

## THE ARCHBISHOP OF CASHEL.

The correspondent of the *Freeman*, writing from Emly on Friday Jan. 20th, says:—

The blessing of the cross of the new Church of St. Ailbe was performed by his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel at Emly yesterday. Although the coming of the Archbishop to Emly was known only a few hours before the ceremony took place, the whole country from within four or five miles of a radius turned out to meet him. Emly itself made a holiday of the occasion, and had its streets gaily decked with flags and laurel arches. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the reception given the patriot prelate was such as for him has become characteristic in the archdiocese. The blessing of the cross was performed in the presence of about four thousand persons.

His Grace, on coming forward to address the people, was received with prolonged cheering. In the course of a lengthened and powerful speech he said—I need not say how delight'd I am to meet you. I am never so happy as when in the midst of my people (cheers). The people are the good pastor's pride, and will one day be his crown and glory. It affords me special pleasure to be here to-day, for, as I was present, when the primary stone of your beautiful church was laid, close on two years ago, it appears to be most fitting that I should be here to-day when the crowning stone of the building, the cross, has been raised to its final resting-place (loud cheers). Long years, as you know, have gone by since St. Patrick first planted the cross on the soil of Ireland. What trials and troubles and strange vicissitudes have come upon our country since then! We have had wars, and risings, and struggles of right against might, repeated over and over again; one triumphing to-day only to be defeated to-morrow; one standard triumphant now and torn to pieces to-morrow. But the standard and the religion of the Cross, ever assailed on all sides by fire and sword, and all the nameless persecutions which the malignity of bad men could suggest, have never been beaten down in Ireland (loud cheers). The Cross has a fresh triumph here to-day, and it is my great pride to witness it. Two years ago, as I said before, I was last here in your midst.—It was a memorable day—memorable for the numbers that were assembled, for the enthusiasm displayed, the generosity manifested, and memorable, above all, for the fearless and emphatic pronouncement made by me in favour of the great movement and the great men who guided it, which was then only in its infancy, and which was assailed and misrepresented by leading personages in Ireland (loud cheering). I stood up then almost alone to defend that movement, and all I said then in its defence I wish to repeat here to-day (enthusiastic cheers). I then saw no reason why our good and industrious people should not be as well fed, as well clad, as well housed, in every way as comfortable, as the people of any other country, according to their class and condition in life (cheer). I wish to be understood to say the same to-day, and to add that I shall never be content, and that I believe the people of Ireland will never be content, until this, their plain right "to live and thrive" in their native land, shall have been practically recognised (renewed cheers). My motto always has been, "Be just and fear not" (hear, hear). But be just all round. Be just in meeting all your legitimate engagements, but be just also to yourselves and your children (loud cheers). Beside the cross, as it rests upon the top of the new church, I see floating the time-honoured flag of Ireland. I am pleased to see this suggestive blending of the two great emblems of our native land—the green flag that has never been dishonoured, and the cross that can know nothing of defeat (loud cheers). They typify beautifully the union of priests and people—that union which I have always striven to cherish and strengthen. I shall only say, in the words of one of the greatest patriot orators, *Esto perpetua* (loud cheers). His Grace concluded by thanking the people once again for the warmth of their welcome.

## KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

(Correspondent of *Graaf Reinet Advertiser*.)

Aberdeen, 28th Jan., 1882.

THE drought has been very severe in some parts of this district, for there has been no rain for months. Farmers have been unable to sow mealies, pumpkins, &c. for want of water. Many in the Kariega ward have been compelled to abandon their farms, and trek with their stock in search of water.

But the season for thunderstorms, in this district, has now commenced; and several have already passed over parts of the district, pouring out their fertilising showers and filling dams and other reservoirs with the precious liquid. Thunderstorms have been anxiously desired by many a thirsty soul in this district, this season. But, while they do an immense amount of good, yet they have their dark side. And the sad intelligence has been brought into town to-day that, a farmer and his wife have both been struck dead by lightning.

Jan Esterhuizen, of Steinbokvlakte, a farm about 20 miles to the west of Aberdeen, in company with his wife, about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, went from their house to a dam about 200 or 300 yards distant, to watch a stream of water flowing into it from a distant part where rain had recently fallen. The dam had been nearly, or quite, emptied by the drought; and they would naturally feel anxious to have it filled again. But the thunderstorm, which was in their neighbourhood, appeared to be receding further from them. Suddenly a flash of lightning darted across the heavens and killed them both.

Some people on an adjoining farm say that they were watching the storm, that they observed a small cloud, detached from the mass, and nearer Esterhuizen's house. And while they were watching they saw a flash of lightning proceed from the small cloud in an oblique direction towards Esterhuizen's house. This was the only flash of lightning they observed in that immediate neighbourhood.

Esterhuizen, although owner of the farm and possessor of considerable flocks, does not appear to have had any servants. (Perhaps

he was not singular in that respect.) His children those who were able tended the flocks; and were at that time so employed. One of the younger children discovered his parents at the dam, and was greatly alarmed by seeing his father's hair and clothes burning. He immediately ran and called one of his sisters, who came, and, in extinguishing the fire, burned her hands. She then called her eldest sister, who was tending a flock of sheep, and told her what had happened. She immediately caught two horses, spanned them into the cart, and drove to her Uncle's for help. She had to travel more than twelve miles.

Help did not come until long after dark. The corpses were then conveyed to the house, and grave-clothes put on them; and they were laid side by side, ready for the inspection of the District Surgeon and Resident Magistrate, to whom the intelligence was soon communicated by Mr. Shipman, a neighbour residing on the next farm. Since he heard of the sad event Mr. Shipman has done all that could be done by ordering the coffins, and sending messengers to various members of the family, and in other ways.

A family of six or seven children, whose ages range from 18 years down to 7 months, is suddenly deprived of both parents by one fell stroke.

## IMPRISONED IRISHMEN.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—In the House of Representatives Robinson (N.Y.) said Theodore of Abyssinia once took it into his head to arrest an Englishman travelling in his Territory. England interfered, and by English force those prisoners were released, the capital of Abyssinia laid in ashes, and the King killed. He did not ask for anything more in this case than that America should do the same thing. (Laughter.) It was a good precedent. If we have any respect for American citizenship, if we have ears to hear the groans above the tinkle of the goblets of champagne, by which the representatives of our Government are defeated so they cannot hear them, if our ears can hear them, I ask no more than that we follow the example of England, send over troops enough to take these men out of prison and lay London in ashes by our artillery. Admiral Porter is idle, General Grant is out of the army and I want to get back, and Sherman is a pretty good General. Let us send those men over with enough force of American cannon to take these prisoners out of English bastles.

Hazelton inquired the names of the prisoners? Was Parnell one? Robinson—No, Parnell is not one of our citizens, but it would be our duty to make him one. He is the son of the noblest woman in this country. He is a grandson of the noblest American Commodore who brought low on the ocean that flag which was shamefully hoisted a few days since at Yorktown. Robinson referred to Ireland, and then stopping, begged correspondents and journalists not to say he was talking about Ireland when he was talking about this great American subject. He referred to his service as correspondent, and created a burst of laughter by stating that he was expelled from a seat in the House of Representatives in consequence of making a slighting allusion to Ohio sausages. Referring to the case of Michael Boyton, he characterized the action of the State Department a cowardly crawling out of the contest. Oh, that the United States had a vessel off the coast of England with powder and ball enough to open the way for American citizens to come home. Great Britain had Ireland by the throat and in need, and America lacked the manhood and hardihood to interfere. He then ridiculed the action of our foreign Ministers, declaring that about their only business was in learning the tricks of monarchies and aristocrats and bringing them home and inculcating our system with them; poisoning our blood with political pyæmia. "We are all gone or going," he exclaimed, "to the devil." (Laughter.) Robinson said that whether the British flag was saluted at Yorktown in a moment of gush and folly or aesthetism it was not done by the sanction of this House. Cox (New York) said this question of reaching out a helping hand to Irishmen who had been naturalized had many valuable and useful precedents. Persons of foreign birth, but naturalized in this country, must be regarded as entitled to every right and protection which belonged to a native-born citizen, and when the nation was forgetful of its duty to one of its citizens, it was in process of decadence. He attributed in part the present distressed conditions of Ireland to the policy of England, in closing its prison doors upon its chosen representative men. In arresting, under a suspension of *habeas corpus*, American citizens and British members of Parliament, Mr. Gladstone placed himself outside the pale of humanity. Cox eulogized the Irish race, and was greeted with applause.

In Yorkshire, England, lately, a burglar was found in a very tight place indeed. His legs were hanging down a chimney in which he had stuck, and it was necessary to take down the mantelpiece and part of the chimney to release him.

A return was issued from the War Office, Dec. 29, showing the total number of troops of all arms quartered in Ireland during each year since 1861. In that year the military force numbered 24,000 but in the following year it fell to 21,000, from which it fell to 20,000 during the three succeeding years, and it did not go beyond the figure for 1861 until 1871, when it reached 26,000. In 1872 no decrease in the strength of the military establishment is shown, but in 1873 it went down to 24,000, and in subsequent years up to 1878 it varied from 21,000 to 23,000. In 1879 a large falling off is shown, as the force is put down at 18,000, and in 1880 it is only a thousand more. This diminution is readily accounted for by the Boer, Afghan and Zulu wars, which necessitated the withdrawal of all available troops to the field. In the present year the military force in Ireland had reached the extraordinary total of over forty thousand, very nearly double what it had been during any year for the past twenty. During the years of the Fenian rising, it never exceeded twenty-two thousand.