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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

**BRAZENING
IT OUT.**

THE following, which the London *Globe* publishes as an extract from the *Times* of February 22, 1890, is not without merit as a specimen of Tory wit. It is, however, a specimen of wit under difficulties, and

forced to have recourse to what is very far-fetched. We give it to our readers for what it is worth, and so that they may have a glimpse of another side of the question. "Yesterday, at Killabobby, the charge against Mr. O'Breeches, M.P., of inciting a crowd to a riot, which ended in the murder of six policemen was heard. The elegant, velvet-cushioned throne, which had been erected on the bench for the accommodation of the prisoner, was much admired, though the magistrates were understood to complain bitterly of being obliged to stand in the well of the court among the onlookers. The court was densely crowded. Ten o'clock was the hour appointed for the hearing of the charge, but the special saloon train which conveyed the prisoner from Dublin was a little late, owing to his making rather a long speech to his friends on the Dublin platform. The prisoner was driven from the railway station to the court in the Lord Mayor of Dublin's state-coach, lent for the occasion. Precisely at eleven o'clock, Mr. O'Breeches, who wore a light check suit of the broadest pattern entered the court, and was conducted to the throne, where he took his seat amid cheers, and proceeded to light a cigar. The particulars of the affair have already been given in our columns, and after formal evidence of the speech and the subsequent riot, the presiding magistrate, who on beginning to speak was severely jostled, said:—'We find the prisoner guilty, and we sentence him to one month's imprisonment in the New Palace and the 10,000 acres of ground attached thereto, which the Government have, at the cost of one million pounds, opened at the Lakes of Killarney for the reception of political prisoners.' The Prisoner (excitedly): I object entirely to go to any palace in Ireland. I have never been in such a palace in my life. The magistrate was understood to say that he was very sorry, but that was the best he could do for him. The Prisoner: I protest against the brutality of your sentence. The Magistrate: My dear sir, I am very sorry for you, but what better place could you choose? The Prisoner: My health is weak, and the brutal and infamous Government is trying to murder me. I claim my rights as an Irish citizen to spend the month in a trip to America (loud applause). The Magistrate (after consulting with his brother): We have come to the conclusion that under all the circumstances we will accede to your request. The Prisoner: I shall go in the Royal yacht. The Magistrate: Her Majesty will doubtless place her yacht and her servants at your disposal. The Prisoner: I protest against the sentence beginning to run until next Thursday, as I must see my tailor in London to get some yachting clothes. The Magistrate: Very well, a month from next Thursday. The prisoner then descended from the throne, and, amid deafening cheers, was carried out of court by the crowd, and subsequently returned to Dublin by special saloon train. In the evening a mass meeting was held at Killabobby to protest against the fiendish, inhuman, and infamous brutality of the Government in unlawfully banishing Mr. O'Breeches beyond the seas, and the magistrates and the Chief Secretary were burnt in effigy." According to a well known proverb, ridicule kills. Ridicule, however, that is driven to such extremes as those implied in our quotation kills the cause on whose side it is employed. The fun of this interesting "skit" partakes rather of the nature of the sardonic grin. But such as it is, we may as well get as much amusement as we can out of it. Why should not our adversaries grin for our amusement if it so pleases them?

GENERAL BOULANGER, who is always a Republican but a Republican of a very different disposition, according to his own showing, from those who now

REASSURING.

hold the reins of power in France, has lately, among the rest, professed himself in favour of strict moderation, and more especially with regard to religion. The Republic, he says, should provide the

country with religious peace by an absolute respect for all creeds and all opinions. This is an utterance that whatever may have been the true mind of the speaker, is deserving of serious attention, and may be looked upon as reassuring in a considerable degree. Whether General Boulanger was sincere or not is not a matter of material consequence—although undoubtedly, if he were so, it should entitle his claims to a consideration of which otherwise they hardly appear worthy. But it requires a certain stretch of credulity to believe it possible that a pretender, among whose chief supporters are to be found some of the most virulent enemies that religion possesses in all the world, can be sincere in such a profession. *Times Danaos* appears, under the circumstance, a very apt and prudent motto. Boulanger, however, perceives the need that any one who aspires to favour in France has of the support of the religious element in the country. He evidently recognises the blunder made by the existing republic in ranking itself as an open opponent of religion, and notes that in the long run such a policy must prove destructive. He sees that, whatever may be her faults or her failings, France still remains Catholic, and that the Catholic feeling there is certainly destined sooner or later to reassert itself. Perhaps he has reason to believe that the apathy shown in political matters by the Catholics of the country, for which it is difficult to acquit them of a very grave fault, is about to be surmounted, and therefore desires to avail himself for his own ends of the change. His associations, however, are such that it is impossible not to suspect his sincerity, or that were he to attain to power he would do anything more than adopt a change of tactics, and replace a more open system of attack by one of greater subtlety. The old text still holds good, *Dis moi qui tu hantes et je te dirai qui tu es* and the General's alliance, for example, with M. Rochefort, must speak for itself. It is too much to hope that the party whom M. Rochefort represents have themselves admitted the folly of their war against the Church, and are ready, should the occasion offer, to make at least a truce with her. And yet, if possible, we would give even M. Rochefort the benefit of the doubt. The fact, however, remains manifest that General Boulanger perceives the inherent power of Catholicism in France, and knows that it has only to put forth its force to make itself effectually felt. Even in this there is reassurance for those who take an interest in the welfare of religion as well as in that of France herself.

THE Lord, it appears, possesses a very handsome property near London. The property in question is a FORTUNATE *locum tenens*. The property as described

by a certain Dr. Hatcher, a minister of the sect from America, who has lately paid it a visit, is evidently a very delightful one,—extensive grounds highly cultivated; a park abounding in trees and flowers and adorned with statuary; lawns the perfection of neatness and beauty; lakes and streams covered with waterfowl; a home, crowning one of the loftiest hills of London, capacious, and furnished with almost everything that can please the eye or administer to the comfort of its inmates; a fine conservatory and spacious gardens. "The house of his chief steward, situated at the rear of his garden, was a cosy cottage, in excellent order, and very neat and pretty. There were also rich and verdant meadows, in which could be seen several fat milk cows, evidently of superior stock. His stables—well, my party had just a few days before gone through the Royal stables at Windsor Castle, and we agreed that, in point of neatness and beauty of arrangement, they were not one whit ahead of the stables at Beulah-hill. Mr. Spurgeon has not so many horses and carriages as her Majesty has, for he has no need of so many, but he has enough for his purpose, and that, too, of the best sort. His private carriage is very superior, his horses are finely kept, light-footed, and beautiful, and his driver, dressed in livery, looks like a gentleman of rank. Mr. Spurgeon has also a fondness for fowl-raising, and there must have been several hundred chickens in his poultry yard the day I peeped into it. Indeed, I fancied that he has a little of everything in his richly-endowed home at Beulah-hill."—So far so good, say we—the very fine abode of a wealthy man, splendidly maintained. This, at least, is what the worldly-minded perceive in all this, and being worldly-minded they

cannot be expected to perceive anything else.—What the elect, however, perceive is a property held in trust for the Lord, and wholly to be surrendered to Him when it reaches what Mr. Spurgeon himself calls the "high-water mark of value." But let us hope the ascent of this property may still continue for many years, as the change, for example, from carriages fit for her Majesty the Queen to commoner modes of conveyance would be severely felt by the highly favoured *locum tenens*. If meantime, Mr. Spurgeon has honestly earned his fortune why should he not boldly enjoy it without such pretences as that alluded to, which, at least to the worldly-minded, savour strongly of hypocrisy?

ACCORDING to the evidence of the constables given in Father McFadden's case before the Magistrate's court at Letterkenney, the unfortunate Inspector Martin, appears to have been very much a victim of his own rashness—and there, moreover, appears

FATHER
MCFADDEN'S
CASE.

very little to excuse the violent and public condemnations which, notwithstanding that the case was *sub judice*, have been made of the priest. In the first instance, Martin began by threatening the people. If they did not go home he told them, some of them would get sore heads,—and this was before a stone had been thrown or a menacing gesture made, and merely in reference to a voice in the crowd that called out in Irish "Let not one man of you stir."—But it is evident that the spirit in which the Inspector was about to perform his task was no friendly one, and that it was very excusable for the people to distrust his attitude towards their priest. There was, besides, a good deal of needless violence shown by the Inspector in the manner in which he made the arrest. There was nothing to hinder him from walking quietly with Father McFadden the short distance that led to the house, and arresting him there when sheltered from the people. Instead of this he seized hold of the priest, an action that was a little afterwards repeated by one of the sergeants in his company. Some of the men present then pushed themselves in between Father McFadden and the Inspector, and the latter drew his sword. A woman immediately cried out that he had struck the priest, and this caused intense excitement, particularly among those at the back who could not see what was going on. Stone-throwing began and the terrible event of the Inspector's death was the consequence. Father McFadden, however, was seen at his window begging the people to go away and calling out "This is a horrible thing." Bashfulness, if not malevolence and a settled determination to stir up a riot, has certainly been proved against the Inspector by his own men, and, although there is no excuse to be offered for murder, those who understand human nature must take into consideration the manner in which passion and wild excitement drive men beside themselves and render them less accountable for their deeds. The position in which the people were placed again, was not voluntary, but was forced upon them wantonly as it seems, and at least with every appearance of perverse intention. The denunciations, therefore, that have been made with such recklessness and violence bear all the marks of wilful misrepresentation and of an attempt to combine vengeance in this particular instance with a party triumph.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON has recently published a powerful indictment of the folly of the Tories. The effect of their action, he says, will be to bring Conservatism, property, and the whole machinery of Government, into collision with the English people. Mr. Harrison points to the National Protest as a most pregnant sign of the times. The movement, he says, was unprecedented. The money subscribed in a few days, and the numbers of adherents were extraordinary. The indictment presented by the great meeting in London, representing the backbone of Radicalism, was such as has seldom been heard for centuries in England. The heroes of the day, moreover, were two Irish Nationalists, whom the Government had been employed in crushing by criminal charges and vindictive punishments—and in two days one of the strongholds of London Conservatism ratified the enthusiasm by a transfer of more than one thousand votes. "Can the dullest fail to see that the game is up?" asks the writer. Mr. Harrison goes on to point out that a Government has never succeeded in crushing by judicial sentences and savage treatment any man whom large bodies of Englishmen regarded as martyrs. The indictment, he says again, brought by the great meetings of the National Protest is substantially the same as that on which the English people have twice driven kings from the throne. "The Stuart Governments now and then threw into prison a member of Parliament; Lord Salisbury has systematically thrown into prison twenty-four members within as many months. The charges made against Stuart Governments were—vindictive prosecutions of political opponents, straining of the law by judicial instruments, tampering with the freedom of trial by jury, oppression by the arbitrary acts of usurpulous instruments, making *ex-post facto* laws or interpretations of law as a mere party weapon, making 'crimes' out of spoken words without any proof of criminal intent or criminal effect, attempting to crush opposition by perjured

evidence and trumped-up charges, and, finally, the fermenting of hatred between the people of England and the people of Ireland. These were the high crimes and misdemeanours which twice cost Stuart kings their throne. These are precisely the crimes which are now being brought home day by day against Lord Salisbury's Government. And this last week has shown that London believes these charges to be true." The differences that exist, adds Mr. Harrison, are on the surface only. They consist in the fact that the unconstitutional acts of Lord Salisbury are done in Ireland and against Irishmen, and that they are done under cover of Act of Parliament. But the time is past when Englishmen will permit gross oppression in Ireland, and even to save the Empire they will not endure the prostitution of justice. "Nor is the plea any better that they are done by Act of Parliament and in legal form. Oppression, it is true, has been organised into a science; and a temporary majority has been clever enough to disguise proscription in a statutory garb. So have other Governments, despotic or revolutionary, and have gained little by it but increased indignation and contempt. Henry VIII's enormities, as well as his judicial murders, were usually perpetrated by Act of Parliament. The decrees of the Convention of 1793 were perfectly legal—in form. But the statutes of an oppressive Government and the decrees of a revolutionary Convention are reversed as easily as they are passed. The real question for us is whether these statutes and proceedings are just, sound, and constitutional in essence, as well as regular in form. And if they are not, they will be swept away along with their guilty contrivers. The people do not forget that the Tory party is a party in a minority, that they got a momentary power by the desertion of a renegade faction, that they won their seats by repudiating all idea of coercion, that they lived only to secure coercion, that they passed coercion by the closure, by defrauding the public, by lying accusations, and by forged letters, that they have carried out coercion in the face of indignant signs of national irritation, and in a way that belies their solemn pledges in Parliament. The people will not forget this, and they will not be satisfied that violations of all our constitutional traditions can be covered by the trick of Parliamentary manoeuvres and the dexterous manipulation of legal procedure. Nor are they likely to forget that it was a Tory Government and a Unionist policy which set at defiance the usages of centuries and the spirit of English liberty, and for the first time for two hundred years resorted to those revolutionary methods and persecuting devices that have always marked desperate cases within measurable distance of insurrection and civil strife." We may add that this powerful letter of Mr. Harrison's quite explains to us the frequent petitions and renewed instances reported lately of the Coercionist leaders. In their fatuousness they have nailed their colours to the mast and are determined to go to the bottom in their unseaworthy ship. Mr. Harrison well compares them to the Stuarts, who also were fatuous and pig-headed, receiving the reward they merited, and involving in their ruin those who foolishly, though faithfully, adhered to them.

American Notes.

The 4th of March is now regularly celebrated all over the United States in memory of Robert Emmet. This year the 11th anniversary of the patriot's birth occurred. In all the towns meetings were held and demonstrations made, many of them on a very large and important scale, and at most of them the Home Rule question entered into the subjects discussed, and was warmly advocated. One of the most remarkable speeches made on the occasion was that delivered at Scranton, by Captain O'Meagher Condon. Among other things he reverted to the evidence lately given in England by Major Le Caron. Le Caron, he said, had declared that the sympathy with Irish Nationalism shown by President Garfield had been injurious to the British Government. Was it not possible then, he asked, that this spy or some of his associates had instigated Guiteau. Facts had come to light which made it seem probable that the Haymarket riots in Chicago had been inspired by a similar influence. The speaker claimed a right to demand that the Government of the States should call on that of England to withdraw their spies from the country. He himself, he added, had known of their presence in Washington for the purpose making their reports to the British Minister.

A movement is on foot in Brockton, Mass., for the erection of a monument to the memory of Colonel Thomas H. Cass, of the "old Irish 9th." Colonel Cass was an Irish-American soldier, a native of the Queen's County, Ireland, who distinguished himself in the civil war. His regiment in the course of three years passed through forty-two engagements, fighting bravely and losing heavily in all. The Colonel was mortally wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill, and died on June 12, 1862.

St. Patrick's Day was, as usual, observed with splendour and enthusiasm all over the States. The most noteworthy feature in the whole celebration, however, was the prominence, for three days, of the Irish flag on the City Hall at New York, where last year the bigotry of Mayor Hewitt had forbidden it to be hoisted. It was greeted this year with redoubled enthusiasm, as its presence was

taken not only as an honour to Ireland, but as a token of the victory gained over bigotry and know-nothingism. All the citizens, except the small and narrow British faction, sympathised with their Irish townsmen in the joy and triumph felt by them.

Major Le Caron having denied Mr. Powderly's statement relative to the proposal made by him for the destruction of railroad property, Mr. Powderly replies that he holds both the letter and the envelope with the impress of his dating stamp of April 3, 1886. He says he is further advised by men along the Missouri Pacific line that they are in possession of evidence which can bring Le Caron back in handcuffs to the States. There is also a probability that evidence will be forthcoming to prove the spy a criminal of a much deeper dye than has as yet been revealed with regard to him. The probabilities seem, therefore, to be that Le Caron has been, as the saying is, too clever by half.

It is reported that the Mexican Government have offered to sell the peninsula of Lower California to the States for a sum of twenty million dollars. The offer, if the report be true, is considered a most important one which should be accepted without delay, as not only would a vast tract of fertile country, rich in all the products of the tropics be thus acquired but the outlet of the great river Colorado would become exclusively American. The position of the peninsula, moreover, is such as to mark it out as intended by nature for annexation to the United States.

The question of the seal fisheries of Behring sea has been decided very sharply and promptly by President Harrison. The President has issued a proclamation declaring the sea a closed sea. This practically ends the controversy as to whether the United States in purchasing Alaska from Russia had secured the full rights to which that country laid claim. The Government of President Cleveland showed a disposition to make concessions on this point, and last year they were considered to have acted weakly in ordering the release of certain British seamen who had been arrested for poaching. President Harrison's decision has put an end to all doubt. It is also taken as proving the determination of the President to act independently of all pro-British considerations.

A patriarchal lady named Anastasia Parsells, resident in Pamrapo, N.J., has celebrated her 103rd birthday. The old lady's memories extend back to many stirring events of the close of the last and the beginning of the present century. Among those she cherishes most is that of a kiss given her when she was a child by George Washington. Her faculties are in good preservation, and, as her age is undeniably established, her case is a very interesting one.

An impudent attempt defeated last year in the Massachusetts Legislature has been renewed. The attempt in question is to close the Catholic schools and force the attendance of the Catholic children at those of the State. The matter is now being argued before the Legislative Committee on Education. The claim made is fourfold. (1.) That local bodies shall have an absolute right of inspection and supervision of all private schools; (2.) that parents and guardians causing children to attend any school or tutor, however efficient, except that approved of by the committee, shall be subject to a heavy penalty; (3.) that school committees shall only approve of teaching in the English tongue, and of text books selected by themselves; (4.) that any person attempting to influence parents or guardians in their choice of a school shall be subject to a heavy fine. The allusion to the English language is in relation to the numbers of French children now in the State, and to the pretence that a disposition exists on the part of French Canadian immigrants to revolutionise the conditions of society there. There is very little attempt made to hide the fact that the whole undertaking is an attack on the Catholic schools, which these bigots would close in any way possible to them. It is, however, hardly possible that they can succeed in anything so completely out of keeping with the American spirit of freedom.

The death at Heidelberg, on February 21, of James C. Flood, of California, is reported. Flood was one of the four Bonanza Kings, as they were called, and had made an enormous fortune in the Comstock mine. He was born of Irish parents at Staten Island in October, 1826, and worked at his trade of a carpenter until the gold fever of 1849 broke out, when he sailed for San Francisco, via Cape Horn. As a miner he was successful, and had retired from the occupation to a farm in Illinois, where he met O'Brien, subsequently another of the Kings. In partnership with him he opened a saloon, and afterwards a stock exchange. The fortunate purchase of the Comstock mine by the partners, including also Fair and McKay, resulted in the famous wealth of which all the world has heard. All four were either themselves Irishmen or of Irish parentage.

Mrs. Leonora M. Barry, the female organiser of the Knights of Labour, gives rather a melancholy account of the state of affairs in Georgia, where she has been making a tour of inquiry. Child labour, she finds, is largely employed in the cotton mills. In some instances a woman by running eight looms is able to make 1 dol. 50 cents a day; but, as this involves the labour of two weavers, there are few whose strength is sufficient to maintain it for any length of time. The efforts of the Knights of Labour have succeeded in shortening the hours from 12 to 10 a day, but, so despirited are the poor creatures that they do not seem to hope that much more can be done for them. The wages a first-class carpenter can earn are from 1 dol. 25 cents. to 1 dol. 75 cents. a day. Mrs. Barry calls on the Knights to bestir themselves in the matter, and indeed she seems to have good reason to do so.

A band of burglars drilled open the safe of an Oregon editor and escaped with a lot of bills that had been made out to send to delinquent subscribers and the largest ear of corn that was raised there last year.

"PIGOTT AND I."

(Truth, March 7.)

THIS is how Pigott was discovered to be the forger of the *Times* letters. Mr. Egan found such a similarity of phrases in the genuine letters and the forged letters that he was certain that the latter were fabricated from the former. An emissary soon after came over with the Egan drafts and with Pigott's letters (one of which contained that blessed word "hesitancy"), to which the former were replies, and with the copies of Mr. Parnell's letters. Now it was absolutely impossible that the similarities, amounting in one case to three consecutive lines, could be a mere chance. It was, therefore, a mathematical certainty that Pigott had forged the letters. On Mr. George Lewis being retained, I handed them over to him, and he proceeded to get up Pigott's "record," only a portion of which came before the court, but a portion amply sufficient to show that he had lived for years on blackmailing, forgery, and treachery.

I went off to Germany, and there a chance conversation revealed to me the fact that the letters had been offered to Lord Hartington by Mr. Houston, the secretary of the Loyal and Patriotic Association. Houston was, therefore, at once subpoenaed. It later transpired that he had offered them to the *Pull Mall Gazette* before he sold them to the *Times*. Two facts were consequently certain. Houston had sold the letters, and Pigott had forged them. Although we were ourselves certain of the latter fact, it seemed incredible that Houston had bought the letters direct from Pigott, or that the *Times* had bought them from Houston, either knowing that they had been procured by Pigott (for Pigott's evil reputation was notorious), or not knowing how and from whom they had been procured. It became advisable, therefore, to use all efforts to learn whether the incredible was true.

About the middle of October, Mr. Egan sent over here a trusty emissary, with orders to report to me, and to see whether it would not be possible to buy of Pigott the originals of the Egan drafts, for he knew his man, and believed (rightly) that he would have no objection to sell anything that he possessed for a consideration. I sent this emissary to Kingstown, where Pigott was residing. Pigott declined to deal with the emissary, and said that he must be put in communication with some one whom he could trust. Pigott admitted that he had forged the letters, and suggested that he would give us a full confession and write to the Attorney-General and to the *Times* that he was the forger, if Mr. Lewis, would withdraw his subpoena and let him go to Australia. Mr. Lewis, as Pigott observed, was "severe." He said that there was no use beating about the bush, that Pigott had forged, and that if he supported his forgeries by perjury he would go to prison. Pigott renewed his proposal about the confession and Australia. Mr. Lewis would not hear of this. Mr. Lewis said, "Mind, whatever you do, don't give him any more money; if you do, he will bolt." After repeating the evidence which he gave in court, Mr. Labouchere describes his second interview as follows:—Pigott came about 10, and stayed until 1 a.m. Again he explained that he had forged, and gave me a good many details about the way in which he had done it, telling me, amongst other things, that he had given Houston three names as the sources of the letters, two of which were efforts of his imagination, and the third a real person. He seemed rather proud of his skill, and by encouraging his weakness I got everything out of him. I asked him how Houston could have been so easily fooled, and whether he was an absolute idiot. He replied that he was clever up to a point, but thought himself twice as clever as he was, and that these sort of persons are easily trapped. In this I agreed with him.

Again and again, with weary iteration, he came back to his plan to confess in writing, and then to go to Australia. I told him he surely must be sharp enough to see to what accusations this would subject me. "Why then do you want documents?" he said. "Because," I replied, "the issue is a political one. We have to deal with prejudiced Tories, and with such people you must put butter on bacon." "What documents do you want?" he asked. "Egan's letters; the original signatures from which you traced those of Egan and Parnell; and a few letters forged in my presence," I said. "I have not got Egan's letters; I destroyed them. I have not the signatures; I gave Houston the letter of Parnell from which I took his signature. I will, if you like, forge the letters in your presence. I will give you the names of three men from whom I got the letters, and I will give you the letters that Houston wrote to me," he answered. I said that I would not give exence for these without the two items that I mentioned, and he reiterated that he had not got them. He said that he was in a terrible mess, but that he saw no other course for him but to go into the box and swear that he had bought the letters, and that if they were forgeries he had been deceived. "You will be a fool if you do," I said; "but that is your affair, not mine. If I were in your place I should tell the truth, and ask for the indemnity." "That is all very well," he said but on what am I to live? And so we parted. If he had agreed to part with the originals, I should not have paid him on delivery. I should have promised to pay him after he had been in the box, and having so promised I should have kept my word; but having once got the originals in my hands, I should have kept them. Pigott gave me the impression of a very hand-to-mouth sort of personage, by no means wanting in cleverness of a certain kind, but, like all such persons, ready to risk everything for immediate gain, without much considering the consequences.

Then came his examination and his cross-examination. On the Saturday following his cross-examination I was at home, when my door opened, and some one was announced. It was Pigott. Respecting this interview I have already stated in the witness-box what took place. I pitied the man, because he really seemed to be thinking more of his children than himself, and it seemed to me that, bad as his previous career had been, he had, in this particular case, been as much sinned against as sinning.

My reading of the case is this: Certain persons did not lend Houston (the son of a warder in the Marshalsea prison in Dublin, and lately employed in the *Dublin Express* at 30s per week) money, but advanced him money to endeavour to get hold of documents com-

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promising to Mr. Parnell and his friends. Houston (whether with their knowledge or without) then entered into communication with Pigott, and sent him on a roving commission to procure such documents. Knowing, as Houston must have known, what sort of a man Pigott was, this was a positive premium on forgery. Pigott did "procure" them. Houston then took them to Lord Harrington, who would have nothing to do with them, and subsequently offered them to the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* for £1000, who declined to buy them. Then he went to the *Times*, and received £1700 for them. How much of this remained in his pocket does not appear, except that he said in his evidence that he retained £200 for his personal expenses.

Pigott has now killed himself. His determination to destroy himself must have been a sudden impulse, for he clearly went to Spain to live, not to die. I am sorry for the poor hunted and forlorn creature. I think that his confession to me was the plain, unvarnished truth. My indignation is reserved for Houston and Soames. Whether Sir Charles Russell was right or wrong in saying that there is a foul conspiracy behind Houston and Pigott, and whether that conspiracy was merely a conspiracy of folly or something worse, must be sifted to the bottom.

DAWN ON THE IRISH COAST.

(From the poems of the late John Locke.)

Th' anam 'san Dia! but there it is,
The dawn on the hills of Ireland!
God's angels lifting the night's black veil
From the fair, sweet face of my sireland!
Oh, Ireland, isn't it grand you look,
Like a bride in her rich adornin',
And with all the pent-up love of my heart,
I bid you the top of the mornin'.

This one short hour pays lavishly back
For many a year of mourning;
I'd almost venture another flight,
There's so much joy in returning—
Watching out for the hallowed shore,
All other attractions scornin';
Oh, Ireland, don't you hear me shout?
I bid you the top of the mornin'.

Ho—ho! upon Cliona's shelving strand,
The surges are grandly beating,
And Kerry is pushing her headlands out
To give us the kindly greeting;
Into the shore the sea-birds fly
On pinions that know no drooping;
And out from the cliffs, with welcome charged,
A million of waves come trooping.

Oh, kindly, generous, Irish land,
So leal and fair and loving,
No wonder the wandering Celt should think
And dream of you in his roving!
The alien home may have gems and gold—
Shadows may never have gloomed it;
But the heart will sigh for the absent land,
Where the love-light first illumed it.

And doesn't old Cove look charming there,
Watching the wild waves' motion,
Leaning her back against the hills,
And the tips of her toes in the ocean?
I wonder I don't hear Shandon's bells.
Ah, may be their chiming's over,
For its many a year since I began
The life of a Western rover.

For thirtysummers, *asthore, machree*
Those hills I now feast my eyes on,
Ne'er met my vision, save when they rose,
Over Memory's dim horizon.
Even so, 'twas grand and fair they seemed
In the landscape spread before me;
But dreams are dreams, and my eyes would ope
To see Texas' skies still o'er me.

Ah! often upon the Texan plains,
When the day and the chase were over,
My thoughts would fly o'er the weary wave,
And around this coast-line hover;
And the prayer would rise that, some future day,
All danger and doubtings scornin',
I'd help to win my native land
The light of young Liberty's mornin'.

Now fuller and truer the shore line shows—
Was ever a scene so splendid?
I feel the breath of the Munster breeze,
Thank God that my exile's ended.
Old scenes, old songs, old friends again—
The vale and the cot I was born in!
O Ireland, up from my heart of hearts,
I bid you the top of the mornin'!

A meeting of Irish-Americans was held a few days ago in Philadelphia, at which a resolution was passed asking the Pennsylvania Senators to take steps which will compel the English Government to reveal the number of its spies employed to work in its behalf in the United States, and to give their names.

CECILIAN CONCERT IN DUNEDIN.

A VERY successful concert and entertainment was given on Friday evening in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, by the boys of the Christian Brothers' Schools. His Worship the Mayor, who presided, opened the proceedings by a brief speech, in which he testified to the nature of the improvements lately made in connection with the school, to defray the debt remaining due on which the entertainment was given. His Worship said he had personally visited the school grounds, which would bear favourable comparison with any of those attached to the public schools in Dunedin. He expressed his regret that the unfairness of withholding Government aid from the Catholic schools still existed. In his opinion all children should be taught at school the religion which they were to profess and have for their guide in life, and they could not be too well grounded and instructed in it. Public opinion was coming round to favour the Catholic claims, and he believed justice would ere long be done. He himself would always be found a friend of the schools, and ready to do anything that lay in his power to assist them. His Worship then called on the Rev. Brother Hughes to commence the programme.

The opening chorus was Mr. Bracken's anthem, "God Defend New Zealand," in which the Young Cecilians showed that they were, as usual, prepared to do full justice to the music entrusted to them. It went very smoothly and pleasingly, the expression, as well as the harmony, being all that could be desired. Moore's "Believe me if all" was then sung, also in harmony, and very sweetly and prettily. A simultaneous recitation of Byron's "Vision of Balthazar" followed, the excellence of which it would be impossible to praise too highly. Not a word or syllable was misplaced or out of unison, and the distinctness and emphasis were perfect. The gesticulation also was most appropriate and made without a slip. The solo, "Scenes that are brightest," from Maritana, was afterwards sung by Master N. Moloney, who gained the hearty applause of the audience. "Lochiel's Warning" afforded Masters F. Heley and E. Duffy an opportunity of displaying their powers as elocutionists, which they did with great spirit and intelligence. A scene from "William Tell" also, in which the part of Gesler was taken by Master F. Murphy and that of Albert by Master D. Buckley, was especially deserving of praise. The choruses, in addition to those already alluded to, sung by the Young Cecilians, were the "Minstrel Boy," the "Harp of Tara," and the "Village Chorister," each of which in turn was admirably given—the skill and correctness with which the harmony was maintained being particularly notable. The part song "Don't fret," and the quartette, unaccompanied, "Fairy Land," were also very successful, as was "The Bell," a second quartette, given in response to an encore. A principal feature of the evening was the evolutions carried out by Professor David's gymnastic class. They consisted of dumb bell and wand exercises, respectively performed to music played by the Professor on the piano, and in the intervals of which the boys sang some original and appropriate verses as they marched up and down the platform. They also recited simultaneously the well-known poem "Casabianca." The uniform of the gymnasts, consisting of a jersey, knickerbockers, and stockings, all of white with green trimmings and rosettes, was very pretty and tasteful, and added much to the appearance of the scene. A jumping contest also took place, for a prize presented by Mrs. Loft, and occasioned high interest approaching even to excitement. It was kept up with great spirit for some time, the competitors all showing remarkable agility and neatness. The result was a victory for Master Frank Delaney, who, it was explained by Professor David, won especially by the neat manner in which he did his work—neatness as well as height being the test. The height cleared was 4 feet 5½ inches, which, as the height to which Master Delaney himself has attained is only 4 feet 7 inches, must be admitted to be comparatively very considerable, as it is absolutely very respectable. The comic element was introduced in a humorous description given by Mr J. Deaker of the sufferings of a bashful man, in which the speaker not only showed a thorough appreciation of the part undertaken by him, but a surprising power of memory. At the close of the evening a vote of thanks to his Worship the Mayor was appropriately proposed by Mr J. B. Callan, and carried by acclamation, to which his Worship duly responded. The hall was thronged and the audience enjoyed themselves thoroughly, as was testified to by their frequent and enthusiastic applause. Indeed the manner in which the Christian Brothers are able to bring their boys before the public is a matter on which the Catholic community of Dunedin may well congratulate themselves, proving, as it does, so strikingly and undeniably, the admirable education that their boys are obtaining in Catholic Schools.

The Christian Brothers desire us to return their sincere thanks to his Worship the Mayor of Dunedin, Mr. Hugh Gourley, for presiding at the entertainment given by their pupils in the Choral Hall, on Friday last, the 3rd inst.; to the parochial clergy for their presence and support; to Mr. B. A. Dunne, and the members of the Catholic Literary Society, for so kindly undertaking the management of the hall; to the former pupils who assisted in the quartettes and choruses, and to all, who, by their presence or by the sale of tickets, helped to make the affair so great a success. Special thanks are returned to Mrs. Haydon, of the Criterion, for providing tea for the young athletes. The net results will be about £36 (thirty-six pounds).

The Emperor of Austria has issued peremptory orders that never again must his son's name be spoken in his hearing.

Perhaps the most interesting of all the signatures (says the *Nation*) to the national protest against Coercion will be that of Mrs. Drummond, widow of the great Irish Secretary, whose career Mr. Barry O'Brien has just described. Mrs. Drummond still appears in London society, and is a devoted adherent of the great policy of civilisation which her husband represented in his person and policy. She has a house at Hyde Park Gardens, at which Sir George Trevelyan is a frequent and welcome visitor, and her eldest daughter is Mrs. Joseph Kaye, widow of the author of "Free Trade in Land." In her drawing-room is a fine portrait of her late husband, the greatest, the most open-minded, and the most beloved of Irish Secretaries.

[CIRCULAR.]

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Many friends have supported me most liberally—some for years. I take this opportunity of thanking them, and to express a hope that they will find it advantageous to still further increase my obligations to them.

To those to whom I have not had the pleasure of attending in the past or latterly, I can only add that I shall be very pleased to see them, and will do my best to prove my worthiness of their support and confidence.

I venture to think that, in the interests of patients generally, I am not out of place in calling attention to the fact that for the last 26 years I have bestowed my attention to the climatic, artistic, and general requirements of a Dental Practice in this Colony.

In conclusion, I can only repeat my earnest desire to carry out consistently and honestly the sentiment of good faith, which has been my rule in past years.—Yours faithfully,

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To insure publication in any particular issue of the paper communications must reach this office not later than Tuesday morning.

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THE APPEAL.

WEARY and spirit-sore,
Bleeding from every pore,
Wrong casting more and more
Wrecks on her way;

Rudderless, pilotless, shiftless, in sore distress,
Ireland lies helplessly prostrate to-day.

Struggling for life and air,
Foot-sore and b. som-bare,
Mourning her hopes so fair,
Faded and gone;

Painfully, wearily, hard set and drearily,
Grasping at shadows that ever flit on.

Who shall assuage her pain?
Who shall bid freedom reign?
Who bring back peace again
Home to our isle?

True souls shall meet him, and strong hearts shall greet him,
Reflecting the sunrise of liberty's smile.

Who will our purpose aid?
Where shall our choice be made?
Where the men not afraid
Erin to free?

Deceived and deceiving, betrayed when believing,
The bitter fruit-bearing of long slavery.

Prophets and saints of old,
Sires of our fathers bold
Rise from your graves so cold,
Waken the few—

The faithful and true men, a host tho' a few men,
Who'll shield from danger, and teach us to do.

Ah, they will defend us,
And rise to befriend us,
Whom kind Heaven sends us,
They never forget

How we kissed the grim halter, for love of the Altar,
And sealed with our life-blood the bond of their debt.

Down in the forest glen,
Hiding in savage den,
Fighting the Saxon men,
Years of the past;

Smiling in sorrow's face, writhing in dark disgrace,
Yielding e'en life itself, true to the last.

Off on the scaffold high
Rang Erin's dearest cry,
Up to the listening sky,
"Soggarth Aroon!"

The hell-hounds who whipped us, stood awe-struck amidst us,
That they ere came between us, oh, Erin ma crown!

Brave were the hearts that bled,
Bitter the tears they shed,
Never from danger fled,
Never from shame;

And they stinted no measure, of blood or of treasure,
To shelter their Soggarth, and halo his name.

Priests of our Irish land,
Bishops, whom Heaven's hand
Placed in your high command,
Praise well to-day;

Ruin and vice are rife, save us from bitter strife.
Wolves gather round us, to trample and slay.

Alas, for the poison weeds
Scatter their noxious seeds,
Gladly the serpent feeds,
Th' nights such as freeze

The old feelings that bound us, and treacherously round us,
Spread doubts of that old love, that grew at your knees.

Ere the dark storm gathers,
O God of our fathers,
Awaken the sleeping, give strength to the brave,
And let Ireland's dark story
Grow bright in the glory

Of the priesthood who raised her from slavery's grave.

Grey Valley, April 18, 1886

GARRYOWEN

The World says that the Prince of Wales, after the requiem for the Austrian Crown Prince was over, in the Jesuit Church in Farm, street, sent round to the Jesuit Fathers to ask for the prayer-book-bound in black velvet, which had been handed to him in the church, but which had been left upon the bench. At the oratory, a few days before, the interior spaciousness of which astonished him, the Prince was presented with another prayer-book, this time bound in white vellum, which also he has retained as a memento of the marriage of the Marchesa de Santruce. At the wedding of his young Catholic friend, Lord William Nevill, the Prince of Wales was the principal speaker at the wedding breakfast. Later, Lord and Lady William Nevill started for Paris, on their way to Rome, travelling from Charingcross to Dover, at the invitation of the Prince of Wales, in the special train provided for his Royal Highness, who left for the South of France at the same time.

ENTERTAINMENT AT MASTERTON.

(From the local paper.)

EASTER MONDAY, 1889, should be a red letter day in the memory of the Rev. J. McKenna, as one in which he made a most successful appeal to the settlers of Wairarapa for financial support. The Committee of St. Patrick's Church finding it necessary, and having decided to enlarge the present Presbytery, took advice amongst themselves as to the ways and means, and finally decided to hold a tea and concert, and to give such a bill-of-fare to the public who attended them, as to make everybody satisfied with whatever outlay they might make. The first thing to consider was who would provide the tea? That, however, was quickly set at rest, as the ladies of Masterton, irrespective of sect, heartily took the matter up, and the following ladies volunteered to supply a table each, viz., Miss Gleeson, and Mesdames Rawson, Riddiford, Mutrie, Hosking, McMullen, Hourigan, McKillop, Carrick, and Chapman, and right well they carried out their promise.

Long before six o'clock, the time advertised for opening, a crowd of people had assembled outside the Drill Shed, in readiness for admission. The gas star in front of the building was lit up, and illuminated the street on each side for a great distance. The faces of the eager throng were alive with pleasure, in apparent anticipation of the good things they were about to partake of. Punctually to the time notified the folding doors of the large hall were thrown open, and the public poured in. It was with difficulty the money-takers could keep pace with the demands for tickets. All the seats at the ten tables were speedily filled, and many sat down patiently to await their turn. The hall was lighted from the ceiling with four large star reflectors, and the first effect on entering was dazzling. The walls were covered with flags of all nations, the Irish harp being conspicuous in the centre at the back of the stage. The proscenium was lined with graceful nikau palm leaves, and a row of Chinese lanterns gave a very picturesque appearance to the stage. The tables were conveniently placed on each side of the room. Pyramids of sandwiches, sweets, and bread and butter, interspersed with jellies, blanc manges, and preserves decorated the tables, but they were not allowed long to remain simply as ornaments. They were soon demolished, only to be replaced by fresh supplies handed round by a number of bewitching damsels and comely matrons. There were piles of rosy apples, and handsome bouquets of flowers, among the latter being choice collections of dabbias and chrysanthemums. The late arrivals were equally well served with the first to sit down, and when all were well satisfied, the tables were cleared, and the surplus of the good things were distributed among a number of poor families.

The seats were soon arranged for the concert, estimated to accommodate 600 persons, but the number who attended so greatly exceeded the estimate, that it was found necessary to scour the town for the loan of chairs and forms. At half-past seven o'clock there was only standing room. Seats were placed in the aisles and at every convenient corner, and as quickly occupied. Two or three hundred stood out the concert, which commenced punctually at 8 o'clock and lasted fully two hours. The front row was occupied by several distinguished visitors, amongst whom were his Grace Dr. Redwood, Archbishop of Wellington, Fathers McNamara and Guggin, Hon. P. A. Buckley, Mr. G. Fisher, Judge Von Sürmer, Colonel Roberts, R.M., the Mayor of Masterton (Mr. A. W. Reaill), and others from all parts of the Wellington provincial district.

An excellent programme was provided and carried through with marked success. The audience was a most appreciative one, and applauded to the utmost each song at its conclusion. Encores were frequently demanded, but the length of the programme precluded compliance with the request, no matter how vociferously urged. The programme was divided into two parts, and at the conclusion of the first the Rev. J. McKenna ascended the platform and took the opportunity during the interval to return thanks. He said a speech from him was not on the programme, but he would be neglecting his duty if he did not take the present opportunity to publicly return his heartfelt thanks to all those who had done so much, at considerable cost and trouble to themselves, to make the tea and concert such a grand success. He was grateful for the presence of so many distinguished visitors; to the ladies and gentlemen for their beautiful singing and exquisite rendering of the various pieces; and to the Press for the liberal support and publicity given to the movement since it was first mooted. It was evident by the large attendance that the public had put faith in the favourable reports in the papers on the present occasion, and they were now in a position to acknowledge whether the programme was up to their anticipations (cheers). He would ask them to keep in mind the way in which the programme had been carried out, and he would promise a repetition on some future occasion. Whilst returning thanks to all who had taken an active part in providing the good things for their entertainment, he must not forget to express his appreciation of the public support which had attended the enterprise, as evidenced by the grand gathering there that evening. At the conclusion of his remarks the speaker was met with a round of applause.

The following is the programme as rendered:—Overture, "Figaro," Herr Von Keisenberg's band; part song, "It's not always May," by Misses McClean, Fisher, M. and N. Cimino, and Messrs. Putnam, Coleman, and Bunny; "The Irish Emigrant," by Miss McClean; "The Bugler," by Mr. Bray; "Ora Pro Nobis," Miss Fisher; trio, "Memory," Misses McClean, M. and N. Cimino; "When the heart is young," Miss Lowes; flute solo, Mr. Putnam; "Te! me, Mary, how to woo thee," Mr. M. C. Rowe; pianoforte solo, Miss Killy; "The song and the singer," Miss M. Cimino; "The Warrior Bold," Mr. Black; duet, "A.B.C.," Miss Gallagher and Mr. Duff; "The old and young Marie," Mr. Coleman; "Cherry Ripe," Miss McClean; "The meeting of the waters," Mr. J. H. Rowe; "Fiddle and I," Miss Gallagher; "I must away," Miss Fisher, with flute obligato by Mr. Putnam; "Kathleen Mavourneen," Mr. M. C. Rowe; "I haven't for a long time now" (comic song on local events), Mr. Duff; "Mariar! come in," comic recitation, Mr. Duff.

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Irish News.

Antrim.—Thomas McElderry was chairman at the recent meeting of the Ballymoney Board of Guardians. The following resolution was proposed by D. J. McMaster, seconded by Hugh Carson, and adopted:—That we hereby condemn the schedule of alterations on the judicial rents fixed for the year 1888 by Messrs. Litton and Wrench, as entirely inconsistent with the provisions of the Land Act of 1887; that it is the opinion of this Board that the only satisfactory solution of this vexed land question will be the complete abolition of dual ownership on terms alike fair to landlord and tenant, and that the sooner this can be accomplished the sooner will peace and contentment prevail.

Armagh.—The preparatory negotiations with a view to the sale of Lord Lurgan's estates in this County under the Ashbourne Purchase Act have been in progress for five months, and matters have now been conducted to such a stage that the sale is regarded as practically certain. Lord Lurgan has lowered the terms, and it has been arranged that they shall be as follows:—For land situate in the electoral division of Lurgan, 18½ years' purchase on the judicial rents; for land in the electoral division of the Moyntags, 16½ years' purchase on the judicial rents, and for all the rest of the estate, 18½ years' purchase. The tenants some time ago sent papers round each townland, to be signed by the tenants, stating whether or not they were willing to purchase, and it is understood that the result was to show a majority of the tenants in favour of purchase. The necessary legal documents have been prepared, and the execution of these documents by the tenants is now being proceeded with in one estate office in this town. There are upwards of a thousand agricultural holdings on the estate.

Carlow.—Rev. John Phelan was chairman at the recent meeting of this League. The following resolution was unanimously carried:—That, in unison with all liberty-loving people, we indignantly protest against the infamous treatment meted out to William O'Brien by Balfour's prison officials.

Carlow Town Commissioners held a special meeting, February 12; John Hammond as chairman. Mr. Governey proposed this resolution, which was adopted:—That we have heard with feelings of indignation of the cruel treatment in prison of William O'Brien, M.P., that we protest against the indignities perpetrated upon him, and regard his person as sanctified by the love and veneration of the Irish race; we call upon the authorities to extend towards him that consideration to which his representative position and unsullied character justly entitle him.

Cavan.—The Arva and Coronea League had an important meeting, February 10, under the presidency of Rev. J. Lynch. After the election of Thomas Dunn as secretary the following resolution was carried:—That we sympathise with Rev. J. McFadden, of Gweedore, in his incarceration, and we condemn the sacrilegious conduct of the police in arresting the patriotic priest after celebrating the Blessed Sacrifice.

In a letter to the public Press on Mr Balfour's statement that Wm. O'Brien had used threatening language in the speech for which he was prosecuted, Lord Cavan says:—No man listening to Mr. O'Brien could possibly have thought that he was hinting at assassination. He most clearly and unmistakably explained what he did mean. He told them to follow the example of the Primrose dames in their dealings with landgrabbers. Mr. Balfour is condemned by his own confession, for what has happened is this: Mr. O'Brien has been sent to prison for suggesting to his audience that they should assassinate the landgrabbers. As a matter of fact, he took the greatest pains to suggest nothing of the sort.

Clare.—Michael Clifton, a policeman stationed at Labasheeda, has resigned from the constabulary force as a protest against the prison treatment of popular leaders by Balfour.

Some unknown parties fired shots into the house of Cornelius Halloran, an Irish-Australian, at Feakle. It is rumoured in some quarters that the motive for the attack was to deter Halloran from taking a derelict farm near the town. Halloran escaped unhurt.

A case of sensational character is reported to have occurred at Carron, a few miles from Ennis. James Byrne, who had been herding for R. B. Forster, J.P., alleges that he found two constables of Carron Police Station in the act of cutting the tail of his cow the other night. He says they ran away and he pursued them, and he alleges that they fired shots at him from their revolvers. Two constables named Davey and Casey were put under arrest and brought into Ennis, and an inquiry was held in the barrack. It is said that Hayes is positive as to the identity of the two constables above named. The case will be tried at the next Ennis Petty Sessions.

At the Kilrush Petty Sessions Mr Cullinan, solicitor for Captain Vandeleur, applied for warrants for the eviction of 15 tenants on the Vandeleur estate on summonses for possession under the Land Act of '87. Mr. Hilliard, solicitor for the tenants, said he would have a word to say to the warrants. The chairman made out the warrants for execution not before seven days, nor later than two months. On Mr. Hilliard's suggestion, Mr. Cullinan withdrew the prosecutions against several of the tenants for taking crops off the evicted farms. The chairman said that was satisfactory and hoped arrangements might yet be made for the further good relationship between the landlord and tenants.

Cork.—The O'Hara tenants at Kilbeheny, Mitchelstown, have scored a victory. The tenants last June petitioned the landlady, Miss O'Hara, Mullingar, for an abatement of 30 per cent., and their application was answered by the service of writs on three of the tenants and a threat of legal proceedings against the rest. The tenants had listed applications in the Land Court for a revision of the rents, and they refused to accept a lesser abatement, fearing it would prejudice their cases before the Commissioners. Active proceedings for the recovery of the rent due were taken by the landlady

against three tenants—John Casey, Edward Casey, and Thomas O'Donnell. The conditions of settlement are that the landlady has acknowledged the claims of tenants for an abatement of 30 per cent. The three active "Campaigners" have received exceptionally fair treatment.

Derry.—P. A. McHugh, editor of the *Sligo Champion*, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment by a Coercion Court for an article published in his newspaper, is at present dangerously ill in Derry Gaol. He is suffering from a bad attack of bronchitis, and the state of his health is exciting the gravest apprehension. When Mr. McHugh was sentenced he occupied the position of Mayor of Sligo, and much sympathy is felt for him by the people of that town.

Extraordinary precautions were taken to guard Father McFadden on his arrival in Derry. The heavy escort which came in the train was augmented at the station by a force of about 200 police and military, under the direction of Mr. Harvey, Resident Magistrate. The prisoner was placed in an omnibus, and the procession marched the whole way to the gaol, nearly a mile, amid considerable excitement, but no disturbance occurred. The 60th Rifles had bayonets fixed at the station. There was much cheering, and this was repeated as the omnibus entered the prison gate. The people then dispersed.

Donegal.—Three men have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the killing of Inspector Martin at Gweedore. They are John Gallagher, Matthew Suiels, and Michael Durgan. The prisoners were lodged in the police barracks pending the arrival of Mr. Beresford, R.M.

On Feb. 7 at Gweedore Crimes Act Court, John Kelly, a National League organiser, produced further evidence for the defence in the charge of conspiracy brought against him. The defendant addressed the Court, contending that the case against him was of the flimsiest kind, depending as it did upon the memory of a policeman regarding a speech of which he took no notes. Mr. Ross, replying for the prosecution, said the Crown attached much importance to the case. He submitted the Crown had proved the existence of a conspiracy against rent and that the defendant took part in it. What did he come to Gweedore for except to see Father McFadden, who was the head and front of the conspiracy in Gweedore? After a lengthened consultation the Court sentenced the defendant to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. An appeal was lodged.

Down.—The beginning of what is expected to be an eviction war took place the other day at Ballyskeagh, Newtownards, when David Barr was evicted by the Marquis of Londonderry. The eviction was carried out by Martin, the estate bailiff, and a number of Sheriff's bailiffs. Barr, his wife, and five children were thrown upon the roadside and portions of the house destroyed. Barr and his family obtained shelter in the house of a neighbouring farmer. His wife is an infirm woman and is under medical treatment.

The Greyabbey, Ballywater, and Kircubbin Tenant-farmers' Association held an important meeting at Greyabbey on Feb. 5, to consider the schedule of abatements lately issued by the Land Commission. W. Gibson occupied the chair. On the motion of James Boyd, Ballyferries, seconded by Hugh Little, Blackabbey, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—That this Association begs to express in the strongest possible manner its condemnation of the schedule of abatements recently published by the Land Commission as being utterly inadequate on account of the very inferior yield in the crops grown in this district in 1888.

Dublin.—Charles Freckleton, a Scotch gamekeeper on the estate of Captain Guinness, shot Denis Kavanagh and Elizabeth O'Connor at Ballyboden, Rathfarnham. Kavanagh has since died, and Mrs. O'Connor is expected to recover.

T. M. Healy M.P., presided at the last meeting of the Irish National League. Speaking on the accidental killing of Inspector Martin, at Gweedore, he said:—I express the opinion that this tragedy in Donegal was mainly brought about by the insanity of the Government itself. Father McFadden served six months in Derry Gaol, his original sentence by those mild gentlemen, Mr. Balfour's patent compound convicts, having been increased from three to six months by Judge Webb, who had just received his appointment from the Castle. Father McFadden made another speech, and upon it a charge of criminal conspiracy was made. Father McFadden remained in his house waiting to be arrested for a week. Then he went and said his Mass next Sunday as usual and no attempt had been made to arrest him in the ordinary commonplace manner. But the Government were anxious to do what is called strike terror into the population—to display what John Mitchell used to call "vigour"—to strike the imagination of the people of Gweedore and show how determined they could be in arresting a priest. I regard the way in which the arrest was carried out as a calculated piece of baseness on the part of the Government, (hear, hear). I look upon it as a deliberate attempt to insult the people and their religion, and I am convinced—as was so well said by the Bishop of Meath, Dr. Nulty, when he was refused admission to see Mr. O'Brien in the prison of Tullamore, that the Castle gang, who direct these things, if they got the chance would bring back the penal laws—they would bring back the whipping, and the triangles, and the pitch caps of '98; they would hunt the priests as they hunted the wolf and set up their ascendancy once more amongst us, (hear, hear). Mind you, they could have arrested Father McFadden if they pleased at any time, but they waited until he had said Mass in a crowded chapel, until he was clothed in his soutane and biretta, and was going home to breakfast after Mass, it being evident to the persons who conduct the Government of Ireland that a priest must say Mass fasting. For my part I solemnly tell the Government that they are proceeding upon a very dangerous course. They have hanged priests in Ireland before now, and I don't think it brought about the pacification of the country. They are acting purely for effect, and when a Government goes in for theatrical scenic display it is sure to lead them into more appalling mistakes. I don't regret any mistake the Government may make, but I say for the sake of the peace of my country, which is dear to me, and for the sake of preserving the good relations which exist, I am happy to say, in at least three provinces of the country between Catholics and Protestants, I do

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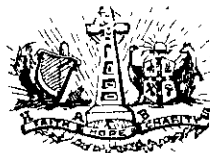
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JAMES O'BRIEN,

District Secretary, Auckland

trust the advisers of the Government will be spared the great crime they are about committing. I leave the matter now where it is, but for the people of Ireland I answer that their spirit, and their determination, and their hopefulness are rising day by day, and come what may, be it imprisonment of the leaders, eye, or their death, the immortal Irish spirit of the Irish race will remain invincible and unconquerable.

Fermanagh.—Several exceptionally heartless evictions were recently carried out on the estate of Captain Archdall, near Belleek. In one case a man, Felix Duffy, together with his aged and bed-ridden mother, was turned out on the roadside without any shelter whatever. Great indignation has been excited throughout the district by these heartless proceedings.

Galway.—The Craughwell National League held a large meeting on February 10. Michael Clasby proposed and J. O'Grady seconded this resolution:—That we express our sympathy for our Parliamentary representative for South Galway, David Sheehy, who, for his courageous advocacy of the just rights of the tenant-farmers of Ireland, has been imprisoned by the most despotic Government that ever ruled this unfortunate country since we were robbed of our own legislature by bribery and corruption.

Kerry.—The following were prosecuted at Tralee for cheering for William O'Brien:—Thomas Fitzgerald, John Saunders, Patrick Fleming, John Lynch, William Moore Stack, Brendan Foley, Charles Nolan, John Healy, Timothy Healy, John Fleming, Cornelius Sweeney, Patrick Shea, and Denis Shea. Mr. Stack was ordered to be bound to the peace for twelve months, himself in £100 and sureties of £50 each. John O'Donnell and Mr. Hanlon were his securities. The others were discharged and were ordered to be summoned to the Petty Sessions.

A public meeting of the Killorglin, Milltown, and Lisfinny branches of the National League was held on the evicted farm of C. Kennedy, at Ballymalis. The object was to express sympathy with the evicted tenant, who, after repeated efforts at a fair settlement with his landlord, was evicted successively from his brother's house where he went for shelter, and from a hut which he had built in the vicinity. D. P. Lyne occupied the chair. The following resolutions were proposed by J. O'Sullivan and seconded by J. Murphy:—That we condemn the exceedingly harsh manner in which C. Kennedy has been treated by his landlord, and we think that the spirited manner in which he has fought single-handed against oppression entitles him to the practical sympathy of the Nationalists of this district.

On February 10 an incident occurred in Tralee which shows the spirit animating the authorities in a rather strong light. A meeting of the Young Ireland Society was being held for the purpose of condemning the treatment of Mr. O'Brien and the conduct of the police on his arrival here. Shortly before the meeting concluded a large force of police sought to gain admission to their room in Castle street. They were successfully prevented from gaining admission until the proceedings were over. The members then began to move down-stairs, and, in doing so, they were met by the police and rather roughly handled. A number of them entered the rooms, headed by an excitable inspector named Oulton, and the few persons who had remained there were attacked for the purpose of being ejected, a constable, Brennan, making himself conspicuous by his ruffianism. The people outside cheered, and the police who remained below charged up and down the street. J. Gorman and D. Sullivan were arrested for cheering. Whilst the police had possession of the society's room a stone was thrown through the window and great excitement resulted.

Kilkenny.—The Nationalists of this city held an enthusiastic meeting in the Town Hall to consider the political situation. E. M. Marum, P. A. Chance, M.P.'s; Mayor Coyle, P. M. Egan, and C. J. Kilkenny delivered speeches. After denouncing the infamous conduct of the Tory Government in the O'Brien case, Mr. Chance said:—It had been said that the League was not as active as it might be in Kilkenny, but he thought the reason of that might be found in the fact that the landlords in Kilkenny County behaved more fairly to the tenants than in other places. He was in Loughrea when Mr. O'Brien had been sentenced to that three months' imprisonment which he had never undergone, and found that when the Government thought fit to proclaim a National League in that locality every man, woman and child in the community joined its ranks. In the same way, if the Government thought fit to proclaim the Kilkenny branches they might become more active too. He thought there had been too much talk of their owing it to the Liberal party to keep prudent at the present moment. He considered that pluck and courage would be more acceptable to the Liberal party (loud cheers). He would advise the people to stand shoulder to shoulder, which they could not do unless they joined the National League.

King's County.—There was an important meeting of this branch on February 10 under the presidency of J. Kelly. The following resolution was passed:—That we protest in the strongest manner against the indignities to which William O'Brien has been subjected at the hands of Balfour's Removables, who disgrace the magisterial bench by passing sentence in the absence of the accused, as well as the conduct of his prison officials, who, at his instigation, subjected an Irish patriot to indignities that are only fit punishment for criminals.

The treatment of William O'Brien in Clonmel Gaol was made the subject of an indignant protest at Tullamore. A crowded meeting of the inhabitants of Tullamore and the surrounding districts was held in the Catholic Young Men's Society Hall, presided over by Father O'Reilly. Henry Egan proposed the following resolution:—That we express our deep indignation at the brutal and inhuman treatment inflicted on William O'Brien, M.P., in the gaol of Clonmel. We offer that gentleman our deepest sympathy in his suffering, and we also proclaim our firm and unalterable determination to steadfastly adhere to the principles for which he suffers. Constantine Quirke seconded the resolution, which was supported by Michael Berill, who said:—Some 30 years ago Mr. Gladstone roused the wrath of the English people against King Bomba's cruel treatment of his political

prisoners. Would to God that the incidents of the last few days in Ireland had the same talismanic effect, and that the English people would rise *en masse* and demand the resignation of the Ministry whose mandate Mr. Balfour was so rigorously enforcing!

Limerick.—The dispute on the estate of Rev. Conyngham Ellis, Camborne, England, has ended in a victory for the tenants. In September, 1887, the tenants offered a half-year's rent, less 50 per cent., and this offer did not ask that the arrears should be wiped out. In the following December decrees for possession were obtained against several of the tenants, and some of the poorer tenants were evicted. The tenants combined, and selected as trustees two men from among themselves. The dispute has now been settled, the tenants getting a clear receipt up to last gale day by paying a year's rent, less 40 per cent. Three years' arrears have been wiped out, all costs forgiven, and the evicted tenants reinstated.

Mayo.—At the Ballaghaderin Petty Sessions, Magistrate Joseph Burke attended to prosecute M. McGreal, T. Breheney, R. King, P. King, M. Cassidy, J. Roddy, T. McDermott, and J. Murren. The defendants were charged under the Coercion Act with assaulting Sergeant Devanny, of Loughlynn, during a public meeting in the chapel yard at Lissacull. One of the witnesses testified that when L. P. Haydon, M.P., mounted the stile which joins the chapel gate, the police made a dash into the crowd, but they were elbowed out again. Then Sergeant Devanny tried to clamber over the wall, but when partially up he was pulled down by the coat-tails and fell into the ditch. The other constables at this juncture drew their revolvers, but were ordered to put them up again. The cases were adjourned to the next Petty Sessions.

Meath.—At the recent meeting of the Kells Board of Guardians, T. McDermott, chairman, the following resolution was proposed by T. P. McKenna, seconded by T. Monaghan, and passed:—That we earnestly protest against the inhuman treatment now being so cruelly inflicted on one of the most distinguished of the representatives of the Irish people, William O'Brien, by his chief gaoler and political opponent, Mr. Balfour, and we further desire to express our abhorrence of the treatment to which political prisoners are being subjected under the existing coercion laws.

Monaghan.—James Hughes was moved to the chair at the last meeting of this branch. It was resolved:—That we regard the brutal treatment to which the patriotic William O'Brien has been subjected in Clonmel Gaol as a Tory plot to murder a powerful political opponent; and we are more determined than ever to continue in the path of patriotic duty until we reach the goal of National independence.

Roscommon.—A Coercion Court was held at Tusk, before Messrs. Purcell and Tieruan, to hear a number of summonses against the following members of the local branch of the League:—P. McDermott, J. Hannery, P. Clabby, A. Egan, M. Donovan, J. Rodgers, C. Kiegher, J. Tiernan, T. Croghan, James Tiernan, T. Dockery, John Tully, T. Flanagan, D. Shannon, and L. Shanagher. The charge was that the defendants "did illegally assemble near the farm of Bridget Cook, an evicted tenant, to the terror of her Majesty's subjects, and did illegally conspire to build a Land League hut for the said Bridget Cook." The defendants were represented by Farrell McDonnell, Roscommon. A large force of police was drafted into the village for the occasion although the utmost quietude prevailed. District-Inspector G. F. Shaw, Head Constable Curtin, Sergeant Fitzsimon, and several other constables were examined by Mr. Burke, and gave evidence to the effect that the defendants formed part of an illegal assembly which met at the evicted farms early in January. The cases were adjourned for a week.

Sligo.—At the last meeting of the Gurteen branch of the League, Patrick Kurey was moved to the chair. The following resolution was passed:—That we look upon the action of the Tory Government in persecuting their political opponents even before the sentence of a court has been carried out, especially in dragging Catholic ministers of the Church from the altar of God, as exemplified in the case of Father McFadden—as calculated to drive the Irish people into open rebellion—and if a milder line of action is not resorted to, we hope the people will be equal to the occasion.

Tipperary.—Father Power presided at the last meeting of the Tipperary branch of the League. There was an unusually large attendance. The chairman made an earnest and eloquent appeal to the men of Tipperary to enroll themselves for the coming year. He said there should not be a man in the parish, nor a boy over 12 years of age but should be a member of the League. Several present then paid down their subscriptions and were duly enrolled members. The case between Thomas Hayes and Joseph McRuerney, sub-tenant, was settled amicably, the latter accepting £12 compensation and being forgiven three years' rent and costs.

The people of Carrick-on-Suir held a public meeting on February 8 to protest against the shameful prison treatment of William O'Brien. The members of the Young Ireland and Temperance Societies and G.A.A. formed into file at the end of Kickham street, headed by the two bands, and marched to the Town Hall, which was immediately filled. The number of people present may be put down at 3000. Amongst those present were Rev. Paul Power, Rev. J. Casey, Rev. J. McCann, Rev. N. L. Baldwin, O.S.F., Rev. J. Kelly, O.S.F., Michael Power, P. Bourke, E. Bourke, E. Ryan, M. Malone, T. Daly, W. Dugan, Frank Mandeville, T. A. Lynch, R. Feehan, P. O'Connor, J. O'Neill, J. Callanan, W. Hearn, J. Walsh, T. McGrath, J. J. Hearn, W. P. O'Keefe, T. Carroll, J. Quirk, E. O'Brien, W. Tracey. Frank Mandeville proposed the following resolution:—That we condemn the barbarous sentence recently pronounced against William O'Brien, M.P., in this town, and we are horrified at the inhuman treatment of the honourable gentleman by his political opponents. F. M. Sullivan seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously.

Tyrone.—E. M. Allen, auctioneer, Cookstown, put up for sale at Weir's Hotel a farm of land lately occupied by Joseph and Ellen Corr, in the townland of Aughagalla, near Stewartstown. A

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confusion arose between the supposed bidders and the late occupiers, when Mr. Allen announced that he would withdraw the sale.

A meeting of the people of this town was held in the Reading Rooms, Castle street, February 18. Hugh McGrath presided. The following resolution was proposed by M. McGinn, seconded by M. Lynch, and passed unanimously:—That we regard with feelings of indignation the brutal tortures to which our pure-blooded fellow-countryman, William O'Brien, is being subjected in Clonmel Gaol; and we call upon all Christian people to use every means in their power to prevent the life of William O'Brien being sacrificed to the malignity of his despised political opponent, Balfour.

Waterford.—Patrick Bailey, Patrick O'Brien, John Power, Denis Ryan, and Arthur Keefe, members of the John Mitchell Band, who were imprisoned for celebrating the Manchester Martyrdom, have been released from Waterford Gaol.

Correspondence.

[We are not responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MR. RICHARDSON AT WYNDHAM.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—It appears to me the present Ministry are not exactly what you would call a happy family. They seem to be rather badly assorted, judging from late incidents now before the public. First we have the big row with Mr. Fisher on the beer barrel question, and his final retirement from the Ministerial ring. Next we have the curious spectacle of the Premier in the North, at Hawera, sympathising with the deferred-payment and other settlers of the Colony in their hopeless position and pouring forth words of consolation to them in their difficulties, giving promise of relief and asking his hearers what good can accrue to the State by compelling a man to pay an impossible rental for his holding. Truly a very pertinent question as things exist here. Now in the South we have another member of this happy family (the Minister of Lands) at Wyndham breathing forth words of confiscation and eviction against all deferred settlers and others who are in arrears, warning them that he at least will have his pound of flesh. The whole bond, and nothing but the bond, it appears, will suffice to appease him. That he has very old precedent for this course of action we all know. You will observe how artfully Mr. Richardson in his speech leads up to his great eviction pronouncement. In almost his opening sentences he carefully draws attention to the fact that the bulk of our produce is now at a fair price; and further on he concludes that, such being the case, all defaulters are now in a position to pay up if they like. But he carefully ignores the fact that for the six or seven previous years all produce has been sold at ruinous prices to the producers; the effect of which has been to reduce the majority of our settlers to bankruptcy, or to the very verge of bankruptcy. Has Mr. Richardson the assurance, or rather the utter ignorance of business, to tell us that one year of only moderate prices is enough to recoup the farmer and place him in funds, as against the six or seven years of heavy continuous losses and hardships suffered by him? Verily if that is the case farming must be an extraordinarily profitable business. Has Mr. Richardson in his own experience found it to be so very profitable? It is not the case, and every man whose opinion or experience is worth having knows the statement to be utterly untrue and absurd. His references to the Fair Rent Bill seemed to me extremely unhappy. Of course he casts the whole blame of obstructing this measure on the Upper House. It was defeated by the Upper House, he says. True. But let me ask him—Did the Government, of which he is a member, ever expect to pass it as it stood? Nay, more; did they ever make an honest attempt to pass it? and, further, did they ever desire to pass it? If they did, then I have been seriously misinformed; but all the surroundings distinctly go to show that they never meant to pass it. It was only a political dodge. I believe a good many of the electors in the Maitua district will understand why it was introduced and why it was ultimately left to its predestined fate of being ignominiously shelved. And so far as regards Mr. Richardson's action in the matter of this bill, he would be the last man in creation I would expect to either seriously introduce or assist such a measure—that is, if we are to judge from his public utterances reiterated again and again during his election stamping tour at the Maitua. Mr. Richardson further says that the 3000 settlers who are in arrears are simply trading on the Government—that is, that they are dishonest men, who could pay if they liked. It is evident he has been studying Irish landlord literature on this subject, and upon the whole he seems rather a promising pupil, as he does not scruple in the least to follow their example and hurl the charge of dishonesty at the heads of a large number of deserving and hard-working colonists. He says there are very few cases of men paying extreme prices for their lands. By extreme cases he kindly states that he means double and treble the proper values. Then it is clear from his statement there are some in that position; a few, he says. But instead of a few only being so situated, you can count them by the hundred on almost every deferred settlement block in Otago. Some others, he says, pay 25s for land only worth 20s an acre. Then it follows that these people are paying the State 25 per cent. per year over and above just values for their lands. Does that sort of thing not call loudly for a remedy? and the only remedy proposed is eviction and confiscation of improvements! True, he speaks darkly of some revaluation made or to be made, some hole and corner arrangement, the upshot of which will be to work it with a view to political capital being made of it. Seeing he acknowledges the fact of several settlers paying two and three times the proper value of their holdings, and a large body of others paying 25 per cent. more than just values, is there any business can

stand terms of that kind? Can a struggling settler stand a constant drain of 25 per cent. deducted from his little earnings to enrich the Government till? I rather think not. You will observe he treats this overcharge of 25 per cent. in an offhand manner as if it was a matter of no moment—a mere bagatelle not worth notice or worth complaining about. But what is it to the victim who has to endure it? It may mean to him the final stone in his burden that sinks him and his family into bankruptcy and ruin. Mr. Richardson all through labours hard to show that no reductions in values are necessary. His remarks as to petitions sent up to him asking reductions, where one man states he bought land at 20s, and claims a reduction because land adjoining him was recently sold by the Government at 16s, are totally misleading—are incorrect, simply unmeaning twaddle, a sort of special pleading, and very poor fustian even at that. Suppose this buyer at 20s bought this land from the Government six or seven years ago at the above price, then, no doubt, he paid for it the highest price for the time being. Does Mr. Richardson mean to tell us that this land, in the face of the seriously altered values now prevailing, is worth as much now as it was six or seven years ago? That is the point to answer, and I challenge him to do so. The thing is preposterous, and no amount of specious talk can obliterate the notorious fact that the value of land has decreased from 50 to 30 per cent. during the last six or seven years. Many of these settlers contracted for their lands six or seven years ago during better times, and to compel them to pay now the values then current, and what the Premier calls an impossible rent, is impolitic, is unjust, and is not conducive to real settlement, and no amount of special pleading on the part of Mr. Richardson will settle the difficulty. It will have to be faced in an entirely different manner, as it has had to be faced elsewhere, and Mr. Richardson is not the man to grapple with any comprehensive or liberal measure, such as is absolutely necessary in the case of the Government selectors of Otago.—I am, etc.,

Maitua, April 29.

FARMER.

THE PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—I have the pleasure of enclosing a cheque for £3, subscribed by the Irishmen of Hampden in aid of the Parnell Defence Fund. Please forward it to Dublin with other subscriptions, and kindly publish names of subscribers.—I am, etc.,

LAND LEAGUER.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—In your issue of the 3rd inst., *re* a collection at Shand's Track, in aid of the Parnell Defence Fund, it was stated that Mr. Henley collected the sum of £31 11s 6d, whereas he collected only the sum of £12 15s 6d, the remainder being subscribed at a public meeting before Mr. Henley received the list. I may also say, that in the amount credited to me, my subscription of £3 3s was not included. By inserting the above you will oblige.—I am, etc.,

Tai Tapu, 6th May, 1889.

THOMAS LEATHAM.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—The following paragraph appears in the letter of your Christchurch correspondent:—"A collection was made at New Headford in aid of the Parnell Defence Fund. Mr. P. Henley, who is always ready to advance his country's cause, worked most energetically to make the sum collected a handsome one. He was ably seconded in his efforts by Messrs. Leatham, Donohue, O'Neil, and O'Driscoll. Mr. Henley collected £31 11s 6d. Mr. Leatham £7 2s, Mr. Donohue £4 19s, and Mr. O'Neil £4 1s. This totted up a very respectable contribution for New Headford." Now, sir, I think your correspondent has been misinformed, as I know Mr. Henley has not collected the amount he is credited with. If he has, then the amount should be £50 13s 6d, instead of £47 13s 6d, as I have collected at any rate £3. I think, sir, the gentlemen interested should have rested satisfied with the report and names of subscribers sent to the TABLET by their appointed secretary, Mr. F. Ryan, and not tried to grasp all the credit for one who did not pay any more than I know he could afford, and what any Irishman in his circumstances is in duty bound to give to defend the chosen leader of the Irish people. Now, in my opinion, if honour is due to anyone in this district, it is to Mr. James Gammack, of Springton, who, although not an Irishman, but an upright Liberal Scotchman, was the first in this district to send his subscription of £3 3s to the Parnell Defence Fund, even, I believe, before Christchurch moved in the matter.—I am, etc.,

Lincoln, May 6, 1889.

JAMES DOHERTY.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—Just a few lines regarding the Parnell Defence Fund at New Headford. At a meeting that was called to forward the money to you, it was decided to have the meeting published in the TABLET, also the subscribers' and collectors' names. The collectors' names failed to appear. The Christchurch correspondent has, I see, published the names of the collectors. In justice to the subscribers and correspondent I hope you will give it no more publication, as it has appeared twice.—I am, etc.,

New Headford, May 4, 1889.

P. HENLEY.

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FOR AUCKLAND, VIA LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NAPIER, and GISBORNE.—MARAOA, s.s., on Wednesday, May 15.

FOR MELBOURNE, VIA BLUFF.—TARA WERA, s.s., on Thursday, May 16.

FOR SYDNEY, VIA LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, NAPIER, GISBORNE, and AUCKLAND.—MARAOA, s.s., on Wednesday, May 15.

FOR SYDNEY, VIA OAMARU, LYTTELTON AND WELLINGTON.—WAKATIPU, s.s., about Tuesday, May 4.

FOR FIJI, from AUCKLAND.—MAWHERA, s.s., about Saturday, May 25.

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Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending May 8, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—183 were yarded, quality ranging from medium to good, a few pens very prime and extra heavy. Best bullocks brought £8 5s to £10 7s 6d; light weights and medium, £4 15s to £7 12s 6d; cows in proportion.

Fat Sheep.—Best crossbred wethers brought 12s 9d to 15s 9d; ordinary, 9s 6d to 12s 3d; best crossbred ewes, maiden, 12s 6d to 14s; ordinary, 8s to 11s 6d; merino wethers, 6s to 9s 3d. We sold on account of Messrs. Ross Bros., Bushey Park, a nice lot of merino wethers at quotations.

Fat Lambs.—Competition was very brisk, prices for best showing an advance. Those brought 8s to 10s 3d; others, 5s 6d to 7s 9d.

Pigs.—Suckers brought 5s 6d to 10s 3d; stores, 14s to 23s; porkers, 28s 6d to 34s; baconers, 40s to 56s; extra heavy, 60s to 68s.

Store Cattle.—The only demand existing at present and which is not by any means active, is for three parts fat cattle for winter feeding. We do not anticipate any large transactions until towards the spring.

Store Sheep.—There is little or no alteration to note in the demand for this description of stock, with the exception of ewes for breeding purposes, which are not so much inquired for on account of the lateness of the season. Young crossbred wethers are still in good demand and saleable, but very few are offering except those in the hands of dealers, which are invariably disposed of at auction, when prices are realised relatively higher than those paid for fat. We have some inquiry for aged merino ewes, but have no transactions to report.

Wool.—We have received cable advices from our London office regarding the close of the sales, which will, no doubt, be considered very satisfactory to all concerned, more especially as the conditions appear favourably for the future of the market. The averaged advance is said to be about 7½ per cent on last closing rates, the principal advance being in superior greasy and fine crossbreds. Medium to good scoured merino, advance 1d to 1½d per lb. Coarse crossbred market unchanged. Medium crossbred advanced ¾d per lb. At our weekly sale on Monday we offered a quantity of small lots, consisting chiefly of stragglers wool which sold at satisfactory prices. We annex brands and prices. SP, 2 bags greasy locks, 1½d; do 1 do do black, part lambs, 6½d; CP over L in diamond 1 do do fleece, 7d; N, 1 do do locks, 3½d; do 3 do dead wool, part black, 4½d; do 1 bale do pieces and locks, 3½d; N under half circle, 1 fadge do fleece, 7½d; C, 1 bale do fleece, 8d; do 1 do fleece and pieces, 5½d; do 1 do do crossbreds, 8d; F, 1 do do merino, 8d; do 1 do do pieces and locks, 5d; SP, 3 do do crossbreds, 8d; do 1 do do pieces and bellies, 4½d; TAIBRI LAKE, 2 do do 1st pieces, 8d; N, 1 do do scoured locks, 7½d; do, 1 bag do do, 6½d; CN, 3 do do pieces, 8½d; N, 1 do greasy fleece, 6d; bar through circle, 1 bale do fleece, 7½d; do, 1 do do pieces, 4d; CM, 1 pockets lamb's wool, 7d; C over bar, 1 bale greasy crossbreds, 7½d; do, 2 bags do do, 7½d per lb.

Sheep Skins.—We submitted a large catalogue at our Monday's sale, when there was a very full attendance of the trade, and biddings right through the sale were of a lively character. Heavy crossbreds were in strong demand and for some special lines exceptional prices were realised, heavy butcher's crossbreds made, 4s 9d, 4s 7d, 4s 4d, 4s 2d, 4s; medium to good, 3s 10d, 3s 8d, 3s 6d, 3s 4d, 3s 2d, 3s, 2s 9d; inferior, 2s 6d, 2s 4d, 2s 3d, 2s 1d; merinos were also well supported and realised up to last week's rates. Lambskins made, 4s 7d, 3s 10d, 3s 9d, 3s 7d, 3s 5d, 3s 3d, 3s 1d, 3s. Country dry skins had good attention and for the quality offered very satisfactory prices were obtained.

Rabbitskins.—A brisk demand exists and the market firm. Consignments are still few, but all offered, of whatever description, are eagerly competed for, and realise full market values. On Monday, we offered a few lots inferior summers, which sold at satisfactory prices.

Hides.—The market continues steady with a good demand existing for all coming forward. Stocks are light, being very little more than sufficient for local requirement, in consequence very few are being shipped. We quote inferior and bulls, 1½d to 2d; light, 2½d to 2¾d; medium, 2¾d to 3¼d; in good condition, free from offal and over 60lbs, 3¼d per lb.

Tallow.—The tone of the market is less firm, and although consignments are readily placed both by private sale and at auction, buyers are not inclined to give prices obtaining. We quote prime rendered mutton, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; medium to good 17s to 19s; inferior and mixed, 14s to 16s; rough fat, best mutton caul, 13s to 14s; medium to good, 10s to 12s 6d per cwt.

Grain.—Transactions in wheat have been very small during the past week; the market continues very dull. Millers are only operating to a very limited extent, and chiefly in prime northern growth in small parcels. There are buyers for shipment in the market, but at present quotations they are not disposed to operate. Ordinary qualities are almost unsaleable except for feeding, for which there is a fair demand but at prices which holders in the meantime are unwilling to do business. We quote prime milling, red straw and white velvet, 4s; Tuscan, a shade more, medium to good, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; inferior to medium, 2s 9d to 3s 3d, ex store. Oats.—A very good demand has prevailed since date of our last report, extra tonnage having been secured, shippers are enabled to operate more freely, and at the moment, the market for medium to good short feed is decidedly firmer, while for inferior quality and prime milling though both qualities are easily disposed, values are not materially altered. Deliveries have been pretty considerable during the week, but a number of growers seem disposed to store for a time and this of itself will no doubt in the meantime have tried to harden the market. We quote prime milling, 2s 7½d to 2s 8d; best short feed, 2s 7d to 2s 7½d; medium to good, 2s 5½d to 2s 6½d; inferior and damp, 2s 3d to 2s 5d;

ex store.—Barley: Malsters are still buying sparingly, but only extra prime samples. A considerable quantity of inferior and medium is coming into the market for which there is little or no demand. We quote prime malting, 3s 7d to 3s 9d, medium, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ex store.

Byegrass Seed.—There is a slight demand for shipment, but only prime samples, free from spurious seeds, are saleable at present. Medium has less attention, but stocks being low the prospects for future disposal are considered good. We quote undressed, 2s 6d to 3s; dressed, 3s 6d to 4s.—The demand for cocksfoot shows no improvement; quotations are 2½d to 3¼d per lb.

Potatoes.—The supply is rather in excess of present requirements. There is no outlet for shipment, and the demand for local consumption not being sufficiently active to absorb stocks on hand, the market is somewhat languid. Quotations are for northern, 80s; southern, 72s 6d to 75s per ton.

Dairy Produce.—The market is quiet for both butter and cheese at late quotations, but we anticipate a better demand, as stocks are light in the North Island and Canterbury.

MESSRS. DONALD REID AND CO. report for week ending May 8 as follows:—

Grain.—The continued fine weather has favoured threshing operations, and a very large supply of grain has reached the market during the week, taxing the railway department to its fullest capacity. Of the wheat arriving a very large proportion is being taken into store. Vendors are not disposed to accept of the prices now ruling. Southern grown samples, unless where they have been exceptionally well harvested, are difficult to place at anything like satisfactory prices.—Really good samples of Tuscan and velvet find ready sale at quotations; but medium and inferior sorts are not enquired for. Fowls' wheat is in good demand, but without any notable change in values. We quote—prime Tuscan, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; prime velvet and red straw, 4s to 4s 1d; good milling, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; inferior and fowls' wheat, 2s 8d to 3s 8d.

Oats.—Very heavy supplies have arrived during the past week, and a large business has been done. Notwithstanding the large supply that has come forward, there is a brisk market, and prices are firmer than they were in the earlier part of the week. Holders show confidence in the future of the market, as many prefer to store for a time, believing that present prices will be improved. The demand for long oats for seed has ceased off, as any arriving now are too late for the Australian seed sowing season. Prime milling is in good request at 2s 6½d to 2s 7½d; bright heavy feed 2s 5d to 2s 6d; ordinary and inferior, 2s 3d to 2s 4½d (bags extra, or 1½d per bushel, extra bags weighed in).

Barley.—A large quantity has come forward, and a considerable business has been done at prices a shade below last week's quotations. We quote—Best malting, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; milling, 3s 3d to 3s 7d; feed, 2s 6d to 3s 2d (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Prime derwents, £3 15s to £4; medium quality, £3 5s to £3 10s.

Chaff.—Prime oaten, £3 10s to £4; medium, £3 to £3 5s; straw chaff, £1 10s to £2.

Ryegrass.—Occasional small lines are placed at for—machine dressed, 3s 9d to 4s 3d; farmers' dressed, 2s 10d to 3s 3d.

Cocksfoot is plentiful. Best samples at 4d; inferior and medium 3d to 3½d.

Butter.—Business is rather slow; shippers are not buying at present, and there is but little local sale passing. Quotations remain at about last week's prices, say, prime, 9d to 10d per lb.; ordinary 7d to 8d per lb., packages extra.

GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

MESSRS SAMUEL ORR AND CO., Stafford street, report for the week ending May 8 as follows:—

Arrivals of all classes of grain have been unusually heavy. The Melbourne market for oats has dropped about 2d a bushel during the last ten days, on account of the heavy supplies.

Wheat.—Tuscan up to 4s 1d; velvet and redstraw, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; medium, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; fowls' feed, 2s 6d to 3s 3d.

Oats.—Milling, 2s 7½d to 2s 8d; feed, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; inferior, 2s 4d to 2s 5½d.

Barley.—Malting up to 3s 9d, sacks 6d; medium 3s 5d to 3s 7d; milling, 2s 9d to 3s; feed, 2s 6d.

Chaff.—We quote—prime oaten sheaf, well cut and screened, £3 10s; ordinary, £3 to £3 5s.

Potatoes.—The markets on the other side being lower, has caused a drop here, and £3 15s to £3 17s 6d in quantities is all that is obtainable now.

MESSRS ARTHUR McDONALD AND CO. report as follows for the week ending Wednesday, May 8:—

Sheepskins.—We require well-dried and carefully flayed lots for export, and for such can give 5½d to 6d per lb.

Rabbitskins.—Prices are firm at prices lately quoted. Prime summers, 6d to 8d; suckers, 3d to 4d; autumn, 9d to 10d.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, bags, included: Oats: 2s 4d to 2s 7½d. Wheat: milling—values, for good samples 4s; fowls' 3s to 3s 6d. Chaff: Supply full, £3 10s to £3 15s. Hay, oaten, £3 10s; ryegrass hay, £3 5s to £3 10s. Bran, £4. Pollard, £5. Potatoes, supply moderate; £4, derwents; kidneys, no demand for local use. Flour: Stone, sacks, £10; fifties, £10 15s; Roller, £11 10s; fifties, £12 5s. Oatmeal, £13 10s. Butter, fresh, dull, 11d to 1s; salt, nominal, 8d to 9d. Eggs, scarce, 1s 6d.

A recent invention successfully applies a revolving bar to the barrels of rifles. By this arrangement a machine gun is arranged which will fire 480 shots per minute.

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Mr. John Donoghue	0 2 6	" A. Moody	0 5 0
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Address to his sister:

Mrs. KENEDY (maiden name Susan O'Brien),

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The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1889.

PROGRESS AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE Catholics of New Zealand provide, at their own sole expense, an excellent education for their own children. Yet such is the sense of justice and policy in the New Zealand Legislature that it compels these Catholics, after having manfully provided for their own children, to contribute largely towards the free and godless education of other people's children!!! This is tyranny, oppression, and plunder.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE TEMPORAL POWER.



WE are informed by a cablegram published in the daily papers that Mr. GLADSTONE has written an article in the *Nineteenth Century* dealing, apparently at large, with the Roman question, and in which he declares that the claim of the Pope to the restoration of the Temporal Power is obsolete.

This is evidently the outcome of the agitation that took place some months ago about a letter written by Mr. GLADSTONE to the Marquis DE RISO, and which that nobleman misunderstood, and mistranslated. His mistranslation of the letter into Italian was published by a Roman paper, whence the *London Tablet* took the matter up and made as much as possible of it. The assertion was that Mr. GLADSTONE had declared in his letter that the question of the Temporal Power was one for international arbitration, and this assertion caused a good deal of confusion among a considerable number of Mr. GLADSTONE's adherents and admirers both at home and abroad, by whom such an opinion was taken as a notable mark of retrogression. The opinion pleased nobody, for, while it offended Mr. GLADSTONE's non-Catholic friends, his Catholic friends were not prepared by any means to agree with it. Indeed this situation was probably foreseen by the *London Tablet* when it took over the mistranslated letter from the Roman paper and improved upon it, for we need not describe the attitude towards Mr. GLADSTONE of our pretentious and highly superior contemporary. The matter, however, turned out to be something like a storm in a teapot, for Mr. GLADSTONE had not written one word that had been attributed to him, and all that was proved was that the Marquis DE RISO did not know how to read English.

Mr. GLADSTONE, however, it would seem, has now come out with a pronouncement that will not bring him into evil odour with his non-Catholic friends and supporters. He says the Pope's claims are obsolete, and in that they will find a due sign of progress. We do not know the line of reasoning by which Mr. GLADSTONE has arrived at his conclusion. Our source of information is very imperfect and narrow, and, therefore, we are at a disadvantage. We do know, however, that Mr. GLADSTONE deals with the Catholic Church, an institution which possesses many attributes, and fills many situations that those who do not acknowledge her authority consider out of character with the century, and which, if everything were as they think it ought to be, should most decidedly be obsolete. Mr. GLADSTONE deals with a situation that has lasted not yet quite twenty years, and which affects an institution that was old when all that is oldest in Europe was still in the future only. We have heard it acknowledged here within the last week or two that the Church, which does not change or alter her dogmas and practices, keeps ahead of the age, and attracts and retains multitudes of adherents, while institutions that pretend to belong to a greater enlightenment, languish and are deserted. Nothing that appertains to the Catholic Church, and enters into her system can become obsolete. Such is the lesson that history, as well as religion, teaches us, and, therefore, when Mr. GLADSTONE makes a contrary assertion he talks at random, and contradicts the experience of mankind.

But we have lately seen tokens that clearly go to prove that, even in the natural sequence of events, the Temporal

Power cannot be looked upon as obsolete. When, for example, the other day in Rome, the misery of the people culminated in riots, priests and members of the religious orders passed up and down among the excited crowds unassailed, and even cries were heard demanding the restoration of the former state of things. The masses in Italy, which still remain Catholic, begin bitterly to feel the falsehood and vain pretences of the new Government, by whose necessities they are oppressed and famine-stricken, and the future lies with the people. But if the future of Italy lies with a Catholic people, the restoration of the Temporal Power is assured. How, then, can the claims of the Pope be obsolete?

Meantime, as to the manner in which Mr. GLADSTONE'S Catholic supporters and admirers are to be affected by this opinion he has published,—and the probabilities are that the *London Tablet*, in the affair of the Marquis DE RISO, meant to place them in an awkward position—we do not see that they need be at all troubled by it. They already knew that Mr. GLADSTONE differed from them materially as to religious questions. But that did not hinder their admiration for him and their confidence in him on points on which they were able to agree with him and to accept his guidance. Mr. GLADSTONE'S supporters and admirers do not look to him, or to any other English statesman to restore the Temporal Power to the Papacy. If this depended upon him, perhaps their allegiance to the Church would call upon them to adopt a different attitude towards him, and they would do so. But the Church of God, as they know, is in the hands of God, and He will find instruments to work out the ends He has in view for her. If England is to be instrumental in the restoration of the Temporal Power, it will only be as the consequence of some great European convulsion, when such a step will be found necessary for the establishment of permanent peace, and who the particular Statesman is to carry out the necessary measures will be a matter of comparative indifference. The situation will provide for itself.

Mr. GLADSTONE'S argument, therefore, may be taken for what it is worth. It belongs to an aspect of his mind and character, with which Catholics are only so far concerned as to regret that one who is so good, so noble, and so enlightened on other points, should be in error. Their duty is to pray that Mr. GLADSTONE may live to be undeceived, and to see beyond all reach of doubt and from existing facts that the claims of the Pope are real and valid, and far removed from being obsolete, as he now falsely argues.

A C A U T I O N .

THE cable agency has been busily engaged this week in preparing careful summaries of Mr. PARNELL'S evidence before the Commission to affect public opinion in the colonies. We must take with many reservations the summaries in question, warned as we have already been as to the trustworthiness of the reports thus forwarded to us. The reports, however, contain very little after all that is of a nature to affect the position of the Irish Nationalists. About the worst of them is to the effect that Mr. PARNELL admitted he had deliberately tried to mislead the House of Commons in January, 1881, as to the existence of secret societies in Ireland, and made a grossly exaggerated statement, not founded on fact, for the purpose. But surely, even if the report gives us the correct version, which is doubtful, there is here but an ordinary Parliamentary trick, and one that seems strangely calculated to cause the "tremendous sensation" of which the cablegram speaks. What, for example, was such a device, taking it at its worst, in comparison with the publication of the forged letters by the *Times* to obtain the passage of the Coercion Act on lying and scandalous pretences?

Mr. PARNELL further admitted, we are told, that he had encouraged boycotting, advised the non-payment of rent—an evident fact, as he had issued the No-rent Manifesto—given Byrne a cheque for £100, not knowing at the time that the man was flying from justice, and failed to condemn outrages to the extent that would have been desirable—but this was probably unforeseen by him.

Mr. PARNELL denied that he had ever been a member of a secret society, except the Foresters, that he had had any relations with the Fenians as such, that he had advocated freeing Ireland by force of arms as stated by the spy LE CARON; or that he had known before LE CARON testified to the fact that the Clan-na-Gael included assassination in their programme. On the whole, therefore, we do not see any reason for the latest cablegram that has reached us as we go to press, to the

effect that popular opinion is turning round in favour of the *Times*, and that the Tories are jubilant. The explanation would seem to be that the Tory Press are doing their best to make profit out of the situation at home, and that the cable-agency is co-operating with them so far as the colonies are concerned. What, moreover, confirms us in this view of the case is the report of a speech delivered since Mr. PARNELL gave the evidence alluded to by Sir CHARLES DILKE, and in which the speaker declared himself in favour of Home Rule. Sir CHARLES, who is endeavouring to rehabilitate himself in public opinion, would never have ventured to do this if Mr. PARNELL had made admissions vitally compromising the position of the Home Rule party.

Finally, we again warn our readers to place but a limited reliance on the messages of the cable agency, which has been all along consistent in its misrepresentations, and openly hostile to the Irish cause, and which, we may add, has now a double task to accomplish—in prejudicing the colonies against the Irish delegates, and marring the object of their tour.

THE Rev. Father Lynch has this week received from the Most Rev. Dr. Moran a letter written by his Lordship, who was in excellent health and spirits, on board the *Kaikoura*, and posted at Tenerife. The Bishop described his voyage so far as favoured by fine, though for the most part cold, weather, and agreeable company. His Lordship, however, was disappointed at being prevented by the prevalence of the yellow fever from landing at Rio. He expressed himself still anxious, as on leaving Dunedin, to complete his business in Europe as rapidly as possible and return without any unnecessary delay to his diocese.

THE Dominican nuns have received art-union blocks and remittances as follows:—Mrs. Bennett, Mosgiel, per Miss Smith; per Mrs. J. J. Hall, Roslyn; Mrs. Westlake, Oamaru.

SIR ROBERT STOUT in the course of an unfriendly correspondence in the *Otago Daily Times*, makes a pettifogging point against his adversary, that he is a "Catholic teacher." But so does the philosopher and the sage occasionally betray the humanity that underlies his pretences, and prove how more petty motives may direct his undertakings for the good of the race in general. Had Sir Robert Stout been a mere ordinary bigot, he could not have made a more paltry point. But if any one replies that Sir Robert's bigotry is extraordinary we shall admit the plea.

THE sums received by us this week in aid of the Parnell Defence Fund are as follows:—Mosgiel, £3 11s; Lawrence, £6 14s 6d; Hampden, £3. The following errors have occurred in the lists published by us:—Mr. John Connor, South Dunedin, subscribed £1 1s, not £1. The names O'Donoghue and Cabill, who contributed two guineas, were omitted from the Hokitika list. For P. Black, Naseby, read C. Black.—We regret that some misstatements have been made in our columns as to the method in which the collections at New Headford were made. The chief thing, however, is that everyone engaged in the matter did his part well, and that the most generous results were secured. There is no one, therefore, concerned who is not deserving of thanks and credit.

We see that our esteemed townsman Mr. J. B. Callan, solicitor, has been appointed Chairman to the Equitable Insurance Company. The appointment is a most suitable one on which the Company are to be congratulated.

Mr. M. Donnelly, late of Dunedin and now of Christchurch, has passed the Barristers' examination,—taking second place in the order of merit. Mr. J. A. Cassidy, also of Christchurch, has taken fifth place in the same examination. The Bar of the colony has gained in these two gentlemen very promising members, whose distinction in their profession may be confidently looked forward to.

It is reported that the Salvation Army have sent a brigade to the Catholic mission station of Jerusalem, on the Wanganui River. The only excuse, nevertheless, for the grotesque dragging of religion in the mud, for which the Army is accountable, and for all its compound of boldness, buffoonery, and noise, is that they suit the wants of a class of people not otherwise susceptible of Christian influence, of any sort, and to whom a kind of spiritual Puck and Judy show seems attractive and edifying. When, however, the Army thrusts itself in where higher influences, not to say the highest of all, are at work, it becomes insolent and revolting in the extreme. The Army would be more at home in those Maori settlements where Mormonism is in the ascendant—but there, perhaps, the Natives might find it difficult to choose between the two—or a curious amalgamation might take place. In a Catholic settlement the Salvation antics will be sadly out of place.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Dunedin Catholic Literary Society was held in their rooms, Rattray street, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., when, in the absence of the Rev. W. Burke, President of the Society, the chair was occupied by Mr. J. P. Hayes, Vice-President. Mr. Eagar read a very interesting paper entitled "Ireland and Irish Missionaries," which gained for him the hearty approval and thanks of the members. Mr. Power gave a recitation, the title of which was "Youth of Ireland, live not Slaves," by Daniel O'Connell, and Messrs. Cantwell and C. Columb, Junr. gave readings of a very interesting nature. Criticism on the above items was indulged in by Messrs. Hally, Leahy, Falkner, R. A. Dunne, N. Griffin, and Hayes. Mr. W. Woods was proposed for membership. The evening's entertainment, which was of a very pleasant nature, concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

THERE are many people (says a writer of notes in the *Pall Mall Budget*), as credulous as Mr. Soames and Mr. Macdonald, strange though it may appear. Take in proof of this the following scrap of conversation overheard at a well-known West-end restaurant:—No. 1: "Figott never forged those letters. It was all a 'put up' job." No. 2: "So I think. You never know where you have those Irish scoundrels." No. 1: "Figott never committed suicide." No. 2 (in a moment of temporary lucidity): "But he's dead isn't he?" No. 1: "Yes, he's dead; but he never shot himself. *The Invincibles murdered him!* He was out of sight of the police officers when he died, you remember, and he was tracked to Madrid and murdered by the Invincibles. They'll try and hush it up, you bet." No. 2: "Ah! I expect you're right." Such idiots as these are quite capable of buying a fresh lot of forged letters.

SIR ROBERT STOUT has written in the *Wanganui Herald* a characteristic criticism of Mr. Fisher's Education Bill. Sir Robert necessarily disapproves of every proposal of the Bill that is not extreme, or that would throw upon parents a portion of the burden which nature has appointed for them to bear. He is especially horrified at the notion that children over fifteen who have passed the sixth standard should pay fees,—that is, that children of well-to-do parents—for well-to-do parents only can afford to keep children of over fifteen at school—should be obliged to pay for their own exceptional advantages, instead of enjoying them at the expense of the poorer members of the community. It also excites his horror that any opening should be proposed by which any high schools, except those of the State, should obtain a share of the Government scholarships, for which the whole population is taxed. "What would Edgar Quinet have said to this?" he cries. *Risum teneatis amici.* Sir Robert Stout claims to be a high authority on the subject with which he deals. In the course of his studies he should, nevertheless, have come across the fact that pedantry and bigotry effectually mar a man's judgment, and prevent his being an authority on anything worth speaking of.

LORD ONSLOW, our new Governor, arrived at Wellington on Thursday, the 2nd inst. His Excellency was suitably received and duly installed. The Mayor, in an address of congratulation, referred hopefully to the prospects of the colony. Land, he said, was being freely taken up, settlement was rapidly going on, and trade was reviving. His Excellency, in replying, spoke of the favourable impressions made on him by what he had seen of the country during his journey overland from Auckland. He acknowledged that in England he had been engaged in party politics, but asserted that questions which were being fought out at Home were not of interest here. This, however, is a statement that must be taken with some degree of reservation. It is true, as Lord Onslow says, that, so far as the colony is concerned, these questions have been solved. His own presence among us, nevertheless, is a sure token that whatever affects the public mind or concerns the public interest in the United Kingdom, must also make itself felt in this colony. It can only be when the Empire goes to pieces that this shall cease to be the case.

THE ceremonies in connection with the opening of the Otago University which took place in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., were chiefly remarkable for the obstreperous conduct of the students present. It had been expected that a grave decorum would be observed on the occasion, out of respect for the memory of the late Professor Mainwaring Brown, but the expectation was not destined to be fulfilled. It had been expected that a learned lecture on astronomy, prepared and delivered by Professor Gibbons, would be listened to and duly appreciated by the audience, but the Professor lectured and the audience listened in vain; nothing could be heard but the festive sallies of the students. Some of the authorities present endeavoured to restore order, but met with a signal failure, and uproar was the order of the evening. If, in fact, we may judge of the effects of study in the University of Otago by the conduct of the students, it seems to be extremely bad for the brains—supposing that there are any brains to be affected in the first place. If manners make the man, as the old saw has it,

the raw material in the University of Otago seems likely to remain rankly incomplete.

DR. HODGKINSON, M.H.R., moved the other day at an Education Board meeting at Invercargill, that each State school should be provided by the Board with a library, said library to consist of a Bible, equal in itself to 40 books and all the literature needed. This, the doctor explained, would show that the ministers of religion could enter the building and give religious instruction out of school hours. The Bible, therefore, should occupy a prominent position. Would it do, by the way, to stick it up on the roof, as the shebeen keepers do a bush in Spain, or a sod of turf in Ireland, so that it might entice the passing minister in? And then as to the benefits to be derived from this *multum in parvo* in the way of a library, we have all heard of the meal of potatoes and point, where a salt herring occupies the middle of the board, and each morsel of potato is pointed at it so as to take the relish it may impart. Could not the children all point their books at the Bible, and so become partakers in its richness? The debate upon the motion in question has been adjourned, and it is to be hoped the members of the Board will read the matter well up, and be able to discuss it with that fulness of information and that maturity of judgment it calls for. Dr. Hodgkinson M.H.R., has spoken like a true pundit, and his proposal, original as it is profound, should be treated with due respect.

THE principal item of Tory gas for the week seems to be Mr Balfour's declaration at Manchester that the "storm of revolution in Ireland was abating and a social calm was likely to descend on the face of society." And, by the way, if these be his very words, Mr. Balfour seems disposed to drop into poetry. But is it not Carlyle who assigns to heavy trouble a part in the formation of the poetic disposition? Mr. Balfour has much cause for trouble.

MR. DILLON, whose indifferent state of health, we are sorry to learn, will oblige him to limit the number of his addresses in Australia, spoke for the first time in Melbourne on Wednesday evening the 1st inst.:—A short telegraphic summary gives us but a poor idea of his speech—which, however, we may conclude was characterised by the well known fire and eloquence of the speaker. Mr. Dillon took the Melbourne Press sharply to task for the unfairness which it seems, acting consistently with its past career, it has treated him and his colleagues. It is to be hoped it may profit by the lesson—or rather it is to be feared that there is no room for hope.

A RATHER incomprehensible cablegram informs us that £10,000 has been subscribed to place settlers on the farms of Scotch tenants in Ulster who have been boycotted.—The probable interpretation would seem to be that the £10,000 is to be devoted to introducing Scotch settlers to take the farms prohibited from being taken under penalty of boycotting. The acknowledgment, meantime, that Ulster is moving in the national cause is one of much importance.

It is probably untrue, as reported, that a Mexican mob, attempting to free five Jesuits imprisoned for preaching seditious sermons, were fired upon by the troops, and two hundred of them killed. The event is possible, no doubt but Mexico is a happy hunting ground for the imagination of a certain kind—and the report seems a little suspicious. It looks like a modified edition of that other report lately published, as to priests who stirred up a revolt, and which was immediately acknowledged a "whopper."

The Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society, by means of their fontine system, offer advantages that are quite exceptional, and which must recommend themselves to every sensible man. Profitable investment is thus combined with life assurance, securing to the policy-holders benefits whose value is hardly to be too highly calculated.

Mr. James Muir, Princes street, Dunedin, is ready, on the shortest notice, to supply hats and caps of every description ordered. The manufacture of brettas and clerical hats generally is his speciality. He uses the best material, and his prices are moderate.

Messrs. Lonargan and Lonargan, Castel street, Christchurch, are now opening their fine new stock of winter goods. Inspection is invited as the firm are confident of securing the approbation of the public for the articles provided by them.

Cornish's American organs are admirably adapted for the use of church choirs. In addition to sweetness and fullness of tone, they are extremely durable—and, to crown all, the reasonable prices at which they are sold make them easily procurable. The satisfaction of purchasers with these instruments is proved by abundant testimonials.

Should a physician ever whip his patient? This was the question brought up for decision at a Berlin police court some time ago. A doctor was asked to prescribe for a boy 4 years of age, who was suffering from some slight ailment, but the child screamed so violently that it was impossible to examine him. After trying for a long time to soothe the child the physician resorted to the old-fashioned method of giving him something to cry for, and boxed his ears. The child's mother not only resented this, but showed her resentment in a practical manner by summoning the doctor for assault, but the Court decided that the medical man had acted only for the patient's good, and so acquitted him.

Diary of the Week.

WEDNESDAY, 1st.

RABBITS threatening wheat crop in North-West Victoria.—Hawkesbury bridge, N.S.W., opened by Governor.—Railway accident at Hamilton, Canada; 20 people burned to death.—Rumours renewed of Russian designs on Turkey.

THURSDAY, 2nd.

Auckland City Council records appreciation of bravery of Samoans during hurricane at Apia.—Austrian diplomatists pronounce peace assured for year.—Dimitri plot against Czar discovered at Cronstadt.

FRIDAY, 3rd.

Announced that Guinness contests Christchurch North as working man's candidate.—British Ambassador at St. Petersburg declares Russian financial changes prove Czar determined to maintain peace.

SATURDAY, 4th.

Hayter estimates population of colonies at end of year as follows:—Victoria, 1,090,086; New South Wales, 1,085,356; New Zealand, 607,380; Queensland, 387,463; South Australia, 313,065; West Australia, 42,137; Tasmania, 146,147.—Sir H. Robinson, in speech at Cape Town, declares Republicanism gaining ground in South Africa.—Conybeare, M.P., sentenced three months for inciting Falcarragh tenants to support Plan of Campaign.—Chamberlain withdraws from Liberal Society.

MONDAY, 6th.

Hon. E. Mitchelson conferring with Natives for land purchase and settlement in King country.—Parnell Defence Fund reaches £37,000; £20,000 paid solicitor for defence.

TUESDAY, 7th.

Report of Auckland hospital surgeon shows decrease in typhoid fever during season.—Whiskey ring, capital £1,000,000, formed in Dublin.—Announcement of brilliant opening of Exhibition at Paris.

TIMARU.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE special services in St. Joseph's church during the Holy Week were fairly attended. The solemn and mournful appearance of the sanctuary presented a marked contrast to the usually tasteful manner in which it is decorated. On Holy Thursday morning after Mass the Blessed Sacrament was removed to the Altar of Repose, and from that hour until 10 o'clock on the following morning a constant adoration was kept up by members of the congregation. The members of the Hibernian Society divided the small hours of the night amongst themselves, two members in regalia being always present in adoration. On Easter Sunday the marks of mourning were absent from the sanctuary, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and other decorations suggestive of the day. The members of the Hibernian Society attended Holy Communion in regalia at the 9 o'clock Mass. High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Foley, at 11 o'clock. The choir, under the leadership of Mr. Duval, rendered the sacred music in a very creditable manner.

The concert held on Easter Monday was, as I anticipated, a grand success. The management committee are to be congratulated on their efforts, as the whole programme, which was very varied, was gone through without a single hitch. The financial result is very satisfactory and will prove a welcome addition to the school fund. The Timaru Orchestral Society kindly lent their services for the occasion, and the overtures rendered by them before each of the parts of the programme were musical treats worth listening to. The Minstrels commenced the first part with the opening chorus, "Climbing up the Golden Stairs," which was rendered very nicely, the different parts telling well. Mr. C. Head (corner-man) sang two comic songs, "The four Sarabs" and "Something that makes me laugh," in very good style. Master C. Niell sang that old favourite, "The Old Folks at Home" very nicely and created quite a favourable impression. Mr. M. J. Carey (corner-man) made matters lively with his comic songs "Johnny get your Gun" and "Come my Love and go with Me." Mr. Carey was in capital voice and well merited the applause his songs received. Mr. McKenna rendered "The Vacant Chair" in pleasing style. "Good old Jeff" and "Poor old Joe," by Misses J. Walley and B. McGowan, were two of the best sentimental songs of the evening. Both singers did their songs full justice. The chorus, "Fare you well," brought the first part of the entertainment to a close. Between the different vocal items delivered by the Minstrels were various comedies and jokes (many of the latter being local bits) and the usual nigger "business." The second part of the performance was devoted to purely vocal music, and was commenced by Miss Henry singing "The Idle that's crowned with Shamrocks." Both in this song and in "Killarney" a little later on, Miss Henry established herself a warm favourite with the audience. Mr. Gilchrist, who possesses a pleasing baritone voice, sang "The Young Brigade" capitally, and was equally successful in "Erin, my Country." Miss Mee, who possesses a remarkably sweet soprano voice, sang "Kate O'Shane" and "Aparri" enchantingly. This lady's voice shows decided marks of careful and superior training, both songs being rendered in faultless style. Encores were forbidden on account of the length of the programme, but the audience would have no denial when Mr. T. J. Kennedy sang "Ballinacoly." Mr. Kennedy also sang "Killarney," and in both songs "he brought down the house." Mr. Kennedy is inimitable in comic songs, especially where a little of the "brogue" is required. Unlike many others, in dealing with that commodity, he knows where to draw the line, and does not sicken his hearers by over doing it. Mr. Kennedy is very real, and must be heard to be appreciated. The entertainment concluded with a farce performed by the Minstrels, entitled "The Black Lunatic," consisting of the usual absurdities which,

while it makes people laugh heartily while they are looking at it, makes them afterwards wonder how they could listen to such rank nonsense. The corner-men, Messrs. Head and Carey, were very good both in the minstrel part and in the farce, the latter being the heart and soul of the first and third parts.

The Rev. Father Purton, who has been temporarily officiating as curate here, is leaving for Christchurch. The Rev. Father Binsfeld has been appointed to the curacy.

The bazaar and concert in aid of the Fairlie Creek church was held during Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, and netted the magnificent amount of £150. Miss Henry, of Ashburton, Mr. T. J. Kennedy, of Timaru, and several local ladies and gentlemen, contributed towards making the concert part a success.

ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL, WESTPORT.

(Local papers, April 23.)

ST. CANICE'S School annual picnic took place at Mr. McPadden's paddock, on the south side of the river, yesterday. There was a large attendance of children and a good sprinkling of adults. Enjoyment was the order of the day, Mr. Regan and members of the congregation taking care that the fun did not slacken. The following are the results of the different contests:—Hat Race, for boys under 7; 23 entries—Thomas Maher, 1; John McPadden, 2. Girls' Race, under 7; 19 entries—Alma Simon, 1; Sarah Cate, 2. Boys' under 9; 18 entries—Gustave Simon, 1; Walter Munson, 2. Girls under 9; 16 entries—Mary Moloney, 1; Grace Munson, 2. Boys under 11—Jeremiah Curtayne, 1; John Kelly, 2. Girls under 11; 15 entries—Lissie McLaughlin, 1; Rose Slowey, 2. Boys under 13; 17 entries—James O'Malley, 1; John Organ, 2. Girls under 13; 12 entries—Alice Kelly, 1; Mary Cate and Mary McPadden, 2. Boys under 15; 11 entries—Clarence Healy, 1; Walter Munson, 2. Girls under 15; 18 entries—Mary McPadden, 1; Sarah McConnell, 2. Siamese Race for Boys under 11; 15 entries—John Organ and William Curtayne, 1; Frank Roche and Jeremiah Curtayne, 2. Siamese Race for Boys under 15; 18 entries—John Organ and Jeremiah Curtayne, 1; F. Roche and J. Curtayne, 2. Flat Race for Boys under 16; 17 entries—James Curtayne, 1; L. Munson, 2. Sack Race, Boys under 10; 10 entries—E. Roche, 1; W. Sexton, 2. Wrestling, collar-and-elbow, Boys under 10; 12 entries—F. Roche, 1; Myles McPadden, 2. Wrestling, collar-and-elbow; 6 entries—Thomas Sherlock, James Kelly, and M'Intyre. Mr. Regan acted as starter; Mr. Simon and Rev. F. Morrissey as handicappers; and Mr. Kelly, Judge. These were ably assisted by Rev. Father Walsh, Messrs Quane, Daly, McAnulty, James, etc.

The football match, State school v. Catholic school, played yesterday, evoked great interest, and there were a good many spectators on the ground. Shortly after 9 a.m., the lads took the field, captained by Masters Tait and Burk, respectively. Messrs. J. Roche and J. Ballard acted as umpires, and Mr. J. Scanlon as referee. The game was keenly contested throughout, the Catholic boys eventually claiming the victory by a try and a goal (4 points) to three tries (3 points). Some of the lads showed considerable skill in the game, notably the State backs, Masters Cunningham, Riley, and Lucas, each of whom played with even more science than many senior plays, eliciting frequent applause by their smart running, drop-kicking, and tackling. Masters Low, Taylor, Murdoch, and one or two others whose names I could not ascertain, played a very plucky forward game. On the side of the winners, Masters Gallagher, Vitaglich, McPadden, and one or two others played capitally. At the conclusion of the game, the losers gave out a challenge for a return match, to be played next Saturday. After three cheers, the winners invited their opponents to the picnic to be held in the afternoon.

Quetta has, of late, been the scene of several earthquakes, the first being the worst. Since then there have been twenty-six distinct shocks. The native residents have been much alarmed, many leaving their houses to sleep out in the cold.

A Scotch contemporary makes the following sarcastic remarks about certain Anglican sects:—"A church is defined as an 'expensive but comparatively useless building, frequented for about three hours a week by well-dressed, respectable people for the observance of certain religious rites, but where the poorly-clad are not welcomed.' A mission hall 'is a place for collecting poor people, on whom amateur preachers may practice their art.' Christianity is 'the science of looking after number one,' and sin is 'an amiable weakness in rich people but downright rascality amongst the lapsed masses.'"

Who are the greatest living Scotsmen? A newspaper plebiscite has been taken on the subject, and the ten greatest Scotsmen selected are these and in this order:—Lord Rosebery, the Duke of Argyll, Professor Blackie, Principal Caird, Sir Noel Paton, the Earl of Aberdeen, A. J. Balfour, Sir Morell Mackenzie, W. E. Gladstone, and Sir Archibald Alison. Mr. Gladstone's position is accounted for, we suppose, by the fact that as he was born in Liverpool and is only of Scotch descent, the majority of the competitors would not think of including him in their lists. Otherwise we should be compelled to think very poorly of the sort of judgment expressed in these newspaper plebiscites. But where, asks the *Newcastle Leader*, are the literary men? Where are Robert Louis Stevenson and the author of "Olrig Grange," and Andrew Lang? Surely they read books in Scotland, and do not regard Professor Blackie as quite their greatest man of letters. Where are the painters, too? What of John Pettie, of W. G. Orchardson, of David Murray, of Colin Hunter, and of Hamilton Macallum? What is Sir Archibald Alison or the Earl of Aberdeen to these?

The House judiciary committee in Congress completed a bill to amend the naturalisation laws of the United States. It provides that no alien who has ever been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime, involving moral turpitude, anarchist and polygamist, or who cannot speak the English language, shall be adjudged capable of being naturalised.

Dublin Notes.

(From the National papers.)

ON the very day that Pigott disappeared, Professor Maguire, of Trinity College, died. This gentleman was one of the trio who had supplied Mr. Houston with funds to carry on his infamous traffic with Pigott. He had advanced £850 to that enterprising speculator towards the purchase of the precious documents. Dr. Maguire died quite suddenly at his lodgings in London. Whether or not the terrible outcome of the *Times*' case had any connection with his startling end no one knows as yet, but it is quite reasonable to suppose that the Professor—who was in his own way as virulent an anti-Irishman as Pigott or the *Times*' scribe, Mr. Wolfe Flanagan—was not altogether unaffected by the awful collapse of the vile plot.

The Torture Chamber still flourishes. Undeterred by the remonstrances of friends, or the execrations of enemies, Mr. Balfour goes on his way dealing out brutalities so coolly that one is tempted to believe he has been an accident of nature. The Sioux Indian tribe should have been his *gens*, and the wilds of the American woods his location. Mr. Carew, M.P., is the latest victim of his mean spite. He has been forcibly stripped, clipped of his hair and moustache, and left shivering in his cell—for he would not don the garb of infamy—in the same way as Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Mandeville, Mr. Hooper, and others have been. So the policy of getting rid of political opponents, on the principle revealed by Mr. Balfour to Mr. Blunt, goes bravely on. Amongst the medieval instruments of punishment for persons who were obnoxious to the Balfours of those ages was a hideous thing called the Scavenger's Daughter. If an inanimate object could have a spirit, and that spirit were capable of physical transition, we should say that Arthur James Balfour is a lenial descendant of that medieval feminine monstrosity.

John Dillon's was a glorious speech. In its fierce earnestness it scattered the subterfuges and falsehoods of the Chief Secretary before it as chaff is scattered by a high wind. He claimed that to the hope of conciliation, despite coercion, the credit of such improvement as there is in the condition of Ireland is due, and proved his claim home. He startled the House with the revelation that poor old Forster boasted also in his day to have conquered and pacified Ireland, and his grounds were the same as Mr. Balfour's—the reports and statistics of his Removables. On the outrage on William O'Brien John Dillon dwelt with a scorching indignation, which those who know the deep and warm personal friendship between the two men are at no loss to understand. Mr. Balfour writhed under the fierce attack, and interposed incessantly with whining excuses and apologies. He was driven along from subterfuge to subterfuge till he was cornered at last in the astounding confession (Pigott's is scarcely more startling) that when he stood up to ridicule the sufferings of William O'Brien for the amusement of the laughing hyenas who fed with him at the brutality banquet he had no official report whatever on the subject. His sole source of information was a copy of the *Freeman's Journal*, every statement in which he denied with insolent assurance. John Dillon retorted on him with superb scorn the passage in his own speech to his tittering parasites at the banquet, in which he declared that, "judging from an experience of nearly two years of official life in Ireland, I should say that the powers of mendacity are absolutely inexhaustible." In this sentence, at least, Mr. Balfour spoke truth, and proved it.

Balfour the Brave has taken to doctoring his coercion statistics. He no longer vaunts his vigour. He wants credit now for humanity and moderation. He is, on his own showing, the mildest-mannered man that ever gloated over a deadly fusillade on an unarmed crowd; or had a political opponent stripped naked in gaol. The public will not accept Mr. Balfour's jerry-mandered statistics on trust. One ingenious fraud of his was promptly exposed by Mr. Healy. On the figures, as set out by Mr. Balfour, it appeared that his Removables acquitted in 50 per cent. of the cases that Pether the Packer sent before them. A searching question or two from Mr. Healy extorted, however, a reluctant confession of the fraud underlying the figures. A Nationalist is sent before the Removables on half-a-dozen summonses for the same speech, "intimidation," "conspiracy," "incitement to conspiracy," "illegal assembly," etc., etc. The Removables convict on one, two, or three charges as they may be directed. The Castle generously withdraws the others. The withdrawals count in official statistics as acquittals by the Removables. That's how it's done. We venture to think that one in every three hundred would be about the real proportion of acquittals by the Removables.

From this we may conjecture what trust there may be put in Castle statistics. The brave Mr. Balfour's declaration that there are now only 111 prisoners under coercion is a fraud on the face of it. We have ourselves a shrewd suspicion how this affair is worked out. There have been a suspicious increase of prosecutions under our old friend King Edward III. of late. These, of course, would not in official statistics come within coercion. It is so manifest an advantage to a Nationalist to be sent to gaol by one Removable sitting at Petty Sessions without appeal instead of by two Removables in a Coercion Court with some qualified right of appeal, at any rate, that the official ignoring of King Edward III. is plainly justified. Again, the vast number of contempt of court imprisonments are also plainly out of place on Castle statistics. Nor does that ingenious system of imprisonment, by way of remand, find mention there.

Pigott's telegram to Solicitor Shannon from Madrid, demanding the money he was promised, is one of the most shady incidents in the shady transaction. It is no use repeating that Pigott was a notorious liar. So he was, of course; though the "Forger," on his own showing, took a very long time to find it out. But there was no question of deceit in this telegram, as it was intended only for the person to whom it was addressed, and who is himself charged with making this promise. The circumstance is the more suspicious remembering that it was after an interview with this same Shannon that Pigott reiterated his perjuries, on affidavit, and the telegram was despatched to Kingstown which resulted in the burning of the damning Houston

correspondence. The matter needs investigation—it may be criminal investigation. It is not without significance that a brother of this same Shannon is one of the most recently-appointed of the Removables.

Dr. Tanner, M.P., for whose arrest in London the most elaborate preparations had been made by the police, succeeded in passing through their lines, outside the House of Commons on Friday evening, March 1, and took part in the division. He received an enthusiastic greeting from his colleagues. Subsequently he was escorted out of the House by a great body of members, who, with Dr. Tanner in their midst, marched down to the Westminster Palace Hotel, singing "God save Ireland." After addressing the crowd from the steps of the hotel he retired inside, and was afterwards arrested in the smoke-room by Sergeant Sweeney, on a warrant issued in connection with a speech delivered in Tipperary last October.

There is nothing which surpasses the brutality of the Irish police save their stupidity. This latter attribute was beautifully exemplified in their attempt to smuggle Dr. Tanner, M.P., through the country. After the prisoner had been landed at Kingsdown, where frantic but unsuccessful efforts were made by the Metropolitan police to keep everybody likely to welcome Dr. Tanner off the landing-place and railway-station, he was taken out of the train at a bye-station, as in the case of Mr. O'Brien, and driven by an obscure route away to the Kingsbridge. Notwithstanding all precautions, the doctor got a very hearty greeting at many places on the route to Clonmel. At the station at that town and in the streets the police once again behaved as utter blackguards. They batoned the people on the platform in a shocking manner and without the smallest show of provocation. They beat a representative of the *Tipperary Reporter*, who was present on his lawful business, in a manner which would shame Choctaw savages. They left the unfortunate man streaming with blood from his head and face, and while blindly making his way out in this condition another cowardly hound came up and beat him again. The foreman printer of the same paper was treated in so barbarous a manner that he now lies in a very critical state. Many other persons, whose names are not given, were subjected to the same gross ill-usage. Can nothing be done to put a stop to this policy of unbridled ruffianism?—for that it is a part of a deliberate policy is now patent to everyone in the country.

Symptoms are apparent at last that the supporters of the Government have grown tired of coercion. Even the *Times* is beginning to hedge. A few days ago it went so far as to praise Mr. Parnell for the moderation of his recent speech, and spoke of the proposal to extend local government to Ireland in a rational tone; and later on it inserted a letter from Mr. Aird, M.P., a Tory, proposing that a conference of the heads of all parties should be held to agree on a scheme of Home Rule. The *Irish Times* follows suit, but in another direction. Twice this week it called on the Government to drop its coercion and come with its remedial measures. It is sick of the batonings, the arrests, and the other incidents of Mr. Balfour's specific. The little incidents are significant in their way. In a double sense they are "signs of the times."

It is plain that the order has gone out to heap all possible indignities on Catholic priests, with an eye, doubtless, to the effect at Rome. There is no other way of accounting for the manner of their arrests. Father Kennedy, we remember, was arrested after midnight by the police breaking into his house and dragging him from his sick bed. Father McFadden was arrested almost on the altar-steps, and the grotesque and horrible outrage was put upon him of a charge of the murder of District-Inspector Martin, whom the priest vainly strove to save, and out of whose corpse the coercionists have been diligently manufacturing political capital ever since. Father Clarke's arrest brings one's mind back to the good old penal days, before Land Leagues were dreamed of, "when priests were hunted down like wolves," and even harbouring them was a crime. It was resolved, it seems, that not merely the priest himself, but all who dared shelter him, should be involved in the outrage of the arrest. The house of Mrs. Dargan, of Mount Hill, was broken into with improvised battering-rams long after midnight by a gang of uniformed ruffians, the sleeping chambers of the ladies of the family ransacked by brutal policemen, and, finally, the priest himself dragged out of his bed and carried off like a common malefactor.

The outrage was not merely grossly brutal, but absolutely wanton. In the House of Commons subsequently, the brave Mr. Balfour was constrained reluctantly to confess that there had been no concealment or evasion whatever on the part of Father Clarke. For the last month he has been going about his parish openly in the discharge of parochial duties. It is by repulsive raids and wanton insult to all the people hold dearest that their affection is to be consulted for law and order! Still further we learn that for the first time in the case of a priest, Father Clarke has been ordered to take exercise on terms of fellowship with the scum of the gaol, pickpockets, burglars, etc., and, refusing, has been punished with repeated sentences of solitary confinement and bread and water. Just fancy it; the priest in his priestly robes turned loose in a yard full of degraded criminals. What means this new freak of Balfour the Brave? Does it spring from the fear that his policy of prison torture is on its last legs, and a resolve to make the most of the little time now left him to take it out of his political opponents, lay and clerical, in gaol?

Father Kennedy was released on Thursday, March 7, from Cork Gaol, after undergoing his second sentence of two months' imprisonment for proving merely that the National League is not at all suppressed and about Meelin. He was met by an immense crowd of citizens, headed by many members of the Cork Corporation, and brought in triumphant fashion to the Mayor's office, where addresses were presented and he endeavoured to make replies—a task which in his enfeebled condition was painful and difficult. At Mallow, Kanturk, Banteer, and Meelin crowds of people, wild with delight, were waiting to give the gallant *Soggarth* a glowing welcome home. Father Kennedy has suffered much in health from his incarceration, and needs rest and recuperation sadly. Yet in his reply to the addresses he declared that he was ready to face again, not two or three months, but twenty months of the same thing, to strike another

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blow at coercion. Such is the way the Pigottists' boasts of the success of Balfour's policy are being justified before the world.

The heart of man can scarcely realise as possible the wanton inhumanity of the last move of the Most Vile the Marquis of Clanricarde and his tools, Teper and Co., at Portumna. We are troubled with a vague sense that the barbarity is incredible even while we write of it. He has noticed Father Coen that he must pull down forthwith the huts of the evicted tenants which charity has built for them on the piece of the waste land attached to the parish church, and threatens him with all the terrors of the law if he refuse. Can one realise the wanton malignity of the man who, not satisfied with ruining these wretched tenants, robbing them of all the property their capital and labour had created in their holdings, seeks now to rob them even of the poor shelter that pity had raised for them? There is no question of rent here, or refusal of rent. It is sheer, wanton malignity, such as devils were supposed to monopolise. We are glad to have reason to believe that the malice is as impotent as it is vindictive, and that there is no process of law by which the evicted tenants can be disturbed. Their huts are as safe and as sacred as the church beside them.

Father Coen, of Woodford, is dead. These will be sad words to the myriad friends whom his genial and kindly hospitality won for him among the visitors to Woodford. They are, indeed, black and bitter words to the poor of his parish, by whose side he stood in their struggle with the rack-renters, through good repute and evil, with magnificent self-devotion. Almost the last act of that noble life was his defiance of Clanricarde, on behalf of the evicted tenants, for whom his charitable forethought had raised a shelter even at the church door. Personal sacrifices made and indignities suffered in the people's cause he counted as nought. In all that long struggle and bitter suffering he was ever their kindly and thoughtful friend, softening their wrath and comforting their despair. In the wise but mysterious dispensation of Providence he is taken from them in the hour of sorest need. Well may they ask their sorrowing hearts to-day: "Where will come such another?" May God answer their prayer with comfort.

A little Don Whiskerandos—a martial youth of twenty-one, tied, like Dolabella, to a big sword—went very near to causing a fearful scene in a Catholic church on Sunday, March 3. This military personage, whose name is given as Geoghegan, was in the gallery of the church attending Mass, while a number of other soldiers, artillerymen, and 18th Royal Irish, were scattered throughout the sacred edifice. As usual, previous to the opening of Lent, the pastoral of the Bishop was read out after the first Gospel. In this the state of the country was touched upon, but only as a matter for the prayerful attention of the congregation. When the priest, Rev. Father Ryan, came to a reference to coercion, the military officer referred to got up in the gallery and shouted out, "Tara out, military." A dreadful sensation ran through the chapel at this unexpected piece of profanity, but the priest called on the people to remain quiet, and requested the military to remain where they were, and that he would hold the officer responsible for his disrespectful conduct. Only two sergeants followed the officer out of the church, but a number of policemen who were present obsequiously escorted him out and through the town.

CANTERBURY CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

On account of New Year's Day being in this diocese made into a strict holiday, and other circumstances preventing the Society's annual picnic from taking place on Boxing Day, the excursion was deferred until Easter Monday last. The weather in the morning was rather rainy and unpromising. But about half-past eight the sun broke through the heavy overhanging clouds and the day soon became sunny and pleasant. About 9 a.m., members and their friends, a party of from two to three hundred persons—more would undoubtedly have attended had the weather been fairer—started from Cathedral Square in five drags and in a machine which may be considered a carriage, an omnibus, and a drag rolled up into one vehicle. The Society's brass band, led by Mr. Mohr, occupied the first drag. Mr. Murphy, vice president, with two other gentlemen, brought up the rear in a dog-cart. The drive occupied about two and a half hours. The place chosen for the picnic was Mr. Green's plantation at Tai Tapu, a place 16 miles from Christchurch. The plantation is situated in a sort of valley or flat between two spurs, and is about half a mile wide, and extends back into the hills about the same distance. The valley is very level, and is by a road longitudinally divided into two portions. One part, on which is the homestead, forms part of Mr. Morton's extensive estate, known as "Ready Station." The other portion is a part of Mr. Green's property, and consists of about ten acres, which are subdivided into six small paddocks, and which Mr. Green kindly placed at the Society's disposition. One paddock is mainly planted with blue gums, which are large. There are also pines, willows, and poplars in the plantation. The trees are in rows, and form long avenues, which were most convenient for the races and other sports organised by the society. The road, which for miles skirts the hillsides, extends past the valley. On the plains opposite there is a swamp of a thousand or more acres in extent, and a large expanse of stagnant water called Ready's lagoon.

A splendid view is obtainable of the plains, of Lake Ellesmere and of the Southern Alps from the summit of a small hill behind the plantation. These mountains now present a sombre aspect. On their summits vestiges remain only of what at other times is a vast and deep snow carpet. Over the plains numerous clumps of trees mark the various homesteads. Across the lake, which is nineteen miles broad, Leeston and Southbridge with their surroundings can be seen. Tai Tapu is a very pretty place and the land there is generally most excellent. Originally it was very rough, and its present attractive appearance is the result of much industry. But some of the land, from its low situation and its nearness to the hills, is evidently occasionally flooded by continued rains. Everywhere well-

trimmed fences, beautiful paddocks, corn stacks, whole fields green with potatoes and other root crops, also cattle, sheep, and pigs, are noticeable. The melodious strains of the Society's band seemed not to charm much the latter animals, as they usually scampered away as we rode past. In a paddock near the plantation two tents were erected by the caterer, Mr. Hichmott, who provided an abundance and a variety of refreshments. Much praise is due likewise to the members of the band, to Mr. W. Courtney and to Mr. J. Joyce, the Society's able and indefatigable secretary. About an hour after the arrival of the main party, the Rev. Fathers Marnane and Halbwachs came. Early in the afternoon, the Most Rev. Dr. Grimes, according to his promise, honoured the picnic with his presence. His Lordship, who was accompanied by the Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais and others, remained for several hours and was attended to by the priests present, to the number of nine, also by the President, Mr. H. H. Loughnan, and by Messrs R. Lonargan, Chase and W. O'Shanghnessy. Among those who came some distance was the Rev. Father Chervier from Shand's Track. Father Binsfeld was also there, but Father O'Donnell from some cause or other, was not present. Mr. W. Holly, accompanied by Misses M. and E. Holly, also visited the picnic from Leeston. Shortly before returning home, nearly all present were grouped and sketched by Mr. White, a photographer. The Rev. Father Halbwachs, and "Basto," to whose nose and ears the tainted ground and the noise of his master's gun seem agreeable were with the rest immortalised. The pines on one side of the plantation formed an excellent photographic background. The portrait will be an interesting souvenir of the Society's visit to Mr. Green's estate amid the quiet hills at Tai Tapu. There was also at the plantation on the same day another party misnamed the "Bachelor's picnic." This party consisted of thirty persons, all of whom were young, and most of them were ladies. The party arrived in a drag tastefully decorated with ferns, and drawn by four horses. Two or three of the drags in connection with the Literary Society were somewhat overcrowded, and, as the distance was long, in some cases the want of more horse power was experienced. When returning home the "carriage" which had been left a long way behind—Deil tak' the hindmost—became twice planted on a newly gravelled portion of the road near the Magdeline Asylum. Matters were, however, finally set right, and with the exception of this delay, which has occasioned not a little mirth, the excursion was a great success, and was much enjoyed.

VICTORY ALL ALONG THE LINE.

(Pilot correspondence, London, March 18.)

NEVER has a St. Patrick's Day dawned on Ireland more brightly than in this year of hope, 1889. The counsel for the *Times* announced last Wednesday that their case was closed, and the Commission adjourned until April 2. On the previous day an expert accountant testified that he had examined the books of the Hibernian Bank and the books of the National League, but found nothing in either of an incriminating nature. Mr. Parnell cheerfully assented to Sir Henry James's request to be let examine the private account of Mr. Parnell with the National Bank. Then a Cork reporter named Coffee told how he had bamboozled a policeman with a tale in which there wasn't a word of truth, receiving 575dols. from the *Times* for the same. Presiding Justice Hannen seemed to think that Mr. Coffee had taken a serious liberty in thus hoaxing a policeman, and committed witness for contempt of court. Mr. Soames, with characteristic astuteness, took the stand next day to testify that Coffee was an untruthful man, and Mr. Biggar took advantage of the opportunity to elicit the fact that Soames had sent Kirby to America to coax Sheridan to come over and testify, but that Sheridan would not do so for less than 100,000 dols.

Then a man named Levy swore that he had been a member of the Fenian Supreme Council, admitting on cross-examination that he had spent a year in prison for robbing his employer.

At the request of Sir Charles Russell, Justice Hannen ordered the release of William O'Brien and Mr. Timothy Harrington, whom it is necessary for Sir Charles to consult, on condition that they abstain from agitation during their liberty. Sir Charles Russell asked the Court whether it was prepared to express a judgment regarding the question of an interim report on the forged letters.

In reply Presiding Judge Hannen said: "We are not prepared to give an answer limiting our freedom of action. The extraordinary circumstances attending the withdrawal of the letters speak for themselves. No report can enhance or diminish their effect. But we have not yet come to a decision as regards the making of a report."

The *Times* is certainly in a peck of trouble. Mr. Campbell, the private secretary of Mr. Parnell, has begun the first of many libel suits, which will be brought by slandered Parnellites against the friend of Richard Pigott, and the case will probably be tried in May. Mr. Frederic Harrison has published in the *News* another vigorous protest against the retention in office of Attorney-General Sir Richard Webster after the exposure of the latter's connection with the *Times* infamy. The whole Tory Government is tarred with the same dirty stick. Home Secretary Mathews admitted on Friday that the scoundrelly spy, Lt. Caron-Beach, had been permitted to refresh his memory by going over his correspondence with the Home Office authorities before appearing on the witness stand to help the *Times* out with an oath. Lord Salisbury, Lord Carnarvon, and Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt have been subpoenaed by Sir Charles Russell. None of the Parnellite counsel will participate in the attack in the House of Commons on Attorney-General Webster.

The heaviest blow to Toryism has been the defeat of its candidate in the Kennington division of Lambeth last Friday. The enforced resignation of the Tory scapegrace, Mr. R. Gent-Davis, compelled an election, which resulted, to the surprise of the Tories, in a victory for Mr. Beaufoy, the Gladstonian candidate, who polled 4,069 votes, against 3,439 for Mr. Hope, the Conservative nominee. At the last election Gent-Davis, the retiring member, received 3,222 votes, and Mr. Beaufoy 2,792.

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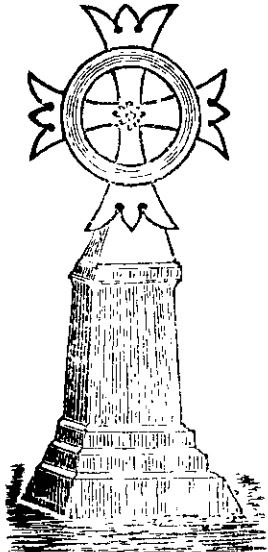
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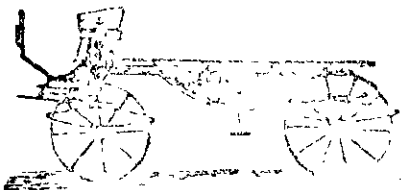
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(Signed) J. G. BLACK, M.A.,

Professor of Chemistry

This is the most serious reverse sustained by the Tory-Unionist Government since it came into power, over two years ago, and its moral and material effect upon the constituencies cannot be over-rated. One of the outposts of Toryism's greatest and almost impregnable strongholds has been carried by storm, and the victors set no bounds to the triumphs which shall follow. The Government and their allies were absolutely stupefied when the great news reached the House of Commons. The Tory members fled in deep and silent disgust to their clubs—anywhere, in fact, beyond the sound of the jubilating Liberals, and the Ministers rushed to their private rooms, there to hide their mortification from the Gladstonians, and to take counsel with each other in their sore distress.

IN THE MOUNTAIN MIST.

(By MRS. GUTHRIE, in the New York *Freeman's Journal*.)

CHAPTER I.

It was a queer old "slaty" village among the Welsh mountains. Slates were its life and existence, meat and drink, inasmuch as they purchased all the necessities of life for its three thousand inhabitants. Nearly all of these were employed at the enormous slate quarries, whose tier upon tier of workings and debris rose high above the village like gigantic steps of stairs up the mountain's side; whilst high above the quarries the giants of Snowdonia reared aloft peak upon peak, purple, gray, or mist crowned. Shut in with mountain peaks, and low well-wooded hills, the village nestled under the mighty shoulder of "Carnedd Dafydd" in a green and fertile valley through which the pretty rushing trout stream meandered in many picturesque curves. The village looked its best in the last rays of the setting sun, when the crimson and gold of a sky, that was too often stormy and gray, gave warmth and richness to the prevailing cold purple and green tints of the slates that were used for every purpose in construction. They formed the roofs, window sills, door steps, pavements, gate posts, and dividing-walls. The tiny fields and gardens had low walls of horizontal slates surmounted by perpendicular blocks at intervals, giving a turreted appearance like the ramparts of an ancient castle. The people worked at the slates, talked of the slates, bought or sold or speculated in slates, until most of them were as thin and dry as the slates they vegetated amongst. We will introduce some of them to our readers.

In one of the large cutting sheds, with countless thousands of slates of all sizes neatly piled around, several men were engaged in warm and angry debate; the question at issue was the election of a medical man for the quarry Sick Club, and an animated and eager group were taking part in the discussion.

"We are all Welshmen, and will be doctored by a Welshmen; we'll have no Paddies here," said a dark-bearded man with a morose countenance, striking his clenched fist heavily on the plank table.

"It is useless discussing the matter now that the new doctor is appointed," said a gentlemanly young man named Evan Conway, the overseer of a gallery or tier of the quarry, and secretary of the Sick Club. "There was no Welsh candidate. This Terence Delaney's testimonials were the best sent in."

"The man's qualifications were very good," said another voice. "It is no use arguing with Hugh Griffiths, Mr. Conway; he is bound to oppose whatever you propose."

"I did not propose the election of any particular candidate," Conway replied; "the letters and testimonials were laid before the club, and the members voted."

"Right you are, master," said another; "take no notice of his tempers."

"You had your chance of opposing and explaining your views at the meeting, Hugh Griffiths," said Conway. "It is too late to make a commotion over the matter now. For my part I think we could not have elected a better man."

"I did not know the man was a gaol-bird then," said Hugh Griffiths, savagely. "I must have known, though, for most of these Irish are the same."

"Shame on you, black Hugh," cried several of the company at once.

"Mr. Delaney is no gaol-bird, in the ordinary meaning of the word," Conway replied, coldly.

"He is coming straight here from one, at any rate," sneered Hugh.

"A gaol-bird is a felon," said old John Jones, a cutter, who was accounted wise and long-headed by his comrades. "Now, when a man takes a drop too much on pay-night, and can't behave himself comfortable after, and gets clapped into Bangor lock-up for seven days, he is not a felon, thou see'st lad; but if he prigs a leg of mutton from the butcher's shop, that's a different matter—thou see'st again, Hugh?"

"When a man simply goes to listen to a bit of political speechifying, and gets run in for being present, or speaking a word, he's not to be called a felon," said John Jones the younger.

"Every man has a right to freedom of speech," said pert David Jones from the "Pass," who had a weakness for exercising the right he advocated. "I respect the man for having spent a fortnight in Limbo; and I mean to uphold him when he comes here."

"Bravo, bravo! I'll second Daffy Jones!" cried a Jones of another family (this barren mountain region produced little beyond Joneses and slates, grit and granite).

"He'll be well supported; gas will do a lot," retorted Hugh. "Daffy Jones has gas enough to blow up the quarries."

"And Black Hugh has wet blankets enough to put out every spark of gas in this digging," replied Daffy the irrepressible. "He's always savage when he is in his cubs. We should not have heard a word of opposition if Mr. Conway had not gone up the Pass last night and helped farmer Wynne in the hayfield when the women folk were tossing the hay."

Griffiths bestowed a glance of malicious intent at the speaker.

"Oh, we all know that pretty Nesta Wynne is at the bottom of this," said John Jones the younger; and the bronzed cheek of the young overseer took a deeper tinge as he avoided Hugh Griffiths' savage and jealous countenance.

"Let us not introduce Miss Wynne's name here," said Evan Conway. "I think it both unfair and unjust that Griffiths should be trying to excite a prejudice against the new doctor before he comes here, and so I have said. For the rest, Mr. Delaney is a perfect stranger to me; I have nothing to gain or lose by speaking up for him. I do say this, though, I honour him for what he has had to suffer simply to uphold a principle. If free speech is not a crime in England or Wales, why should it be a crime in Ireland? Do they run us into Bangor Gaol when Mr. Gladstone gives us a speech at Penmaenmawr or at Hawarden? There, I've said my say, men."

"Right you are, master," "that's so," "you're square, Evan Conway," and similar tokens of assent came from all parts of the room.

"We all know where the shoe pinches, Hugh," said Daffy of the Pass. "Farmer Wynne opens his gates to the master here, and to others, but keeps his kinsman, Hugh, over the slaty side of the wall."

"Who the devil cares how many goes into old Wynne's house?" said Hugh, with a fierce oath for emphasis.

"Farmer Wynne kept that friend of yours out when he bolted you out," answered Daffy, coolly, with the refreshing but irritating candour of a man who knows all about his neighbour's affairs, and does not mean to hide the shining light of his knowledge under the bushel of scrupulous reticence. "Owen Wynne was too wise to let a fellow who is so partial to the tap at the Quarry Inn, and so free with a heavy pair of fists, keep hovering round his pretty daughter, Nesta."

"If you mention the girl's name again, you will feel the weight of the heavy fist very quickly, Daffy Jones," cried Hugh, sharply.

"No quarrelling, men," said Conway, authoritatively. "You are out of order, David Jones, in introducing irrelevant matters, and irritating a man by village tattle. The question is about the rules of the Sick Club and the election of its doctor. If there is anything more to be said on the subject let us have it. If you are trying to raise a quarrel I shall collect the fines from you."

Though Evan Conway was Hugh Griffiths' rival, he had a fellow-feeling for him at the present moment. Hugh's unfortunate love affair had been village gossip; he had unwisely set his heart upon marrying his pretty young cousin—cousinship is a very extended relationship in the principality—but Nesta would have none of him; he was more than thirty, quite old in the eyes of a bright young maiden. From pleading he had gone on to threatening, and Nesta repulsed him, affrighted by his violence; and the farmer had ordered him never to enter his doors again. This had happened more than a year since, and Hugh outwardly seemed to have accepted his fate, but inwardly he was consumed by a mad feeling of jealousy against all possible rivals; and he often attempted to speak to Nesta when intoxicated, a very frequent occurrence of late.

Ever since Evan Conway had been appointed to fill the post once held by Hugh, but lost through his intemperate habits, Hugh had become more like a madman than a responsible being, particularly when he learnt that the young overseer was a welcome guest at the farm. After this digression we must return to the clubroom, where much noisy talk was going on.

"Is this the clubroom of the quarry?" asked a pleasant voice from near the door. "I have been directed here. I wish to report myself to the secretary, Mr. Evan Conway; my name is Terence Delaney."

The young doctor was cordially welcomed by Conway and introduced to the members present. The secretary and the new comer walked from the club together. From that night a steady friendship grew up between the two young men.

They lived in the same house and in as close companionship as brothers. Hugh Griffiths hated Delaney as cordially as he hated Conway.

No man is so unpopular as not to have some followers and partisans, and Hugh Griffiths had a certain popularity among the worst and most dangerous of the "hands," the loafers and drinkers. He was generous when "half seas over," and as that had been almost his chronic condition for some weeks past he had quite a following at his bidding. Thus matters were progressing all the autumn and early winter.

About three miles from the village, up the wild, moraine strewn valley which divides the enormous bulk of "Carnedd Dafydd" from the "Glyders," there are some green and fertile plots on the sunny side of the mountain's lower slopes, which the mountain scree and the slate debris have not yet entombed under their barren ugliness, and a few isolated farm-houses were dotted about the deep trench of the valley. They are one storied, white-washed, and roofed with great slabs of solid slate, and upon the roofs huge blocks of granite or grit were laid to protect the houses from being stripped in the wild tempests and mountain storms which sweep through the Pass with terrific force during the winter. In the largest of these mountain farm-houses dwelt Farmer Wynne, his wife, two sons, and a daughter.

Nesta Wynne was the belle of the mountain and Pass; she was the bonniest rosebud of a girl, so pink and dimpled, such a saucy, piquant face, merry brown eyes and bright golden curls, and such a winning and fascinating smile; it was no wonder that her friends almost idolised her. All the eligible young men of the district were in love with her. Evan Conway had been devoted to her since his arrival at the quarry, and the susceptible young doctor, Terence Delaney, was soon her willing slave. Nesta was no coquette; she was as simple and modest as a mountain daisy, and thought it "awfully silly" that so many young men were always running after Owen and Morgan, her two brothers. The brothers of pretty girls are usually very popular! As yet she had shown no especial preference for any of her suitors; she talked more freely to Terence Delaney, because he spoke of topics that interested her more than the sports and pastimes, the sheep or the slates, which formed the staple subjects of conversation of the mountain youths. She appeared rather afraid of the grave, business-like Evan Conway, and avoided

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him more or less; she thought that a frivolous girl, with a mere pink and white face, could have no interest for him.

Evan and Terence knew each other's secret; and thus there was very little jealousy between them in their wooing. Outspoken Evan had said from the first: "A fair field for both, Terence, and no favour. Let the little girl choose between us; our setting up a private feud and cultivating bitterness of spirit against each other will not influence Nesta's choice. I love her well enough to desire her happiness before my own; if she thinks she will be happier with you, then let it be so. But for all that I mean to lose no chance of trying to gain her affections."

"All right, Evan," said his friend, "I will do the same; and when Nesta has decided for one of us, let the other bear his disappointment manfully." Neither of them had as yet tempted fate by a proposal of marriage.

CHAPTER II.

Christmas was at hand, bright and frosty, and although Christmas as a religious festival is not much observed in the Principality, owing to the prevalence of dissent, that year it was to be a festive season in the Pass. Pretty Nesta Wynne's twenty-first birthday was on Christmas Day, the very day for a family reunion, so the two spinster aunts from Carnarvon and Uncle Tom—who was something in the shipping line in Liverpool—were invited, and two sprightly girl cousins from Festiniog, the minister of Farmer Wynne's own particular "Little Bethel," and to give due weight to the feast the minister of a rival "Zebedee" on the hillsides.

"And I do think, Farmer," said good Mrs. Wynne, "as the best parlour will have to be fired and lighted, you might ask the chapel deacons to come in also; they'd be company for th' parson, and th' two aunts'll see they have plenty to take some of the spiritual sourness out of them, I warrant."

"As you like, mother," said the farmer, cheerily; "but you are filling up the place with old fogies; they'll not amuse the little girl much, and it's her birthday party, remember."

"Bless the man! Whoever thought they would? But it's neighbourly. Nesta and th' young folks will never look into the best parlour the live-long night. I've given her and th' boys permission to ask whoever they like, so there'll be a pretty show. I expect they'll turn th' house out of the windows. What I should do if th' aunts were not here. I do not know."

"We're all going to help and clear out the barn for the young folks," said one of the aunts from Carnarvon. "I do hope they'll have a good time. Nesta reminds me of sister Jenny at her age."

Sister Jenny (the other aunt) looked pleased at the flattery, and simpered out "that there was just a resemblance even now—they are both so small and lively." Pretty Nesta looked up from her butter-moulding board, and wondered if she would ever look such a small thin woman, with a hard red tinge on her withered cheeks, as little Aunt Jenny. "Owen and Morgan are going with the farm lads to bring in cart-loads of spruce and holly to deck the barn," cried Nesta, with beaming eyes, while she rolled out the golden butter deftly.

"Richard Williams, the milk-boy, has got a splendid branch of mistletoe," said one of the dark-eyed maidens from Festiniog; "he got it by some unlawful means from the woods around. I heard him calling Ann, the dairy-maid, this morning."

"You wicked, mischievous Gwen! I believe you asked him to get it!"

"Gwen has been in League with Dicky Williams ever since he drove her into Bangor last week," cried Kitty, the other sprightly cousin, weighing the lumps of butter meanwhile.

"I've no doubt you mean to play high jinks, children," said the farmer. "Well, do just as you like and enjoy yourselves; but no dancing, no dancing, remember. I'll have no daughters of Herodias under my roof-tree."

He was a staunch dissenter of the olden school, and dancing savoured of Satanic orgies. Then he went out to "play havoc and let loose the dogs of war" among the feathered fowls in the stack-yard; thus Nesta's birthday was not a season of unmitigated joy to the poultry at the farm. Heaps of geese and turkeys, chickens and mountain sheep, were sacrificed to do honour to the feast; Owen and Morgan and Uncle Tom went out with their guns on the mountain, and brought a good store of plump hares and wild birds. From the cooking that was going on in the big kitchen you might have thought the farmer meant to provision a company of soldiers. Such a chopping of mince-meat, such a mixing of pudings, such a baking of apple pies, pound cakes, and short-bread. Mrs. Wynne stood at her paste-board rolling out thin sheets of flaky puff paste, with an antique recipe book open on the table before her. Welsh matrons are as conservative in their views on cookery as their lords and masters are liberal in their views as to tithes and disendowment. Aunt Jenny took upon herself the responsibility of the puddings after everybody in the house, mids included, had given a "lucky stir," and the other little aunts placed the various batches of pastry and cakes in the huge bake oven in the brew-house, in which stacks of wood had been burnt to ensure a due degree of heat. And if it be true that "the proof of the pudding be in the eating," and "the proof of the pastry in the baking," then the little aunt might be considered an adept in putting her pastry to the proof, for the shelves of the brew-house bent beneath their store of golden-brown cakes and pies, which she regarded with laudable pride.

And the girls were laughing and chattering in the kitchen, with rosy cheeks, busy fingers, and busy tongues. They beat up eggs, pared apples, stoned raisins, and washed currants; they sang, they scolded playfully, they were as merry as so many children over their labours of love. Ann, the dairy-maid, made curds and whey, and the farm girls plucked the feathers from geese and chickens, and viewed the extensive preparations with delight. Then Uncle Tom and the boys would come into the kitchen and crack jokes with the women folk, and pitter the raisins and apples, pitter the cheeks of the bright-eyed cousins from Festiniog, or tweak little Nesta's golden curls. It was, in truth, a lively time, that preparation for Nesta's Christmas birthday.

(To be continued.)

CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ON Easter Sunday some of the Maoris from the pah at Kaiapoi were confirmed in the Cathedral in Barbadoes street. Among these was the aged chief, Te Aika, with whose family I became acquainted upon my visit to the pah, a few months ago. Te Aika was a fine specimen of the old Maori chieftain. He was grave, courteous, hospitable and dignified. He was a good Catholic, and his venerable and devout appearance on the occasion of his reception of the holy Sacrament of Confirmation attracted much attention. He was a most saintly looking old patriarch upon that day. His age is given as seventy-six, but he is said to have been much older. He was a young man at the time of Te Rauparaha's invasion fifty years ago, and could tell many stories of Te Rauparaha's victorious march. His granddaughter, Jane Albert, who showed us around the pah, is a very attractive and intelligent young woman. The whole family are very good Catholics. The old man caught cold on the occasion of his visit to the Cathedral to be confirmed. Bronchitis ensued, and he died at two o'clock on Tuesday morning. On Sunday at half-past two the old chieftain was borne to his last resting place. The funeral was largely attended by Natives and Europeans. His Lordship Dr. Grimes, who was much interested in the old man and the Te Aika family generally, attended the funeral. On the days between the death of the deceased and his burial, large numbers of the old chief's relatives assembled at the house to pay their respects to him. Cloths were spread out on the lawn, and food supplied to the visitors.

It always gives me especial pleasure to chronicle the success of our own people. I quote the following paragraph from the Christchurch Press of the 4th inst.—"The Law Examinations.—The results of the general knowledge examination for barristers and solicitors appear in another column. It will be seen that there are three Christchurch men among the successful candidates. Mr. M. Donnelly, who has passed the barristers' examination second in order of merit, is the editor of the Telegraph, and is now entitled to be admitted as a barrister, having already passed the law examination. He was admitted as a solicitor by his Honour the late Mr. Justice Johnston. His success is the more noteworthy, inasmuch as his studies for the Bar have had to be carried on during the scanty leisure of a busy life, whether in law or journalism. Mr. Donnelly, by his steady perseverance, sound judgment and quickness of perception is sure to achieve a high position. Mr. J. A. Cassidy, who has also passed the barrister's examination, is in Mr. Stringer's office." Mr. Cassidy was educated at the Jesuits' college at Kew. He is a relative of Father Cassidy, of New Plymouth. The college has reason to be proud of its pupil. Mr. Cassidy is a very popular young man. He possesses exceptional ability and is sure to make a name for himself in his profession. Both gentlemen may be congratulated upon having passed a very severe examination.

Diphtheria has broken out again in the East Christchurch school. Some weeks ago the school was closed on account of the prevalence of this disease among the children. It was re-opened a week or two ago. The rooms had not been properly fumigated, and so the disease has re-appeared, and the school is once more closed. Since the reopening one death, I believe, has occurred.

Father Browne's friends at Timaru and elsewhere will be pleased to learn that the rev. gentleman has concluded negotiations for a presbytery at Hawarden. He has purchased so far three acres and a half of land and a four-roomed cottage. He was in town last week to transact the legal business necessary to the transfer of the deeds of the property. Father Browne's purchase, I believe, is all that could be desired in regard to convenience of situation, etc. I think the parish priest of Hawarden and Brackenfield is to be complimented on the prompt manner in which he has brought this matter to a successful conclusion. Father Browne is showing that he has a thought to spare for his country, even amidst the difficulties which usually beset a priest upon taking possession of a poor parish. He has inaugurated a collection for the Defence Fund, and his efforts so far have met with very encouraging results.

The Spanish Students have been quite taken by the band by musical Christchurch. A benefit in the Theatre Royal was tendered to the little band of melancholy-eyed foreigners by the Christchurch amateurs on Saturday night, and a handsome sum was realised I believe.

According to some recently published reports in one of the newspapers here in regard to the manner in which charitable aid is administered, it would seem that the funds at the disposal of the Board are dealt out very freely. Not only is food given, but rent is paid, fuel supplied, new boots given, and old ones mended. There is something like two thousand pounds a year paid for cottage rent in the united district. The lion's share of this is expended in Christchurch and Sydenham. Altogether there is between seven and eight thousand pounds expended annually upon outdoor relief. The whole system is a demoralising and an extravagant one, and wants to be remodelled and simplified. There is not such extensive poverty in the Colony, if the poverty in Christchurch may be taken as a criterion of the state of social life in other cities, to warrant the existence of such an elaborate system, which would be better suited to old countries in which there is a real pauper class. In New Zealand there is not such a class, but the present system would undoubtedly do much to create it.

On Tuesday morning last during the Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Father Gavin, the sanctuary was draped in black. The Rev. Father Cummings was celebrant, and Fathers Aubrey and Halibael's deacon and sub-deacon. Brother Joseph, who of late has been winning laurels in this position, was master of ceremonies. His Lordship the Bishop occupied the throne, vested in cope and mitre. The choir rendered the Mass for the Dead. The Bishop pronounced the absolution at the catafalque.

On Tuesday evening the ceremonies inaugurating the May devotions were very pretty, and were calculated to increase in those present devotion to the Mother of God. At the conclusion of the Rosary a procession was formed, and proceeded around the church grounds,

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The following order was observed:—First the crossbearer and acolytes, thurifers, girls in white, Children of Mary (in regalia), members of the congregation, pupils of the Brothers' school, the statue of the Blessed Virgin on a brancard borne on the shoulders of Brothers Pius and Damien, then the clergy, and lastly the Bishop in beautiful vestments and mitre, attended by Fathers Aubrey and Halbwachs in cloth-of-gold dalmatics. Every one in the procession carried lighted candles. The choir sang the "Magnificat," and other hymns to the Blessed Virgin. As the procession moved past the Bishop's house, red fire was burned, and the effect of the rich glowing colour upon the white dresses of the children, the blue cloaks of the Children of Mary, and upon the statue was very pretty indeed. On returning to the church after the procession there was Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

On Friday evening there was the usual monthly meeting of the Apostleship of Prayer. The Rev. Father Cummings gave an instruction upon the "Love of Mary," after which the intentions for the month were read out. About twenty-five new members were enrolled. The meeting closed with the Act of Reparation and Benediction.

At eleven o'clock Mass on Sunday, Father Aubrey preached a very finished sermon on the feast day—that of the Good Shepherd. Father Aubrey pointed out how perfectly in every detail Christ had fulfilled that character, and urged upon the people the necessity of their sustaining their parts as His flock by being obedient to his voice. This was the first time that I heard Father Aubrey in the pulpit. He is a graceful and fluent speaker, and has only a very slight foreign accent. His bearing in the pulpit is most dignified. As a speaker, as well as a priest, Father Aubrey is a valuable addition to the clerical force at the Pro-Cathedral.

WEBSTER'S AMAZING LIE.

(Pilot Correspondence, London, March 25.)

THE past week in Parliament has been one of turmoil, storm, and stress, from which the Liberal leaders and their Irish friends have emerged smiling, refreshed, pugnacious, and hopeful. The Tory leaders, discredited and disheartened, doubled up in debate, beaten in argument and bewildered by the merciless fire of questions to which they have been daily subjected, take comfort in the fact that their majorities have not been materially lessened, but in the most critical of the three divisions taken during the week the Tory-Unionist majority was reduced to 64, and Friday night it would not have exceeded half that total had not 25 Liberal lawyers, some of them engaged in the Parnell case, walked out of the House without voting, because the proposed censure of the Attorney-General involved matters of professional etiquette, but, as the Tories well know, the Liberals are forcing the fighting, with the whole country looking on. The people are noting the shameful admissions of duplicity and tyranny wrung from the Government, and at every election the ballot has shown what they think of it all.

The doubling of the Liberal majority at Gorton, in the election last Saturday, is as important in its way as the winning of the Tory seat at Kennington, for it proves that even in Lancashire, the greatest Tory stronghold out of London, the reaction in favour of Home Rule is beginning to be felt.

The election was held to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the death of Richard Peacock (Gladstonian), and resulted in the return of William Mather (Gladstonian), who received 5155 votes, against 4309 cast for Ernest Hatch, the nominee of the Conservatives and Liberal Unionists. At the last election Mr Peacock received 4592 votes, and Lord Grey de Wilton, the Conservative, 4135.

On Thursday the House occupied itself with worthy Mr. Secretary Balfour, Baron Henry de Worms, Parliamentary Colonial Secretary, read a telegram which had been received from the Cape in reply to inquiries concerning Captain Seagrave, who commanded the constables at the Mitchelstown riots, in 1887. The telegram said that Captain Seagrave was dismissed from the Cape infantry service in 1885 for gross neglect of duty and breach of trust.

The reading of the despatch was followed by a scene of great disorder. The Irish members rose in their places and cheered, and there were cries of "Pigott!" "Pigott!" "Remember Mitchelstown!" etc.

When quiet was restored Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, said he had suspended Seagrave, but preferred not to dismiss him until documentary evidence of his guilt had been received.

On the vote on Mr. Balfour's salary Mr. Morley severely criticised the Government's action in carrying on a "furtive and clandestine battle behind its opponents' backs."

Mr. Bradlaugh's motion that Mr. Balfour's salary be reduced by 2,500 dol. was rejected—272 to 211.

In the House of Commons on Friday Sir William Vernon Harcourt wanted to know whether the Attorney-General had the letters in which Pigott admitted his inability to stand cross-examination. If Mr. Soames had that letter and kept it from the knowledge of the Attorney-General he (Harcourt) had no hesitation in saying that the name of Mr. Soames ought to be struck off the rolls.

The Attorney-General declined absolutely to say whether he had advised the Government on any point. In regard to Sir William's statement that the *Times* apology could only have been written by a pettifogging, cozening knave, he said that knave stood before them at the present moment.

Messrs. O'Connor and Labouchere having spoken, Mr. Parnell said he should not have intervened, but that in the language of Attorney-General Webster and in the shouts of his supporters there had been some faint echo of Lord Salisbury's equivocal language in respect to the forged letters. If Lord Salisbury still chose to pin the relic of his faith to the letters the consequences would be upon his own head.

Mr. Lewis, solicitor for the Parnellites, writes to call attention to an "amazing and important misstatement," with reference to Pigott made by Attorney-General Webster in the House of Commons. He

said that the letter referred to by Mr. Webster as having been placed in Sir Charles Russell's hands five days before Pigott's appearance in the witness-box, was a letter from Mr. Soames, solicitor for the *Times*, to Pigott and that two other letters from Pigott to Mr. Soames, in which Pigott admitted that he feared to undergo a cross-examination, were withheld by the *Times*' lawyers. Mr. Lewis says it is a fact that neither the counsel nor the solicitor for the Parnellites had notice of the existence of these two letters until Pigott had decamped. Mr. Soames' letter to Pigott contained a promise that no harm would come to Pigott through the latter's testifying before the Parnell Commission. There was no allusion in the letter to the character of the evidence to be given by Pigott.

Mr. Lewis has secured Richard Pigott's diary and will produce it before the Parnell Commission.

A number of policemen who were protecting a party of Emergency men engaged in serving tithes distrains in Penbryn, Cardiganshire, Wales, last Wednesday, were attacked by a mob, and a fierce contest took place, during which many men on both sides were injured.

A number of tenants at Townarville, County Donegal, were evicted from their holdings on Thursday. It is probable that the evictions would have been resisted had not the authorities furnished a force of 300 policemen and troops to assist them.

Mr. O'Mahoney, editor of the *Tipperary Nationalist*, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment under the Coercion Law for intimidation.

THE CATHOLIC MAORIS.

(From the *Catholic Household*.)

THE following extract from a letter received from Father Madan will give some idea of the efforts now being made to revive and intensify the faith of the Catholic Maoris of New Zealand, who were first converted to Catholicity some forty years ago by French Marist Fathers, and have ever since continued wonderfully attached to it, although for years deprived of the ministrations of a priest until the close of 1886, when Father Madan and Father Becker from St. Joseph's College, Mill-hill, London, were sent out to assume the apostolate amongst this interesting race. "The Dominican 'Rosary' comes in very useful, giving me stories to tell the Maori. We are very busy passing the new edition of the Maori prayer-book through the Press; and adding to it the Latin of the Mass and several devotions not in the old one—as the Seven Joys, etc., of St. Joseph, Litany of the Saints, instructions for the Last Sacraments, and some additional hymns. All the old copies had just run out on our arrival, and we have nothing to give the younger Maori now growing up, nor the 'enquirers' and catechumens. In some settlements it had gone so far that, the few copies of the Catholic prayer-book having got broken and lost, they had taken to say the Protestant prayers out of a prayer-book given them; and they, innocently supposing that it was the same, owing to the "Our Father" and the "Credo" being found in it, took to them permanently. 'Broken the Book, broken the Church,' said one of them to me in their expressive idiom. They said they would pray again the Catholic prayers if we gave them books. It will be out by Easter, I hope. From this you will also see how the absence of priests has been the cause of the loss of the proper idea of the position of the Mass and Sacraments in the work of the Catholic Church, and how common prayers—or, rather, prayers in common—is, in cases, the prominent feature of their Catholic life; and thus not wholly different externally to the Protestant life, barring Rosaries and medals, which are the distinctive mark. We had a grand funeral a little while ago, which so impressed the Maoris that they had a grand meeting afterwards, and they determined to try and live better lives, so as to be worthy themselves to be buried in such state—a curious motive! In another settlement the Catholics would not allow the Mormon ministers to say their prayers in any of their whares, telling them to say them outside."

DON PIATT'S "PLEA FOR THE PARENT."

DON PIATT has a very good article in *Balfour's Magazine* asserting the right of the parent against that of the State to control the education of children. The home, the school, and the Church, form the triunity of factors which should work harmoniously together to shape the moral, the intellectual, and the religious nature of man. To violently disrupt the harmony, to remove the child, for the greater portion of its time, entirely from two of these influences, is likely to cripple him in a number of ways. Any sane man can see that the present system of public schools has a bad influence on the people at large, because it excludes religious teaching and is a gross injustice to Catholics and other sincere Christians. Mr. Piatt very well says:

The increase of crime and insanity in the United States within the last half-century is something appalling. They have not only kept pace with our much-vaunted prosperity, but have been, and are, forging ahead at a rate that fills all thoughtful minds with alarm.

But it does not follow that these grave evils are to be laid to the "communism" of the New England common-school system. Perhaps not; but how much has this wonderful system done to arrest those evils? According to preachers, poets, editors, and stump orators, we are safe in leaving all to its care and keeping. It has certainly accomplished little in behalf of the Republic. Penitentiaries and asylums for the insane are increasing at a fearful rate; divorces follow fast upon the heels of marriage; and it may safely be said that not a single trust-fund has been left untouched by the hand of fraud throughout the entire country.

A further investigation, however, will lead us to yet another conclusion. The "communism" of the common school accompanies the evils. In those parts of our country where it is most rigidly enforced crime and madness have increased. In those sections yet new to the system these ills are less; and as there must be a cause for the difference, is it not safe to attribute it to this usurpation of the State, this insidious assault on the parent, and through both a weakening of religious faith and moral conduct?

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NORTH CANTERBURY.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

THE weather at present is all that could be expected. We are getting just sufficient rain to make the grass grow profusely; any more would have the contrary effect. If this weather continues, there will be plenty of feed for sheep and cattle during the winter months. About this time the North Canterbury sheep farmers, and cattle grazers expect to have their grass paddocks abundantly covered with grass, thereby providing feed for the winter. Frosts of any severity are indeed rare in this beautiful country. The agriculturist seems very busy in preparing his ground for seed-sowing, and a few of them have already sown some wheat. We had some large sheep sales here recently, and the prices realised were gratifying to the vendors. The run-holders and farmers are perfectly satisfied with the result of their industries this year.

Catholic affairs are progressing surely and steadily, under the administration of Father O'Connor, of Rangiora, and Father Browne, of Hawarden. The former gentleman has been working hard in connection with his art-union, which he, in conjunction with the laity of his parish, inaugurated some time ago. The proceeds were to be devoted to paying off a debt on that magnificent edifice, the Rangiora Catholic Church. The drawing, which was open to the public, and presided over by some of the most independent Protestant gentlemen of Rangiora, among whom was his Worship the Mayor, gave entire satisfaction. The prizes were numerous and valuable. The 1st prize goes to the West Coast, others to distant parts of the Colony, some remaining in the district. The financial part of the affair was up to expectations, which will greatly help in reducing this debt. A little exertion on the part of the congregation, I have not the slightest doubt, would be the means of completely wiping off this debt. Father Browne is also busy in finding out the remote corners of his parishes, and making himself acquainted with those of his congregation living in those remote corners. His parishioners are not forgetful of him. I am told they have purchased some land, and that tenders will shortly be called for the erection of a presbytery on it. This tells greatly in their favour and shows the generosity of the Catholics of this locality, for I am informed the undertaking will cost at the least £500. Considering the number of Catholics, it is a noble exertion on their part. But they will be twofold repaid for their generosity by the benefits derived from a resident priest. Mass will be more regular and the children will have a better opportunity of being exercised in religious instruction oftener, which they need very much. It is surprising how few parents are in not sending their children to be catechised on their religion. It is very disheartening to a priest, after riding several miles for the purpose of catechising the children, to find on his arrival but three children where there should be at least twenty. Who is responsible for such a state of affairs? who are but the parents. It is not but that they have been requested often enough to send their children to catechism. Catholic parents should bear in mind what their children have to go through in respect to their faith. The influence around them in country places is entirely non-Catholic, having no schools of their own they have to mix with the children of those of every class and denomination in the public schools. So it behoves parents to see that their children are thoroughly cognisant of the rudimentary tenets of their religion to counteract the non-Catholic influence. It is to be hoped that parents will for the future send their children more regularly to catechism and show that they are desirous of placing no obstacle in the way of their worthy parish priest, who is most willing to instil a thorough and sound Christian knowledge in the young ideas of his parishes.

Not only have the Catholics of Canterbury, but those of the Colony, reason to be elated, and should unite as with one voice and sing "Hallelujah." All at once the Christchurch *Press* newspaper has taken upon itself to be our champion—one conversion. Its editor accuses his brother scribe of the *Lyttelton Times* of deserting us and calls upon him to apologise for doing so. Under the circumstances, we would be nothing short of being a mass of ingratitude if we were not thankful to Mr. Editor of the *Press* for condescending to raise his voice on our behalf. Indeed we are grateful. The cause of the conversion of the *Press* was: A member of the North Canterbury Education Board, also a member of Parliament, and known as Mr. Saunders, stated that three of the leading newspapers of Christchurch were published in Catholic interests. This Mr. Saunders is renowned for his bigotry and intolerance, coupled with his ignorance. He has a wholesome dread of Catholicity or anything straightforward, and he goes about thinking the air he breathes is flavoured with Catholicity. This Saunders and his co-workers on the said Board did something that was shocking to the minds of all right thinking persons. It was in connection with the appointment of a master to one of the Oxford schools. Their conduct was fully exposed in some of the Christchurch papers. Surely the exposure had nothing to do with Catholic claims. But perhaps old Saunders, feeling that the comments were rather weighty and thinking to divert public opinion, resorted to the trickery of saying that three of the Christchurch newspapers were published in the interests of Catholics. However the papers got piqued over the saying. *Times* stated that it never advocated Catholic claims, and that it was always a strong supporter of the present system of education. No necessity to tell us Catholics that such is the case. *Press* says that *Times*, in giving its sympathy towards a meeting held in Christchurch in honour of Mr. Parnell supplemented by some remarks from the *TABLET*, was advocating Catholic claims. According to *Press*, anything connected with Ireland or that is fair and impartial, must be Catholic. Surely Mr. Editor must be very ignorant if he does not know the religious persuasion of some of the ablest gentlemen who are using their best endeavours to get Home Rule for Ireland. Mr. *Press* Editor does not forget to tell us that he could not support the special political objects of the Roman Catholics of this Colony. He mentions Home Rule for Ireland as one of its objects, I will try and satisfy Mr. Editor on that point by assuring him that Catholic Home Rulers do not look to the New Zealand Parliament for that concession to the

land of their birth; so he can make his mind easy it will not be a burning question at the next election, and he can keep his support for something else. Mr. *Press* Editor ought to understand that Catholics are impartial. They treat every subject on its merits. They do not bend and twist things to suit purposes, nor do they expect if a person sympathise with a good and noble cause that he must be an advocate of their other claims with reference to Mr. Parnell and his colleagues. As Britishers of the liberal stamp we would give aid and assistance to the vilest of criminals to obtain for him justice. But here are gentlemen whose intelligence and energies are devoted to a just and noble end, most foully labelled and accused of the most horrible of crimes. Surely the least that any liberal minded person would do under the circumstances, is to show that he desired that justice should be meted out to this fellow-creature. But there is a certain class who wish to stifle everything that is noble and just by making it appear that such a thing was the outcome of prejudice or religious bigotry. These tactics, I am happy to say, are fast approaching annihilation. The middle and working classes can see through the scene, and can form their own conclusions why such things are introduced into subjects they have no bearing on.

No more juvenile criminals in Canterbury. "Mother" has discovered where these criminals come from. It is from the ill-clad, half-starved-looking urchins berding cattle in the open sections of Sydenham. She wonders what the council of this borough must be doing, and laments the absence of the Inspector of Nuisances, who should be on the alert to check such unpleasing sights. I cannot say as to whether it is these urchins (as "Mother" is pleased to call them) or the cattle she wishes impounded. If "Mother" was the humane creature that she wants us to understand she is, she might use her energies in having those open sections fenced; then there would be no need for herding. I am certain parents would be only too glad to release their children from such occupation and send them to school. "Mother" should bear in mind that the poor must live as well as the rich. She is also quite ignorant of human nature when she says it is from those that criminals spring. The suggestions of "Justice," re juvenile criminals, to the Minister of Justice is not all bad, but I will endeavour to show in my next where they could be very much improved on. I am perfectly well aware, however superior an education not based on religion may be, it has a tendency to create criminals. Apart from the religious aspect of the matter, I say that the poorer classes of this Colony are unfairly treated in the matter of education, and that the present system of education, with its compulsory clauses, is an incentive to juvenile crime among such classes.

A Mr. Parkin, a Canadian, has been lecturing on Federation here. One of his reasons for being so much opposed to annexation with the United States is that the States by immigration, will collect, within her province all the scum of the earth. What a boon Federation will be to us! No more scum! I suppose the scum he means are those unfortunate creatures who, on account of persecution and tyranny, are compelled to fly from the land of their birth to make a home for themselves in that beautiful country where all have equal rights. An Act of Parliament will not federate the different countries. It must be material and spontaneous by coming from the people. I maintain before such will be the case all internal grievances among the people of the different countries interested must be removed. I am of the opinion Mr. Parkin would advance his cause much better by devoting his time and energy to removing those causes, which he tells us exist in his own colony. Then his mission here might have more effect.

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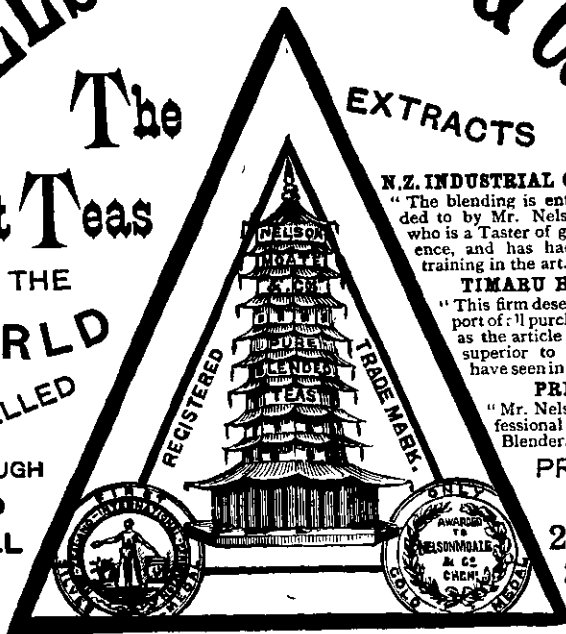
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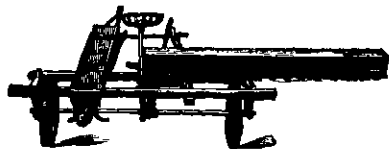
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