

## "THE BAD EARL."

(From the *Nation*.)

DURING the past week numerous accounts of the eccentricities, the tyrannies, and the immoralities of the late Lord Leitrim have reached us from reliable correspondents. Were we to publish them they would fill several columns of our paper; but some of the facts narrated could hardly be made fit for publication by any delicacy of handling. With reference to one atrocious case, we wrote to our correspondent asking him for the fullest particulars he could supply, and inquiring if they could be verified by the people of the locality. He replied: "The story of—is notorious, as much so, for instance, as if the chapel of the parish was burned down." Why do not those who angrily affect to disbelieve the current allegations regarding the moral character of the deceased man venture to deny their truth? Why do they not bring forward some testimony to the purity and decency of his mode of life? Why do they not get the local clergy of any denomination—Catholic, Protestant, or Presbyterian—to give evidence of it? Simply because they cannot. We think it very unlikely that accounts of the misdeeds of the deceased earl have not reached the offices of our Tory contemporaries, although they pretend to know nothing of such matters. Passing from that part of the subject, and turning to some of the less heinous doings of the departed Pasha, we may mention the following specimen cases which have been related to us: A tenant was served with notice to quit, and evicted, because his hedges and flax-pits were not cut according to pattern. The tenant sought compensation in the law courts; there was hard swearing against him; to settle some disputed points the chairman of quarter sessions went personally and inspected the place, found the tenant's contention was correct, and awarded compensation accordingly. On one occasion the earl saw a quantity of clothes that had been washed laid out on a hedge to dry; he sent for the owner and fined him. Seeing some drains cut in the land of a tenant who wished to effect, at his own expense, some improvements in his farm, he called for the tenant, railed furiously at him for daring to do such work without authority, and ordered him, on pain of eviction, to have the soil turned back into the drains by the following morning. Entering the house of a tenant he found within only one person, a young member of the family, whom he ordered and compelled to strip naked for his amusement. It is said that he afterwards paid some money compensation for this outrage, and to prevent a threatened exposure of it. Scores—nay, hundreds of such stories, evidencing his wayward, despotic, and violent temper, are current on his property. If they are not allowed to sink into oblivion the blame rests with those persons who have been striving to represent him as a model landlord, and, because of his horrible murder, to defame the whole Irish nation.

## THE PAPAL ALLOCUTION.

THE following is the *Tablet's* translation of the Allocution pronounced by the Holy Father to the Sacred College on the 28th March:—

"Venerable Brethren,—When We were summoned by your votes last month to rule the Universal Church and to fill on earth the place of the Prince of all Pastors, who is Jesus Christ, We felt our heart gravely perplexed and disturbed by trouble and trepidation. On the one hand We were profoundly moved by intimate persuasion of our own unworthiness and of the inadequacy of our strength, which was utterly unequal to bear such a burden, our weakness appearing the more evident in proportion as the world-wide fame of our illustrious predecessor, Pius IX., of immortal memory, seemed brighter and more splendid. That illustrious ruler of the Catholic flock, who fought to the end with unconquered courage for truth and justice, and who administered with unwearied toil the Christian Commonwealth, not only shed glory by his virtues on this Apostolic See, but so filled the whole Church with love and admiration of himself that he is conspicuous among Roman Pontiffs as well for excelling them all in the duration of his Pontificate as for having gained, perhaps, more than any of them, more ample testimonies of public and universal homage and veneration. On the other hand, We are dismayed by the most sad condition to which has been reduced almost everywhere not merely the civil society of the world, but also the Catholic Church, and especially this Apostolic See, which by the violent spoliation of its temporal dominion is brought to that pass that it is altogether unable to exercise its powers fully, freely, and independently.

"Yet, although by these considerations we were disposed, Venerable Brethren, to decline the proffered honour, how could We resist the will of God, which was so plainly evidenced both in the harmony of your suffrages, and in that most pious anxiety with which you, looking only to the welfare of the Catholic Church, proceeded so quickly to the accomplishment of the election of a new Pontiff?

"We, therefore, thought it Our duty to accept the charge of the Supreme Apostolate, and to bow to the Divine will, placing all Our trust in the Lord, and firmly hoping that He who had raised Us to such dignity would give strength to Our lowliness.

"And whereas this is the first occasion which We have had for addressing this your most illustrious assembly, We hasten to declare solemnly before you, first of all, that nothing shall lie nearer Our heart in all Our Apostolic labour than the endeavour, with the aid of Divine Grace, to use all Our care to preserve sacred the deposit of the Catholic Faith, to guard faithfully the rights and privileges of the Church and of the Apostolic See, and to further the salvation of all; and We are prepared for this end to shrink from no labour and refuse no sacrifice, and to give no occasion for a suspicion that We account Our life more precious than Our duty.

"In discharging these parts of Our ministry, We trust that your counsel and wisdom will never be wanting to Us, and we earnestly pray and beseech you that they may never be withheld from Us. We ask you not to consider these expressions to be mere words of courtesy, but We implore you to take them as a solemn declaration of our desire. We are profoundly impressed with what Moses is related in Sacred Scripture to have done by the command of God, when he was fearful of undergoing the heavy burden of governing the whole people, and when he chose out seventy of the elders of Israel to divide

the toil with Him, and by their aid and advice to alleviate his cares in ruling the nation of Israel. With this example before our eyes, We, who, albeit unworthy, have been placed to guide and rule the entire Christian flock, cannot possibly fail to demand from you, who represent in God's Church the seventy elders of Israel, your help in Our labours and your sympathy in Our cares.

We know, moreover, as Holy Scripture tells Us, *salutem esse, ubi multa consilia sunt*; We know, as the Council of Trent admonishes Us, that the administration of the universal Church depends on the Roman Pontiff, aided by the advice of the Cardinals; and we know that St. Bernard calls the Cardinals the assistants and councillors of the Roman Pontiff. And therefore We, who for nearly five-and-twenty years have been partners with you in the honour of the College, now that We are placed in this supreme dignity, have not merely Our heart full of sympathy and affection for you, but have also the firm mind and fixed attention to employ those, with whom We once shared honour, as partners and coadjutors in Our labours and councils, and in expediting the affairs of the Church.

"And now it happens very opportunely that We are enabled, with great joy, to make you sharers in the consolation We have received from the happy termination of a work tending to the glory of our religion. It was determined by the wonderful zeal in behalf of the Catholic Church manifested by Our Predecessor of holy memory, Pius IX., and it was decreed by the votes of those among you members of the Propaganda Congregation, that the Episcopal Hierarchy should be constituted in the illustrious realm of Scotland. We, by the aid of God, have been happily enabled to complete and terminate this restoration of the Scottish hierarchy, and to recall that Church to new glory by our Apostolic Letters, dated the 4th day of this month. We rejoiced, Venerable Brethren, that it fell to our lot to satisfy the fervent desires of our beloved children in Christ, the clergy and faithful of Scotland, whose devotion to the Catholic Church and towards the Chair of Peter has been manifested by many and most signal proofs. And We firmly trust that this work, now accomplished by the Holy See, will be crowned by joyful fruits, and that, under the protecting care of the Patron Saints of Scotland, it will be the case more and more in that region; that her mountains will be clothed with peace and her hills with righteousness for her people.

"We do not doubt, Venerable Brethren, but that you, joining with Us in council, will zealously labour for the maintenance and guardianship of Religion, for the protection of the Apostolic See, and for the increase of Divine glory, being convinced that if Our labour is in common in aiding the prosperity of the Church, our future reward will be in common also in heaven. Meanwhile, by the interposition of the most efficacious intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mother, of St. Joseph, the heavenly Patron of the Church, and of the Holy Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, you will join your prayers with Ours to that God who is rich in mercy, that He may always assist us by his kindly grace, guide towards good Our counsels and acts, render happy the years of our Pontificate, and, finally subduing the storms and calming the angry billows, conduct the bark of Peter to its wished for haven of tranquility and peace."

MR. W. MELVILLE, of George-street, Dunedin, is agent for the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine, which is universally acknowledged to be a most superior instrument.

GENTLEMEN desirous of purchasing clothing of good material and fashionable cut will do well to patronise the establishment of Mr. W. McLaren, Albert Buildings, Dunedin.

THE butchery lately conducted by Mr. McDonald in George-st., is now carried on by Messrs A. Wilson and Sons. Honekeepers will find it to their advantage to patronise the firm.

NOTWITHSTANDING the contradiction given to M. Gambetta's reported visit to Berlin, there is some mystery about his movements, and it is quite possible that the report may, after all, be well founded. M. Gambetta was last heard of at Nice, and that he has left that town is admitted, but his friends affect a significant ignorance as to his whereabouts. The secret, however, if there is still a secret, cannot be long kept, for M. Gambetta's countenance and figure are as familiar to the public as the features of any man in Europe, and to maintain an *incognito* is out of the question. He is known to be anxious to acquaint himself with other countries, and if he is really making a tour by Vienna and Berlin, his object is to satisfy a legitimate curiosity. The penalty, however, of his celebrity is that he cannot pass beyond the French frontier without, a diplomatic mission being attributed to him. Such rumours easily find credence abroad, but no Frenchman can seriously believe them. M. de St. Vallier is acknowledged on all hands to be an efficient Ambassador, and would certainly be the medium of any communications between M. Waddington and Prince Bismarck. An interview between the latter and M. Gambetta would be a curious episode, but would have no immediate bearing on diplomatic relations.—*Times*.

It is a curious fact, and one that is not generally known, that King Victor Emmanuel was, by the strict law of successions, the rightful King of England. He was descended in a direct line from Charles I. The youngest daughter of that unhappy monarch, the Princess Henrietta Maria, married Gaston d'Orleans, the brother of Louis XIV. She died leaving two daughters. The eldest became Queen of Spain, and died childless. The younger married the heir to the House of Savoy, and was the ancestress of the late King of Italy. After the Revolution of 1688, when the right to succession to the British throne was settled by Act of Parliament, the House of Savoy was excluded on account of the Catholic religion professed by its members. The House of Hanover, of which Queen Victoria is the representative, was several removes farther from the direct succession, deriving, as it did, its claims from James I, through Queen Elizabeth of Bohemia, and her daughter the Electress Sophia. A striking commentary on the consequences of human actions, is afforded by this story of a royal inheritance. When Charles I espoused a Catholic princess he could scarcely have imagined that by this act he was excluding his direct descendants from the throne of their fathers; and still less could his Queen have foreseen that any descendant of her favourite child, so carefully trained by her in the tenets of her own religion, should ever overthrow the temporal power of the Pope, and be himself installed upon the throne.