MISCELLANEOUS.

EMIGRATION.

It would appear from the subjoined item, which we clip from an exchange, that the tide of emigration from Ireland is now in a great measure turning towards the Southern portion of America, instead of the Northern. The information is interesting and will perhaps be new to some of our readers

The Water witch, 400 tons, the property of Mr. Smith, one of the largest South American shipowners in Liverpool, sailed from the port of Dublin, laden with a general cargo, and having on board 115 emigrants bound for Montevideo and Buenos Ayres. This change of the field of venture from north to south has been adopted by the Irish Catholics at the suggestion of several clergymen resident in the United States. The *Freeman's Journal* says:

"The emigrants are all from the neighborhood of Mullingar, and belong to the most respectable of the farming tenantry of that district, whence we learn, what perhaps is very little known, that an emigration upon a limited scale, but attended with the most beneficial results to the working classes who were gone out, has been steadily going on from the county of Westmeath for the last 15 or twenty years, and the community of Irish now in Buenos Ayres amounts in number to 12,000 souls, and Roman Catholics, well provided with excellent clergymen resident among them, and of whom the Rev. Anthony Fabey has for many years past held a prominent position among his flock. The Rev. gentleman has, we understand, been the instrument of founding among them a hospital, and latterly a society of the Sisters of Mercy for the education of the rising generation.

The pursuits from which the Irish in Buenos Ayres derive so much advantage are ship building for the port and agricultural pursuits generally for the supply of the city. The value of the production of wool in the province of Buenos Ayres 15 years ago, did not exceed £100,000. Now its yearly value approximates close upon a million, and meets with ready markets in Belgium, France and England. The Governments bordering on the River Platta, act with the greatest kindness to the Irish, and as the latter are all of the religion of the country, it harmonises the two races. We understand that the Irish emigrants to Buenos Ayres improve greatly in active and steady habits after a residence of three or four years, and fortunes of from 5,000 to £50,000 are quite common among them. The yearly sums transmitted to the county of Westmeath regularly increases in amount, the object of the senders being to assist their relation s, or to pay the passages of those whom they may have induced to join them. The persons who sailed in the Waterwitch have all gone out at the earnest solicitation of their friends."

A correspondent of the *London Post* writing from St. Petersburg, states, that a powerful company has been formed in that city, under government patronage, for the purpose of steam navigation on a grand scale. Twenty screw steamers of the largest class are to be built for it as soon as possible,—some in America, some in England, and a few in Russia.

In the Public Library of Boston. there have been 82,661 books borrowed during the year—daily average 291—during 5 working hours.—The widow of Dr. Amos Binney of Boston, has offered to deposit in the Library of the Natural History Society of that City, 1000 volumes of the Dr's. Library in that department—some 400 different works, many of them very rare.

THE GRAPE CULTURE.—An Ohio vine grower writes to the *Journal of Commerce* that there are now devoted to vineyard culture over 1600 acres in the Ohio valley, about one-half of which quantity is in the vicinity of Cincinnati. In the Missouri valley there are about 700 or 800 acres, and in the Upper Mississppi valley 500 or 600 acres. In Tennessee, Alabama, South Carolina, and Georgia, several vineyards of the Cahawba grape have lately been planted, with flattering prospects, thus far, of producing far better crops than those of the Ohio valley.

A SLICE OF HORSE, MA'AM?

[From Chambers's Journal.]

For some time past, M. Geoffrey St. Hilaire has constituted himself the champion of horseflesh even as Mr. Cobden once came out as the champion of the cheap loaf; but whether the Frenchman will be as successful as the hero of the League, remains to be proved. By papers communicated to the Academy of Sciences at Paris, and in other ways, he has already endeavoured to interest his countrymen, supporting his view by argument scientific and economical; he, in fact seems determined that horseflesh shall become an article of diet. 'Horseflesh,' says he, in his last paper to the Academy, 'is mistakenly rejected from the aliment of man. It would supply a considerable resource for the nutrition of the laborious classes, of which prejuidce alone has deprived us even to the present day;' and he then proceeds to a threefold demonstration—'that horseflesh is wholesome; that it is agreeable; that it is abundant enough to take a very useful place in the alimentation of the people.'

No serious doubts, he tells us, can be raised as to the wholesomeness; the facts are favourable. Horseflesh has been eaten for weeks together at Copenhagen and other places; at Paris, during several months in 1793-4 and without producing any disease or inconvenience: moreover, horse-meat and broth given in the military hospitals, chiefly by the celebrated Larrey, has always been attended by the happiest effects upon the patients. In Egypt, during the siege of Alexandria, a scorbutic epidemic which had begun to shew itself in the whole army, was checked by soup and steaks derived from horses.

On the second point, we let M. St. Hilaire speak in his own words. Horseflesh,' he observes 'has long been regarded as of a sweetish disagreeable taste, very tough, and not to be eaten without difficulty. So many different facts are opposed to this prejudice, that is impossible not to recognise its slight foundation. The free or wild horse is hunted as game in all parts of the world where it exists—Asia, Africa, and America—and formerly (and perhaps even now) in Europe. The domestic horse itself is made use of as alimentary as well an auxiliary—in some cases altogether alimentary—in Africa, America, Asia, and in some parts of Europe.'

'Its flesh is relished by people the most different in their manner of life, and of races the most diverse—negro, Mongol, Malay, American, Caucasian. It was much esteemed up to the eighth century among the ancestors of some of the greatest nations of Western Europe, who had it in general use, and gave it up with regret. Soldiers to whom it has been served out, and people in towns who have bought it in markets, have frequently taken it for beef. Still more often, and indeed habitually, it has been sold in restaurants, even in the best, as venison, and without the customers ever suspecting the fraud or complaining of it.'

And further, if horseflesh 'has been often accepted as good under a false name, it has also been pronounced good by those who, to judge of its qualities, have submitted it to careful experiment: and by all who have tasted it in proper condition—that is, when taken from a sound and rested horse, and kept sufficient long. It is then excellent roasted; and if it be not so acceptable in *bouilli*, it is precisely because it furnishes one of the best soups—*perhaps the best* that is known. It good, also, as experiments prove, made by myself as well as others, when taken from old horses not fattened, whose age was sixteen, nineteen, twenty, and even twenty-three years; animals thought worth no more than a few francs beyond the value of their skin. This is a capital fact, since it shews the possibility of utilising a second time, for their flesh, horses which have already been utilised up to old age for their strength; and consequently of obtaining a further and almost gratuitous profit at the end of their life, after they had well-nigh paid the cost of their rearing and keep by their labour.'

M. St. Hilaire admits that horseflesh is not equal in quality to the flesh of fat sheep and oxen; but he contends that while so many of the inhabitants of France scarcely ever eat animal food, it would form a valuable addition to their food resources; an abundant one also, for he finds that the number of hores which are killed, or die naturally every year in France, would supply two millions and a half of ordinary rations of meat; and he winds up his argument thus: 'Singular social anomaly! Some day society will wonder it was so long submitted to. Millions of Frenchmen are deprived of meat, or eat it six times—twice—*once* a year; and in presence of such deprivation, millions of kilogrammes of good meat are every year abandoned to industry for secondary purposes, thrown to hogs and dogs, or cast into the sewers!'

A CHANCE.—In 1752, an English ship stranded near New Rochelle, Westchester county, New York. Such have been the changes in the sea that the wreck now lies in the midst of a cultivated field, thirteen feet above the sea, and around it are 2000 acres of cultivated land.

A young lady when told to take exercise for her health, said she would 'jump' at an offer and 'run' her own risk.

Mr. E. M. Ward has returned from Paris with a portfolio of sketches for the great picture of Victoria at the tomb of Napoleon—commissioned by the Queen. The Emperor and Empress, we understand, are to give the artist sittings in December.

By an Act passed last session the municipal boundary of Edinburgh has been extended to the limits of the Parliamentary burgh, thus enlarging the area of the city by nearly three times, and giving the town council a population of nearly 200,000 instead of 60,000 to represent.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—We understand that an expedition will be prepared forthwith, to proceed in search of further traces of Sir. John Franklin's party, *via* Behring's Straits. The command will, it is said, be conferred upon George H. Richards, who has rendered such good service in previous Arctic searches, and who, upon many accounts, is viewed as the most fitting officer to command the expedition.

The prince of Wales, Captain Nolan, from New Zealand landed at Portsmouth for the use of the government two spars of Kauri pine of the most extraordinary proportions ever brought to this country viz., 100 feet in length and 34½ inches in diameter without a knot! They will most likly become masts for the Queen s state yacht.

UNSUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR THE WRECKED STEAMER LYONNAIS.—By the Cape Cod Line we have the following telegraph despatch, dated Holmes' Hole, Nov. 19th:—

"Arrived U. S. Mail steamer Marion, Foster, in search of the wrecked steamer Lyonnais. from New York for Havre. Has cruised off Nantucket Shoals since Monday having been 70 miles S. E. Nantucket. Experienced heavy N. W. gales and rough sea. 18th. lon. 71.30, spoke bark T. B. Bertram, for Boston:—Had been in the vicinity of Nantucket three days; had seen nothing of either boats or steamer. At 1.30 P. M., same day, spoke schooner Eugene, of Yarmouth:—Could give no information. At 3.30, same day spoke ship Ocean Star, from New Orleans for Boston, under close-reefed topsails:—Could give no information. The Marion put in here to gain information of the wrecked setamer, and has proceeded through Vineyard Sound, intending to make another cruise to the southward of Nantucket.

ANEITEUM.—The last English Mail brought a letter from Mr. Geddie to one of his private friends, dated May 26th. 1856. The intelligence is highly gratifying. The work of God continues. there being now only about 300 heathen on the Island. The members of the Mission family were all well. There had been considerable sickness among the natives, but several had died in the triumph of faith. The new type had arrived and they had commenced printing the gospel of Matthew with it.—*Presbyterian.*

Messrs. Cunard, Brett & Austen's Circular for November reports the following ships sold at the port of Liverpool, since the 23rd of October:—*Broughton Hall*, 1771 tons old, 1493 new, built at St. John, N. B., 1856, to class 7 years, £7 12s. 6d. per ton; *Broomielaw*, 593 old, 523 new, Quebec, 1856, classed 7 years, £8 per ton; *Success*, 335 old, 285 new, P. E. Island, 1855, classed 5 years, French Book, £2400; *Josepha*, 391 old, 417 new, Quebec, 1836, sold for £1800; *Harmoine*, 410 new, Jacobstadt, 1840, wood sheathed, £1905; *Liverpool*, 94 new, Nova Scotia, 1819, never classed, £450; *Adonis*, 7t new, NovaScotia, 1853, never classed, price not stated; *James Alexander*, 171 old, 111 new, P. E. Island, 1850, to class 4 years, price not given *Mariner*, 187 old, 110 new, Prince E. Island 1854, A. I., zincd in 1854, sold for £875; *Esmeralda*, 1244 old, 1188 new, Quebec, 1856, to class 7 years, price not quoted; *Ide*, 189 new, Yarmouth, 1832, rest,d in 1851, A. I., 7 years, yellow metalled in 1852, sold for £1100.

The following are among the imports from Prince Edward Island to Halifax, from 1st to 27th November:—Potatoes, 34,999 bushels; Oats, 47,879 bushels; Barley, 9,981 bushels; Turnips, 2 166 bushels.—*Reading-Room Slate.*

AN EXTRAORDINARY RUSSIAN REGIMENT.

—The Pavaloiky, or the Regiment of Paul, presented an appearance which would be grotesque, if it were not imposing. All the men—pray do not langh—have cocked noses. Every soldier with a *nez retrousee*, who is of proper height, is sent to this regiment, which was formed by Paul in one of his eccentric freaks and every determined pug is eligible if it be accompanied by sunken eyes and high cheek bones. But more than this. The men, clean shaved, like all Russian soldiers, except on the lip, wear their moustaches brushed upwards towards the ears, which gives them a strange and savage aspect. This bizarre and ferocious appearance is increased by the shape of the head-dress, which is like a sugar loaf with one side cut-away—an angular section of a cone, with the round side to the front. On this side, the shaco, or whatever it is, consists of a brass plate at the back, it is of a bright-red cloth. From the top there is a curious tuft, or pompon, sticking out horizontally, so as to be paralell with the lower parts of the wearer's nose. The brass front is religiously preserved, should it have been pierced by a ball, and is worn only by deserving soldiers. Some have been perforated in two, three or four places in the days of Catherine II., and in Suwarroffs campaign, where the regiment greatly distinguished itself, and on the under part of each plate is engraved the name of the soldier who wore it when the ball came in such unpleasent proximity to him. Should one of these plates be worn out with age, its form is scrupulously imitated and the holes renewed with the greatest care. The regiment when at the march post always carries bayonets at the charge Altogether the look of these four thousand and odd men all of whom are six feet, is very novel and striking, and if they are half as ugly in the fight as they are on parade they must prove most formidable antagonists. They are dressed like the other regiments of the Guard, with the exception of the helmet.—*Moscow Correspondent of the Times.*

A DAMPER.—Some years ago, the late Emperor Nicholas was visiting Naples, when King Bomba ordered a grand review of his little army. After this ceremony, the King rubbed his hands, saying to the Czar:

"Well, sire is it not a very fine troop?—could I not march against France with such an army?"

"Yes certainly,' replied the Czar, "but the French Custom House officers might not let you pass."

A Glasgow paper says:—A failure, involving liabilities to the extent of from £60,000 to £70,000, was reported on Monday, the 17th inst. The parties alluded to are connected with the thread manufacture in that city.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUN.—The visit of the British Archæological Association to Wells last week gave rise to a pun which is worth recording. The members were being shown by the bishop of Bath and Wells over his garden and pleasure grounds, the beauty of which and the taste with which they were laid out was the theme of general commendation. Whereupon Mr. Planche, one of the hon. secretaries, who was present, remarked that their state was not much a matter of surprise, as it was the "garden of *Eden*" (the family name of the bishop).

The Rev. Richard Cambridge was one of the contributors to a literary paper called *The World*, published by Dodsley. A note from the editor requesting an essay was put into Cambridge's hands one Sunday morning as he was going to church. During the sermon his wife observed him to be very inattentive and whispered to him "of what are you thinking?" "Of the '*next World*' my love," was the reply.