

## RETURN OF SIR THOMAS ESMONDE.

THE Parliamentary correspondent of the *Cork Examiner* telegraphed on Wednesday night, April 3, that journal the following interesting interview which he had with Sir Thomas Esmonde, M.P.:—The first of the Irish delegates who have been visiting Australia in the interests of the Irish evicted tenants reached England to-day on the homeward journey. The member for South Dublin looks exceedingly well, I am glad to say. He is a trifle thin, but his face wears all the ruddy appearance of health and strength. Travelling from San Francisco via Florida and Havana, Sir Thomas left the latter port on St. Patrick's day for St. Nazaire, in France, where he arrived on the 31st March. He reached Paris yesterday morning and he came on at once to London. Speaking of John Dillon, Sir Thomas said he had pulled through the Australian campaign wonderfully well. He had never spared himself, notwithstanding the delicate state of his health. The two of them had travelled together from Australia to San Francisco, where they had a splendid reception and a meeting which realised some 8000dols. During the voyage from Australia Mr. Dillon was not so very well, but a few days' rest in San Francisco pulled him together wonderfully, and when they parted there, the one to come home, and the other to go on a visit to his brother in Colorado, the member for East Mayo was in excellent health.

Mr. Deasy was left behind in Australia, the last Sir Thomas Esmonde heard of him being in a letter received in December last, when Mr. Deasy was in the thick of a large number of meetings in New South Wales. After finishing these he proposed to go to another series of meetings in Victoria. "Deasy is working like a black," were Sir Thomas's words, "and when he gets home he will have beaten the record so far as meetings are concerned." As to his own share of demonstrations, the member for South Dublin attended something like 150, and an idea of what this involved may be gathered from the fact that at one time during his labours he travelled 1000 miles on horseback—from the borders of Victoria to Queensland—addressing meetings along the route. At one meeting during his journey Sir Thomas spoke in the open air, and at the close of his speech collected £200, although there was not a house within fifteen miles of where he stood. His experiences altogether appear to be of the most varied and exciting kind. On one occasion, when visiting the South Sea Islands, he lived a full week with the savages of Samoa, eating bananas and bread, and drinking fruit kava. Speaking roughly, my colleague would say that Mr. Dillon, Mr. Deasy, and he had collected something like £32,000. He, furthermore, told me immense amusement had been created in Australia by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's grotesque statement that Mr. Dillon had not been able to induce people to subscribe as much as would pay his hotel bill. Summing up, Sir Thomas told me that the Irish delegates found that the almost universal opinion prevailed, wherever they went, in favour of Home Rule for Ireland. Throughout Australia and New Zealand, the sense of all the leading public men, as well as of the public Press, was overwhelmingly on their side; and in this connection Sir Thomas said that he wished to lay special emphasis on the splendid assistance they had received from the Catholic hierarchy and priesthood of the colonies.

## DEMANDS OF THE GERMAN CENTRE.

THE Prussian Diet was opened, on April 15, by Chancellor Von Caprivi.

Dr. Windthorst declared that the Centrists insisted upon the re-establishment of the relations between Church and State before the Kulturkampf. He complained of mal-administration in the public worship department, and demanded adherence to a protectionist policy in economic matters.

On April 18, during the discussion on the public worship estimates in the lower house of the Prussian Diet, Dr. Windthorst, the leader of the Clerical party, asked for the creation of a Catholic section in the Ecclesiastical Affairs Department; a settlement of the question relative to the appointment of priests; the abrogation of the Sperrgesetz, by which priests in certain cases are deprived of their stipends; a supervision of the schools by priests; the free admission of Catholic religious Orders into Prussia, and the prohibition of the use of Catholic churches by Old Catholics.

Dr. Von Gossler, Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs, in reply to Dr. Windthorst, said that Government could not comply with the demands of the Clericals. Particular denominations, he said, could not claim to be represented in the Ministry. Catholic matters were attended to by Catholic officials. In affairs affecting the schools and universities the opinions of the Catholic leaders were taken. Dr. Von Gossler announced that a bill dealing with the Sperrgesetz would be introduced in the Diet. He declined to interfere with the Old Catholics. The Government, he said, had received no complaints regarding them. The question of the entry of religious Orders into Prussia, Dr. Von Gossler declared, could not be decided by the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs alone.

Although Minister Von Gossler showed no intention during the debate in the Landtag to concede the full demands of the Catholic Clericals, he indicated the desire of the Government to sweep away the last traces of the May laws. The section of the Centre Party not closely adhering to Dr. Windthorst take Herr Von Gossler's assurances as satisfactory, and will support the Government. The leaders of the Centrist minority, Barons Von Huene and Schorlemer-Aist, are more ready than is Dr. Windthorst to form a coalition. The other Government groups have already assumed a position leading to a combination with the Conservatives, Imperialists, and the right wing of the National Liberals. The prospects of the Government having a majority in the Reichstag are, therefore, good. Should the educational measure before the Council extend to the clergy the control of the schools, the solid votes of the Centrists would be secured, thus assuring an overwhelming majority.

In the debate in the Unterhaus on April 19 the Free Conservative speakers declared their intention of meeting some of the demands of the Centrists.

Herr Zeidlitz, speaking for the Free Conservative party, announced its readiness to open negotiations with a view to supporting the desires of the Clericals in regard to the procedure connected with the oath taken by Administrators of Bishoprics. He could not, he said, concede ecclesiastical supervision of the schools or the creation of a Catholic department in the Ministry of Worship. The Clericals, if wise, would accept the conditions offered for the support of the Conservatives and join with them, devoting their strength to combat the spread of Socialism.

A number of Centrists applauded Dr. Windthorst's response to repeated complaints that the principle of denominational equality was not observed in the schools.

## TEN MONTHS' SUFFERING IN A HOSPITAL.

THERE is an old saying that physicians are a class of men who pour drugs, of which they know little, into bodies of which they know less. This is both true and untrue at the same time. There are good and poor lawyers, and good and poor doctors. The trouble with these medical gentlemen as a profession is that they are clanish, and apt to be conceited. They don't like to be beaten at their own trade by outsiders who have never studied medicine. They therefore pay, by their frequent failures, the penalty of refusing instruction unless the teacher bears their own "Hall Mark."

An eminent physician—Dr. Brown-Sequard, of Paris—states the fact accurately when he says: "The medical profession are so bound up in their self-confidence and conceit that they allow the diamond truths of science to be picked up by persons entirely outside their ranks." We give a most interesting incident, which illustrates this important truth.

The steamship "Concordia," of the Donaldson Line, sailed from Glasgow for Baltimore in 1887, having on board as a fireman a man named Richard Wade, of Glasgow. He had been a fireman for fourteen years on various ships sailing to America, China, and India. He had borne the hard and exhausting labour, and had been healthy and strong. On the trip we now name he began for the first time to feel weak and ill. His appetite failed, and he suffered from drowsiness, heartburn, a bad taste in the mouth, and costiveness and irregularity of the bowels. Sometimes when at work he had attacks of giddiness, but supposed it to be caused by the heat of the fire-room, quite often he was sick and felt like vomiting, and had some pain in the head. Later during the passage he grew worse, and when the ship reached Halifax he was placed in the Victoria General Hospital, and the ship sailed away without him. The house surgeon gave him some powders to stop the vomiting, and the next day the visiting physicians gave him a mixture to take every four hours. Within two days Wade was so much worse that the doctors stopped both the powder and the mixture. A month passed, the poor fireman getting worse and worse.

Then came another doctor, who was to be visiting physician for the next five months. He gave other medicines, but not much relief. During all that time Wade suffered great torture; he digested nothing, throwing up all he ate. There was terrible pain in the bowels, burning heat in the throat, heartburn, and racking headache. The patient was now taking a mixture every four hours, powders one after each meal to digest the food, operating pills one every night, and temperature pills two each night to stop the cold sweats. If drugs could cure him at all, Richard had an idea that he took enough to do it. But on the other hand, pleurisy set in, and the doctors took ninety ounces of matter from his right side, and then told him he was sure to die. Five months more rolled by, and there was another change of visiting physicians. The new one gave Wade a mixture which he said made him tremble like a leaf on a tree.

At this crisis Wade's Scotch blood asserted itself. He refused to stand any more dosing, and told the doctors that if he must die he could die as well without them as with them. By this time a cup of milk would turn sour on his stomach, and lie there for days. Our friend from Glasgow was like a wreck on a shoal, fast going to pieces. We will let him tell the rest of his experience in the words in which he communicated it to the press.

He says:—"When I was in this state a lady whom I had never seen came to the hospital and talked with me. She proved to be an angel of mercy, for without her I should not now be alive. She told me of a medicine called 'Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup,' and brought me a bottle next day. I started with it, without consulting the doctors, and in only a few days' time, I was out of bed calling for ham and eggs for breakfast. From that time, keeping on with Mother Seigel's great remedy, I got well fast, and was soon able to leave the hospital and come home to Glasgow. I now feel as if I was in another world, and have no illness of any kind."

The above facts are calmly and impartially stated, and the reader may draw his own conclusion. We deem it best to use no names, although Mr. Wade gave them in his original deposition. His address is No. 244, Stobcross Street, Glasgow, where letters will reach him.

EDITOR.

The actual losses by the Louisville tornado are less than at first estimated, being seventy-five lives and about 2,000,000 dols. worth of property.

The celebrated missionary, Rev. Father Legoff, O.M.I., has returned to Manitoba from Montreal, where he spent the past year in writing and publishing six large volumes in the various Indian dialects. It is simply a herculean work.

Archbishop Croke, dealing with the total abstinence question, says:—"I would never allow a child to know the taste of strong drink, and I recommend that all be pledged to total abstinence until the age of twenty-one years."