

a political economy all his own. Economists such as Moses, Ricardo, and Mill count for nothing in his eyes. Rent is the first charge on the land, so far as he is concerned, whether the tenant makes the rent out of the soil or gets it in New York or Chicago matters not. All that is detail with which he has no concern. This was the second case we investigated. The tenant held eight Irish acres. The 1881 rent was £9; the judicial rent was £6 10s. He had just finished a barn and loft outside the house, and his live stock consisted of two cows, two calves and a donkey. Asked if Lord De Freyne had assisted in any way with timber, slates, or otherwise, the question caused some amusement. Such a thing was never heard of on the estate. The function of the landlord was confined solely and entirely to the collection of the rent twice a year. Everything else was left to the wretched peasants. Asked how he made the rent and kept himself and his family, the answer came at once. He was too old now to go to England to work. That was the invariable rule with the younger men. But he had six children—four at home and two girls in America. "Do you hear regularly from the girls?" I asked. "We do, sir," was the prompt reply. "And perhaps they send you help?" I queried. "Indeed, they do: God bless them. I got as much as £20 in one year from them." "And this is the way the rent is paid?" I suggested. "How else could it be paid?" was the reply. I said nothing at the time. I desired that the facts should sink in the minds of my two Parliamentary colleagues, who were face to face with these things for the first time, I had seen and heard it all before. To me it was an oft-told tale. But I could not help thinking that the district was swarming with police, that the elementary rights of the Constitution were suspended, that some of the principal men of the country were in gaol—and all this in order that Lord De Freyne should get rent which the soil did not produce.

The Constabulary Vote.

When the vote for the Royal Irish Constabulary was under discussion in the House of Commons Mr John Dillon moved that the amount—£1,369,185—be reduced by £500,000. In the course of a scathing indictment of Dublin Castle methods Mr Dillon said the vote showed a net increase over the expenditure of the previous year on a total force of 11,191 men. At the outset he desired to say a few words by way of protest against the constitution of what was a military force maintained at a monstrous cost out of the National Exchequer. It was an armed force not for the purpose of detecting or discovering crime. It was upheld mainly as a political force, and at an expense far in excess of any police force proper. It was a force that was maintained in the interests of the Irish landlords, and a larger sum than £100,000 was not necessary to maintain a police force in a country like Ireland, with its reduced population and crimeless character of the people. If the Government were to pass a Compulsory Sale Land Act a very small police force indeed would be necessary, whereas Ireland had the most costly and useless and insufficient force in Europe. This question had been brought before the House in August, 1880, and on that occasion Mr John Bright stated that the protest they made against the maintenance of such a large force was justified so long as the Irish constabulary were maintained on a basis so foreign to that upon which the police were supported and used in England and Wales and in Scotland. Twenty years had passed since then, and the Irish police had been increased in numbers and in cost since 1859-60. The cost of the Irish police was placed upon the Exchequer, because then the Irish landlords paid the rates. The cost of the police was then £400,000. Now it was £1,300,000, while the population had since been reduced from 6,000,000 to 4,100,000, and yet the cost of the force had about doubled since 1859-60, when Sir Robert Peel put the cost upon the taxation of the country. They found that in Ireland, of all civilized countries, the cost of the police was increasing proportionately to the decrease of population. He wanted to impress this upon the House as strongly as he could. What was the explanation of that? The explanation was that the business of the Irish police during the last

40 or 50 years had been the extermination of the Irish people, and the work upon which they were engaged had, of course, made the whole system of law so unpopular in Ireland that the Government felt it necessary to maintain this gigantic force in the country. The population of Ireland had decreased during the last 60 years by one-half, and the cost of the Irish constabulary had doubled in that time. The cost per head of the police in Ireland this year and for many years past had been, roughly speaking, excluding Dublin, 7s per head of the population, while the cost in England, including the boroughs—which was not a fair basis of comparison with Ireland considering the fact that Ireland had mainly a rural population—the cost was something like 2s 4d per head of the population and let that be borne in mind that crime in England was incomparably larger than in Ireland. The population of England, moreover, was largely urban and manufacturing, and would thus require a much larger police force than a rural population such as Ireland contained. He would also point out that whereas rural, peaceful, crimeless Ireland had to pay 7s per head for their police force, Scotland had only to pay 2s 2d per head, in Great Britain, not taking the Metropolis, he found that there was one policeman to every 1,200 inhabitants, but in Ireland, outside Dublin, there was one policeman to every 250 of the population. In other words, there were five times as many policemen per head in Ireland as there were in Great Britain.

People

The Right Rev. Bishop MacSherry has arrived in London from South Africa.

The Rev. Dr. Barry, whose learning is as well known as is the magic of his style, has put the last touches to his history of the Papal Monarchy.

The Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria, the Duke of Austria, and the Crown Prince of Portugal have been appointed Knights of the Garter by King Edward.

Ras Makonnen, the Abyssinian Envoy, who was recently touring in Scotland, is a Catholic, as, indeed, are all his countrymen, Ethiope having received the faith direct from the Apostles and kept it ever since.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who is retiring from the Chancellorship of the British Exchequer, is 65, a year younger than Mr Chamberlain. He was Chief Secretary for Ireland from 1874 to 1878, and again in 1896-7.

Catholics interested in higher education (says an English exchange) will be pleased to see among the recent successes at Oxford University the name of Miss M. M. C. Lingard (Sister Mary Campion), of St. Ursula's Convent, Oxford, and Miss E. M. M. Hynes, pupil of the same convent, who have now completed the usual B.A. course of that university.

Mr Mark O'Connor, who was educated at St. Francis Xavier's College, Liverpool, and who is now sub-editor of the 'Blomfontein Post,' was awarded a silver medal and a diploma at the International Press and Printing Exhibition, held recently at the City Hall, for the Christmas number of the 'Bulwayo Chronicle,' which he edited. Another Liverpool man, Mr W. Yates, contributed to it.

General Jacob H. Smith, tried by court-martial at Manila on account of orders issued to Major Waller, was found guilty of the charges by the court and sentenced to be admonished by the reviewing authority, and the President has so admonished General Smith and retired him under the law which provides that officers having reached the age of 62 years may be retired at will by the President.

Lord Edmund Talbot, D.S.O., M.P., who becomes heir presumptive to the Dukedom of Norfolk through the death of the afflicted Earl of Arundel, is the Conservative member for Chichester Division of Sussex, a seat which he obtained, after two pre-

viously unsuccessful attempts to enter Parliament, in 1894. He assumed the name of Talbot, in place of his family name of Howard, by Royal license in 1876, and in 1879 married Mary Caroline Bertie, the daughter of the seventh Earl of Abingdon.

The courtesy title Earl of Arundel is said to date from the reign of King Stephen. It is believed to be the solitary instance surviving in England of an earldom held, not by patent, but by the possession of a castle—namely, Arundel. The earldom of Arundel was held in the middle ages by the Fitz-Alans. An heiress of the Fitz-Alans married Thomas de Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, and an heiress of the Mowbrays married Sir Robert Howard, father of the first Duke of Norfolk, Richard III.'s supporter. The descent of the earldom was further regulated by statute in the sixteenth century. It passed to heirs general, and not merely to heirs male.

Belgium is to have its 'prix de vertu' like France. A rich gentleman named Bastin, who died last year, left a sum of £6900 in 3 per cent. rentes, to supply a yearly prize of £204 to be awarded alternately to a young woman and a young man 'whose life have been distinguished by special devotion towards their needy parents or brothers and sisters, and shall also have led an otherwise exemplary life.' The first will be awarded to a young woman; next year it will be the turn of the men. The candidates must not be over 25 years of age, and must earn his or her daily bread by labor. Five working girls have been proposed for the prize to the Burgomaster of Brussels, who has nominated a committee to examine into and decide upon the claims.

Sir F. C. Burnand, editor of 'Punch,' holds the record in the matter of writing a stage piece in a short space of time. His famous burlesque of 'Diplomacy,' which he entitled 'Diplunacy,' was written between 11.30 p.m. and 4.30 a.m. He went to the first night of 'Diplomacy' with no intention whatever of burlesquing it. On his walk home to Bloomsbury, 'after the show,' it occurred to him that the play he had witnessed lent itself admirably to comic treatment. So he settled down to work in his study thirty minutes before 'the witching hour of night,' and at four hours and a half past that fearsome period 'Diplunacy' was a completed work—so far, at least, as the author was concerned. At nine in the morning the chef d'orchestre of the Strand was fixing it up with music, and in a few nights the burlesque was being played.

Sir Joseph Little, Chief Justice of Newfoundland, died on July 14. Sir Joseph, the son of Cornelius Little, a merchant of Dublin, was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The late Chief Justice Little was a man of sterling qualities, a devout Catholic, an earnest and conscientious worker, a noble patriot, and was a leader in all things pertaining to the welfare of Church and State. He was of the good old Irish stock, remarkable for that undying love for Faith and Fatherland. In 1859 the Chief Justice entered the law profession, and was head for many years of the leading Irish Catholic firm of Little and Kent. In 1891 he was knighted, and five years later he became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland. He was a member of the oldest Irish society in North America, the Benevolent Irish Society of St. John's, Newfoundland, and was president of that body for some time. He was also one of the governors of the leading Catholic college of the Island St. Bonaventure's. He was administrator on several occasions during the absence and interregnum of different governors. In this capacity, as well as fulfilling the duties of his office as Chief Justice, he gave unbounded satisfaction to all classes and creeds. At the time of his death he was in his 67th year, and was, with the exception of a short time before his death, always in good health. In the death of Joseph Ignatius Little Newfoundland loses a model citizen, a devout Christian, and a true gentleman. His memory will be cherished by a grateful and loving people.

At this season everybody is liable to Coughs and Colds. Avoid all danger by taking TUSSICURA.