

A NEGRO MICHAEL ANGELO.

In Campinas, Brazil, there is an enormous church which has been seventy years in building and is not completed. The remarkable feature about it is the wonderful carving of the interior, and the still more wonderful fact that the greater part of it is the work of a negro man, who has never studied the simplest principles of sculpture, and who, indeed, does not even know his alphabet. The sense of beauty of form was instinctive with him, and with the cunning hand of self taught genius he has carved temples and columns, flowers and arabesques, cherubim and angels, throwing off his wondrous creations with the profusion which is only possible to those who draw their inspiration from within. He worked at his labor of love with delight until old age brought failing sight and trembling hands; and now, poor, solitary, helpless and blind, he looks out a miserable pliantine which his townsmen grant for his support, by begging alms in the streets of Campinas. Others have continued his work, more or less imperfectly, and as there had been no plans made, the variety of workmen has greatly detracted from the harmony of the general effect.—*Ex.*

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Independent* gives the following account of the German troops after the terrible fight from August 29 to September 2, resulting in the surrender of Marshal McMahon's army:

"Soldiers descended to the next brook to fetch water for their horses. Fires had been kindled, over which the soup was already boiling. Here and there were quiet groups, soldiers who brushed their uniforms, mended their clothes and sewed on buttons. It is wonderful! This peaceful care for regularity and neatness, these domestic trifles on the morrow of a bloody tragedy, this common order after the murderous license, this pretty domestic life, which at once succeeds the dreadful blows of war, this powerful contrast has moved us deeply. This is the Prussian character and the Prussian temperament. These men certainly are heroic, but they have not the passionate and excited imagination which this heroism would lead you to suppose. They are very strong, and they are very well governed. They are very courageous and very quiet. Carefully and methodically stationed, they execute their task with great circumspection, risking their lives in cold blood. They never forget their discipline, and you might say that even the horses observe theirs. Yes, their horses also respect the rules, and do not evince a useless ardor in the wrong place. We have seen long rows of horses resting and at liberty; they remained in line handsomely, and observed the regulation distances on the pasture and while feeding. As to the picturesqueness of the Prussian army, I find it striking enough in this mixture of citizen-like simplicity and inflexible resoluteness. Imagine to yourself Leonidas in a brown coat and with spectacles, and you nearly have the Prussian army. You might make a statue of it. But the Germans only seek German unity and greatness, not the postures and groups of Greece. These men, a French officer told me, have a steadiness and a confidence that cannot be shaken. You would think that they consider themselves the executors of divine orders. One does not feel degraded, added the same officer, when beaten by such people."

A FRENCH officer, who escaped to Belgium, writes:

To relate what McMahon did is impossible—steel, fire, melted metal, explosive balls, and I don't know what other infernal mixtures the Prussians there made use of for the first time, appeared to stream off or to rebound from him like hail from a roof. He went to the front seeking death. He went to us all, who sought to prevent him from going forward, "let me show those kings and princes, who hide behind their masses of men, that a marshal of France knows how to fight, and, when beaten, how to die."

And he smiled upon us a smile which made us weep and redoubled our rage. Ah, miserable! We kill, we massacre, and the living appear to spring up from the dead, which we heap around. We climbed a little mountain of dead bodies, that we might reckon how long the butchery would last. My sabers, broken and reeking, fell from my hands when I saw what masses we had to deal with. The plain, the horizon, was black with dust.

We were but ants in a large ant hill. "Marshal," I said, "we have at least 200,000 men before us."

"No," he replied, gently, "300,000." At that moment a cloud passed before my eyes, and we went mad. We regained ourselves only when we found ourselves beyond the horde of Uhlans who attacked us. We had been fortunate enough to reach the Belgian frontier.

We were safe, but at what a sacrifice!

WHILE the performances of John Robinson's Great Circus were going on at Trenton, Tennessee, last month, we are told that "the Rev. Parson Smith was sitting near the canvas in the shade, raising the edge of the curtains." While thus engaged in peeping, the holy man received from a watchman "a severe blow on the head with a history club, inflicting a serious wound, though not considered fatal." It was at this supposed that the parson, having doubts of the morality of such entertainments, had conscientiously object one to going in, until he had satisfied their scruples. Subsequent inquiry proved that he was a nobler and a purer motive. He had, by the authority in him vested, forbidden his congregation to attend Robinson's Great Circus; but he had also some reason to suppose that a few of the flock, with the usual perjury of human nature, had disregarded his injunctions. "He was, therefore," says the correspondent, "taking the names of the members of his church in attendance, that had gone in before he came up." Parson Smith may therefore be considered, in some sort, as a martyr, either to his creed or his curiosity—and that is the way he became one.—*Ex.*

An exchange thinks that cannibals must be light eaters, in view of the statement that there are only two missionaries to twenty thousand cannibals.

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