

stretch of imagination be called a safe. When the key was handed to him he at once requisitioned the Board of Works for a safe, and they sent him a second-hand one from another office. A strong room was built, but the door was too small to allow of the removal of the safe into it. By the expenditure of £2 10s, the safe could have been made the proper size, but the money was not spent. So the safe was left in the outer office, and the strong room was used for storing records and manuscripts. Evidently the confidence felt in the honesty of all who had access to the outer office was not limited.

#### GATE RECEIPTS AT THE ALL-IRELAND FINAL.

At the quarterly meeting of the Central Council, G.A.A., the secretary (Mr. O'Toole) reported that he had drafted a rough balance sheet in connection with the Croke Memorial matches. The figures submitted were—Total gate receipts, £2735 3s 4½d; expenditure, £862 17s 1d, showing a profit of £1872 5s 4d, amount in the hands of the Council making a net profit of £2365 11s 7½d. The Council took into consideration the work the secretary (Mr. O'Toole) had in connection with the carrying through of the fixtures, and the Council unani- mously granted him a bonus of £100.

#### HOME RULE FINANCE.

The debate on the financial resolution in connection with the Home Rule Bill was remarkable for the speeches of Mr. John Dillon and Mr. Herbert Samuel, who had little difficulty in disposing of the criticism of the opponents of the Bill. It will be remembered that Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., denounced the finance of the Bill, and that his and Mr. Wm. O'Brien's denunciations of it were quoted against it by the Tories in the House of Lords and in the country. To the astonishment of everybody, Mr. Healy, when the financial resolution came on again, expressed himself 'gratified and appeased' by Mr. Birrell's speech in moving it? Why? Because 'for the first time, a Minister had admitted that many of the financial propositions in this measure must be regarded as provisional.' Why, as Mr. Dillon pointed out, not only was the fact stated by the Prime Minister and the Postmaster-General in the debates on the Bill, but it was in the Bill itself! One of the most effective passages of Mr. Dillon's speech was that in which he exposed the factionist allegation that the Lloyd-George Budget of 1909 imposed an extra two millions a year of taxation on Ireland.

#### BELFAST AND THE PARLIAMENTARY FUND.

The Belfast Nationalists have met to organise a collection for the Home Rule fund, and over £400 was subscribed on the spot. Last year they subscribed £1200 to the fund, and this year they will make their contribution as large, if not larger, than last year. Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., the member for West Belfast, who presided, paid a very just tribute to the patriotism of the Belfast Nationalists and to their marvellous patience, discipline, and self-control under all the provocation to which they have been subjected during the past two years.

#### CATHOLICS PENALISED.

The London *Tablet* says that a correspondent supplies some comparative statistics, which show that in Ireland, with its great Catholic Bar, including many of the most distinguished lawyers in the country alike on the Chancery and Common Law side, Catholics still fail to obtain their fair share of the rewards of their profession. After 84 years after Emancipation, there are twelve Catholic Benchers of King's Inns out of a total of 47; 18 Catholic Resident Magistrates out of 63; 24 Catholic Crown and Sessional Crown Solicitors out of 62; 13 Catholic Clerks of Crown and Peace to 23 Protestants; 27 Circuit Crown Counsel who are Catholics to 37 who are not. Among the eleven chief officials of the Probate Court and Chancery Court there is no Catholic of them all.

## People We Hear About

Father Bernard Vaughan, S.J., has been ordered to take a complete rest after his arduous life during the past 18 months.

The marriage of King Manoel and Princess Augusta Victoria of Hohenzollern will be celebrated at Sigmaringen early in September.

Father J. Hoffman, of Ranchi, and Sister Catherine, of the Leper Asylum, Rangoon, have been awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind silver medal.

Dr. W. J. Maguire, the Medical Commissioner of the National Insurance Commission in Ireland, who has just been appointed member of the Senate of the National University of Ireland, is a brother of Mr. Thomas Maguire, solicitor, Belfast.

Mr. Samuel Young, M.P., was one of the Irish Members who voted in the division on the third reading of the Home Rule Bill. Mr. Young, who is over 90, has quite lately recovered from an attack of pneumonia. His health is still somewhat delicate, and he suffers from a strained muscle which necessitates the use of a stick. But all this did not deter him from travelling from Belfast to London to vote for the third reading of the Bill.

There were several marriages among the leading Catholic families of England during June. On June 28, at Westminster Cathedral, Lord Petre, Coldstream Guards, was married to Miss Catherine Boscawen, daughter of the Hon. John and Lady Margaret Boscawen, and niece of Viscount Falmouth and the Earl of Strafford. Sir Joseph Doughty Tichbourne was married to Miss Denise Greville a week earlier. Mr. Wolston Berkeley, son of the late Mr Robert Berkeley, of Spetchley, Worcestershire, and Lady Catherine Berkeley, and a cousin of the Earl of Kenmare, and Miss Alice Vaughan, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Vaughan, of Courtfield, Herefordshire, were married on June 25 at St. Mary's Domestic Chapel, Courtfield. The ceremony was performed by Father Herbert Vaughan, D.D. (brother of the bride), and Father Oswald Berkeley, O.S.B. (brother of the bridegroom).

There were great rejoicings on Monday week, August 18, in Austria, on the occasion of the Emperor Francis Joseph's birthday. The Emperor was born on August 18, 1830, and is therefore in his 84th year. The Kaiser held a banquet in honor of the birthday of the Emperor, and thanked him for his effort to preserve peace during the Balkan crisis. He added that the Austro-German alliance would be preserved for the benefit of the world. The Emperor is a marvel for his age. Up to a few years ago he was the most noted sportsman in his dominions. A visitor to Austria, writing some time ago, says:—Francis Joseph has a high sense of his duty as a Sovereign, and so the time is short that he consecrates to hunting—the great passion of his life. The day before a hunt he is at work at 5 o'clock in the morning receiving his Ministers of State all day, omitting none of his daily work. It is only at 6 o'clock in the evening that he enters the train for Mursteg, which is reached about 8 o'clock, when having dined on the train he immediately retires to bed in order to be ready at 5 o'clock the next morning. It is among the mountains hunting chamois all day (returning, often under snow, to the little pavilion which shelters him and his suite) that the Emperor forgets the difficulties of Empire, the fierceness of politics, and the anxieties of daily life. The Emperor spends his summer holiday at Ischl surrounded by his daughters and grandchildren, hunting nearly every day. When a stag has been scented the Emperor is immediately informed; he hurriedly dons his hunting clothes and proceeds to the appointed place. When some hours later the Emperor returns to Ischl, he is seen wearing a little fir twig in his hat, for it is the custom for a hunter to break off a twig from the fir tree near the spot where he has killed his game and to place it in his hat.