

had been only 4654 reported outrages. In 1870 again the ratio of agrarian crime to ejection was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, while in 1880 the ratio was something like 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . The history of Ireland showed that the people had had nothing to rely upon for protection against their grievances except it were murder and outrage. The Land League had enabled them to appeal to public opinion, and far from having encouraged crime, might claim that it had prevented it. Had it not been for it murder and outrage would have followed on ejection in 1880 as in other years.

#### CRIME IN IRELAND.

THE statistics in connection with the Irish agitation lately published, and which we find in the *London Times* are very suggestive. They inform us of the determination with which, in the face of all remonstrance and efforts to the contrary, eviction has been carried out. Although, at the same time, we perceive that some effect has been produced by the agitation since in numerous instances tenants have been readmitted as caretakers, but doubtless only to be thrust upon the road, without even the ceremony of the traditional eviction, when circumstances shall have once more enabled the landlord to resume the full expression of his tyranny. We find, again, that the number of crimes reported is immensely in excess of those for which convictions have been obtained, or arrests made, and this is very important since there are so many grave reasons to conclude that the reports of outrages have been manufactured in innumerable instances, as an additional proof of which we may refer to the statement made by Mr. E. Dwyer Grey the other day, that as editor of the *Freeman* he had given strict instructions to his numerous staff of reporters and correspondents through the country to find out and visit some one or more of the victims of the reported carding, or other exceptionally brutal treatment, and that not even in one instance had any member of his staff been able to find out such a victim. Again the priest of a certain parish has called upon the authorities to institute a strict examination into certain outrages perpetrated in his neighbourhood, and which he asserts that his parishioners are firmly convinced have been committed by members of the constabulary themselves. With these few remarks, then, we present the following to our readers:—

“Statistics about Ireland.—Three Parliamentary papers relating to the condition of Ireland, which were promised by Mr. Forster, have just been published. All three issue from the Royal Irish Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle. The first relates to the police protection in Ireland, and shows that on the last day of December, 1880, 153 persons were receiving personal police protection, and 1149 were being specially watched over by the police to protect them from outrage. The second gives the particulars of all the evictions during the year 1880. In the first quarter of the year, 554 families and 2748 persons were evicted; in the second quarter, 687 families and 3508 persons; in the third, 671 families and 3447 persons; and in the last, 198 families and 954 persons. During the whole year, 2110 families and 10,657 persons were evicted. Of these 217 families and 1021 persons were re-admitted as tenants, and 947 families and 4996 persons were re-admitted as caretakers; leaving a net total of 946 families and 4640 persons absolutely ejected during the year. The third Parliamentary paper contains a return by provinces of agrarian offences throughout Ireland reported to the Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary during the first 11 months of 1880, showing the number of cases in which offenders were convicted; the number of cases in which offenders were made amenable, but not convicted; the number of cases in which offenders are awaiting trial, and the number of cases in which offenders were neither convicted nor made amenable. The summary given in this paper shows that there was a total number of 1718 agrarian outrages reported throughout Ireland in the 11 months, 8 being cases of murder, 18 of firing at the person, 176 of incendiary fire and arson, 70 of killing, cutting, or maiming cattle, 40 of administering unlawful oaths, 851 of threatening letters and notices, 131 of other forms of intimidation, and 140 of resistance to legal process. Out of these 1718 outrages reported, in 1481 cases nobody was either convicted or made amenable, 73 offenders were convicted, 117 who were charged were acquitted, and 47 were awaiting trial on November 30, 1880. Agrarian crime was distributed among the provinces thus:—There were 149 cases reported in Ulster, 228 in Leinster, 643 in Munster, and 698 in Connaught.”

Missionary prospects in Uganda do not appear to very promising. Dr. Emin-Bey writes to the *Mittheilungen* that Mtesa held a great council on Dec. 3, 1879, at which it was resolved to prohibit English and French missionaries from teaching, and to punish with death any native of the country who listened to them. The Mahomedan religion was condemned at the same time, and ancient customs are to be adhered to. The assembled chiefs were of opinion that they required no religious teachers in Uganda, but guns, powder and percussion caps. On June 1, one of the English missionaries wrote to Dr. Emin that their task appeared to be hopeless, and the King refused to listen to anything they had to say. Mtesa had relapsed into his savagery, and sacrificed 200 human beings on the grave of his ancestors. From another source we learn that King Mtesa, having been cured of some disorder by Father Lourdel, exhibited greater kindness to the Catholic missionaries than before, and that they were able to baptize several adults about April last.—*Academy*.

#### MR. RUSSELL, Q.C., M.P., ON IRELAND.

THE following is the letter which appeared in the *London Times* and *Dublin Freeman*, created so great a sensation in England and the Continent, and sadly scared the Marquis of Lansdowne. Mr. Russell, it may be understood, is a Whig and nothing more:—

To the Editor of the *Freeman*.

Sir,—As you drive along the main road of the Lansdowne property, in the neighbourhood of Kenmare, the appearance of the dwellings presents a marked improvement upon those in neighbouring estates—for example, of Lord Ventry, Lord Bantry, and of Trinity College. One of your contemporaries, the *Standard*, by its Commissioner, writing in autumn last, however, described these houses as “whited sepulchres.” I will not endorse the strength of this language, but I do say that in point of the social comfort of their lives there is little, if any, difference between the state of the Lansdowne tenants and the others whom I visited. For many reasons I was anxious to see Lord Lansdowne’s tenantry. I wanted to see how a nobleman with ample means and large views regarded his tenantry, and how his tenantry regarded him. I expected to find proof that a high-minded landlord could elevate his tenantry morally and socially, even under what I considered a faulty system.

I had noticed, too, accounts widely different in the public Press of the management of this estate. In the *Daily Telegraph*, for instance, on the occasion of his leaving the Government, it was written:—

“In Lord Lansdowne the Ministry have lost a statesman of promise, whose secession is all the more important on account of its cause. For generations the Lansdowne estates have had a high fame as models of management; the liberality and justice of the noble owners having succeeded in producing what may be called English comfort on Irish soil.”

In your own columns, on the other hand, of about the same date I read:—

“To ordinary Englishmen the Marquis of Lansdowne only presents the spectacle of a great Whig inaugurate who has deserted his party. Irishmen better understand the motives of a man who has inherited the traditions of the most cruelly managed estate in all this afflicted land.”

I cannot adopt either of these statements but I must admit that I failed to see any signs of “English comfort,” and so far as the sentiment of the country is concerned the language of the *Freeman’s Journal* is certainly more accurate. For other reasons this estate was interesting. Its history is typical of many estates in Ireland. In September, 1654, Dr. Petty came to Ireland as Physician-General to the English army. Until June, 1659, his salary was 20s a day, and he had private practice in his profession. Within a few years he was the owner of about 50,000 acres in Kerry, and, as he stated in his will (a remarkable and interesting document) he had in Ireland, “without the county of Kerry, in land reversions and remainders, about £3100 more.” He was a strong-minded, able man, the author, amongst others, of the history of the Down Survey and of the Political Anatomy. In his will he quaintly announces that he dies “in the practice of such religious worship as I find established by the law of my country.” This was the founder of the Lansdowne estates in Kerry. I quote from the history of the Kingdom of Kerry, by Miss M. F. Cusack, widely known as the Nun of Kenmare.

The management of these large estates is in the hands of Mr. Townsend Trench, son of the late Mr. W. Stewart Trench, to whom he succeeded. It is difficult to say how far the judgment of the community, over whom their powers as land agents are exercised is just or reliable. Unquestionably father and son were spoken of almost universally with bitterness, fear, and dislike, to use no stronger language. It was painful to notice the moral dread of agent and bailiff in which many of these tenants live. I noticed nothing like it elsewhere in Kerry. Their conduct may be misjudged, but assuredly no kindly recollection of the late Mr. Trench seems to survive, and no kindly feeling towards his son, the present agent, exists. Lord Lansdowne, although he resides a portion of the year at Derreen, near Kenmare, does not seem to be generally known to his tenants. Those on the Iveragh portion of his property have never seen him since his visit there on the occasion of his attaining his majority. More than once when (some harsh case being cited to me) I suggested to the tenants to appeal to Lord Lansdowne, the answer was always the same, “Oh, he leaves it all to Trench.” Even plans suggested, and, I believe kindly suggested, by landlord or agent (of emigration, for instance), are looked upon with distrust. Nor is this remarkable, for in the years of the great famine this estate was not only the scene of some of the most awful miseries of that awful time, but it was also the place from which a large emigration took place under the auspices of the late Mr. Trench, which has left to this day bitter memories behind it. In his so-called “Realities of Irish Life” Mr. Stewart Trench describes in a painfully graphic way the state of things in the Kenmare Union. He writes:—

“At least 5000 people must have died of starvation within the Union of Kenmare. They died on the roads and they died on the fields; they died on the mountains and they died in the glens; they died at the relief works and they died in their houses. So that whole streets or villages were left almost without an inhabitant, and at last some few, despairing of help from the country, crawled into the towns and died at the doors of the residents and outside the union walls.”

It was at this time that the author, then succeeding to the management of these estates, set on foot his scheme of emigration, and, as he pithily puts it:—

“In little more than a year 3500 paupers had left Kenmare for America, all free emigrants, without any ejection having to be brought against them to enforce it or the slightest pressure put upon them to go. Matters now began to right themselves. Only some 50 or 60 paupers remained in the houses chargeable to the property of which I had the care, and Lord Lansdowne’s estates at length breathed freely.”