OUR IRISH LETTER.

Dunlin, Jan. 20 .- As the opening of Parliament approaches, inter in election of Chairman of the Irish Party waxes lively. The Hon. Ed-ward Blake is still looked on as the ont likely successor to Mr. Justin

The exhibition of pictures and sketches of Irish scenery, by Mr. Alexander Williams, R.H.A., was the social event of the week. Mr. Williams must have taken a great many rambles through Ireland before he got together such a delightful vista of noorland, lake and mountain, with a mooriand, take and mountain, with a vision of the deep green sea crowning the prospective. His sketches of Kullarney are sonnets in oils. He has caught the amethystine shades of the mountains, the purple shadows in the lakes, and the feathery foliage of larches seem to flutter against the clear poarl-tinted sky. In his scenes from Achill Island you can nearly smell the heather, and he is scenes from Achill Island you can nearly smell the heather, and he is equally true to nature in his studies of bogland and mountain around Letterfrack. His Excellency, Earl Cadogan, visited the exhibition and purchased "The Bands of Fintrel, Dengal," realistic picture of a bleak cosis and a cold gray sea. If every you spend your holidays travelling through Ireland, and wish to bring back with you some souvenir of the "Ould Country," you should visit Mr. Williams' studio at 4 Hatch streat. His landscapes embrace everything from a glimpse of tender green woodland, to a bold sweep of rugged coast line. This is his tenth exhibition. On the opening day Mrs. Williams held a reception, which was attended by over two hundred people representing at and fashion. It may be interesting to mention that she is a sister of Mrs. Page Throiver, so well known in Montreal musical circles.

We went to see Rousbey's Opera Company in "The Daughter of the Repiment." I do not care for Miss Minnie Leverentz as Marie. She played to the gallery and surely Donizetti never intended that. Mr. Fred Clendon looked Sergeant Sulpice to the life and sang splendidly. Rousbey's company all round is very good. I always enjoy sitting out one of their operas, but on this occasion I found the entra actes much a mustartion operas, but on this occasion I found the entra actas mcre amusing. The first thing that attracted my attention was the low cultured tones of a man's voice declaring that Belfast was a miserable spot. It was woful to be stranded there over night—you had no place to go, nothing to see, no one to talk to. There was only one music hall. Music halls never attracted him. The theatre was open only in winter, and there was never anything performed there but serious plays. Belfast people had no taste for thirge, theatrical or musical. Not even to hear Patti would they go to a high class concert. Now Dublin folk would patronize any amount of concerts, the more classical the better, provided the charges were reasonable. Tree he pronounced a queer chap and wound up by saying he was a wonderful chap. Last time Tree was, in Dublin he went to see him in "Hamlet." Dublin theatre goers were not at all educated up to date. They frequently mistook tragedy for comedy, even in the drees circle people laughed in the wrong place. Now at "Hamlet there were three old ladies who really appeared to be educated, sitting behind him, and when in the grave some Tree went over to the wall and began plucking ity and throwing it on Ophelia's coffin, they asked one another is he going mad too? The speaker was a man who delighted to hear himself impart information, and the girl he was talking edition of the "Child's Guide to Knowledge." He explained to her him stage get up, he came before the curtain to thank the audience for their applaines, the very resumption of his own manner made him seem quite a different person. The other was always Henry Irving, whether he was contumed as Matthias or King Arthur. The girl's responses consisted in or 'Yes' in the ocurse of his remarks, and "How furmy!" varied by "How awfully furny!" whenever he paused. Then he giggled 'a libitum." Like the old ladies, she really appeared to be educated, but unlike them she was young. Her neck and arms were plump and white, her dark hair daintly coiffed set of the artistic

view. The hum of life in a linen factory, the whirr of machinery in ship building yards is music enough for them. In their leisure hours they prefer melodrama as played in Orange or them. In their leisure hours they prefer melodrama as played in Orange Lodges to controversy re the correct interpretation of Shakespeare on the modern stage.

we have had an epidemic of poetry for the last month. What with Jamesor's raid, the wreck in Dublin bay, death of Prince Henry, &c., there has been no lack of themes, but inspiration seems to have deserted these islands. The more illustrious the name to a verse, the more weekled the deggrel. Looks as if the grave of English poetry was being dug very deep. If any one takes the oake for rhyme without reason, it is Clement Scott, the premer dramatic critic of England. One stroke of Mr. Scott's pen can make or mar a theatrical reputation. He is credited with having smifed out several new plays at leading London theatres, despite all spectacular effect could achieve to make them a success. As a journalist he is brilliant, His descriptive articles throb with life. His patrictism must have extinguished his sense of the artistic when he indited a jingle to "England's Queen and Victoria.

to "England's Queen and Victoria."

The Recorder of Dublin is a very conscientious man. He is a Mr. Falkiner of Mount Falcon, near Borrisokane. Off the bench he is one of the most prominent advocates of total abstimonee in Ireland. When persons of questionable sobriety attend his court they try to ensek into his good graces by pinning a blue ribbon in their button hole. He is a clever, clear-headed lawyer, but his judgments are often tempered so with common sense and kindliness that he is the despair of the Dublin bar. He is without compeer the best abused man in Dublin. The articles which appear on him from time to time in the daily papers are gross outrages on the liberty of the press. Last week Messre'. & R. Freeman, veterinary surgeous, sued the Right Hon. Joseph M. Mesafe for £48 89, 9d, due to them for horse medicine, fees, &c. Alder-ran Meade put in a counter claim for surgeons, sued the Right Hon. Joseph M. Meade for £48 8s. 9d. due to them for horse medicine, fees, &c. Aldernam Meade put in a counter claim for £50 damages for the loss of a horse which, owing to negligence on the part of the plaintifisor their servants, was injured at the entrance to their exercise ring. Mr. Freeman stated that about thirty horses were led into the ring every day and they never heard a complaint before. The Recorder said he would reserve judgment until he had visited the premises of Messrs. Freeman and personally inspected the construction of the entrance to the careties ring. Have you a judge as painstaking at that in Canada ? Charles Dayron.

A LIPE SAVED.—Mr. James Bryson, Cameron, states: "I was confined to my bed with inflammation of the lungs, and was given up by the physiciaus. A neighbor advised me to try Dr. Troxas: Ecuatoric Orit, stating lish this wife had used it for a threat brouble with the best results. Aching on his advice, I procured the mediciné, and less than a half bottle ocred me; I certainly bolieve it saved my life. It was with rejuctance that I consented to a trial, as I was reduced to such a state that I doubted the power of any remedy to do me any good."

A Distinguished Convert.

A United States depatch says: Ex-Governor Woodson, of St. Joseph, Mo., was baptized by Right Rev. Bishop Burke, assisted by Father A. Newman, of the Cathedral, that city, Newman, of the Cannedral, these city. The verenony was performed at the ex-Governor's residence in the presence of his family. The distinguished convert some twenty five years ago was Governor-of Missouri and made one of the best chief executives the state has ever had.

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62nd ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the shareholders The annual meeting of the shareholders of the British America Assurance Company was hold at its head office, in Teronto, on Thursday the 13th test. The President, Mr. Ceo. A. Cox, occupied the chair, and Mr. P. H. Sims, the Secretary of the company, was appointed Secretary.

The directors' report showed that there had been a mederate and in premium increase when the first head no mederate and in the premium in the company to the first head no meet 18th without

ad been a moderate sain in premium in come in the fire branch over 189, without any corresponding increase in losses, so that a very satisfactory profit was shown on the year a transactions. In the marine branch, in common with all others engaged in lake under-writing, the company had suffered from the unismally heavy losses of the past reaching the company had suffered from the unismally heavy losses of the past waster on our closed acks and rivers which prevailed during the entire s-ason, and partly to the exceptionally disastrous atorms in the closing months of lake navigation. The earnings from interest show a slight gain over those of 1894.

The following is a summary of the financial statement:

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81,491,640 45 8 52,500 00 Total assets \$1,450,537 45
Total liabilities (including capital stock) 0.30 425 40

thousand dollars upon the business of this department at the closing of the books. This result, as intinated in the report, is largely attributable to the favorable experience of the company in the United States and the company derives from a widely distributed business in providing fer exciptional losses, such as are lisale to cocur, is any of our large business contree. Passing to the marises branch, the business of which is confined their the favorable providing fer exciptional losses, such as are lisale to cocur, is any of our large business contree. Passing to the marises branch, the business of which is confined their their control of the control of the control of their control of the control of the control of the control of their control

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reportment of Rullways and Can (1984wa, 686 February, 1896.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICE.

FRIDAY, the twenty-first day of Pebraary next, will be the last day of receiving positions for private bills.

FRIDAY, the twenty sighth day of Pebraary next, will be the last day for introducing private bills.

TEURRDAY the twenty day of literal will be the last day for receiving reports of committees on private bills.

Cart of the Legislative Assembly.

Terconto. 181. 18th. 1869.



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