

WHAT a happy mistake was that made by the police inspector at the Herbertstown evictions, who beat so severely the friend of an English M.P.—that is, happy not for the victim—who, perhaps, found that friendship occasionally proved costly and led into dangerous positions, but for the Irish cause, on which it must throw some light. Had this English gentleman not been beaten by him the inspector would not have apologised, and had he not apologised no Englishman would ever have guessed the motives that led to his conduct. "I mistook him," he said, "for an Irish member. They pay us out in the House of Commons, and we mean to pay them out in Ireland. "Does not this explain whole chapters of Parnellism and crime, and can it fail to produce a profound effect among the English people to whom it is now credibly reported? Never, indeed, did a man receive a thrashing more fortunately for someone else.

AFTER the affair at Mitchelstown, a young man was seen to dip his handkerchief in the blood of one of the men who had been killed, and then folding it carefully to put it in his pocket—with the declaration that he would keep it as long as he lived in memory of the murder that had been done. It is thus that the records of the past have been faithfully preserved among the Irish people, and there is nothing to wonder at, therefore, if generation after generation renew the struggle that their fathers carried on, and show themselves true inheritors of their traditions, their sentiments, and their spirit.

THERE is a new and promising field of labour being prepared for the Chiniquys and other sons of the gospel light, who devote themselves to the extinction of Popery. It exists in Korea, where complaint is made by a Protestant missionary that unless the members of his sect do their duty a little more energetically—in supporting the mission, we conclude—there will be a "Romish instead of a heathen people to convert." But, as we all know the ease with which a Romish people are converted, this should form matter for congratulation in Evangelical quarters. The Protestant missionary, who delivers his lament in the columns of the *Yokohama Daily Herald*, thus describes the work of the Catholic missions:—"They have, as you know, a large following in Korea of the natives, and from those that we have seen, they have some noble converts. These men are all trained to work in some way or other for the cause, and thus they have a host of workers. For the training of these men they have now in Korea, as far as I can learn, ten, if not more, French priests—all but two of whom are well versed in Korean, and they have just added to their Korean-Romanist literature several tons of tracts, all of which are neat specimens of work, and go far ahead of any other Korean printing that has yet been done by foreigners. They have already bought a large tract of land on the main street of Seoul, near the centre of the city, on which they expect in a few years to begin the erection of a cathedral. For the purpose of raising up a native ministry, they have from fifteen to twenty Koreans studying for holy orders in their theological seminary at Nagasaki." But what a glory it will be for our Evangelical friends when they have won all this over from Rome.

MR GLADSTONE, acknowledges himself to be in favour of the construction of the Channel tunnel. He looks to public opinion to settle the matter finally in a rational way:—"We believe," he says, "that it will dispose of part of that luxury of terror, that indulgence in the production of passion which unquestionably has become the most powerful agent of late years in the management of national concerns, I am afraid chiefly in retarding benefits, but while we look upon it with patience we know that it will go by after a while."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S tour in Ulster is eminently worthy of the tactics of "Toryism." It is both vicious and weak, the one because it attempts to revive the worst features that have ever prevailed in connection with Ireland's misgovernment and wretchedness, that is, those of religious bigotry; the other because it seeks to make up for failure in England by recourse to a completely inadequate substitute. As to the success attributed to it in certain quarters, and the fear said to overwhelm the Home Rulers, they may be taken for what they are worth. We find the programme predicted in the national papers which covered it with ridicule in advance. They knew that Mr. Chamberlain was coming, and were not much ruffled at the anticipation of what his visit must produce.

It is rumoured that the Duke of Devonshire has been converted to Home Rule by Mr. Gladstone, and that his Grace is endeavouring to persuade his son, Lord Hartington to follow his example. But, if so, and whatever the probabilities are it is not impossible, Lord Hartington does not seem as yet to have given a favourable response. His Lordship, we see, calls on the Liberal Unionists to reunite for the purpose of maintaining law and order in Ireland. But we fear he calls in vain. If they separated in full view of the situation, their sin was certainly against light and there is no place of repentance for them. But if the Tories possessed of all the powers of coercion

fail, what hope of success is there for the Liberal-Unionists! The only reliance of either party must be on the English people, and how they stand affected towards them their undisguised and openly confessed dread of an appeal to the country sufficiently reveals.—"Thank God," says the *Times*, "there can be no dissolution for 470 years."

THE unsatisfactory state of the French War Office may be about to lead to a serious danger for the nation. Recently the secret plans of the mobilisation of an army corps were sold by some of the clerks to a prominent newspaper, and now a general officer is accused of selling decorations. In consequence of some remarks made on the Government by him about this, General Boulanger has been placed under arrest—with a threat that the question of depriving him of his command will also be considered. But the result is that the General obtains the strong support of the Chamber of Deputies, and, possibly to save himself and gain the mastery, meditates an immediate war with Germany. All depends now on the disposition of the army. If they believe in the fortunes and capacity of the General and are prepared to follow his lead, the fate of France is in his hands. It is to be feared, however, that the corruption which certainly prevails at the head may pervade the whole body, and that once more want of preparation and dishonest management may bring about the fall of France. Boulanger, as he at present exists, is a constant threat to the safety of the country, and the position he fills can hardly be much longer submitted to. But in his knowledge that it is so lies the climax of the danger.

WHAT may be the pertinence of Mr. Chamberlain's remarks at Belfast as to the connection between England and her colonies—as reported by the cable?—He surely does not suppose that federation will make the authority of the Imperial Government press more heavily on the Colonies that it does at present. But if the Colonies in federation, preserving even more independence of the Imperial Government than Ireland claims, remain united to the Empire, it is difficult to see why a federated Ireland under more modified circumstances should become totally independent. As to the characteristics of a distinct nationality they will continue to exist as hitherto whatever may be done, and all the question is as to whether they shall be friendly or hostile. Mr. Chamberlain's tour will not conduce much to the interests of friendship.

CERTAINLY the machine-guns are needed. There is Mr. O'Brien with the stifling air of the black hole at Cork hardly expelled from his offended lungs, and with the certain knowledge that the door of the cell may again be closed on him in a few days, still defying all the powers of Coercion—holding a meeting that has been proclaimed, and publicly burning the proclamation. Never before was an unfortunate lion so bearded in his den, and never were law and order so contemptuously cast to the winds—hardly, however, to the winds of heaven, which would have nothing to do with them. The *St. James's Gazette* is right, the machine-guns are needed, and, if men of iron can be found to fire them so much the better. Perhaps, nevertheless, humanity rather than machinery, if it were tried for once, might answer all the purposes legitimately required.

THE Government, in prosecuting Mr. T. D. Sullivan, were late in the field. When the League was proclaimed, the editor of the *Nation* had openly defied them by printing in return a proclamation in his paper denouncing the attempt made on the liberty of the Press. Notwithstanding the penalty denounced, of six months' imprisonment, he declared that he would publish every report sent to him of the proceedings of any branch of the League suppressed. He further advised that the branches should not court suppression, but that under it, if pronounced, they should continue to act as usual—holding their meetings, in secret if necessary, and carrying on their business. We see that they have taken Mr. Sullivan's advice, and that he has been as good as his word. But as for the Government, they have proved themselves beneath contempt.

MR. GLADSTONE, in opening the Liberal Conference at Nottingham, where he has received a great ovation, most happily characterised the methods of the Government in Ireland as "impertinence." The word is one of those terms whose meaning is not easily definable, although we all understand it. It, however, well expresses a combination of pig-headed obstinacy, paltry self-conceit, and an insolent disregard to the advice and remonstrances of all who understand the country's needs. It is evident, as Mr. Gladstone also believes, that under such a Government mischief must result in every part of the United Kingdom.

Mr. J. W. Hall's hydropathic establishment and Turkish baths, Octagon, Dunedin, are recommended as affording an approved system of treatment for persons suffering from various illnesses. Mr. Hall is a perfect master of the system, and patients may entrust themselves with confidence to his care.