RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Local and General.

By the aid of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church, of this city, a mission in the Spring erected at Silver Creek, Nebraska.

THE Ministerial Association of this city represents over seventy churches. Of these but four or five are unsupplied with pastors.

The Rev. A.G. Dole, recently of St. John's Reformed Church of this city, has accepted a call from the German Reformed Church of Shippensburg, Pa.

Twenty-seven members have recently been added by baptism to the Trinity Baptist Church, West Philadelphia, of which Rev. Edw. Bell is pastor.

The Tuesday Evening Southern Union Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening next, at 7½ o'clock, at the Scots Methodist Church, Eighth and Tasker streets.

The Monday Afternoon Union Meeting will be held on Monday afternoon next, at 4 o'clock, at the First German Reformed Church, Race street, below Fourth.

The Friends' Bethany Mission in this city was founded in 1856. The superintendent, Marcellus Atkinson, has charge 250 children, all colored. It is located on Brandywine street, above Fifteenth.

A new and beautifully constructed set of Stations of the Cross have been imported in France for the Catholic Church of the Assumption in this city. They are 30 inches long by 24 wide, enclosed in elegant walnut frames.

The Rev. Franklin Moore, formerly pastor of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, in this city, died on Saturday last, in Sacramento city, California, while on a visit for his health. The deceased was well known throughout the city as an eloquent divine.

The Foreign Mission Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this country report a growth in the extent of their operations. Several hundred communicating parishes have lately been added to their list, and the annual contributions increased from $63,000 in 1868 to $88,000 for 1869, while the committee expects to expend during 1870 a little more than $100,000.

The revenue, collections, donations, &c., of the Lutheran Sunday School Union, during the year past, was $95,875 8; value of books and other requisites given to schools, $12,688 58; amount expended by auxiliary societies, $5,124 19. The number of books issued during the year 74 missionaries, who reported new schools organized, 1,197; visited, 20,427. Bibles and Testaments distributed, 13,176.

The Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this city, whose obituary appears in another column, was a native of Philadelphia, and was the second son of the late Chief Justice Gibson. He was ordained a deacon in 1825, and was for many years rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia. He continued his labors as such until his death, which occurred October 19th, 1862. His congregation now worships in Horticultural Hall. The communicants number over 500, besides a large number of adherents. The Sunday-school numbers nearly 200 scholars and 21 teachers, and the library contains about 500 volumes of well selected matter. The hall, last evening, presented a beautiful appearance, all present appearing to take great pleasure in the festivities of the occasion, consisting of addresses by Dr. Morgan, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. Robert Gray and others. During the evening several well selected pieces were sung in an admirable manner, aided by music on the piano. Refreshments in great profusion were then spread up, and the entire proceedings were highly creditable to all engaged in them.

It is a recent sermon on "The Bible and Public Schools," Rev. Dr. C. P. Sheldon, of Troy, N. Y., says: "I confess that I do not strongly sympathize with the fears of some, that the Roman Catholics will overrun our country, change our institutions, and become a dominant and State Church among us. Their numbers indeed increase among us, they are but a small minority. Our whole population numbers more than 35,000,000. The Papists claim to number, embracing their entire population, 5,000,000. Now, if they have succeeded all their natural increase in population, they ought to number in our country today, from eight to ten millions. They have lost here many more than they have gained. Some go to them are comparatively few, and mostly from those who have run mad with fanaticism. There are single Protestant denominations in this country who are nearly or quite equal to them in numbers and strength. The Episcopal Methodists number 1,200,000, and all their appointments in Italy, to adhere to them must be at least 5,000,000. The regular Baptists number 1,100,000—and they report that adheres to them cannot be much less than 5,000,000. The Presbyterians, in all the branches, claim a population of 2,500,000, the Congregationalists a population of 1,000,000, the Episcopalians a population of 700,000, and the Lutherans a population of 1,000,000, and a total population of 1,000,000. The Catholics are thus a small minority. Their increase among us, in some of our cities they are strong, and seem largely to increase, but analyze the increase, it will be found to be almost exclusively from immigration and the natural increase of population and the sum of fifty dollars. Nearly all who have left the Church of Rome, are infidels, or if they believe anything, they believe it not. Nothing can be more fanciful than the notion that we have to dread the Papacy in our country. It is a mere bugbear, and lay their plans with wise and sagacious foresight—but we cannot blame them for that."

The Income Tax.

To the Editor of the Evening Bulletin: In your article yesterday in opposition to the tax you mention two cases in illustration of the injury suffered or feared from the exhibition of the property of the persons referred to by the publication of their returns of income. They were, substantially, the cases of persons engaged in business, one of which was making an honest and truthful return of his income, brought upon himself competition in his business and the other, fearing such a consequence, did not make a truthful return, but made an imperfect statement, and then informed the Government he was cheated, to balance from another place, so as to conceal his locality. These are cases that strikingly illustrate the inconvenience to the parties concerned, and probably, from the publication of the returns. But I do not think they constitute an argument against the justice of the tax itself. On the contrary, it lacks, stamp and income tax, which may be made to produce together perhaps one hundred and thirty millions of dollars. Last year the income was brought in about twenty-seven millions, and this year probably it will produce much more. It seems to me that this is vastly better than to have a tax on almost everything. Now, I say, this income tax is a tax on wealth, but the tax on spirits and beer and tobacco is in a certain sense a tax on persons. These articles are consumed by the millions, who each contribute in the proportion of his consumption of them. Some may regard these as taxes on a depraved appetite, and as a sort of penalty for indulging them. However that may be, the tax is paid by the millions of people who consume the articles, very many of whom can hardly afford it; and, as I say, is in some sense a personal tax—at any rate a tax irrespective of a man's possessions. Therefore, the masses pay the immense amount derived from the tax on spirituous and malt liquors, and tobacco, by few who have large incomes may pay the thirty or forty millions a year that this brings and yet not to realize from the income tax. Surely it would be wrong to relieve them from this and put it on the articles consumed by the thousands who are not so well off, nor so able to bear it. Very many of the corporations who are offering their bonds for sale, stipulate to pay so much, clear of all taxes, and others in making dividends make them free of taxes, so that the taxes on the incomes derived from bonds and dividends are paid over directly to the Government, without ever being seen by those from whom they have been withheld. And in regard to the income tax, it seems that it is increasing immensely in amount, that is most convenient and certain of collection, and can be borne with as little suffering by those to whom the wealth belongs as any other in the world, and yet it is a tax that cannot be evaded until the necessities of the Government justly require it to be repealed.

P.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28, 1870.

ART ITEMS.

—Gérôme and other artists of note have consented to open a Society for the Design for Ladies, which Mme. E. Trelat, a pupil of Léon Cogniet, will open at Paris in February. It is to be a society for ladies who desire to study from the living model—a practice which some of them now contrive to pursue in disguise, in the dresses of the other sex.

—The French artists are chagrined that Comte Nieuwerkerke, though unable to be so pointedness of Fine Arts, retains the direction of the Museum. They apparently think he had shared the fate of Baron Haussmann.

—The *Gazette des Beaux Arts* contains an article on the Gallery of San Donato, by M. Galichon; one on Sculpture, and unpublished Architectural Designs of Raphael, by M. de Geymuller; and another on the Tomb of the Cardinal de Bourbon, by M. de Champeaux.

The Guillotine in France.

A few words upon the guillotine, whose inventor, by the way, did not (as has often been asserted) die by his own creation, but expired peacefully in 1814, at the age of seventy-three. It is said that the actual number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, dwells elaborately upon all the details of the machinery, which require no great mechanical adaptation and more skillful management than we had imagined. It is by no means quite so simple a thing as it seems at first sight to cut off a human head with accuracy and despatch. The efficiency of the machine, moreover, depends entirely on a modification supplied by a Dr. Louis, who made the knife of a crescent form instead of horizontal and who, like other improvers, nearly got the whole credit of the invention, although the idea was called a Louisette. We need not speak of other refinements; but it is unpleasant to discover that a good deal depends upon the skill and coolness of the executioner—more, it would appear, than in the case of the English hangman. He has with one hand to hold down the criminal, who sometimes struggles, and generally gets out of the proper attitude; he then has to turn the proper handle, and the knife descends, and severs the head from the body down an inclined plane into the basket. Two assistants have to deliver by the head and keep down his legs; and, as M. Du Camp remarks, unless they perform their duties with a *simultaneous precision*, the executioner, the unfortunate victim, and the spectators, will be in a state of capital punishment.—*Saturday Review.*

Cost of Live Animals.

The Zoological Society of London has lately published a list of prices at which certain duplicate animals in its menagerie will be sold. From this we learn that an eland can be had for $250, a Virginia deer for $35, a raccoon for $7, a hyena for $40, and other quadrupeds in proportion. The birds are held at higher rates. Thus, a barred-tailed pheasant will cost $150; a peacock pheasant, $250; and a gold-pheasant, $400. Our own summer duck is valued at $75, while the mandarin duck costs $20. The cheapest bird in the list is the white-headed pigeon, a well-known Florida species, which can be had for $5.

AMUSEMENTS.

MRS. JOHN DREW'S ARCH STREET THEATRE.—LAST NIGHT OF DOUBLE BILL FOR SATURDAY NIGHT. MR. JOHN DREW'S BENEFIT. ROMANCE AND REALITY. MRS. JOHN DREW'S ARCH STREET THEATRE.—LAST NIGHT OF THE BILL FOR SATURDAY NIGHT. MR. JOHN DREW'S BENEFIT. THE MOUSE. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, THE RED LIGHT.

WALNUT STREET THEATRE. THURSDAY EVENING, Jan. 29, Will be presented the new Comedy, in five acts, by Tom Taylor, Esq., author of "Our American Cousin," entitled Lady Flora. Lord Dundreary, Mr. Sam'l Chas. Piercy; Sir Gilbert Corkoran, Mr. Geo. Jordan; Sir Ralph Bunsby, Mr. Jas. Pilmore; Sir Ralph Emmons, Concord, Mr. Samuel Brooke; Spiggot, Mr. Geo. Jordan; Samuel Brooke, Springfield, Mass.; E. H. Hunt, Attleboro, Mass.; Rev. Silas Farrington, Jaffrey, Mass.; Lady Flora, Miss Ida Vernon; Miss Sarah Jennings, Miss Ida Vernon; Miss Sarah Jennings, Miss Ida Vernon; Miss Sarah Jennings