

inquired the J.P., "are you the only one here?" The prisoner curtseyed rather shakily, and said she was; but—and this would doubtless be cheering news to the visitors—another lady was expected in almost immediately. Since then Mr. Elliott has pinned his faith firmly to the word "woman."

The Right Hon. John Bright addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents at Birmingham on Friday. In the course of his speech he referred at length to the questions of annexation and federation. He deprecated any increase of the Empire, and alluded in terms of ridicule to the idea of Imperial Federation; but strongly urged that sympathy and good-will should be manifested by the Mother Country in her dealings with the Colonies.

Warnings have been received by the authorities that attempts would be made to blow up the Law Courts, British Museum, and Bank of England by dynamite, extra guards have been placed at those buildings, and precautions taken to prevent any attempt being made. A man suspected of complicity in the recent explosions in London has been arrested by the police at Derby.

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies on Thursday night Signor Mancini, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, made a statement regarding the recent extension of Italian Dominion at Assab and Belul Bay, in the Red Sea. He referred especially to the *entente cordiale* between England and Italy with regard to the Red Sea coast, and declared that Italian action in Egypt was parallel with that of England.

#### TUESDAY.

On Thursday morning (says the *Charleston Herald* Jan. 24) a gentleman, well-known here, brought to this office a small specimen of quartz which, he stated, was obtained from an extensive and well defined reef, somewhere in the Brighton district. The stone, which is of a bluish colour, is thickly studded with gold, plainly visible to the naked eye, and is by far a better specimen than any we have seen from Reefton or Mokihinui. The stone was taken to the Bank of New South Wales, but as its weight is only about five and a-half ounces it has not been crushed, but the person who brought it to town has promised to bring in a heavier sample, of which when crushed we shall give the result publicly. The exact locality of the find was not disclosed, for reasons well understood by miners. The foregoing not only goes to show the folly of neglecting our mineral resources in the past, but that wealth is actually lying at our very doors and to be had at the cost of a little energy, but without the hardships usually encountered in searching for the precious metal. If this find, which proves that gold-bearing quartz reefs do exist in this portion of the Buller County, does not arouse the population from their lethargic condition we are afraid that nothing will. If a desire exists amongst the inhabitants of this district to help themselves now is the time to prospect the country at our back. As sure as attention is given to the matter, so sure will good results follow. We hope to hear of applications being made within the next fortnight for quartz mining leases, etc. Advance Charleston—and overboard with dull times.

A man, name unknown, was drowned while attempting to swim the river Tekapo, from Lake Tekapo near its outlet MacKenzie country, on Sunday afternoon. From intelligence to hand it would appear that he attempted the feat out of bravado. There is a bridge just above. The body has not been recovered.

The *Times* considers that the justice and strength of England's case regarding the claims made against her by German subjects in Fiji is beyond question.

The Powers have decided to guarantee an Egyptian loan without the condition of a multiple control over Egypt.

News has reached Cooxtoown that the German war-steamer Mars has been stranded near New Britain.

The death of Lord O'Hagan, at the age of 75, is reported.

#### R.I.P.

Sir Gavan Duffy advises the Tories to compromise with the Home Rule party.

The International Conference on the Congo question has come to an agreement with reference to certain regulations for dealing with the future annexation of territory in the Congo Valley and adjoining country. Rules were accepted in accordance with the views of the British delegates.

At the sitting of the Reichstag on Thursday the report of the Committee on the question of granting subsidies to a line of German mail steamers trading to Australia, but not to Samoa, was rejected on the second reading.

Mr. W. C. Foster suggests that a Colonial conference should be held in London respecting Imperial defences.

The Mahdi has been strongly reinforced, and is still in the neighbourhood of El Metemneh.

Several State Legislatures have passed votes expressing abhorrence of the recent dynamite outrages in London, and to render penal the hatching of plots for similar purposes in the United States.

The Nicaraguan Treaty was under discussion in the senate on Wednesday night, when the report of the Foreign Committee, which favoured the ratification of the Treaty, was discussed at length; and ultimately the House, by a considerable majority declined to act upon the recommendation of the Committee, and refused to ratify the Treaty.

#### WEDNESDAY.

"Men of the Time" gives the following concerning Baron O'Hagan, whose death was reported yesterday:—"The Right Hon. Thomas O'Hagan, born at Dublin in 1810, was educated at the Institution, Belfast, and was called to the Irish bar in 1836. He held for several years the post of assistant barrister for the county of Longford, was appointed Solicitor-General for Ireland under Lord Palmerston's second Administration in 1860, and to the Irish Attorney-Generalship in 1861, and was sworn a member of the Privy Council in January, 1865, when he was appointed a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland. He was member for Tralee from May, 1863, till his elevation to the Bench, and supported the Liberal party. On Mr. Gladstone taking the reins of power, in December, 1868, Mr. Justice O'Hagan was made Lord High Chancellor of

Ireland, being the first Roman Catholic elevated to that dignity in modern times; and in June, 1870, he was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron O'Hagan. He remained in office until the resignation of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet in February, 1874. In October 1878, he was nominated one of the commissioners who were entrusted with the duty of giving effect to the Act relating to Intermediate Education in Ireland."

After being silent for some months, (says the *Bruce Herald*) the Milt n Pottery bell again sends its tuneless monotone over the town. Work has again commenced under the management of Mr. Guy Nevill, nephew of the Anglican Bishop of Dunedin. There are 5 men and about the same number of boys now employed, but it is probable that the number will be shortly increased. The ware being made consists chiefly of tea-pots, butter-crocks, pudding-bowls, pie-dishes, acid-bottles, and bread-plates. A different admixture of clay from that latterly in use is being employed, and the ware instead of being yellow will be of a cream colour and of superior quality to anything manufactured at the Pottery for a long time past.

At a meeting of the Wellington branch of the Irish National League it was decided to raise contributions towards the payment of the Irish members of the House of Commons.

Gilbert, the Irish-American who was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the dynamite outrage at the Tower on the 24th ult., was re-examined at Bow street Police Court on Monday. The evidence adduced showed that the prisoner had been in the habit of frequenting the Tower, and that he had in his possession a loaded detonator. The inquiry was further adjourned.

Lord Wolseley telegraphs to the Horse Guards that the enemy has abandoned Berti, and that place is now occupied by Major-general Earle, who reports that the Nile is most difficult to navigate, but that his column are gradually overcoming all obstacles.

O'Donovan Rossa was shot and wounded in the streets of New York, on Tuesday, by an Englishwoman. The latter was at once arrested and detained in custody.

Italy has occupied Massowah, a seaport town of Abyssinia, situated on the Coast of the Red Sea.

Baron Reay advocates the appointment of Colonial members of the House of Lords.

#### THURSDAY:

The case of O'Donovan Rossa is considered hopeless. Rossa asserts that the woman had complained to him that the recent dynamite explosions in England had proved harmless. She desired that people should be killed, and for the furtherance of this object she had offered him her purse.

The schooner Anrora, from Samoa to Auckland, brings news to the effect that the Germans are exceedingly annoyed at the action of King Malietoa *re* the petition to the British Government, and it is reported they are fomenting a movement to depose him in favour of the vice-king, who is more favourable to the German interests. When the Anrora left, Webber, a German merchant, the vice-king, and several chiefs were holding a conference on the subject. No open hostilities have been shown towards the King.

Sir F. Dillon Bell, Agent-general for New Zealand, has invited the other Agents-general to make objection to Austria's proposal to establish penal colonies so far as the Pacific is concerned.

A man named Stack, who is suspected of being connected with the recent incendiarism in Adelaide has been arrested while about to commit a further act, and has been committed for trial.

A fierce whirlwind was experienced on the Papakao Plain on Tuesday afternoon. The wind lifted the roof off a blacksmith's shop, overturned two threshing mills, leaving one with its wheels in the air, knocked down trees, and levelled everything that stood in its way. The area it passed over was fortunately not large.

Further precaution against dynamite outrages have been taken in London.

Governesses, housekeepers, or servants in search of employment, or employers needing help of any kind may apply with advantage to themselves at Mrs. Dick's Registry Office, Moray Place, Dunedin.

The *Century* for December very properly gives the place of honour, its opening pages, to an extremely well written article by Professor Edward Dowlen, on Dublin City. The writer is not especially an admirer of Castle government of foreign domination, though he is a Professor in Trinity College. "Seventy years ago," he says, "Dublin was the second city of the British Empire, and only half a dozen capitals in Europe exceeded it in population and extent." He alludes with merited scorn to the wretched toadyism represented in the statues of the ignoble royal Georges which ornament the Irish capital and which provoked the angry disgust of Thackeray. "Absurd enough," he exclaims, "but only a petty fragment of the huge absurdity that Ireland might do honor to anything, provided only it was not Irish." The etymology of the name "Chapelizod," which will be remembered in connection with the Phoenix Park assassinations, will reveal to many readers an interesting connection with Round Table romance. The picture of "genteel" Dublin, its Philistinism, its sycophancy, the university whence "no wave of thought has ever spread abroad and ruffled the blue inane," a whimsical anecdote of Dr. Barrett, and a touching glimpse of poor Clarence Mangan—these and a score of other facts and fancies add to the piquancy of the interesting sketch. Our essayist is no respecter of persons, we fear, for he ridicules with equal impartiality the rhodomontade apparent in certain patriotic works and the Brummagem grandeur of Castle dignitaries and high society. Still the sketch is more sympathetic than critical, and it would be a supersensitive reader who would find fault with its gentle satire. The whole essay will repay perusal, and its closing sentence is not too prophetic to be probable: "Placed as we are between you (John and Jonathan), we want to hold hands with both, and dream of the day far distant still—when we shall be as a link to bind together the kindred democracies of England and America."