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Which Shall It Be.

[A rich man who had no children proposed to his poor "eighbor, who had seven, to take one of them, and promised, if the parents would consent, that he would give them property enough to make themselves and their other six children comfortable for life.]

Which shall it be ? Which shall it be ? I looked at John, John looked at me, And whee I found that I must speak, My voice seemed strangely low and weak; "Tell me again what Robert said;" And then I, listening, bent my head-This is his letter:

"I will give A house and land while you shall live, If in retur-, from out your seven. One child to me for aye is given."

I looked at John's old garments worn; I thought of all that he had borne Of poverty, and work, and care, Which I, though willing, could not share; I thought of seven young months to feed, Of seven little children's need, And then of this.

"We'll choose among them as they lie Asleep." So, walking hand in hand, Dear John and I surveyed our hand; First to the eradle lightly stepped, Where Lillian, the baby, slept. Softly the father stopped to hay His rough hand down in a loving way, When dream or whisper made her stir, And huskily he said, " Not her !"

We stooped beside the trundle bed And one long ray of lamplight shed And one long ray of lamplight shed Athwart the boyish faces there, In sleep so beautiful and fair. I saw on Jamos' rough, red cheek A tear undried. Ere John could speak, "He's but a baby, too," said I. And kissed him as we hurried by, Pale, patient Robbie's angel face Still in his sleep bore suffering's trace; "No, for a thousand crowns not him !" He whispered, while our eyes were dim.

Poor Dick ! bad Dick ! our wayward son— Turbulent, restless, idle one— Could he be spared ? Nay, he who gave Bade us befriend him to the grave; Only a mother's heart could be Patient enough for such as he; " And so," said John, " I would not dare To take him from her bedside prayer."

Then stole we softly up above, And knelt by Mary, child of love, "Perhaps for her 't would better be," I said to John. Quite silently He lifted up a curl that lay Across her check in a willful way, And shook his head : "Nay, love, no The while my heat beat audibly.

Only one more, our eldest lad, Trusty and truthful, good and glad, Trusty and truthful, good and glad, So like his father, "No, John, no! I cannot, will not, let him go," And so we wrote, in a courteous way, We could not give one child away; And afterward toil lighter seemed, Thinking of that cf which we dreamed. Happyin truth that not one face Was missed from its accustomed place ; Thankful to work for all the seven, Trusting the rest to One in heaven.

THE GALTEE ESTATE.

THE SUFFERING OF MR. NATHANIEL BUCK-LEY'S TENANTS.

abysses are sometimes impelled to jump in. It is the ve y ecstasy of madness. Nobody in the world pretends it is business). In point of fact, then, the tenants had wiped out their arrears, and accepted their rents, and all the old ferment and fierceness had died out for evermore? "Oh ! quite. Of course I cannot divine what may be in the minds of the people, perhaps they do not tell me all that they think, but they appear to be perfectly respectful and sat-isfied, and while Mr. Buckley was here several times this year he was received It is not for the purpose of plaguing the public with a twice-told tale that I have immersed myself once more in the clowds of mist and misery under which Mr. Nathaniel Buckley's mountain tenantry drag their weay lives along. Still less is it for lack of planty of other second of the several times this year he was received with the greatest cordiality everywhere." The very first tenant whose house I entered, not a stone's throw from the it for lack of plenty of other scenes of loss, and wrong, and dismay to right and left and front of me, wherever I go clamoring for exposure. A haggard-looking man was awaiting me in the hall of my hotel a tenant since the land Land Company for exposure. A largeral-looking main the hall of my house marking and front of me, wherever large morning, when I cannot mean see the land I of my house marking has a tenant since the land Land Company for exposure. A largeral-looking main the hall of my house morning when I cannot more more than the set in the land of my house marking has a tenant since the land Land Company was awaited me indication of more more marking has a tenant since the land Land Company was awaited me indication of more more marking has a tenant since the land Company was awaited me indication of more marking has a tenant since the land Company was awaited me indication of more marking has a tenant since the land company was awaited me indication of more more marking has a tenant since the land company was awaited and form 411 to 220 was awaited the place, and had never once the county time; do not a tenant since the land form 411 to 220 was awaited the place, and had never once the county time; do not a tenant since the land form 411 to 220 was awaited the place, and had never once the county time; do not a tenant since the second was and property. The standing there, "aid one of the marking land out of Dullaws Bage" find the county time; do not put the second of the second was and propert, and there for the second was and schelen the reasond was the more and second was the marking there of the second was and schelen the schelen the second schelen the second schelen the second schelen the schelen the second schelen the sche How, then, has it fared with our old friends since we last stood together, you, reader, and I, in this ampitheatre of cold and scouling mountains? Has time pluck-out or only aggravated their rooted sorrow? How many have gone down in the night ? —how many dropped out of their dreary loging race against merriles nature and losing race against merciless nature and more merciless men? One familiar figure, who, in bearing all the risk and brunt, bore more than his share of the odium of deeds in which he was only the hardy mindecas in which he was only the narry min-ister, has disappeared after a struggle worthy of a better cause. Public opinion has triumphed at long last where blunder-busses failed. busses failed. MR. PATTEN BRIDGE has raised the siege, disbanded his police-men, and retired to the virtuous seclusion of Roserea. The farewell address to him was a bonfire, and the best prayer I ever heard wafted after him was "God forgive him !" Patrollism disappeared with him. The police tax was lifted off the people's shoulders. The iron hut, which used to fortify the back door of Galtee Castle, is away in Connemara. THE NEW AGENT. In order to break through the crust of hings—to learn whether the increased and revalued rents, of which the world has heard so much, have been insisted upon, whether they have been paid, and, if so, with what result to the tenants—I made it my first business to seek enlightenment at its source by a visit to Ganee Castle, where Mr. Patten Bridge's succes-sor, Mr. Collier, has been for the past twelve months installed. The place was no longer an intrenched camp to be ap-proached with watchwords. I did not ward to, under God. more name intermedia emap to be spectral time watch w proached with watchwords. I did not knock at the hall door, as of old, like a summons to a fortress, with the feeling of

THE CATHOLIG RECORD.

ped his h's like a true-born Englishman, and said his say with infinite frankness and modesty—a very lamb in the hide of the lamb. "There is nothing to conceal about this estate, and I don't know there is much to tell," he said, as soon as I lad explained my business. There are wretch-ed cases here and there, I dare say, as you can pick pick out—wretched cases any-where if you go to look for them; and I suppose we have not escaped bad potatoes and late oats any more than the rest of the Empire; but there is a great deal of exaggeration going. I am told the people are a great deal more comfortable than they seem." Was this opinion based on they seem." Was this opinion based on any knowledge of his own? "Indeed, no; they seen." Was this opinion based on any knowledge of his own? "Indeed, no; I cannot say that I know much about the tenantry myself. The fact is, I only came here in Bridge's time, in delicate health, for the benefit of the mountain air," The second the second here in Bridge's time, in delicate health, for the benefit of the mountain air, "Then the increased rents had doubtless been en-forced? "Oh, certainly," And had been en-actually paid? "Well, yes, I think so. They have paid no very punctually." Arrears and all? "Arrears and all. "there is only one man out of the whole prop-erty that we can get nothing out of." Even this year had not staggered there "Well, you know it is only now we are be-ginning to get into this year's gale; they were noticed for last Thursday." And had, no doubt, come in accordingly? "Yes —that is to say fairly. Mr. Buckley has announced that he will make — A REDUCTION.

announced that he will make A REDUCTON. I am wrong in calling it a reduction, I mean that he will forgive 10 per cent. this haif year upon rents of farms in the valley and 20 per cent on the mountains, and that appears to have given great satisfac-tion." With this remission, then, Mr. Buckley thought the holdings would be well worth the added rents? "To show you that the people think so themselves, at all events, the interest in a farm of twenty acres at Glenacunneh, one of the best abused townlands on the property, was sold lately, and although upon the revaluation the rent was increased (I to weary you with catalogues of cases, which in their main features are sufficient-ly alike to be the foundation of two revaluation the rent was increased (I lieve) 60 per cent. and it w s saddled ly alike to be the foundation of two propositions, which, to my mind, are irre-fragably proven—First, that wherever a tenant (excluding, of course, the few rich exceptions) has paid the increased rent, even with the forgiveness of half the arrears, up to last year, he has done so by increasing his indebtedness to the shop-keepers who gave him food, or manure, or seeds; and second, that this present year's transactions can only result in still deeper embarrassment in his wild attenuits with repayment of a building-loan besides, the tenant got £300 for his interest. Mind, I do not say at all that it was worth it but the produced because the second Mind, I do not say at all that it was worth it, but the purchaser roust have thought so." (Of this fact, which is unquestion able, I have no explanation to offer, any more than why people on the brink of abysses are sometimes impelled to jump in. deeper embarrassment in his wild attempts to "choke the deficit"—in fact, that the increased rents which were oppressive in prosnerus years have here been

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 Increased rents which were oppressive in prosperous years have become simplex UNENDURABLE NOW.

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 Y do
 One humble shopkeeper in the village of Ballyporeen owns £3,000 worth of debts sat- for food, the amount swelling steadily each succeeding year—with what rate of interest or profit superadded I can hardly re."
dare to guess. I know several cottiers of the very highest repute for industry and entered, not a stones throw from the souriety to whom \mathcal{L} would be a serious castle gate, owed three year's rent, besides the accruing gale. He had been a tenant since the land Land Company purchased the place, and had never once evil day of reckoning with the landlord. sobriety, to whom $\mathcal{L}^{|}$ would be a serious

An article entitled "Our Elementary Schools and their Works," though not coming first in order, deserves first con-sideration; it will probably attract most general attention. It is ably written and evidently from the pen of one who unites much knowledge of Government Acts, Codes, &c., with a large experience of the practical working of our Catholic parochial schools. Information from such a source

and clear-minded instructor as the writer

under notice. The article is not concerned with Board Schools, but with our own parochial schools. The discussion is of a very practical

character, because they are in our own hands. What character they shall take rests with ourselves. Their managers are not a Schoolboard, but the priests of the hot a Schooloord, but the priests of the mission, with, perhaps, one or two of the most earnest and zealous members of its congregation. And all the power—and even more—which the Schoolboard has over Board Schools, that our managers have over our schools. They are respon-sible for the regulations of the school, for the kind of techers who are relead in sible for the regulations of the school, for the kind of teachers who are placed in charge, and for payment of all expenses. They can visit the school at all times, and see how the work is being done. They can control, amend, change or sanction at their discretion.

ther discretion. As to the frequent prognostication that this control will before long also be taken from us, the writer thinks it to be prema-ture; but he rightly argues that the best way to delay if not to prevent such a losss to encode in it to be prevent such a losss

What is the work that we want to do in these schools? 2. Is it possible to carry on this work in schools receiving Govern-ment aid? 3. What are our prospects of

To answer the first question is not quite so easy as may at first sight appear. We have our own schools in order to take core of our own children; "that they may not be drawn or driven to other schools." But Board Schools exist; they have

CEPTION.

DECREE-URBIS ET ORRIS

The five and twentieth anniversary of the day on which the dogma of the Im-maculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin filled the whole Christian world with ineffable joy approaches; hence it is not sur-prising that the desire of celebrating that enable joy approaches, hence that prising that the desire of celebrating that day with more solenn devotion has enter-ed the minds of the faithful. Moreover several Bishops, in order that this manifes-tation of Christian joy may be rendered profitable to the souls committed to them, profitable to the souls committed to the bave addressed a supplication to the Sovereign Pontiff, Leo XIII., that he would enrich the memory of so happy an event with the sacred gift of Indulgences. On the report, therefore, of the under signed Secretary of the Sacred Congrega-tion of the Indulgences and Sacred Rehes, presented to him in audience on the 20th Sectorships, 1970 eptember, 1879, Our Most Holy Lord favorably received the requests, and has been pleased to grant unto . If the faithful of both sexes who, on the approaching Feast of the Mother of God conceived without sin, or on one of the days of the Octave, being truly penitent, and after Confession and communion, shall devout-ly visit a church or public chapel and there piously pray according to the inten-tion of his Holiness, a Plenary Indulgence, to be gained once within the said space o time, and applicable by way of suffrag to the souls of the departed. The present Decree to be held valid without any expedition of a Brief. All things to the contrary notwithstanding. Dated at Rome from the Secretariate

way to delay if not to prevent such a losss to ourselves is to use the power whilst we have it both zealous and well. The article is occupied with the answer to three

. ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI.

Doctor of the Church. To our belored Sons Leopold Joseph Dujardin and Jules Japnes, Priests of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. LEO PP. XIII.

Beloved Sons, Health and Apostolic Benedic-tion. Although the writings of the holy Doctor Alphonsus Maria de Liguori have been already spread throughout the whole world, with the greatest profit to the Christian cause, yet it is to be wished that they should become still more and more popu-lar, and be placed in the hands of all. For with the greatest skill he adapted the

before Christmas !" I don't think you'd have found it in your heart to wish him long life on the Galtees. OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. THE DUBLIN REVIEW FOR OCTOBER. An article entitled "Our Elementary Schools and their Works," though not entid general attention. It is ably written and

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THE SISTERS OF KENMARE.

The convent of Poor Clares at Kenmare s a very graceful structure (designed and built by Pugin), situate amid scenery that ranks among the most perfect in Ireland, midway between Killarney and Glengariff, in the midst of mountains, and at the head of a bay second in none in these kingdoms: where the whole navy of Great Britain might anchor, and in a district fertile of weatth—lacking only the applica-tion of capital. さんたいたい

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ton of capital. t The convent consists of twenty-five ladies—in the higher as well as in the ordinary sense of the term. The princi-pal of the Sisters is a ady who occupies a prominent position in fiterature. They are not isolated and immured nuns. They are "Poor Clares," whe give to the poor and needy whatever of wealth is theirs, and dedic to the live mealed to the last and dedic te their lives mainly to the duty and dedic to their lives mainly to the duty of rearing and educating children, acting on the divine precept--"Suffer the fittle children to come unto Me: for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." But the children are not only taught--they are partly fed and partly clad: indeed, were it otherwise, their education would be a hard task; for many of the little ones would be compelled o go hungry and almost naked to their lessons.

It is a beautiful sight-one that cannot fail to give delight to any "loving son"-to see, as 1 saw, four hundred little ones of see, as reach, but number inter ones arming in the convent to fight the fight of life; four hundred, from infancy to girlhood, clean, confortally clothed, well-mannered, happy in their looks and happy in their voices; and to know how much of their future, and the future of many-who will more or less denend upon them who will more or less depend upon them, is the result of the teaching, in several ways, they received in the convents of Poor

It was a scene I cannot sufficiently well describe: a scene of hopeful joy--of intense delight, indeed; I must leave it to

LET TERS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIII., Concerning the writings of ST. ALPHONSUS MARIA DE LIGUORI, Doctor of the Church. LEO XIII., Concerning the writings of ST. ALPHONSUS MARIA DE LIGUORI, Doctor of the Church. Intense delight, indeed; I must leave it to the fancy of the friends I address. 1 hope this note may fall into the hands of tourists who, passing through Kenmare, will rest for an hour there and visit the will rest for an hour there and visit the convent, perhaps to see and judge if my view is a right one, but certainly to buy some of the beautiful lace, there made by the ladies and the children.

I shall not ask in vain of any creed

I show foot ask in value, of any creed, To give yoa help -to aid the work you do: You plant in sterile soil the fertile seed. To grow for Earth, and for Hereafter, too; This not for prayer and praise alone you live *Your sacrifice* is self? your ALL you give?

Sisters! God trusts to you His holiest trust; To train up children for Him is your work, Guarding from evil (soul-corroding rust). Where foes assail or hidden dangers lurk;

weakness when 1 called, though the precious hours of sunshine were going to waste around me. His wife (described to me as one of the neatest and mest hard-working housewives on the property) was barely able to totter about the cabin with her hand pressed to her head. "I don't know what is earning one me will don't know

what is coming over me, 'I don't know , or little child looked sympathizingly up into her face and kissed her, "I don't know what is coming over me, but there's a could transline cowld trembling in every bone of my body." I think I know what was coming over them both, and I dare to say it,

IT WAS HUNGER, or, what is as bad as hunger, unwholesome food. She hastened, indeed, to acknowl-edge gratefully that they had still enough of Indian meal, but I doubt that it was properly boiled for want of fire, and I know that for the last month it has been eaten without milk, the one little cow belong ing to the family having run dry. ing to the tanning naving run dry. The eldest daughter, too, concealed herself and her clothing delicately from view, per-haps to conceal that finery with which landlord orators have taunted the farmer's Th and out or all of a law e tainfed the farmer's daughters. "We have been slaving here these three-and-twenty years in honesty," said the woman of the house. "All that time we never had \pounds to spare beyond what paid our way from Michaelmas to Michaelmas, and if we were to be there a long again, that is all we have to look for

ward to, under God. IF WE FAID THE RENT we would have nothing to cat and nobody to look to. God knows it isn't pampering ourselves we are with yellow meal, and sure what more are we asking? It isn't our fault that the money isn't there. Mr. Collier, indeed. like a gentleman preservi-

of his effects to Mr. Buckley. The soft warmth of the last five days has, thank God, wrought miracles on the mountain crops, which were perished of wet and cold. It is too early yet to estimate what proportion of the harvest this providential ist of fostering heat may have saved, or in what proportion it may have increased the yield. Certain it is that it has brightthe yield. Certain it is that it has bright-ened harvest prospects for the moment. Still more certain is it that no conceivable improvement it can make upon a green and stunted mountain oat crop can make much difference now to people whose potatoes (the staff of their lives) are hope-lessly few and small and bad, whose only fuel is the heather gathered at the risk of a fine whose few firsting of butter, less by

when consideration, that one great reason why school education is so impor-tant for us is that a great many of our people are not what they ought to be, and we want to rear a rising generation with people are not what they ought to be, and we want to rear a rising generation with better principles and stronger religious convictions than their parents. And so we are landed in a sort of vicious circle. Our hope of inproving the family is in the education of the children at all, we must depend on the religious principles of the existing families. One thing is clear in this difficulty—that, how ever poor Catholics the parents may be, our appeal must be to their religious principles; our great school-work, religious

ppeal must be to their religious s; ourgreat school-work, religious being shaken. These errors he attacked

much difference now to people whose potatoes (the staff of their lives) are hope-lessly few and smail and bad, whose only fue is the heather gathered at the risk of a fine, whose few firkins of butter, less by one-third per cow, have sold at 300 to 40 apiece: whose pigs fetched only 30s per ewt, at the last fair of Clogheen, and whose cattle they have ceased to take to market at all, even where they have not been pounded under distress (as happened quite recently to such superb stock as goais and geese). I was shocked at the number of sick or sickly people I came across in a day's journey across those breezy mountains, and I have not the least the sittion in the world in saying that THE GAUXT CHEEKS, the lustreless eyes, and nerveless limbs which we encountered in almost every cabin we entered were directly traceable to course, tainted, parboiled, or inadequate food. There was no doubting those who assured us that they arose from a meal of those dwarfed, diseased and pulpy pota-tose almost as hangry as they had sati down. I confess I can see no bridoe for a

Sending them forth to fight the fight of life, Well-taught, well-armed, to conquer in the strife.

Ah! when the Shepherd gathers to the fold The lambs that might have perished

The lambs that might have perlshed— seraph bands— And the Recording Angel shall be told "We rescued these by aid of helping hands!" What bliss to know the Saints in glory there Were once the "Little Children" of Ken-mare!

-The Lamp. S. C. HALL. * Mr. Hall is a Protestant. His tribute

to the nuns of Kenmare is therefore what is crilled "independent," though warmly truthful and sympathetic.

... GRANT AND HIS FOREFINGER.

As characteristic anecdotes of General Grant will be all the go for the next few weeks, the *Post* has, with its usual enter-prise and at gigantic expense, secured the following incident, which we can solemnly following medent, which we can solemnly assure our readers has been heretofore unpublished. During the terrible artillery duel, which resulted in the Confederates falling back after the third day's fight at Fredericksburg, the Two Hundred and Tenth Ohios, under Colonel Fluke McGil-der, were thrice repulsed while endeavor-ing to canture an important medicing ing to capture an important position, and finally retreated, much distressed by a decimating fire directed at them from a corps of sharpshooters ambushed in a piece f woods. Just at this juncture Grant galloped by

his staff, and taking in the critical condition at once, he rode to the front of the faltering men and pointed with his finger at the rebel earthworks. Before he could speak, however, the whistle of a bullet was heard, and his finger disappeared. Without moving a mucle Grant extended the