

munications between the maritime ports on both coasts of Germany. In case of a general European war this would prove of immense importance; while in a commercial sense it will bring the Baltic ports nearer by three hundred miles to German vessels than they are now to those of England, which have hitherto enjoyed almost a monopoly of that trade.

**FATHER RYAN** addressing the people on his release **BOLD WORDS.** from Kilmainham, said:—On this the first opportunity after his release from prison, he wished to proclaim that he would hereafter, as before, uphold the Plan of Campaign by every means in his power within the law of God. He would adopt that plan or any plan which would root out landlordism and dishonesty from the sacred soil of Ireland. If he had been at liberty he would have accompanied O'Brien to Canada. He had a plan in his own mind which would knock the bottom out of the Coercion Act, in the district of Herbertstown at any rate. He would oppose it himself by every means in his power and the result would probably be that he would eat his Christmas dinner in Limerick county gaol. (Cheers.) At least a hundred men, lay and clerical, could be found in each county who would bind themselves to resist this bill to the utmost of their power. How could Lord Salisbury and the rest get gaols to put these 20,000 or 30,000 men into? There were only 5,000 cells in Ireland, and where could accommodation be found for the remainder, except, indeed, a new industry was developed in the country, the erection of prisons.

**LAND OWNERSHIP.** To abolish private ownership of land (says the *Greensburg Press*) would be to go backward. The acquirement of land by the individual marked one of the most important epochs in the history of civilisation. Your savage races have no individual ownership in land. It is the man who comes to stay that wants to own the soil he tills. The drone and loafer in the community is always against the industrious man who accumulates.

**AN AMERICAN SAINT.** **REVS. M. A. WALSH, N. Cantwell, P. C. O'Reilly, B. Villager, Joseph Wirth, and John Fitzmaurice,** of Philadelphia, (says the *Catholic Record*) were in the city of Scranton, Pa., on Monday, on their return from Carbondale, where they took the testimony of Rev. Father Carew in connection with the proposed canonization of the late Bishop Neumann of Philadelphia. Bishop Neumann is buried at St. Peter's Church, 5th and Girard aves, Philadelphia. It is said that many people have been cured of bodily ailments by praying at his grave. The matter of his canonization has been under consideration for some time.

**CONVERTS.** **OUR** readers (says the *Catholic Columbian*), may have learned of the ordination as a Jesuit priest of Henry Van Rensselaer, a member of one of the oldest New York Knickerbocker families. It is gratifying that so many conversions have come from some of the first families of our country—men and women of extensive research and much learning. One of the Van Rensselaers, who still holds on to the old Protestant fort, thus explained it to a reporter—"The trouble began with Euphemia. She became infatuated with the ceremonies of the Catholic Church and went over to it. Then she proselyted her sister and her sister's husband, and finally she succeeded in winning over Henry."—Blessings on Euphemia, say we . . . Miss Miriam Armstrong, the daughter of the famous preacher of Atlanta, Ga., was received into the Church last week. . . . Many converts from Judaism, Episcopalianism, and Methodism, were made during a recent mission at St. Gabriel's Church, New York, in which the Jesuits were active workers.

**UNWELCOME TRUTHS.** **THE** Tory leaders in London (says a telegram to the American papers), are furious over the drubbing which Mr. Gladstone administered to them in his Swansea speech. They could stand any amount of logical argument against coercion, but to be told they are stupid apprentices at legislation, and that they do not know how to do even the mechanical work of framing a bill, is too much for their equanimity. The Grand Old Man's language in this speech on the Welsh hills was more in the incisive vein of Disraeli than in his own style of calm and polished declamation. "I have had much to do with legislation," he said in one part of his speech, "but I do not recollect ever having introduced a bill so badly constructed that a clause of thirty-four lines should, before it was passed through committee, have swollen to one hundred. It shows that so many faults were hit, so many weak points discovered, that in spite of their overwhelming majority, they were obliged to let the clause be expanded and put into passable shape. The reason business is delayed is that those who are doing it do not know how to do it."

**OMINOUS CONFIRMATION.** **THE** bursting of Nordenfeldt guns on board H.M.S's Carlew and Black Prince, as reported by cable coming by way of a practical comment on the speech recently delivered on naval and military affairs by Lord Randolph Churchill, can hardly have a reassuring effect upon the English mind.—Lord Randolph speaking at Wolverhampton the other day gave a very melancholy account of the state of preparation in which England must find herself, should a war immediately occur—and made known a condition of things that is alarming in the extreme.—Germany he said, at an annual expense of 21,000,000 sterling, could in the space of a month put into the field a million and a half of armed men.—France at an annual expense of 29,000,000 sterling could do the same. But England, at an annual expense of 31,000,000 sterling could possibly place in the field 150,000 men.—In the matter of guns, projectiles, means of transport, and all warlike necessities, the country was, moreover, far behindhand.—The speaker went on to support his statements by giving facts that had actually occurred and which showed the extent to which neglect and mismanagement had prevailed.—After the bombardment of Alexandria for example, the supply of heavy shells on board two of the principal ironclads had run so short that had the French fleet returned on a hostile mission they must have been captured. At a recent time, again, when war seemed imminent, heavy guns for the turrets of the Monarch, one of the most powerful ironclads, were not forthcoming at Portsmouth; and of two guns manufactured obstinately at an expense of 20,000, contrary to the advice of the Messrs: Armstrong, and placed on board the Collingwood, one burst at the second round of firing with only half the charge. The construction of the vessels again, said Lord Randolph, was most faulty.—Two built at an expense of £800,000 were found unmanageable and useless if they steamed more than eight miles an hour; another, as it proved, drew four feet more water than it had been intended she should draw, and all her armour consequently was submerged, so that she was left unprotected. Six very large ships, intended especially to defend the coast, were to all intents and purposes utterly unprotected. And it had been discovered that seven other vessels, about to be built and which were designed to have eighteen inches of belt of armour above the water-line, when they had taken in their full quantity of coal would have their armour six inches below it.—Such, with a great deal more of the same kind, was the description given by Lord Randolph Churchill of the condition of the navy—the great reliance of the British Empire, and that which is looked upon as making it impregnable.—And the bursting of the guns now reported comes, as we said, by way of confirmation strong.

**NO MIXED MARRIAGES.** **ARCHBISHOP LYNCH,** of Toronto, has issued the following order to all the priests in his diocese in Ontario:—"You will please announce to your people that we have determined to grant no dispensations for mixed marriages when the woman is a non-Catholic. Experience of many years has proved that a Protestant mother cannot raise her children Catholics, and she is thus unable to comply with the essential condition on which such a dispensation is granted. They may apply to Rome direct if they will."

**VALUABLE TESTIMONY.** **PROFESSOR STUART, M.P.** for Shoreditch, Hoxton, has written the following letter to a gentleman in Omagh on the anti-coercion meeting held there:—"Londonderry, May 31, 1887. Dear Sir,—I cannot leave this part of the country without expressing my admiration of the peaceful and orderly character of the magnificent meeting in which I had the honour of taking part yesterday at Omagh, and my astonishment, as an Englishman visiting your country, at the persistent misrepresentation to which the character of such meetings is subject in the English anti-Home Rule Press. The crowds of police and military who were brought into the town, and which are represented in the Unionist Press as necessary for keeping the peace, were not only unnecessary, but entitled to anyone who attended the meeting must feel to have been a reprehensible and wholly uncalled for expenditure of public money.—I am yours faithfully,—JAMES STUART." This (says the *Dublin Freeman*) is a pretty plain expression of opinion by a leading representative Englishman on the strength of the National cause in Ulster.

I will not mention names, (writes the London **DE LISLE & CO.** correspondent of the *Brooklyn Catholic Review*), but the fashion in English society—among the richer or more aristocratic Catholic sections—is to speak and write of the Irish nation as being in immoral rebellion against the constituted and (blessed) unity of the Empire. The sympathies of such English Catholics are not with, but against, the Irish. They do not put forward, when they write letters to the *Times* or to the *Tablet*, or to some Protestant statesman, the huge claim that Irishmen have upon their gratitude for helping them to their (present) English Catholic liberties; they never allude to the past sufferings of the Irish, on account of both their religious faith and of their national patriotism.