, "Ten thousand dollars in Till." This they took in the literal sense, and examined all his apartments carefully, but in vain.

In Morocco when a thief is caught in the most trivial offence they politely request him to hold up both hands. Then they ask him what hand he would prefer to have in his possession, and when he has made his choice they cut off the other. When a thief has thus lost both hands, and also his feet, he loses his head and quits stealing.

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