THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1869.

THE CRACOW HORROR.

6

The Case of the Imprisoned Nun-Further Par-ticulars of Her Melancholy Life.

We gave a few days ago an account of the horrible sufferings endured by an imprisoned nun of Cracow, in Austrian Poland. A Vienna correspondent of the London Times goes into the case more at length, as follows:-

While passing in the neighborhood of Cra-cow on Friday last, I heard that the whole tewn was in a ferment, owing to the following shocking story that was just coming to light, and to which further particulars are now added. The papers have since been full of it :--

A few days ago an anonymous letter, appa-rently written by a woman's hand, reached the Court of Correction, stating that in the Carmelite Convent a nun named Barbara Abryk had been kept for years walled up in a dark cell. Accordingly the Vice-President of the Court placed the information in the hands of an officer, who went to the bishop and requested an admission to the convent. The bishop represented that it was sure to be all an invention, but that since the Court pressed it he would allow it, and therefore handed over the officer to a priest.

The nunnery of the Carmelites stands prettily situated in a suburb of the town, and close by are the botanical gardens and the promenade of the Observatory-a favorite resort of the inhabitants of Cracow; and often and often on fine summer evenings have they passed beneath these gloomy walls without ever dreaming of the sad and terrible tragedy that has been silently passing there for the last twenty-one years.

The officer came to the door with the commission, knocked, and was answered by a portress, to whom he said he had come there to see and to speak to the nun Barbara. The portress drew her breath with astonishment. fell back a step or two, and said it was impossible; but while she was turning herself about to go away, the officer put his hand on her and forbade her, in the name of the law, to stir from the spot. The party then entered and was shown through a long corridor to the room of Sister Barbara. It was a cell eight by six feet in size, next the sink; the window had been walled up, and a narrow chink furnished the only aperture through which, now and then, a ray of light fell upon the gloomy prison. I go on in the words of a Vienna paper:--

Vienna paper;— "In a dark, stinking hole, on a heap of straw, sat, or rather cowered, a naked, wild-grown, half-wilted woman, who, at the unusual appearance of light and human beings, dropped her hands and implored piteousis, 'I am hungry; pity me, give me meat; I will be obedient.' This dungeon, with its little straw and much filh, and a dish of mouldy potatoes, with-out fire, bed, hable, or even chair, which no sun-streak cheered or fire blaze ever warmed, had the inhuman 'Sisters' chosen as the dweiling place for their should-be companion; there had they impritheir should-be companion; there had they impri-soned her year after year since 1848. For twenty-one years did those dreadful Sisters pass that cell, and to none of them had it ever entered to take compassion on their poor victim. And now, half human, half beast, with her body covered with dirt, with her legs shrunk and withered, with her head semaid discussed rear more year long inwashed a sinalid, discased, year upon year long unwashed, a squalid, discased, year upon year long unwashed, a terrible being revealed herself, such as Dante him-self, with all his powers, could not have depicted or imagined. So kneeled there that world victim in the Convent of the Carmelites."

The officer immediately ordered a chemise to be given the wretched creature, and himself went to fetch the Bishop. At the sight of the poor sufferer the Bishop was deeply moved, called the nuns together, and, reproaching them violently for their inhuman treatment, said, "Is this your sisterly love? Is this the way you think to come to heaven ? Furies, not women." And when they would have excused themselves, "Silence, miserable ones! you who disgrace religion, away from my sight.

He suspended them, and then the Confessor and the Lady Superior talked of breaking up the nunnery, and sent Barbara to be clothed and fed. While she was being led away she asked, anxiously, "Wont they take me back

Statements by a Member of the Irish Consta-bulary.

In the last-number of Tinsley's Magazine, member of the Royal Irish Constabulary comes to the defense of his fellows in the He force against unfounded aspersions. says:-"I do not think we have had justice done us by the London press or the houses of Parliament. It has been admitted that we fought well in the Fenian business, and laid our plans with ability, but I maintain that we have also all but banished crime in Ireland. Take the aggregate of offenses against property in England and Ireland, and there is no omparison, even reckoning the difference in opulation. From this the transition is easy to a review

NEW REVELATIONS ABOUT IRELAND.

of the present condition of Ireland; and from this part of the writer's interesting paper we take a few passages which confirm the state-ments made by Mr. Trench in his book on the "Realities of Irish Life:"-

MURDER.

¹⁴I remember a case some years since, where one of the actual marderers and the farmer who gave them instructions were convicted and hanged. The approver gave an account of the previous conversation between the men, who had come from a distance, and this farmer. The latter expressed the greatest regret at the necessity for putting away a good and charitable person; but, said he, what would become of the country if such things as these are allowed?' The 'things' alluded to were serving notices to quit upon some small tenants. The farmer himself held by lease, and was under obligation to the murdered person, as he proved in his defense, and he no doubt only carried out instructions which he greatly regretted. People who have obeyed the orders of the society are secreted, either by complicity or from fear, and passed through bogs and over mountains into fishing-smacks or coasters, eventually reaching America. If they escape the first alarm and pursuit, they are seldom caught; and in more than one instance I have been convinced that the murderer has himself been made away with and buried, lest he should be captured and betray his accomplices or the secrets of the society.

"It is very difficult to stop these agrarian murders; but as we have put an end to the illicit stills once so rife all over Ireland, I think we could break up the Ribbon-men by altering certain arrangements.

DETECTIVES.

"I have mentioned that the barracks should be well placed for observation. I have now to say a little about detectives. You must know we have curious ideas about them; they are police just like ourselves, walk in fune rals, etc., and are as well known in Dublin as the post-office clock. When they go also where they are speedily betraved by manner, bearing, and conversation to the people they go amongst, even if a full description of them has not already arrived. Now, my idea of a detective is that he should not be a drilled policeman, but simply a man to find out a crime, and only in rare cases, and when it could not be otherwise managed, should be make a capture or be required to give evidence. Unless most expert at disguises. every time he appears in a witness-box his value is lessened. A fine, bold-looking fellow, good-tempered but firm, active and intelligent, may yet be, from temperament, a very bad detective. A mean, ordinary-looking. cunning man, apt and smooth, would not do for our constabulary force, but might prove a real Vidocq for circumventing an assassin.

INFORMERS,

"There is also no doubt that sufficient use is not made of informers. In most cases an informer is to be found. But he will not go on to the table to bear witness in court. He does not like the bullying in cross-examination the contempt with which all treat him; but he dreads still more the vengeance after the trial. Now the English law, in the first place, gives too little latitude to us in questioning suspected persons (and everybody in an agrarian murder is open to suspicion); and then it places restrictions upon our keeping in custody those likely to be guilty. I do not say that the law is wrong; I only remind you that every man, woman, and child within miles will endeavor to mislead the "poliss" if possible, and, if the law is bound by certain rules of fair play, the actual criminal has great odds in his favor. You must take every advantage of detectives and informers; and you must assess the district in heavy damages as well, if the criminal is not discovered. Remember, it is only within a limited district that these undiscovered outrages exist. However well the constabulary may trace the perpetrators of the crime, their exertions will not secure a conviction, unless the case is thoroughly well got up, and the condemnatory evidence properly placed before a jury. In my experience I have seen guilty parties acquitted dozens of times owing to the slovenly way in which the evidence has been put together, and the want of care in sifting and comparing it.

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PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE, AND CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE, DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST AND MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC, NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 10, 1869.

Sealed Proposals, in duplicate, will b. received by he undersigned at his office, room No. 43 Army Building, corner of Green and Houston streets, or ilrected to Post Office box No. 2269, New York. until 10 o'clock A, M., September 10, 1869, for supplying the following Subsistence Stores, to be delivered in Philadelphia, as follows, viz :--25 barrels Pork, Mess or Prime Mess-which to be tated-to be at least 200 pounds of meat per barrel,

n original packages preferred. 5450 ibs, first quality thoroughly smoked Bacon Sides in tierces, or smoked Bacon shoulders, which o be stated.

210 barrels of first quality, extra superfine Southrn, St. Louis, or other brands of Flour. 2500 pounds prime White Benns, to be packed in

arrels, head-lined.

urk barrels. 1200 pounds Rio Coffee in sacks.

5100 pounds of clean, dry Brown Sugar, equal in quality to Stewart's "C" Sagar, in barrels, head-

450 pounds best quality of Adamantine Candles, o be 16 ounces to the pound, packed in boxes.

1200 pounds clean, dry, fine Salt,

apers, packed in boxes. 180 pounds of plug Tobacco, Army standard, 100 pounds best quality breakfast Bacon, in barrel.

200 pounds Codfish, in box. 60 haif boxes Sardines, in box. 25 pounds black Tea, in box. 450 pounds coffee Sugar "A," in barrels. 550 pounds cut Loaf Sugar, in barrels,

50 pounds dried Applies, in box, 24 can's preserved Peaches. 24 can's preservent rearres.
48 can's Peas,
48 can's Peas,
48 can's Linia Beaus,
24 can's Pineapples,
24 can's Currant Jelly,
24 can's Quince Preserves,
48 can's Tomators, 2 pound cans, packe

24 bottles Lemon Flavoring Extract, in box, 24 bottles Vanilla Flavoring Extract, in box. 36 bottles Worcestershire Sauce, in box. 24 bottles Mustard, in box. 300 pounds Lard in 5 lb, boxes, One-half of these stores are required for immedi ate delivery, and the other half about 10th Novem-

ber next. No charge for storage. Samples of all, except the meats, lard, bottled, and canned articles, must be delivered, if by express or otherwise, free, with the proposals, and referred to therein, also a printed copy of this advertisement must be attached to each proposal. The seller's name, place of business, and date of purchase, as well as the name of contents, with shipping marks to be hereafter designated, must be

plainly marked on each package. Blanks for proposals furnished on application by mail, which must be enclosed in an envelope addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Proposals for Subsistence Stores.

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SBURY

again to my grave?" and inquired why she was shut up there. "I have broken my vows, but these, these," darting wildly round, and glaring furiously on the Sisters, "are no angels." Then, springing at the Confessor, she shrieked, "You beast!"

On examination the Lady Superior said she had shut up Barbara on the doctor's recommendation in 1848. The present doctor, who has held the position seven years, stated that he had never even seen Barbara once.

In the evening the poor creature became wilder, and it was settled to move her next day to the mad-house. On Friday, therefore, the 23d, the commission came again to take her away. On seeing the sunlight and green grass of the convent garden she became convulsed with extreme joy, and when one of the Sisters who accompanied her to the gate ran out when the others, turned back, embraced and kissed her, she was so touched with the strange sympathy that she implored the author of it to come away with her, and incessantly called for her afterwards on the road. The fresh air was too much for her, and during the journey she fainted.

In her new home Sister Barbara was provided with everything comfortable; but at first she kept frequently rising from her bed to lie on the bare floor, as she had been used. Since being properly washed and dressed the wildness has quieted down, and the doctors have hopes of eventually restoring her to her senses.

In the meanwhile, from the time of the first visit of the officer, the knowledge of this awful revelation began to spread abroad and create a sensation of indignant horror throughout the whole town. On Friday morning hundreds of people had assembled before the convent, smashed all the windows, and crying, "Away with the nuns," had already broken into the interior, when a body of soldiers arrived in time to protect them. On Saturday the same thing was repeated, in spite of adjurations of the papers to the people to wait calmly. By the evening two detach-ments of soldiers had been called out, for the mob, which had swelled to four thousand people, after doing what more mischief it could to the Carmelite Convent, went off to attack that of the Jesuits and that of the Franciscans. It was a critical hour for the whole monastic orders of Cracow. The Jesuit rector was insulted, many Jesuits wounded with stones, and every pane of glass in the monastic house was broken to pieces. For these manifestations of their indignation an immense number of people have been arrested, but a large petition has been sent up to the Town Council to remove the Jesuits and Carmelites out of Cracow.

Far into Sunday morning the disturbances were still going on: later in the day the Lady Superior and her assistant were taken under a military escort to be kept in ward, in order to appease the people. Soldiers, however, still patrol the town.

The Vienna paper asks, "And is this the nineteenth century?"

_Miss Sarah Redmond, of Salem, Mass., has been admitted to practise medicine at Florence. She is a negress.

-Generals Robert E. Lee and Beauregard and ex-Senator Chestnut have arrived at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

"One instance occurs to me now, Two people who claimed some interest in a farm were murdered; suspicion fell upon the man who had the most apparent reason to get rid of this claim. The three lived together; and through the supposed murderer left the house a short time before dusk, and did not return for several hours, when he gave the alarm, it was proved that the crime must have been committed just about the time he went away. In various ways important links in the chain of evidence were omitted, but one of the strongest proofs on which the prosecution relied was the fact of the door of a certain outhouse being locked, and a weapon, similar to the one with which the murder must have been committed, and recently cleansed, being found therein. It was most improbable that the prisoner would have locked this door and taken away the key if he had left any one alive to work about the farm, even if the jury did not believe the weapon found therein had been the fatal one. The counsel for the prosecution pressed all this very strongly, and several witnesses proved that, when asked for the key of the outhouse, the prisoner produced it from his pocket. But one of the last of these, in cross-examination, admitted that he, being one of the first on the premises after the alarm was given, found the door open and the key in it, whereupon he locked it and gave it to the prisoner. After this I felt the case was virtually over for an Irish jury rarely overlooks a mistake of this description, and gets an idea that the evidence is altogether untrustworthy and the prisoner a persecuted man. Even in ordinary cases-I suspect from reading accounts of trials in England-an Irish jury requires more conclusive evidence than a British one.'

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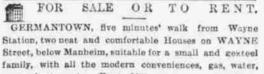
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