

security to be found in Ireland she would afford a boundless field for profitable investments. We shall just make a few brief practical observations which are suggested by the Duke of Abercorn's administration and his speech. The Duke resides in Tyrone, at Baron's Court near Newton Stewart. That county, as its name implies, bestowed the O'Neills, and was confiscated in 1612. Notwithstanding the plunder and banishment of the natives in 1871 there were in Tyrone 119,937 Catholics to 99,820 of all other denominations. Yet in that county there is not a Catholic magistrate, not a public officer, under the grand jury, or connected with infirmary, lunatic asylum, or Poor-law Board, above the condition of the humblest of the Duke of Abercorn is fully aware that the Lieutenant, the High Sheriff, the three magistrates, and the whole staff of scores of county and departmental officers, all are exclusively Protestant. During his Excellency's past and present administration what has he done to remedy these crying evils? Nothing. The Magistracy remains without reform; the Grand Jury system without redress; the Local Boards are sinks of jobbing, sectarianism, and corruption. But, so far from the exclusion, and corruption, of the Duke of Abercorn doing anything in the way of reform he has, in his own county, lent himself to the policy of past ages, which tended to render dissatisfaction chronic in Ireland. The only Catholic official in Tyrone was Mr. David Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Crown, appointed in 1850, whose death was recorded last week. The Irish Government has appointed as his successor, Mr. Cecil Moore, since 1859 the Sessional Crown Solicitor in the same county, whose appointment, because he was an Orangeman, was brought under the notice of the House of Commons. With all the respect which they entertain for the Duke of Abercorn Irishmen seem to think that if law and its administration are in contempt in Ireland they have a shrewd suspicion of the cause.

Another weak point in the administration of Ireland is suggested by the Duke's ardent commendation of the late Earl of Mayo—a commendation that will meet with warm sympathy from all his countrymen. If the Mayos, the Lisgars, the Dufferins, the Gregorys, and many other Irishmen, have provided such able and efficient Governors of Colonies, why have their genius and their higher knowledge of their own country, although Protestants, and not of native race, not been utilized in the government of Ireland. The question admits but of one answer.—London Tablet.

"MASONRY IS NOT POLITICAL"

WHERE MASONRY IS USED AND FOR WHAT—SOME WORDS FROM THE MASONIC LEXICON.

Philanthropy, love of man, is the virtue Masons usually boast of, and it is in its exercise that the large sums that flow into the Masonic coffers are said to be expended. Whoever has studied the Masonic jargon, knows that man signifies in it, not every individual belonging to the great human family, but exclusively a Freemason; or, to explain its meaning more clearly, a person who is nothing but man, without any addition by which he would be recognized as belonging, for instance, to a certain religious community, or to a certain state, country, caste, and so on; as man is acknowledged only he who frees himself from the shackles of "superstition," which means religion, and of "slavery" which means monarchy, and who owns only the lodge, the mansion of free men. "Humanity" means Freemasonry. "Philanthropy" is the virtue which tributes temporal means towards or assists in any way, the ultimate object of Freemasonry. The ultimate aim of Freemasonry is the domination over the whole world. The royal art, or the art of acquiring and wielding the regal or supreme power over the whole human race, consists in using the hammer for battering down the thrones of all tyrants, which means kings, the altars of all superstitions, the barriers of all jurisdictions, the barriers of religion, and in using the trowel for building up the temple of Solomon according to the Masonic Square and Circle, which means the Masonic government over the whole world, kings and all peculiar governments being first used as tools for that ultimate end, and finally thrown aside.

Towards this ultimate aim all work is directed, under the seal of strictest secrecy, lest the powers that be, be aroused, and bethink themselves of self-defence; in the midst of the night, till the rising sun shows to the astonished profane world that the Masonic light shines forth in the Orient. Towards this ultimate aim must serve also the moneys collected from the most of brothers who are admitted into the secret league, without receiving any knowledge of the final object for which they engage themselves to work and pay. That the resources of the Masonic body are destined for such philanthropic purposes, has never been doubted by those who observe the march of our contemporary history, and especially of that of the last century. But the secret agents of the initiated, gauded by thirty-three terrible and horrible oaths, like a fly by the encircling threads of the spider, are sometimes either unwise, or wise, enough, either conscientious or unconscientious, enough, to let the secret out; and one fact, that has become publicly known, throws then an immense light upon the nocturnal laboratories of the Mason lodges.

One of such outward revelations, we happen to have got knowledge of, is the contribution of the paltry sum of some £30,000 sterling made by the American Lodges to the revolutionary Government of Spain in 1874, for their army against Don Carlos. The *Chaine d'Union*, a Parisian Masonic Journal, describes in its number for January, 1875, page 98, a great festival celebrated in the Lodge "Le Temple des Amis de l'Union Française," on the 21 December 1874. On this occasion Br. Holinski communicated to the convivial party the following fact:

"From the venerable Lodge 'The Sons of Hiram,' working under the Grand Orient of Spain, we have received a letter to which we invite your fullest attention. It is an address of thanksgiving of the Spanish Masons to the Lodges have, with noble liberality, contributed the sum of 154,000 Piasters for the 'liberal' army which fights against Don Carlos. The sum mentioned has already been forwarded to our venerable Br. General Espartero." To this Br. added: "the example of our American Br. Holinski is a new proof of the power of Freemasonry, and may serve to shame those of our Br. who have done as yet nothing for this noble cause."

Br. Serranoit was who in 1874 ruled over unhappy Spain; and it is he, or his "Government of Spain," which was considered by the philanthropic American Lodges one of the poor who foremost deserved a subvention from the Lodges. If Freemasons say, we do not occupy ourselves with politics, but only with social amusements and works of benevolence, then let this fact, to which we can add others, stand as proof that, however it may be with regard to the blindfold apprentices, it is certain a shameless untruth in the mouth of the initiated.—Catholic Examiner.

Miss Elizabeth Thompson, the painter of the "Miss Call," has obtained an order in the Queen's Bench division the expunge from the register of the Stationers' Society the copyright of her famous picture, which had been assigned to Messrs. Dickinson & Co. for £1,200, in ignorance of her having no copyright in the picture which she sold for £100 to Mr. Galloway, who subsequently sold it for the same sum to Her Majesty.

HYMN TO ST. PATRICK.

St. Patrick, for our country pray,  
Our ever faithful land,  
Whose martyred hosts so gloriously  
Before God's great throne stand:  
Look down upon thy children here,  
Look down upon our race,  
And, bless, dear Saint, this little isle  
And each one's native place.  
Chorus—From fears without, from fears within,  
From every evil, every sin,  
St. Patrick, set us free.  
Oh, hear us, Patrick, while we pray;  
Thou art our own dear Saint,  
Uphold the weak, protect the young,  
Strengthen the souls that faint;  
Thou know'st how we are tempted still—  
Thou know'st how we are tried—  
Thou knowest that we are faithful too,  
Whatever ills betide.  
O help our poor in patient love  
To bear their suffering life,  
To think of that great victory  
Which cometh after strife:  
Keep from them all revengeful thoughts  
Whenever they suffer wrong—  
The meek alone are crowned in Heaven,  
And Heaven will come e'er long.  
We are thy children, blessed Saint,  
The children of thy love,  
We know how mighty is thy prayer,  
How it was heard above;  
Pray for us now, for the priest and nun,  
For rich men, and for poor,  
That to the end, however tried,  
Our faith may still endure.  
SISTER MARY FRANCES CLARE.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

A branch of the Home Rule League has been formed in Newry, co. Down.

The Jesuit Fathers are conducting a most successful mission in Bellewstown, co. Galway.

At the last Cavan market, butter sold at 17d. per lb., and firkins at 96s.

Neil Quinn, of Gorey, in the county of Wexford, general bucketeer and provision dealer, has been adjudged a bankrupt.

Steps have been already taken, and a monster meeting will be shortly held, to organize the Catholic vote in Ulster.

A statue of O'Connell is to be erected in Melbourne, and a centenary fête held there has yielded to the fund the sum of £114.

Two children have been killed, and four women and two men seriously injured, by the snapping of a cable on board the troopship *Assistance*, stationed at Kingstown.

At the last meeting of the Edenderry Home Rule Club over one hundred new members were enrolled. A vote of confidence in the conduct of Sir Patrick O'Brien in Parliament was also passed.

Dr. Patrick John O'Hagan, son of Mr. John O'Hagan, merchant, Carrickmacross, was, on the 16th ult., unanimously elected as dispensary medical officer for the Kingcourt Dispensary district.

At a special meeting of the Clare Farmer's Club, held on Feb. 17, a resolution was passed declaring so long as the agrarian grievances of the country remained unremedied, so long would the Irish people remain discontented, and a weakness, not a strength, to England.

The Very Rev. M. Warren, of Ennisecorthy, has been selected by the Pope to be the new Bishop of Ferns, in the place of the late Right Rev. Dr. Furlong. Father Warren was the Head of the House of Missionary Priests intended chiefly for that diocese, established in Ennisecorthy, and was member of the Chapter of Ferns as *Canonius Pomeritarius*.

On the 12th ult., the Limerick Builders' Association held a meeting in Furlow's Hotel, when it was resolved that the demand of the laborers for 16s. a week wages be not complied with. They are determined to adhere to the present rate, and a strike is impending.

The *Freeman's Journal* of the 15th ult. says:—"There has been a very heavy fall of snow at Roscrea, Ballybrophy, and across to Thurles and Kilkenny. In some places it is from a foot to three feet deep, and yet there is hardly a vestige of snow in the Neagh district. The North Tipperary hills are heavily coated with snow."

The annual meeting of the Flax Supply Association was held on the 18th ult., in the Chamber of Commerce, Belfast. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report said the diminution in the five last years was 6,569 acres, representing 1,500 tons, value about £100,000. The average weight of fibre last year was 33 stones per acre, which had not been exceeded since 1864.

IRISH DOMESDAY BOOK.—The Irish Domesday Land-Return is nearly printed, and may be laid before the Houses of Parliament before Easter. Most of the counties have been completed, and the statistical department of the Local Government Board is seeing the remainder through the press. It will, it is expected, not fail in interest, in importance, or in reliability as compared with the Scotch and the English returns.

At the meeting of the Home Rule members, on the 11th ult., there was a good deal of discussion as to the prospects of the session. The opinion of the meeting was that the efforts of the Irish party should be concentrated mainly on Home Rule, Land Tenure, and Education. The terms of the resolution, of which Mr. Butt subsequently gave notice in the House, were submitted, and received the approval of the meeting.

On the 11th ult., at Hearn's Hotel, Clonmel, there was an auction of a farm of 58a 1r 6p; being portion of the lands of Garrane, in the barony of Middlethird. The occupying tenant is Mr. Michael Burke, and the yearly rent was £87 8s. 7d. After some close competition, Mr. Burke became the purchaser at £1,400. Another farm of seventy-five acres was also put up, but not sold, the highest bid being £1,000. The occupying tenant is Mr. James Skehan, and the farm is portion of the lands of Garrane.

The Church of Rathangan was recently the scene of the profession, by Dr. Lynch, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, of two sisters—Miss Byrnes, of Ballynagles, (Sister Mary Evangelist), and Miss Lacy, of Rhode, (Sister Mary Stanislaus.) The convent has been established nine months, and its success is manifest. It is the most flourishing and the most needed of the many works raised to the glory of God by the Rev. J. Nolan, P.P., Kildare and Rathangan.

Owing to advanced age, and failing health the Venerable Dean Kenny, P.P., Ennis, has placed his resignation in the hands of his bishop. The vacancy thus created will not be filled up, as the Right Rev. Dr. Ryan intends to fix his residence in Ennis. The Rev. Dr. MacRedmond, president of the diocesan college, will be appointed to the parish of Killaloe, with the distinction of Vicar-general. His place will be filled by the Rev. Mr. Egan, vice-president.

On Sunday, Jan. 30th, the solemn ceremony of ordination took place in the New College, Cavan when the Rev. Philip King received the Order of Priesthood. The Most Rev. Dr. Conaty was the officiating Prelate. Father King has been appointed to the curacy of Mullagh, vice the Rev. Thomas

Dunne, transferred to Crosslough. The Rev. Patrick Conaty, C.C., has been changed to Ballinamore, vice the Rev. Patrick O'Reilly to Killrogue; and the Rev. Peter McCann, C.C., Killarue to Duncormin, vice the Rev. P. Cook appointed Bursar of St. Patrick's College, Cavan.

A general meeting of the members of the Waterford Farming Society was held in the County Courthouse on the 12th ult. The society show for 1876 was fixed for the 14th of September, and the list of prizes was revised, an increase being made in some classes of green crops. The entrance for the Paul and Exhibition Challenge Cups was reduced from 5s. to 2s. 6d. After transacting some routine business the secretary laid before the meeting a letter from the Irish Cattle Trade Defence Association asking the society's co-operation. The consideration of the matter was deferred till the Duke of Richmond's bill should be published.

The Most Rev. Dr. Power, Lord Bishop of this diocese, says the *Waterford Citizen*, of Feb. 15, has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Dr. Cleary, President of St. John's College, to the pastoral charge of the large and important parish of Dungarvan, in room of the Very Rev. Jeremiah Hally, deceased. The people of Dungarvan should feel deeply thankful to his Lordship in sending a pastor who will be to them both a credit and an ornament. For a number of years Dr. Cleary has held high place in St. John's College, and for the last few years he has ably filled the presidential chair of that important educational establishment.

The recovery of Dr. Conaty, Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Kilmore, from a temporary illness, was made the occasion of presenting him with an address and a purse containing over seven hundred sovereigns, as a mark of appreciation of his unceasing exertions in the cause of education. The amount was subscribed exclusively by the priests of Kilmore diocese. The address was magnificently executed by Mr. Hopkins, Brunswick-street, Dublin, and the purse was handsomely embellished by one of the Sisters of St. Clare's Convent, Cavan. A deputation of the clergy visited his lordship's residence and presented him with the address and purse. His lordship having returned a suitable reply, afterwards entertained the deputation in the most hospitable manner.

In the House of Commons, on the 13th ult., Sir P. O'Brien asked the Secretary of State for War whether there is an intention on the part of the military authorities to permit the 83rd Regiment (Connought Rangers) to serve in Ireland prior to proceeding on foreign service, over thirty years having elapsed since the regiment was quartered in Ireland, and considerable expense being incurred by Irish private in the regiment when proceeding on furlough to visit their relatives. Mr. Hardy, in reply, stated that he was happy to be able to inform the hon. member that his patriotic wishes will be gratified in the ordinary course of the next few months.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Justice Morris has been sworn into office, as Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in succession to Judge Monahan, resigned. No appointment of a successor to Justice Morris is probable for some time, if at all. The Chairmanship of county Westmeath, vacant by the death of Mr. Matthew O'Donnell, Q.C., a Catholic, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. F. Ellington, L.L.D., Q.C., a Protestant. Dr. Ellington was admitted to the bar in 1847; appointed Q.C. by the Conservative Government in 1868; and a benchet last year. The important office of Clerk of the Crown in Tyrone, vacant by the recent death of Mr. David Fitzgerald, a Catholic solicitor, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Cecil Moore, a strong Orange partisan.

The death is announced of the Rev. John McGrath, Thurles, at the residence of his cousin, the Rev. M. Power, P. P., Moyne, after an illness of about one month's duration. The deceased rev. gentleman was nearly twenty years in the sacred order of priesthood. His first appointment was to the curacy of the parish of Tatten, where he remained until his removal to Thurles, previous to the death of the late lamented Dr. Leahy. While in the parish of Tatten Father McGrath was instrumental in erecting two magnificent churches, and a splendid parochial residence unequalled in the archdiocese of Cashel. On his appointment to the administration of Thurles the parishioners of Tatten presented him with an address and testimonial as a token of the great esteem they held him in. His remains were removed from Moyne to Ballygarry, the residence of his brother, where they were interred.

IRISH CONSTITUENCIES.—The following is stated in the *Waterford News* regarding the representation of that county:—"We have heard it rumored that it is by no means improbable that Lord Charles Beresford will be offered an appointment to the Sultan in Ireland, but whether he accepts it or not he will, in the course of the present session, retire from Parliament, leaving a vacancy in the representation of Waterford county, as he finds it impossible, with other demands upon his time, to attend the House of Commons so continuously as his constituents desire he should do." Lord Crichton has been returned unopposed for Enniskillen. There is no confirmation of the rumour that Mr. George Morris, M.P. is about to vacate his seat in Galway borough. He was Registrar to his brother, Mr. Justice Morris, before his recent promotion as Chief of the Common Pleas, but did his duty by deputy which he still can do.

It is stated that Mr. Cecil Moore has been appointed Clerk of the Crown for the county Tyrone. The *Belfast Examiner*, complaining of the injustice done to Catholics by such an appointment, says:—"The county of Tyrone has a population of 119,937 Catholics and 95,827 Protestants of all denominations, yet of the whole 121 deputy-lieutenants and magistrates scattered over its broad extent every one belongs to the religion of the minority, and there is not a single Catholic entrusted with her Majesty's Commission of the Peace. The lieutenant, the high sheriff, the two members of Parliament, the member for Dungannon, all the magistrates, and all the county officers are Protestants. Jails, lunatic asylums, poor law boards, petty sessions, and in all the official staff is Protestant, and in most Orange. Such is the social and political status of Catholics in the county in which is the residence of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Dispensary doctors, postmasters, stamp distributors, relieving officers—all must belong to the dominant creed."

IRISH EDUCATION ESTIMATES.—The following are the estimates for education in Ireland for the year ending 31st March, 1877. National Board, £645,949, against £634,368, being a net increase of £11,581. In the Agricultural Model Schools there is a decrease, owing to the closing of several of these, of £2,679, and the book department of £50,000. The estimate of teachers' residence has been transferred to public buildings. The estimate for ordinary national schools is £501,867, against £480,137 last year. The salaries to the 10,000 teachers is £310,151; results £61,178, and same sum contingent on Poor-law Union contributions; 350 workmistresses, £23,600; 5,000 paid monitors, £40,900; 4,000 good-service salaries, £5,000; 80 workhouse teachers, £180; retiring grants to incapacitated teachers, £2,680. Queen's University, £4,787 against £4,698 last year. Three Queen's Colleges, apart from £21,000, under the Act of 1845, £1,822 against £5,976, or a net increase of £5,846, the £6,000 fees, hereafter paid into the Exchequer, to be applied hereafter in augmentation of the salaries of the professors. Then the Queen's University and the three Queen's Colleges are charged under public works with £1,503, making in all a total cost for the coming year of £39,116. Royal College of

Science, Stephen's-Green, £6,920 and £803, under Board of Works, total £7,723. The whole of the fees of the students in 1874-5 amounted to only £355, of which the professors received £319 10s. The Queen's University, the three Queen's Colleges, and the College of Science are set down for £46,841. Neither legal privilege nor state endowment for the Catholic University.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Marquess of Ripon has generously cleared off the debt on St. Wilfred's, Ripon, the amount being between three and four hundred pounds.

The mission conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers at Leeds has been wonderfully successful. A large number of Protestants have offered themselves for instruction.

We are sorry to hear of the death, on the 6th ult., of Lady Georgiana Chatterton, wife of Mr. George Dering of Baddeley Clinton. The deceased lady was converted to the Faith some time ago.—R. I. P.

Replying to an invitation to attend the Slave Circular meeting in London, His Eminence Cardinal Manning has replied that he also will promptly unite in any action for the extinction of slavery.

The Catholics of Glasgow have resolved, at a meeting held under the presidency of His Grace Archbishop Eyre, to put forward and support three Catholic candidates at the approaching election of a schoolboard for the city. Committees are being organised.

A return issued shows that the total number of vessels reported and found unseaworthy from August 5, 1873, to September 30, 1875, was 587. In the same period 68 vessels were found unseaworthy from over-loading.

St. Patrick's Young Men's Society of Glasgow have a project on foot for building a hall.—This desirable state of things has come about by the enforcement of the principle of total abstinence. Last quarter the membership reached 800, and there was an income of £250.

Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods, London, sold last month a Bible, once the property of Charles II., with the Royal arms in silver, for £91 6s. It was printed by Field, Cambridge, in 1660, and the plates were by Hollar and Vischer.

The official returns at the War Office show that the total strength of the Volunteer Force on the 1st of November last was 181,080, of whom 145,753 were present at the annual inspections, and 168,709 were efficient.

As an earnest of the feelings entertained towards the illustrious owner of Studley Royal, we may state that Lord Ripon has been unanimously re-elected president of the Ripon Mechanics' Institute. The annual report ascribes the greater part of the prosperity of the Institution to the noble Marquess.—Catholic Times.

The *Liverpool Post* says a young woman, named Harriet Turner, of Ickeston, in Derbyshire, has confessed to having murdered her child. She cut the child's throat, making a parcel of the body and put it in a tin, hiding it in a pigsty. The body was found by a servant. The murderer is in custody.

Our London readers will sympathize with the Rev. Father Coleridge S. J., in the loss of his learned father, Sir John Taylor Coleridge, who died on this day week, at Ottery St. Mary's Devon, in the 86th years of his age. Father Coleridge has, we understand, the melancholy satisfaction of being present at his father's deathbed.—May he rest in peace.—Catholic Times.

A case of almost inconceivable brutality was heard at Durham recently George Robson, a miner, pushed his wife's head into a box whilst she was getting her clothes to dress for chapel, and held her in that position some minutes, then felled her, and putting her head between his legs, broke her jaw-bone. Not satisfied with this, he turned upon his helpless daughter, twelve months old, and lifted her up by the ears. The magistrates characterized the offence as dreadful brutality, and inflicted the heaviest penalty in their power—namely, six months' imprisonment.

DECK LOAD LINE.—OSBORN, March 9.—In the House of Commons this evening, Mr. McIvor, member for Birkenhead, and formerly one of the managing owners of the Cunard steamers, asked whether there had been any diminution of the number of vessels lost in the Bay of Biscay since the adoption of the load line restriction. Sir Chas. B. Adolfer, President of the Board of Trade, replied that between February, 1874, and February, 1876, twenty-six steamers were lost, with 175 lives, and between February, 1875, and February, 1876, only two steamers were lost, with twenty-six lives.

An extraordinary fact came out in evidence during an inquest at Woolwich as to the manner in which, under "service regulations," the widows and children of deceased soldiers are treated. The practice is to turn them out of barracks on the very day following their bereavement, and to send them to their proper parish, no provision whatever being made for them. In the case under notice, the deceased man, Thomas Wilton, was Brigade Quartermaster Sergeant of the 23rd Brigade, Royal Artillery, recently returned from India, and his mind having become affected by over-work, he committed suicide. During Wilton's seventeen years' service in India there had not been a single complaint against him; and now, as his reward, a grateful country will allow his widow and five children to go to the Workhouse, unless, perchance, by the generosity of his officers or his late comrades, some provision is made for their maintenance.

FUNERAL OF LADY AUGUSTA STANLEY.—LONDON, March 9.—The remains of the late Lady Augusta Stanley, who died on 1st inst., were buried at Westminster Abbey to day with great pomp. Queen Victoria and her daughters, the Princess Beatrice and the Marchioness of Lorne, were present. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, Earl of Shaftesbury, and Duke of Westminster were chief pall-bearers. The Duke of Northumberland, Bishop of London, Right Hon. W. F. Gladstone, Viscount Cardwell, Professor Max Muller, and many other notables followed in the procession. Dean Stanley, the chief mourner, performed the burial service. The remains were interred in Westminster Abbey at the express desire of her Majesty the Queen. This is worthy of notice, as the honor of burial within the Abbey has been accorded in so few instances to ladies.

TITLES BILL.—LONDON, March 9.—Mr. Disraeli moved the second reading of the Titles Bill, which declares that the title of the Sovereign shall be "Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of Faith and Empress of India." Mr. Disraeli refuted the objections that the title of Empress was not English, and that the colonies were neglected. He declared that the colonies were Englishmen. Mr. Maurice Brooks, Home Rule member for Dublin city, enquired if the Queen, on assuming the new title, would extend clemency to Fenian convicts. Mr. Disraeli promised to reply to the question when the Bill was passed. Mr. Samuelson, member for Banbury and an advanced Liberal, attacked the proposed change, and moved an adjournment. Mr. Gladstone argued that there existed some important states in India, which were not under English domination. If the Bill should work a political change in their Statutes, it was unjustifiable, and its passage would be an act of temerity bordering on in-

sanity. He urged the claims of the Colonies, and concluded by announcing that he supported the motion to adjourn. The Marquis of Hartington subsequently advised Mr. Samuelson to withdraw the motion for adjournment, but the Conservatives objected, and the motion was finally rejected by vote of 284 to 31. The Bill then passed its second reading.

THE DOMESDAY BOOKS.—THE OLD AND THE NEW ENUMERATIONS OF THE LAND OWNERS OF ENGLAND.—In a spacious and elegant apartment of the State Paper Office, London, there is a glass case, carefully locked. In this case, which at the request of a properly authenticated visitor is opened for his inspection, rests a massive volume, wonderfully bound in heavily embossed leather and metal. It is the famous "Domesday Book," compiled and written by the order of William the Conqueror in 1085, exactly 791 years ago. Every letter in the book is as bright and clear as it was when written; the red lines which mark its subdivisions are as brilliant as when they were drawn. In another part of the building they show you an immense iron chest, in which this "Domesday Book" was originally kept. For centuries it lay in a lumber-room of the Tower, unnoticed and almost forgotten. In 1085 William the Conqueror, wishing to have an accurate knowledge of his kingdom, caused a complete land-census to be taken, and the results were recorded in this volume. The whole number of land-owners was found to be 54,813. Now, after the lapse of nearly eight centuries, another land-census has been taken, and another Domesday book has been compiled, consisting of two quarto volumes with 180 pages of closely printed tabulated matter. The order for the compilation of this most valuable return was sent by a wish on the part of the Government to show that the premises on which the "land returns" based their arguments were erroneous. It showed that the total number of land-owners in England and Wales, exclusive of the metropolis, is 972,836. Of these, 702,289 are holders of less than one acre—these, I suppose, are the owners of single houses and little plots of land, the other 269,547 are holders of one acre and upwards—some of them being so far upwards as to own 100 square miles or more. The Duke of Devonshire, in Derbyshire, owns 88,329 acres, or 131 square miles. The Duke of Bedford, in Bedfordshire, has 35,569 acres, 22,607 in Devonshire, and 18,800 in Cambridgeshire; Lieutenant-Colonel Lindsay has 26,528 acres; Mr. J. Tulk-mache, 25,380 acres in Cheshire; Lord Falkland 25,910 acres in Cornwall; the Earl of Carlisle 47,730 acres in Cumberland, where also Sir P. U. Gresham has 25,270, and the Earl of Lonsdale 28,228 acres; the Duke of Rutland has 26,973 acres in Derbyshire; the Earl of Devon 20,589 in Devon, the Hon. M. Rolley 46,088 in the same county, Mr. G. D. Digby, 21,451 in Dorset, the Duke of Cleveland has 55,832 acres in Durham; the Earl of Durham has 47,269 acres in Lancashire (the income of which in 1756, 735 a year), and so on. Mr. Disraeli has 1,000 acres in Buckinghamshire, worth only £1,194 a year. The population of England and Wales, exclusive of the metropolis, was by the last census 19,468,099; and there was 3,841,354 inhabited houses. As there are 972,836 landowners, it follows that on an average there are four houses to each land-owner. The extent of lands is 33,013,510 acres, exclusive of 1,524,648 common or waste lands; so that on an average there would be 34 acres to each owner. The annual value of these lands is £99,352,302, an average of not so much over £100 for each owner. The lands held by the colleges of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge amount to 235,553 acres, with a rental of £11,564. These lands are in fifty-one out of the fifty-four counties in England and Wales. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners hold property in forty-nine counties worth £311,208 a year. The Prince of Wales, or the Duchy of Cornwall—has 69,503 acres, worth £31,292 a year; and the Duchy of Lancaster 11,428 acres, worth £20,942 a year. The aggregate holdings of the 100 largest private owners are 3,852,000 acres; three of these have each 10,000 acres and more. The twelve largest owners are the Dukes of Northumberland, Devonshire, Cleveland, Bedford, and Rutland, the Earls of Carlisle, Londesdale, Powis, Brownlow and Derby, Lord Leconfield and Sir W. W. Wynne.

UNITED STATES.

Brooklyn, N. Y., is excited over the kidnapping of two girls, aged 11 and 10 respectively, named Mary Kirwin and Julia Adriance. No clue or explanation arrived.

Work on the St. Patrick's Cathedral in Fifth Avenue, New York, is going on with celerity. A large importation of stained window glass, elaborate in workmanship and very costly, has arrived.

Governor Tilden has pardoned John Brennan, sent to Sing Sing in 1870, for robbery, for 15 years. It turns out that he has been a respectable man, it being thought at the time of his conviction, that he was a professional thief.

Judge Sedgewick, of the Superior Court, New York, issued an attachment against Sheriff Conner for contempt of Court, in failing to make any return to an execution issued to him, and failing to appear in order to show cause why the attachment should not be issued.

A London telegram conveys the intelligence that Chas J. Brent, the absconding bank book-keeper who forged an order on the Merchants' National Bank of New York for \$15,000 and escaped, has been caught at Queenstown. Brent was recognized the moment the steamer arrived.

Washington despatches say that Babcock's departure from the White House was enforced, that he left in disgrace, it having been tolerably definitely ascertained that Pierrepoint's famous letter to the District Attorney was furnished to Emery Stors by Babcock himself, who copied it from the copy sent to the President for his information.

EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON.—LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 5.—A special to the *Courier-Journal* from Mount Sterling, Ky., says:—"Yesterday, during sunrise and clear sky, there fell from the heavens quivering fish, which came down in large quantities and filled many acres of territory. Hogs and chickens eagerly devoured the fish, specimens of which have been sent to this city for scientific examination."

A man appeared in St. Patrick's church, Louisville, Ky., on the 2nd inst., with an axe, and with wild cries fell to work demolishing the altar, chancel, images, &c. His ferocious aspect prevented anyone from capturing him, and he continued working the church. When satisfied he went to the cathedral, and was wrecking the fine work until overpowered by the police, who took him to jail. He gave his name as Vincent Hickman, and when visited by his wife he told her that what he had done was in order to save her. The wife is much perplexed over his conduct, and thinks he is crazy. The damage amounts to several thousand dollars.

A Washington despatch says: Attorney General Pierrepoint has written a letter giving a complete history of the Babcock case as far as it relates to himself. In regard to Dyer's letter, Pierrepoint took steps to investigate and ascertain how it became public, knowing full well that it was not given out by him or any subordinate of his office. The President was furnished a copy of this letter, but he said he had not given it to any person, and was as anxious as the Attorney-General to learn by what means it was obtained. Upon further investigation it was ascertained that Babcock had obtained access to the document unknown to the President, and made, or caused to be made, a copy, which he placed in the hands of Stors, his counsel. Upon being summoned before the President and the Attorney-General, Babcock admitted this to be true.