

FENIANISM IN THE SOUTH.—We have been informed by persons, who would not exaggerate in the slightest degree, that drilling is going on in Clare, Oranmore Woods, and the mountainous region at the opposite side of the Shannon, the movements of the Fenians in that quarter being exactly like what the Cork Constitution describes as being carried on in the environs of that city. The mountainous districts of Ireland afford considerable facilities for the drilling of Fenians, and the well disposed need not wonder at reading in the papers of the doing of those rebels in such places as the mountainous parts of Cork, Kerry, Clare, Cavan, and Fermanagh, where they can carry on their drill exercises and yet escape the vigilance of the police, who may not be stationed in these secluded quarters. The Fenians would seem to be wise in their generation, in selecting the mountainous regions for their exercises, although those of Cork seem less cautious; but even the places described by our contemporary as the Fenians, without being detected by the police, except through spies. A gentleman in this city has received a letter from a friend resident in New York, who, writing on the subject, says that numbers of Irishmen, who cannot find employment there, are coming home, and he adds that Fenianism is getting stronger there, every day. We quote, however, the best part of his letter in which he says, referring to a recent picnic of the Fenians, held in New York, that 'there were a few captains in the army present, who spoke a few words to the effect that they intended to go next year to Ireland and plant the green flag on all the old churches and castles in one night.' What a realy significant in the foregoing is the reference to the parties returning to Ireland in quest of work. That those fellows are Fenians there need be little doubt. The war has thrown multitudes of them on their own resources; their campaign life has partly unfitted them for industrious pursuits; the disaffection they took out with them they retain with increased intensity, and, under pretence of returning to procure employment, they come over to carry out their evil designs. This is really a serious matter, which calls for the prompt attention and vigilance of the authorities, who cannot be too active.—Lincolnton Chronicle.

MADNESS OF THE FENIAN ORGANISATION.—A public journal has a duty to perform without regard to the consequences, whatever those consequences may be. Misconception of motive and unpopularity are too frequently the results of plain speaking; but when the time has arrived for open and advised speaking, evasion or hesitation becomes a crime. Without in any way lending ourselves to the extravagant statements as to the extent of the so-called Fenian organisation, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that an organisation of some kind or other, does exist, and more extensively than the true lovers of Ireland and her real interests could wish. The object, as alleged, is to secure the independence of Ireland. How? Not as O'Connell sought to do it—by peaceful agitation, moral force, or, in other words, the power of united public opinion expressing the will of the nation. But by arms, and thro' the aid of foreign intervention. This is the generally understood object and purpose of the present organisation; and this general understanding is more or less justified by casual assertions as well as circumstances which are made or which take place in this country, and by the boastful proclamations of the Fenian Brotherhood in America. Taking it for granted, then, that there is an organisation in existence in Ireland, and that its object or purpose is such as is stated, let us calmly consider how it affects the interests of our country, and whether there is the remotest chance of its ending in any other result than disaster and misery. We take the latter proposition first. There are few so utterly rash and unreflecting, so intensely ignorant of the real circumstances of the United Kingdom, as to believe that the object sought to be accomplished could be accomplished without foreign intervention and foreign aid, given at the time of war between England and the country willing to afford such aid. We of course admit that if the people of Ireland—meaning thereby the aggregate manhood of the country, representing all classes, ranks, and interests—were unanimous in their demand for a restoration of its ancient legislature, the demand would be successful after a time, and that there would be no need of armed force to render it successful. But there is no such unanimity, nor is it likely there ever will be; and no policy is better calculated to secure and perpetuate the impossibility of union than the policy hinted at in Ireland and proclaimed in America. It fills the minds of those who possess property, or, as the term goes, who have a stake in the country, with indignant apprehension, and it arrays against it the truest conservators of law and order, the Catholic priesthood of Ireland. Of the thousands who form the national priesthood there may be, here and there, a few—a very few—enthusiastic men who sympathise with a movement of the kind; but their number is utterly insignificant. And to the honor of the Irish priesthood this is so. We need not say that not only is property instinctively arrayed against the movement, and religious influence opposed to it, but that a considerable portion of the manhood of the country would side with the power of the Government to crush any unaided attempt to rise against its authority. Those who are popularly known by the name of Orangemen, be they Protestants or Presbyterians would, unhappily, be only too anxious to have an excuse for a conflict with their Catholic countrymen. Thus it must be as evident as there is light when the sun shines that any hope of success from an attempt unaided from abroad can only exist in the dreams of a madman or the mad ravings of a drunkard. The man must be a lunatic, a drunkard, or a fool, who can, not to say believe in, but imagine, the possibility of a successful movement unaided by foreign assistance. And unless England is engaged in war with the sympathising country, that country cannot permit an armed man to cross her frontier or leave her shores, with a hostile intention to England, without a direct violation of international law, and the risk, indeed the certainty, of war being the necessary result. The two countries from which aid has been looked for, or from which hostility to England has been expected, are France and America. We are not among those who much rely on International Exhibitions, royal visitings, or naval courtesies, as perfect securities for the peace of the world. But we do rely on the mutual interests of nations to cultivate friendly relations with each other; and if there be two nations in the world more intimately bound the one with the other by ties of mutual interest, these two countries are France and England. If we named a third which has a supreme interest in pursuing a policy of peace towards England, it is America. The French treaty has been worthy a hundred ironclads; and its practical influence is felt in the diminution of the estimates, notwithstanding that the navy of the empire is still a state of transition—from timber to iron, and from iron to heavier iron. There is no prospect of war with France, and we rejoice that such is the fact. Then comes America. No doubt, and we deeply deplore while we admit it, there is cause for much anxiety in connexion with America. Not from any apprehension of war, but from the power and influence of anti-English agitation—we might in reality describe it as anti-English agitation, because of the enormous mischief which it has done which it is doing, and which it most certainly will continue to do to our country. It is not the policy of America to go to war with England, and there is no reason why war should be possible between those powers. There may be soreness of feeling and irritation towards England arising out of the lamenting conflict just concluded; but to do the British Government the barest and scantiest justice, England might safely put her case in the hands of her worst enemy, and challenge that enemy to say in what respect she violated the neutrality which it was her duty to assume. The ocean is covered with the ships of these two maritime countries, and there is not a seaboard

town along the shores of the Atlantic that is not interested in maintaining peace with England. The same may be said of the commercial towns and marts of these islands as to their interest in peace with America. War with America would be the most terrible of disasters; but that we do not apprehend. We do, however, look with the deepest anxiety to that enormous power for mischief which exists in the Irish or anti-English organisation in America. We do not enter into the truth or reality of the feeling amongst the Irish in the States and we have no hesitation in admitting that much allowance must be made for its existence. The great pity is, that the passions of the people should be so recklessly played upon by those who run no risk, and that hope should be held out which cannot be realised. We deplore it in the truest interests of our country, which it kept in a chronic excitement, fatal to steady industry and repellant to that capital which is essential to its progress. What we require in Ireland is the same industry which has made a rich country of Scotland, and which enables England to hold the foremost place in the great rivalry of the civilised world.—Without the outlay of capital this industry cannot take root or make any sensible progress in Ireland; and capital, which is so sensitive to danger—even to imaginary danger—will avoid, as a field for investment, a country that has the appearance of being restless or unsettled. Organisations of a different kind are what Ireland requires—not those which fill the minds of a large portion of her population with wild hopes and wilder delusions. Could we but establish the manufactures of other portions of the empire in this country—in its cities and its principal towns—we should be as happy and as contented, because as prosperous, as the rest of the United Kingdom. But we must have peace, and we must cease to speak and think of revolutions to be striven for in blood, and only to be accomplished, if accomplished, through the horrors of civil war and the indescribable calamity of a foreign invasion. In God's name let our country have repose—a few years of cessation, from strife and faction—so that not only may the energies of her people be turned to the pursuits of industry, but that those who possess capital—the mighty miracle-worker of the day—may learn to understand that in no country in the world is there a wider or safer field for its investment than in that country which has endured and outlived so much misery and suffering. War with France or America is not to be thought of, therefore no opportunity such as wished for can arise; and acting on the mere calculations of common sense and human probability, the Irishman who really loves his country should free her from an agitation which is without any hope of a practical result, and which can have no other effect than that of keeping the minds of the young, the rash, and the enthusiastic in a perpetual fever, dangerous to morality and fatal to industry, individual as well as national.—Cork Examiner.

The following persons supposed to be Fenians were brought up before the magistrates at Dundalk on Monday, Aug. 28th, charged with disturbing the peace:—Patrick Tiernan, Dowdalshill, brickmaker; Patrick Lennon, Dowdalshill; Terence Short, Lisdo; John Finnegan, Lower Seatown; Michael Heaney, shoemaker, Dowdalshill; Joseph Quigley, nailor, Wrightson's lane; Thomas McKee, Smeaaker, Chapel lane; Patrick Courtenay, Camp street; J. M. Court, Tailor, Lisdo. The police prosecuted, and Mr. Johnston, solicitor, appeared for the prisoners.—Tiernan, Short, Finnegan, Heaney and Lennon, were charged with being drunk and disorderly, and were each sentenced to goal for three days. Courtenay, McKee and M'Court, were then brought before John Murphy, Esq., J.P., Caseltown, before whom information was sworn by the police, under the treason felony act, for marching and using words of command, after which they were admitted to bail, themselves individually in £50, with two sureties of £25 each to appear at the next Petty Session.

The Daily Express says that the police are continuing to make further arrests of members of the party of alleged Fenians who were engaged in the demonstration at Blackrock, near Dundalk on Sunday last.

The Cork Reporter announces that the Government had ordered a number of gunboats and two men-of-war to be stationed off Barry Bay and other stations on the west coast of Ireland. Indeed, the age of successful popular rebellions seems to be past. To say nothing of the case of Poland, the fate of the Southern Confederacy is an overwhelming demonstration of that truth; and who can suppose that a movement in Ireland—while England remains at peace with the world—could be started with one tenth of the elements of success possessed by the Confederate States of America?—Whenever the Fenian writers make allusion to this argument, they remark that England could not bring into the field an army at all comparable in point of numbers to that which served under the Federal banners—they forget to add that neither could the Irish insurrectionists bring into the field such armies as were led by the Southern Generals. The project of Irish insurrection in such times as the present will not bear the test of a few minutes' calculation for the chances; and one of the most serious objections to any attempt at its realisation is, that the people of Ireland are very likely to have made that calculation for themselves.—Nation.

If we are to judge by the sad scenes which are of daily occurrence at the several stations of the Waterford and Limerick Railway, within twenty miles of Clonmel, we may aver that the tide of emigration has recommenced, with a renewed force, to flow from this unfortunate country to the West, where 'a man is a man, if he's willing to toil.'—Tipperary Free Press.

The Ulster Observer of September 2, says that the following document was conspicuously posted in the square of the Belfast military barracks on the previous Wednesday and Thursday:—'Notice.—A lady from France, Miss Bonnycastle, wishes to speak a few words to the soldiers of this garrison this evening about their souls. The Catholic soldiers of the French army have heard her words with joy, and God has blessed her. Colonel Fraser has kindly given the use of the chapel school this evening for the purpose. All men of every creed are earnestly invited to attend. Come, for Jesus loves you.—(Signed) R. S. Tilly, Captain Royal Engineers, Quarter past six o'clock, 31st August, 1865. The Observer denounces it as a proselyting effort of the enemy, and treats Miss Bonnycastle as an utter failure and humbug.

AN IRISH ARTIST.—Mr. W. L. Casey, our talented and we may now say our distinguished fellow-townsmen, has at Mr. Clark's, on the Grand Parade, a painting intended for the exhibition of the Society of British Artists in Water-colours. It represents a lady reading a letter, the figure and countenance being in profile. The picture is painted in a diffused mellow light, the effects produced by which are rendered with amazing accuracy and skill. A rich dress adorned with lace and jewellery, and some medicinal accessories, afford abundant opportunity for the display of that elaborate pre-Raphaelite finish in which Mr. Casey is so happy. There is even higher merit in the painting of the living figure. The face is handsome, and beams with vivacious intelligence. A grand mass of clustering black hair is painted with great force, set off, too, by the sparkle some gems which are judiciously contrasted with its luxuriant darkness. The flesh tints are exquisite in their softness and delicacy. They give at once the feeling of life. Stray shadows caused by the play of light through the folds of the lace adornments of the dress, are most skillfully made to brighten the feeling of reality in the flesh painting. It is impossible the picture would be improved by the relief which a little darker background would afford; but it could not heighten the admiration for the artist's graceful conception or amazing technical skill. We are glad to see that each new effort of Mr. Casey's appears to mark a steady advance.—Cork Examiner.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF MR. ADDISON, THE WELL-KNOWN ACTOR.—On yesterday afternoon Mr. Addison, accompanied by his daughter, and Mr. Sothern (who is now playing at our Theatre Royal) visited Blarney Castle. Of course the celebrated 'Stone' was equisited after. Evidently impressed with Milliken's song—

'There is a stone there
That whoever kisses
He never misses
Approached eloquent, &c.—

Mr Addison approached the edge of the parapet, determined to embrace the lapis offensivus. Nothing daunted by the discovery that the party performing this kissing operation must of necessity be held by the heels over a parapet some hundred feet from the ground, he insisted on Mr. Sothern seizing him round the ankles, two guides also holding Mr. Sothern.—The stone was triumphantly kissed, and Mr. Addison, almost black in the face, at once proved that he had 'grown eloquent,' for he screamed out at the top of his voice—

'A clever spouter
He'll sure turn out,
An out-and-outer—

Possibly he might have concluded the verse, but Mr. Sothern, becoming rather tired of the novel position of holding fourteen stone by the heels, suddenly called out to the guides, 'Now, then, pull away.'—They all did so; but the fourteen stone, not anticipating such an energetic hoist without some signal, still clung to the iron bar by which the celebrated pebble is supported. The consequence was, one of Mr. Addison's elastic side boots came off, and for fully a quarter of a minute he was held in this frightful position by one ankle only. By a great effort, however, he at last succeeded in giving Mr. Sothern his other foot, and he was hauled up. During this scene his daughter was so terrified that she became speechless and sunk to the grass. Her father's safety, however, speedily recovered her, and the trio returned to Cork.—Cork Examiner.

THE IRISH MEMBERS IN THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—At a meeting of the National Association held on Tuesday, Mr. Dillon raised the pertinent question of what course of action was to be taken by the Irish Liberal representatives in the coming Session of Parliament, with a view to the enforcement of the claims of Ireland on the attention of the Government. Were they to act as a party, on a previously arranged basis of action, or were they to go into the House without union or concert, and work out their differences on all imaginable questions in that place? If the former plan, the only one whereby the interests of Ireland might be protected or advanced in the British Senate, were to be adopted, it would be desirable that a meeting of the Irish members should be called in Dublin some time previous to the assembling of Parliament, to take counsel together on the subject. Alderman Dillon suggested November next as the most suitable time for the assembling of such a conference, and the meeting seemed to share his views, but no resolution was offered on the subject.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—Much astonishment has been created in Dublin by the occurrence near the city in the early part of the week of a determined attempt at burglary, robbery, and murder, made by a person who had previously effected some robberies elsewhere in the neighborhood in the style of the highwayman.—Irishman.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING AT KILLARNEY.—Any one who has viewed the noble and majestic Carranraun, from the route towards the 'Devil's Ladder,' and has seen its rugged and precipitous sides frowning upon him, will form some conception of what a hazardous feat it must be to ascend the mountain directly from the 'Green Lake' to the summit. Those who have not viewed it may picture to themselves a vast pile of rocks, forming a kind of precipice 3,000 feet in height, and not very far from being perpendicular. Last Monday, three tourists from the north of England—Messrs. Noble, Trean, and Kenion—all good mountaineers, and who had often, from the love of adventure, scrambled up very dangerous places, left Killarney, determined to force their way up the precipitous face of the mountain. They had two guides with them, but neither dared to attempt the ascent, though one had spent his life on and about that mountain, and both were clever and courageous—declaring that it was perfectly impossible, and what no one had ever accomplished. The gentlemen accordingly set off alone, the guides going round the ordinary way in order to meet them at the top, though perfectly certain in their own minds that the gentlemen would never reach the summit. Their position seemed awful, and to those watching them they looked like midges, creeping up the face of the steep and rugged rocks, sometimes having no hold but by a scanty and weak patch of herbage, with no footing, and a frightful gulf beneath them, and at other times having to exert to the utmost every limb in order to climb the perpendicular and slippery rocks, and with a knowledge that but one slip and they would be dashed to pieces. Arrived at the green patch, which may be seen about halfway up the mountain, and where the ground is for a short distance, comparatively level, they threw down some loose rocks, which went the whole way down the mountain side with great rapidity and a noise like thunder, loosening others on the way, and forming a perfect avalanche. Seeing the stones fly down gave them a terrible idea of what would be their own fate if they should slip or lose their hold. Getting near the top, they saw the mist coming towards them in all its majesty and grandeur, but to them it was far more to be dreaded than admired, for in the position in which they were it might prove their winding-sheet. They hastened on to try and reach the summit before the mist enveloped them; but it was soon upon them, and their position cannot be described. They had often climbed small precipices, they had often looked unmoved over the edge of a lofty cliff, but now, though their heads were steady and their nerves firm, they could not be insensible of the awful danger they were in. Looking down they could only see a gulf of mist below them, and they had to struggle upwards in comparative darkness, often having to turn partially back and find a new route, and with almost a certainty that if they could not reach the top they could not descend, as the mist prevented their seeing any footing below them. After many perils, however, they reached the summit, and strange to say, were there twenty minutes before the guides arrived. They were assured by all that they had accomplished a feat that mortal had never before done. We would advise any lover of mountain adventure, who is well practised and has sure foot, a strong arm, and above all, a steady head to try the same route; but he will not be able to persuade a guide to go with him, as, when they had seen it done, they said they would not attempt it for any amount of money.—Freenan.

TOURISTS IN IRELAND.—The following letter appears in the Times:—
Sir,—Prompted by more than one leading article which has appeared in your columns during the present year, I started a fortnight ago for a short tour in the west of Ireland, and, having just returned, entertain a hope that some of my countrymen may be induced to follow my route, and enjoy their visit with the satisfaction I experienced. My brother and I started together, and reached Dublin on August 9. After two days pleasantly occupied in lionising the Exhibition and the city, we left by train for Limerick thence down the Shannon to Kilkake, where we found a glorious coast washed by the Atlantic, and no mean point to a traveller, an excellent hotel, kept by a Mr. Moore, and provided with a French cook. From Kilkake we went to Ballyvaughan on Galway Bay—by Miltown, Malbay, and the Cliffs of Moher—and crossing the bay in a boat, reached the Railway Hotel, at Galway. Thence, through Connemara in a short way to Oughter, and the day following to Westport. Nothing can exceed the wild beauty of the country through which we passed during these forty-

eight hours. We might, however, have judiciously occupied an additional day, and varied our route by going from Galway to Cong, thence to Maam, and on to Oughter. At Oughter and Westport we found very comfortable hotels, and proceeded by Castlebar and Ballina to Sligo, where we were pleasantly housed at the Imperial. A few hours were well spent in a visit to Lough Gill, the scenery of which is little inferior to the beauties of Killarney. From Sligo to Ballyvaughan, and by steamer on Lough Erne to Enniskillen, thence to Derry, and finally to Portrush and the Giant's Causeway, from which point we set our faces homewards. Throughout our trip we found comfortable hotels, with moderate charges and excellent fare. The country was not thronged with tourists, and we were never haunted by a fear of being compelled to sleep under a dinner table. Boots and the car drivers were goodnatured, cheery fellows, always anxious to assist you and give you information. They have not been spoiled, and form a pleasant contrast to the specimens of their class in Scotland, Wales or Killarney. The crops looked well, and the country through which I passed seemed generally in a flourishing condition; but, as I never met two natives consecutively who agreed on this point, I avoid such dangerous topics, and content myself with recommending those who want a short holiday to explore the country I have lately visited with much pleasure.—Your obedient servant,
EDWARD VAUGHAN RICHARDS.
Paper Buildings, Temple, August 4.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In a recent address before a Protestant audience gathered from all parts of London, Mr. Spurgeon spoke as follows:—

'It is a most fearful fact, that in no age since the Reformation, has Popery made such fearful strides in England as during the last few years. I had comfortably believed that Popery only feeding itself upon foreign subscriptions, upon a few tilted perverts and imported monks and nuns. I dreamed that its progress was not real. In fact I often smiled at the alarm of many of my brethren at the progress of Popery. But, my dear friends, we have been mistaken, grievously mistaken. If you will read a valuable paper in the magazine called Christian Work, those of you who are not acquainted with it, will be perfectly startled with its revelations. This great city is now covered with a network of monks, and priests, and Sisters of Mercy, and the conversions made are not by ones or twos, but by scores, till England is being regarded as the most hopeful spot for Romish missionary enterprise in the world; and at the present moment there is not a mission which is succeeding to any like the extent which the English mission is. I covet not their money; I despise their soporifics; but I marvel at the way in which they gain their funds for the erection of their ecclesiastical buildings. It is really an alarming matter to see so many of our countrymen going off to that superstition which, as a nation we once rejected, and which it was supposed we would never again receive.'

THE CATTLE DISEASE.—Last week the cattle disease appeared in the stock-yard of Mr. Russell, Melford, Suffolk, and the cases were attended by Mr. Robert John Plumby, veterinary surgeon, Sudbury. On Thursday a diseased cow was brought out and shot by Mr. Plumby, who afterwards made a partial post mortem examination of the carcass. In doing so with a small scalpel his shirt sleeves became saturated with blood, &c., from the animal. He had an unhealed bite on his arm at the time. The same evening he was attacked with sickness and acute pain in the head and chest, accompanied by a soreness in the bones generally. On the following day he appeared somewhat better, and was able to attend to his duties, but became worse towards evening and was confined to his house the following day. He slept well that night, and seemed somewhat better on Sunday morning. About two o'clock that afternoon he was taken in what seemed to be a fit and expired in a few minutes, before the surgeon, who only lived next door, could come to his assistance.—It was thought that death had resulted from a fit of apoplexy, and a medical certificate to that effect was given. Rumours, however, soon became current that Mr. Plumby's death was caused by the cattle plague, and the borough coroner (Mr. R. Ranson) directed a post-mortem examination to be made. But by this time, so rapid had been the spread of the virus through the system, that the body appeared to be perfectly plague stricken, and by Tuesday morning, when the surgeons arrived to examine it, and it was taken out of the coffin, the corpse scarcely retained the semblance of a human body, the head and trunk being much swollen and of a greenish black color, the features quite unrecognisable, and all the flesh converted into a putrid jelly-like mass. At the request, Mr. Maurice Mason, surgeon, said that he was of opinion that the death of the deceased was caused by the absorption of poisonous virus into his system while he was engaged in making a post-mortem examination of a beast that had been suffering from the murrain or cattle plague. This opinion as to the cause of death was concurred in by Mr. Beattie Smith, surgeon, J. P., who said that it would have been highly dangerous for them, in the state in which the body was to have made a post-mortem examination, even if they had been able to do so, and that all the tissues were so disintegrated that it would have been useless to have attempted a dissection. Verdict, 'That the deceased, Robert John Plumby, died from the effects of the absorption of virus or poison into his system, upon the occasion of his making a post-mortem examination of a cow which had died from a certain disease called or known as the cattle plague.'

THE POTATO DISEASE.—A letter from Coggeshall, Essex, says:—'The potato disease is making sad progress in this neighborhood. The late sorts more especially are attacked by it. Many persons have resorted to the oft-tried remedy of cutting off the blads, thus hoping to arrest the ravages it is making, which we hope will prove effectual in staying its disastrous effects. From one or two other parts of Essex similar complaints are made.'

PAUPERISM.—During the 30 years ending 1864 the burden of pauperism seems to have fallen to its lowest point in 1847, when it stood at £4,044,741.—From 1834 to 1837 there was a steady reduction in the expenditure for the relief of the poor. Then the tide turned the other way, and in 1843 the aggregate expenditure in respect to pauperism had risen to £5,208,027. In 1844 the expenditure declined but in 1845 it again rose to £5,039,703. In 1846 there was a slight reduction; but in 1847 the amount rose to £5,298,787, and in 1848 to £6,180,704. In the next four years there was a gradual reduction, until in 1852 the total had fallen to £4,897,085. Then there was once more a gradual increase, the aggregate having risen in 1856 to £6,004,244. The expenditure of the last few years has been as follows:—1857, £5,898,756; 1858, £5,878,542; 1859, £5,558,689; 1860, £5,454,364; 1861, £5,778,943; 1862, £6,077,525; 1863, £6,527,036; and 1864, £6,423,383.—The worst year of the whole 30 was thus 1863.

THE BRITISH ARMY.—It appears that the average strength of the British army abroad in 1860 was 5,126 officers and 123,265 non-commissioned officers and men; in 1861, 4,892 officers and 117,644 non-commissioned officers and men; in 1862, 5,496 officers and 124,703 non-commissioned officers and men; and in 1863, 6,243 officers and 125,473 non-commissioned officers and men. Of the force stationed abroad in 1863, 4,383 officers and 97,597 non-commissioned officers and men belonged to infantry corps.

The owners of the Great Eastern steamship will have immediately to spend a sum of £100,000 in refitting her.

A respectable (1) Scotchwoman in London has been brought before the London police courts over three hundred times for drunkenness.

MR BRIGHT'S AMERICAN PILGRIMAGE.—Luckily for the commander of the steam frigate the voyage to America is not too long. His illustrious guest will not have time to get restless and wearied with the monotony of life on board ship. Otherwise the commander might awake some morning and find the illustrious guest delivering a turbulent and seditious harangue to the crew. Mr. Bright after a little repose, would surely sigh for new worlds to conquer, new crowds to fill with a sense of the iniquities of their rulers. In lack of the Free-trade Hall at Manchester, the deck of a steamer would be sufficiently capacious to gratify his ambition. The infamous tyranny of the captain would be for the moment as good a subject as the infamous tyranny of the English landowner. All men are born equal. Why then should they be ground to the earth with toil and anxiety, be badly paid, and ill fed, at the beck and bidding of a despotic official strutting to and fro in the tawdry majesty of gold lace? All the illustrations which have excited a sense of their atrocious wrongs in the bosom of thousands at Birmingham or Manchester would be just as useful and just as appropriate in addressing the crew of his frigate. Why should there be any difference between captain and men? Do not the men earn scanty bread with sweat while their brawny rulers, the captain and lieutenant on dainty meats, and lull haughtily in gilded saloons? If Mr. Bright would only act thoroughly up to his principles, we do not see how he can possibly reconcile it with his conscience to abstain from stirring up a mutiny. But perhaps he may learn to look at things rather differently when he gets to what Mr. Elijah Pogram called his 'bright home in the setting sun.'

MURDERS.—The statistics of murder in England do not give signs of the decline of this greatest of crimes. The number of convictions for murder was but 152 in the ten years 1822-31; it advanced to 172 in the ten years 1832-41, and to 182 in the ten years 1842-51; it rose to 28 in 1862, 29 in 1863, and 32 in 1864, the last three years averaging 30 each, or double the average of 40 years ago. The executions for murder were 132 in the ten years 1822-31, 102 in the ten years 1832-41, 106 in the ten years 1842-51, 104 in the ten years 1852-61, 15 in 1862 (one committed suicide), 22 in 1863, 19 in 1864. The verdicts of murder found by coroners' juries averaged 209 a year in the six years 1856-61; they were 221 in 1862, 270 in 1863, 246 in 1864. The great majority of these inquests were upon infants, whose first year of life is also their last.

The Luncheon offers a suggestion which is assuredly worthy of attention at a time like the present, when cholera is so evidently on its way to this country.—It is, that, while gas pipes are allowed to impregnate the earth through which they pass in the way which is so common, it is more than probable that disease will be the result. The sewage which saturates the soil from time to time is poisonous enough, but the gas is still more unwholesome, and in all probability has produced many of the evil effects which have been attributed to sewage.

Above all, the home organisation of all missions alike is wretchedly bad, so bad as to be a justification for the popular contempt. Money must be had, and it is raised by a system of platform oratory which fosters lying as a hot-house potato cucumber. Nothing can be more disgusting than the way in which money is often raised from a provincial church, the outpouring of unctuous eloquence, the exhibition of dirty little idols, the relation of monstrous stories coloured till they resemble the facts as children's 'gays do the objects they are intended to represent. There is not a worse scene to the man who loves truth than a country missionary meeting, unless, indeed, it be a county meeting, to hear the candidates for a seat in Parliament, and the result of the two is pretty nearly identical. The House of Commons is a clean precipitate of all manner of dirty practices, and so in the missionary body.

THREATENED PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DEANS MILMAN AND STANLEY.—In an elaborate article on Convocation and ecclesiastical appeals, the Churchman, the organ of the high Tory party in the Church, points out the manner in which proceedings will be taken against Dr. Milman, Dean of St. Paul's, and Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster, on account of the sympathy they are supposed to entertain towards Bishop Colenso. The following is the scheme proposed:—'We have seen that two Deans, and one or more benefited clergy of the Church of England, have publicly joined in expressing their approbation of the teaching of a notorious heretic and infidel.—If this be so, it is evident that a gross and fearful scandal has arisen. These clergy officiating in the Church of England and province of Canterbury have caused a gross and fearful scandal. They are publicly held and universally believed to concur in opinion with a notorious infidel. They have come forward publicly in his support and favor. Hence it is evident that these men must be held identified with the infidel and condemned doctrines of this notorious apostate from the Christian faith, until they duly and regularly purge themselves from any complicity with his guilt. They cannot be acquitted until they have made due satisfaction for their offence by pronouncing condemnation of Colenso as a notorious infidel, and entreating pardon for the encouragement they have given to him, and the scandal they have caused to all Christians in so doing. How can this be properly and regularly done? My reply is this. By citing them before Convocation on the charge of suspected faith grounded on the public and notorious fact of the Colenso subscription and meetings, and the scandals caused thereby. If they refuse to appear, Convocation could proceed to expel them from its body, and to suspend them *ad officio*, on penalty of deprivation if they presume to officiate. If they appear, they can be compelled to subscribe a recantation and submission under the same penalties. Convocation might sit at naught any threatened appeal from its decision, and the attempt to appeal would involve deposit, *ipso facto*, from office and benefice.'—Post.

A NEW ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH ROPE.—If the public will subscribe £250,000 on which they are promised a preferential dividend of 12 per cent., the attempt will be renewed to lay the Atlantic telegraph cable. The Atlantic Telegraph and the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Companies have put forth a joint manifesto, in which they say that they have come to the unanimous resolution to prosecute the undertaking with increased vigour in the summer of next year, if supported to what they call, this very moderate extent by the existing shareholders and the public. Supposing the money to be raised the latter company will send out the Great Eastern, with sufficient cable both for the completion of the existing line, and for the establishment of a second, 'of the same perfect construction' between Ireland and Newfoundland. The first operation will be to lay this latter cable, having done which the Great Eastern will return to the end of the broken cable, and commence operations for its recovery. As to the success of these operations, we are told that Captain Anderson, Mr. Canning, and all the leaders of the late expedition have the most hopeful confidence, and all concerned now believe in the establishment of two working cables during 1866. The contractors' profit upon the new cable, if it should be successful, but not otherwise, is to be £100,000; and if the existing cable be restored the Telegraph Construction Company will also receive the profit provided for them under the old contract—viz. £125,140 in old unguaranteed shares of the Atlantic Telegraph Company. This company have summoned a meeting of their shareholders for Thursday, the 14th September, for the purpose of raising the necessary capital, and they entertain, they say, no doubt that the small sum required to be subscribed will be readily taken up by the shareholders, seeing that for this small additional outlay they are certain to obtain the fulfilment of their most sanguine expectations.