

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at a banquet of the Carleton Club, said the defeat of Hicks Pasha must end all thoughts of the withdrawal of British troops from Egypt. The French papers express the opinion that the disaster will lead to the permanent English occupation of Egypt.

It is reported that the Khedive desires to abdicate unless the English Government retains the troops.

A report has reached Khartoum that General Hicks was captured by the rebels, his hands cut off, and his body otherwise hacked to pieces.

Serious religious ferment has commenced in Upper Egypt between the Mussulmans and the Christians, and it is feared that the ill-feeling may give rise to a serious outbreak.

WEDNESDAY.

An earthquake shock occurred yesterday at about 12.50 in Dunedin. It was also felt generally throughout the South Island and apparently at about the same time everywhere.

Upwards of £10,000 of property tax was paid yesterday. Remittance-notice, bearing the postmark of 15th inst., will be charged with the 10 per cent. penalty, and immediate summonses will be issued for all arrears.

About 100 of the unemployed gathered in front of the Christchurch Immigration Offices yesterday morning, when the Committee appointed by them were received by Mr. Marsh, who informed them that the Government were prepared to put on men at clearing fences and plantations on the railway-lines. Some work would also be provided at the Addington railway-yards and the Domain. In all cases 4s 6d per day would be paid, and free passages given on the railway where necessary. Any jobs that were taken on piecework would be paid for at such a rate as would enable ordinary workmen to obtain 4s 6d per day. The Committee withdrew and rejoined their companions outside, and, on the result being communicated, some of those present groaned and manifested their disapproval in other ways.

Oscar Wilde is about to try political life. He will join the Irish party, and aspire to a seat as a Parnellite.

Joseph Poole, found guilty of the murder of Kennedy, was sentenced to death in Dublin on 20th November. Before his sentence he spoke at length in earnest and at times excited tones. He emphatically denied that he murdered Kennedy, and admitted that he was a member of the Fenian brotherhood. He said he would be proud to go upon the scaffold for being a member. Its object was not to commit murder, but to free Ireland from the tyranny of England. He believed that he was persecuted because he was an enemy of the Government under which he had lived. He acknowledged being in Kennedy's company on the night of the murder, but declared that he had no hand in striking him down. He had belonged to the brotherhood since he was sixteen years old, but he had never belonged to the Vigilance Committee. His purpose was to wait until his countrymen were prepared to strike a blow for their independence; then he would cooperate with them. In conclusion, the prisoner said: "I am not afraid to die, farewell all; farewell Ireland. Three cheers for the Irish Republic and death to English tyranny." He will be hanged on 18th December. The Judge, in passing sentence, was deeply affected. He said that the evidence left the jury no alternative, and he quite concurred in the verdict of guilty. Poole's father wept aloud, exclaiming "Oh Joe, Joe." The prisoner replied, unflinchingly, "Keep up, father, keep up; don't give way; I am ready to die." Great crowds followed the prison van to Kilmainham, but made no demonstration beyond lamenting.

Some disorders occurred at Castlejyon, County Cork, where the police with fixed bayonets charged upon a procession, breaking it up, and capturing the banners and musical instruments. When the police withdrew with the military a meeting was held, and the purpose of the League in part effected.

Mr. Michael Davitt has expressed privately and publicly his dissatisfaction with the want of support that the Irish people are showing towards the National League, and says that neither Mr. Parnell nor his following are making any serious efforts to carry into effect the resolutions that were passed a year ago by the National Conference held in Dublin.

On the 1st November Lord, Rosmore, Grand Master of the Orangemen, wrote to a newspaper to the effect that, if the Parnellite League and other disloyal meetings were allowed to continue in Ulster, there would be bloodshed and perhaps civil war, as restraint of the Orangemen cannot be reckoned upon. The Londonderry Hall, in which the Lord Mayor of Dublin was to deliver an address on November 1, was taken possession of by the Orangemen, who held it. On the arrival of the Mayor in the City he was driven to his hotel, his escort carrying green banners and the bands playing Irish national airs. During the passage of the procession a man and a boy were shot. The Orangemen planted the Union Jack on the roof of the City Hall, but later in the day they vacated the building and withdrew from the vicinity. The Mayor of Londonderry issued a proclamation appealing to the people to refrain from violence and retaliation. The chief organiser of this rowdiness was Lord Ernest Hamilton, a son of the Duke of Abercorn. The *Times* and the Tory journals applauded the arrangement; but the Radicals call for the prosecution of the ringleaders. The whole business has immensely strengthened the National party and the popularity of the Mayor of Dublin. The disorders incident to the Lord Mayor's visit did not cease on his departure. Hostilities between Nationalists and Orangemen were continued, and the breaking of windows was general. A Nationalist was stabbed on December 3. Several hundred factory women went out on strike on the same day because the proprietor refused to discharge a man in the factory who moved in the Borough Council to rescind the resolution granting permission to the Mayor of Dublin to lecture in the Town Hall. The Nationalists paraded the streets, crying "God Save Ireland!" when they were attacked and stoned by a mob, which they fought desperately with until they were dispersed by the police. An investigation as to the cause of the disturbance is to be held, but in the opinion of the Irish National League leaders it is likely to prove a farce.

The trouble in Ulster has given rise to a proposition to form a constitutional organisation apart from Orangemen, and uniting Catholics and Protestants for the good of the country at large.

The Archbishop and priests of Tuam have come out fiercely against "assisted" immigration, and the Government announce that not more than £50,000 will be spent for this purpose.

O'Donnell's friends are annoyed at the manner in which his defence has been conducted. General Roger A. Pryor, his American counsel, had an interview with the accused, and says that he is satisfied O'Donnell killed Carey in self-defence. Mrs. O'Donnell, his wife, lives in domestic service in Philadelphia. O'Donnell's married life proved unhappy, and he has been separated from his wife for several years. He has done nothing at his trade as iron puddler for some time, but always had plenty of money.

The Irish party in London think that the outrages on the underground railway were due to the enemies of the National party in Ireland, who intend to create an anti-Irish feeling in England. The explosions occurred at about the moment when Mr. Davitt was opening his address in St. James's Hall. A despatch from New York dated October 31 says:—The newspaper accounts of the explosions were read with great delight at the Fenian head quarters, and O'Donovan Rossa, in reply to a reporter, said that he did not lay claim to any personal knowledge of the events at Charing Cross and Finsbury stations, but he believed a good many more like them were in store for the British metropolis. The explosions last night are, he said, the third shot of the kind fired in the camp of the enemy. The explosion which wrecked the local Government Buildings was the first, and the explosion in Woolwich Arsenal was the second.

The seat for Limerick has been filled by Mr. Edward M'Marton, Parnellite and Nationalist, who received 992 votes against 474 cast for Mr. James Speight, the Conservative candidate.

Lord Spencer's prohibition of the Orange and Parnell meeting in Dublin on November 12 is bitterly denounced by the national Press in Dublin and London as a surrender to the Orange faction. He believes that this course is the sole means of keeping the peace without troops. The wildest licence of speech is meanwhile accorded to Mr. Harrington and Mr. Healy in the South of Ireland. Mr. Healy openly advocates the complete pillage of the landlords.

The Cabinet having hinted to Earl Spencer that the policy of proclaiming the League meetings on the assumption that they will be attacked by Orangemen cannot be approved of. The Lord Lieutenant took great umbrage, and threatened to resign if his policy were interrupted.

There is great excitement throughout Loughrea in consequence of a wholesale system of evictions put into operation there on November 9. The result has been the revival of the feuds between Orangemen and Nationalists.

Mr. Healy, the M. P. for Monaghan, on seeking admission to the Irish Bar, was black-balled on November 13 by the law students of the Debating Society of Dublin.

Cumen, a young man aged seventeen, belonging to Lagenan in Alsace, attempted to assassinate President Henry on November 16 while he was in the Senate Chamber. When overpowered by the officials he shouted "Vive la Republique Sociale; Vive la Commune." The doctors examined him and pronounced the man to be a lunatic, but subsequent investigation showed him to be not a madman but a fanatic and frequenter of anti-Christian meetings at Lille and Roubaix.

Wolff, a member of the Advanced Socialist Club of London, was arrested on the 23rd in his house, where were found two infernal machines placed there by a Frenchman named Bolkerane. It turned out on investigation to be a put-up job to obtain the reward expected to be paid to the informer, the Frenchman undertaking the rôle and that no real conspiracy existed, as was stated, to destroy the German Embassy, Ambassador, and *attaché*.

The Paris *Temps* says that a Frenchman named Soulier organised the forces of El Mahdi. Soulier, after the bombardment of Alexandria, went to Khartoum without a definite object, and subsequently met El Mahdi and gained his confidence. The French Press generally express delight at the defeat of Hicks Pasha. They say that the success of El Mahdi in Egypt will threaten the English Indian Empire, and France, by the force of events, will be called upon to resume her position in Egypt. The French newspaper *Bosphore Egypte*, published at Cairo, has an article reflecting bitterly on the past and present action of England in Egypt. It insinuates that the victory of Tel-el-Kebir was won by bribery, and blames England for the bloodshed in the Soudan. It hopes that the English staff will have the grace to disappear and no longer thwart the Egyptian Minister of War.

THURSDAY.

Prince Frederick William paid a visit to the Pope on Tuesday. The interview lasted an hour and was of a very cordial nature. The organ of the Catholic party refers to the meeting in jubilant terms.

The ex-Mayor has telegraphed to Government the refusal of the unemployed to accept so "mean a pittance" as 4s 6d a day, weather permitting, and their determination to use every lawful and constitutional means to shame them into finding reasonable work at reasonable wages for the unemployed at Christchurch. They propose to form a working men's association.

Joseph Poole, the Fenian, who was found guilty of the murder of Kennedy, was hanged in Dublin on Tuesday.

Baker Pasha has been appointed to the supreme command in the Soudan, and started for Upper Egypt with his troops.

It is reported that an Invincible Brigade has been elected and despatched for the purpose of avenging the conviction of Carey's murderer, O'Donnell. The police precautions for guarding Hawarden, the Premier's seat, have been hastily renewed, and all the Irish quarters in London are now closely watched.

The New York dynamiters are incensed at the execution and threaten to murder a number of British officials.

In consequence of Fenian threats strict precautions have been taken to guard London Bridge, and Newgate Gaol.

The Chinese have destroyed several chapels in Canton.