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## Catholic Record.

London, Sat., August 18th, 1888.

A CARICATURE OF JUSTICE.

As illustrative of the manner in which justice is administered by Mr. Balfour's Removable Magistrates, the case of several persons sentenced to one month's imprisonment on the charge of criminal conspiracy is instructive. Mr. Glad. stone said, repeating and endorsing the words of Mr. Reid, M. P., "justice, as administered in Ireland, is a caricature and disgrace." The Killeagh case is but a sample of what has occurred over and over again. Four persons were sentenced to imprisonment on a charge of conspiracy for refusing to sell goods to the police. It had been before decided that on a charge of this kind, it was necessary to establish the fact of conspiracy, but without any evidence of collusion the accused were in this case adjudged guilty, without the opportunity being afforded of bringing their case before a higher court. Three of the accused, however, obtained by other means a hearing before the Exchequer Division, Messrs. Healy, David Barry, and Daniel Lynch. On examining the evidence the Chief Baron held that there was absolutely no evidence to justify the magistrates in con. victing, and the three men were dis charged from confinement by order of the court. The magistrates having refused to state a case for the consideration of the Court, Baron Dowse declared they were guilty of grossly violating the most sacred rights of the accused. Judge Andrews also stated that the magistrates had no justification for the conviction. Even under the Coercion Act, the refusal of individuals to sell goods is no violation of law. Mr. Gladstone referred to this case in the following manner:

'The resident magistrates, in spite of this being pointed out to them, sent enced the men and refused to state a case for appeal. It was illegality—illeg ality enthroned upon the judgment bench, and passed off with the people as judgment law and order. The Irish perceive this as well as we. But it is said that this is only one case. Mr. Reid, M.P., had, however, stated in the House that he and some friends had entered largely into the cases under the Act. They had looked at seven hundred cases and declared that justice as administered in Ireland was a caricature and a disgrace to the country.

This is to say that the administration of the law in Ireland is not justice, but an abominable caricature of justice. Another case with a similar moral

Guardian of Swinford Union sued for arrears of poor-rates which had remained long unpaid an the Taafe estates. Judge Boyd was appealed to by Taafe's agent, and the Judge immediately issued a egainst Taafe, stating at the same time that this 'is an instance of what might be expected from such boards if their privileges and powers were extended.' One of the Dublin organs of the Government joined the Judge in indignation that a landlord should be sued, saying "the Guardians had given a specimen of Home Rule in advance by their action." Quite a surprise awaited the Judge, Board of Guardians was not, as is usually but a Board selected by Government to they were the officials of the same became known the judge apologized to the Board, withdrew the attachments, and promised to aid them in the proceedangs against the landiord, completely reversing his former position.

THE INQUEST ON IRELAND'S MARTYR.

The testimony of the physicians who gave evidence at the coroner's jury on Dr. Moorhead, J. P, visited the prison

tion was given. On the 23rd he found Mr. Mandeville walking about in his cells barefooted, and wrapped in a quilt and twenty four hours he had been left com. pletely naked, until at last he put on the prison garb. The cell was offensively or to associate with crimicals. For this | four himself. refusal Mr. Mardeville was put on punishment on bread and water, notwithstanding his illness. The doctor had never known punishment to have been inflicted before for such a cause. On Nov. 29th Mr. Mandeville was weak from the bread-and-water diet to which he had hands, and complained that he The doctor recommended relaxation the punishment it flicted. but his suggestions were disregarded. From November 9 to December 21 Mr. Mandeville frequently suffered from disrrbæa, and while in this condition he was in the punishment cell on bread and water for forty-eighty hours. During this time he suffered from an increasing rheumatism, but the prison doctor did not examine him nor prescribe for him.

Dr. McCraith was asked: "What was the cause-not the immediate cause-of Mr. Mandeville's death?" He answered : "I should say the cause of his death was the lowering of his nervous and physical system by the treatment which, it is stated, he received in prison; but of course I don't know any thing of that treatment. . . I am of opinion he would be alive received in Tullamore prison. In my

opinion the germ of throat disease first riginated in Tullamore jail." Drs. Chas. Ronsyne and William O'Neil testified similarly. The latter stated positively that in his opinion the death was caused by his treatment in

prison. Dr. Cremen gave similar evid-

Ex warder Daniel Goulding stated that he first saw Mr. Mandeville three days after his arrival at the prison. His physical appearance was very remarkable. He was a big, strong, able man, and healthy in every respect. He was then punished for two days on bread and water for refusing to wear the prison

Mr. Mandeville told the Governor "I am not a convicted criminal, but a political prisoner, and I will not wear the prison garb." The purishment was then inflicted. The witness was brought to Mr. Mandeville on the 22ad of November to assist in stripping him. He did not assist. however, but he was looking on. His coat was pulled off by force, after a struggle, then his waistcoat, and a twisted knitted "gansey" which was over his shirt. When they pulled off his shirt, Mr. Mandeville said "for decency's sake leave me my shirt. I wont give up my shirt without a struggle." Prison clothes were left in his cell. He was nine times punished on bread and water. Before he left the prison his face had become thin, there taken. were dark circles around his eyes, his lips were blue, and his face also was of a bluish color. His own clothes seemed too big for him, and he was quite a different man occurred at Swinford, Co. Mayo. The William O'Brien. Mr. Mandeville was punished sometimes without his name graphic descriptions which Mr. Henry eing entered on the warder's book.

Major Roberts, Governor of Cork Prison testified that Mr. Mandeville appeared to be a healthy, strong man while in his conditional order for the attachment of custody. On his removal to Tullamore the Board of Guardians for proceeding the rule of the Prison's Board, which required a doctor's cert ficate of fitness for removal, was not observed. Witness stated that he had received orders from Mr. Balfour as to the treatment of the prisoner, but he would not disclose them,

though ordered by the coroner to do so. Captain Featherstone-Haugh acknowledged, on cross examination, that Mr. Mandeville was a fine-locking man, gentlemanly in his manner and demeanor, however. It was discovered that the truthful and ineffensive. He claimed that the denial of two hours' exercise was the case, a Board elected by the people, a consequence of the sentence of punishment on bread and water. The MacDersupersede the people's Board, and that mott pointed out that the prisoners are allowed exercise by statute, so that the master as himself. As soon as this right could not be withdrawn as a mere privilege, as it was in Mr. Mandeville's case. The Governor could not give any rule authorizing him to use force to com pel a prisoner to wear prison clothes, but

Dr. MacCabe, a member of the Prison's Board, testified that Mr. Mandeville seemed to him to be very well on the 19th November, though he complained then of sore throat, of us is speaking the truth." Mr. Mandeville, throws additional light and said that he was just recovered from apon the shocking story of barbarity a diarrices. He declared him fit for which was related by Mrs. Mandeville in punishment. However, he stated "I don't regard to the treatment inflicted on her consider that a patient suffering from husband while confined in Tullamore jail. diarrhea should be on bread and water, or in a punishment cell. Comfortable several times and found Mr. Mandevile clothing and comfortable quarters are suffering from sore throat and failing very essential in cases of diarrices." Dr.

Considering the inhuman treatment inflicted upon Mr. Mandeville, it is to wonder that he expressed his wish that sheet. This was, be it remembered, in he should die rather than he should so midwinter, the day after his clothes had mad. Mr. Balfour has declared that the been forcibly taken from his back. For verdict of the jury casting blame on the prison officials of the juil was un warranted by the evidence. The only thing in which smelling, owing to non removal of fith. they did not fix the guilt of the Mr. Mandeville had been ordered to clean murder on the moving spirit in the his cell, but he refused to do menial effices nefarious transaction—that is on Mr. Bal-

As Mr. O'Brien stated before 30 000 ceo ple in Edinburgb, it was to Mrs Mandeville alone that Mr. Mandeville told the whole story of the cruelties he endured-how on one occasion "so famished was he with brown bread and water diet that he was obliged to tie a rope around his waist and been subjected. He had tremor in both to tighten it to repress the pange of hunger." She told that when a poor, compashad had no exercise for three days. sionate prison warder once flung him s morsel of meat, as he said, as I would fling it to my own dog Rover, he ravenously lapped it up as if he were a deg. and the warder who gave him that morsel of meat has since been dismissed from the prison service-dismissed by the Chief Secretary, who in a few days is going to preach to the Church Congress on the virtues of practical Christianity.

DIVORCES IN FRANCE.

Under the present French Deistic regime, divorces have been procurable in France since 1884, the law of divorce having been in force since the 27th July of that year. During the three years which elapsed since that date 1773 divorces were granted in the first year, 4,640 in the second, and 4.581 in the now if it were not for the treatment he third. The number of marriages in 1886 was 283,183, so that there are about 16 divorces to 1,000 marriages, but by far the greater part of these take place in the districts where infidelity is most rampant. In Paris there are 47, in Marseilles 27, in Bordeaux 24 divorces to 1,000 marriages, while in Catholic Brittany there was but 1 divorce to 1,000 marriages, and in Laudes only 1 to 2 500 marriages. This shows that the bulk of the French people are faithful in regard. ing the sanctity of the marriage tie, while it is among the sceptics of the country that this foundation of the social system is disregarded.

AN ORANGE LODGE IN A CHURCH.

A suit was brought recently against Rev. S. Rogers, of St. Mark's Church, Liverpool, for making alterations in the church without legal authority. It appeared that the alterations were made for the convenience of an Orange lodge which meets in the church and keeps its paraphernalia there, Rev. Mr. Rogers being its chaplain. Some ornaments described as "a sort of colored stoles," were pronounced by the Chancellor to be contrary to the rubrics, also some three candlesticks, which Mr. Rogers said were very little ones." The Vicar promised that the objectionable articles would be removed at once. The Chancellor said it would be wise that this step should be

## EVICTION SCENES.

The brutality of Colonel O'Callaghan towards his tenants at Bodyke in 1886 has become a matter of history, and the Norman sent from the spot to the Pall Mall Gazette and other newspapers did more than perhaps any other event to call the attention of the English public to the barbarities inflicted day after day upon the people of Ireland. It is true Mr. Balfour stated from his place in Parlia. ment that most of Mr. Norman's state. ments were "pure fabrications," but Mr. Norman's character for truthfulness, and his ability as a close observer, stamp Mr. Balfour's assertion with the brand of mendacity, and he has so often proved himself to be unscrupulous that no one would think for a moment of accepting hls word in preference to that of Mr. Norman. However, Mr. Norman supports his statements with such evidences that they are not to be regarded as his unsupported testimony, though even under this aspect, as an honest witness of events at which he was present, his testimony is most valuable. To Mr. Balfour's endeavour to throw discredit upon it, Mr. Norman says in the preface to his book on "Bodyke," which is chiefly a republication of his letters to the Pak stated that he was informed he could do Mall Gazette, "If he, (Mr. Balfour), would do me a favor to repeat this assertion, (as above quoted,) in some place where Parliamentary privilege does not render him irresponsible, I should be able to submit to a court of law the question which

These Bodyke evictions were similar in every respect except some minor details, with those which are going on at this moment in many localities of poor Ireland. We may quote from Mr. Norman's description of these enormities the following, which shows how they are appreciated by a disinterested spectator

4-Eviction was rapidly reduced to a fine srt in this unhappy valley, and each morning saw some task begun in the campaign of extermination, and each evening saw its close, with the relentless regularity of a machine. When we drove into Bodyke each day there were some half a drawn familias heneth the read balf a dezen families beneath the root they had built, in possession of the crops by the evidence. The only thing in which they had sown, poor, perhaps, but still sheltered from the wind and rain, and with that primal eldest privilege of civilized mankind, a hearthstone which is excred to them from the whole world. Each night as we drove back these fami ies were in the ditch or the road, thei cottages ruined by the crowbar, their furniture smarked to bits by the sledge-bammer, their goats and chickens and pigs driven off the land, the mothers and aughters and sisters noted down in constable's book for summons, and the tathers and brothers in handcuffs on their way to prison—and all for what? Simply from inability to perform the miracle of squeezing from the land a yearly sum of money, which is, admit-tedly, in the majority of cases beyond its physical power to produce. That is, in other words, the tenants are evicted, robbed, maltreated, and imprisoned, that the landlords may be protected from losses due to the irresistible opera from losses due to the irresistible opera-tion of natural laws. And from the first 'quick march' ordered at daylight to the last 'come back, come back,' blown by the bugle in the afternoon, the whole machinery moves as easily and as regu-larly as if it were actuated by somebody 'turning a handle in hell' turning a handle in hell."

Such, then, is the noble work in which the brave British soldiers who garrison Ireland are employed.

It would be amusing, were it not so atrocious, to read how "a couple of hundred Royal Irish constables assisted by a whole company of Her Britannic Majesty's troops, with fixed bayonets," are obliged, in order to make the work of eviction complete, and legal, to chase an obstinate sow, or a few alarmed but lively roosters and hens over the holding so as to eject them. In some cases the pig succeeds in evading the evicting process, and thus, after all their labors, he soldiers' efforts are unavailing.

The descriptions given by Mr. Nor. man tally perfectly with what is still going on. The other day at Glenbigh, a poor woman aged 100 was one of the evicted. Being homeless, after the departure of the soldiers and emergency. men, she re-entered her ruined cabin for shelter. For this she was fined, but being unable to pay was sent to Tralee jail. She obtained permission to take her shroud with her to the prison. She will probably need it before long.

On the estate of Lord Carysfort, on the 16th ult., Bernard Rafferty was evicted though he promised to pay an exorbitant rent when his crops would be reaped in August and September. Five children. from twelve months to seven years of age, were sleeping in a bed, and were deposited in the yard, exposed to the cold, with only a miserable blanket covering them.

The tenent, Refferty, is an industrious man, whose family had been in possession of the homestead for seventy years. The improvements on the property were his own, and his rental was raised as his labor rendered the property more valu able, until the high rent, and the poor crops made it impossible for him to keep up the payments. Nevertheless, he would make a supreme effort to meet the demands which tyrannical laws imposed upon him, if only the opportunity were afforded him to gather his crops. The opportunity was refused him, and his family and himself are thrown on the roadside, destitute.

The horrors attendant upon the evic tion process in Ireland occasionally make an impression even upon supporters of the Government, and cause them to give sympathy to the sufferers. The Dublin Express, one of the most Tory organs of Ireland recently stated that the methods practiced in carrying out eviction are a scandal which the Gov. ernment can ill afford to face. But the sympathy of the Express ends there. It still supports the Government which perpetrates these scandals

If such scenes were enacted in Russia, the indignation of the whole world would be directed against the Czar, and free born Englishmen would be especially moved with virtuous indignation against a regime under which such scenes were possible. But when they take place at their own doors, and under laws made by themselves, the Government are sustained in their perpetration by a most decisive majority. It is, indeed, little to be wondered at that Irish patience is sometimes exhausted, and that the Irish people have little love for a

Government which can do such things. The evictions on Colonel Vendaleur's estates are proceeding on a large scale, but the tenants are, for the most part, resisting to such an extent as to render the progress slow and costly. There will be undoubtedly, many such scenes as we have depicted here perpetrated in this case before the diabolical work of Colonel Vandeleur will be completed.

THE annual picnic under the auspices of the Catholic congregation of La Salette will take place on the 29th inst. There is always a grand gathering on this occasion, and the Rev. Father Dillon is exert.

A COMMUNISTIC DEMONSTRA. TION.

The funeral of the Communist General Eudes was made the occasion for a Communist demonstration in Paris on the 8th inst. There was great excitement in the city, and 15,000 persons merched in front of the hearse. Mr. Basley, a Deputy, shouts of Vive la Revolution," and "Vive Fifty thousand people lined the streets, frequent.

At the Boulevard Voltaire three red flags were unfurled, one of which a commissary of police attempted to seize, and he was fired at, but the bullet went wide of the mark. A bomb was thrown near the police station, but it did not ex plode. Some shots were also fired, and the police charged the crowd with drawn swords, wourding and arresting a num. ber of the most violent. In the cemetery the police did not oppose the display of red flags, which were brought furled in the procession, but were unfurled on its arrival at the grave. Official reports show that the total number of arrests made was twenty-four, but all were released except papers sgree that the demonstration was nuch less formidable than was anticipa-

THE POPE ON LIBERTY.

The Encyclical of Our Holy Father on Human Liberty is, at th's period especially, a most important document. It appears at a time when the most erroneous doctrines regarding the nature of man's liberty are in vogue, yet, clothed in elegant language, sometimes, and appealing to man's natural inclination to give loose rein to pleasure, and to be under no restraint of law, they are specious and apt to be adopted without thought as if they were the unchangeable truth. The first part of this Eucyclical will be found in another column.

The Encyclical is directed against the false notions on Liberty, which, under the name of Liberalism, are so freely taught at the present day, and it must be accepted as defining the sense in which Lib. erty is to be taken, that it may be that Liberty of which Reason and Revelation approve, not License, or immunity from the control of God or man.

Our Holy Father explains that "Man is free to obey his reason, to seek moral good, and to strive after his last end." By the gift of Gad's grace, especially conferred by our Redeemer, the will of man has been ennobled, and what is good in human liberty, the Catholic Church bas always approved and practiced, but whatever is the consequence of the disorders of the age, is of a vicious kind, and this the Church has always condemned, as she will continue to do. It is strange that among those who most

loudly preclaim the doctrine of universal liberty should be found the teaching that man has no liberty whatsoever; yet such is really the case, and it is by the Catholic Church that this teaching has been always vigorously and consistently condemned. Protestantism, in its crigin, declared with remarkable unanimity the absence of the first germ of liberty in men. Lutherans and Calvinists alike denied free will, the very basis of all liberty, and to this day to be now in favor of Cleveland. the followers of John Calvin on the continent of Europe, equally with the Presbyterians of the English-speaking world, are for the immutable decrees of fate which men cannot avert, though they conceal the pagan doctrine of fatalism under the more plausible name of the operations of grace. It fidels equally, who maintain that man is but the result of one of the never-ending forms which the atoms of matter assume in their necessary or chance contact with each other, maintain as a necessary consequence that everything which cocurs, is the result of inevitable fate. Man's will has no real existence. What is called his will is but one of the modes in which this fate manifests itself. and is the necessary consequence of lis organism! No one more openly main'ains this absurdity than Col. Ingersoll, who, nevertheless, is one of the most determined advocates of a "Liberty" which in his theory does not and cannot exist.

The Holy Father shows that the Church The Holy Father shows that the Church has maintained Liberty of will against modern and ancient heresiarchs, as a sacred dogma of religion, and has never Vincent is to be Mr. Harrison's Burchard. made truce with fatalism. But this Liberty needs light and strength to direct its acts to good and to restrain them from evil. Hence it requires to be subject to did not hear them. Sir Richard Temple, and this subordination to reason is law. This supreme directing reason is the eternal law, the reason of God. If not so sul jected, use of Liberty becomes dangerous both to the individual and to society. If all were allowed to do as they pleare, and New Jersey, two days later, and turmoil and confusion would be the inturmoil and confusion would be the inturmoil and confusion would be the inevitable result. The State is as much
bound to be subject to the Law of God as
the individual, and it may not sarction
what is contrary to God's law. EnactWhat is contrary to God's law. Enactbeath, whereupon he recommended several times that he should be placed in the Bourke that it was Mr. Balfour's wish he of the matter before the British public.

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in the State, be founded on the obedience, which must be rendered to God's authority commanding good and forbidding evil. The perfection of human liberty is, therefore, to aspire to God.

Outside of the restrictions placed upon Liberty by the Law of God, there is no wrong in preferring one course of action to another, "but to reject the supreme and Henri Rechefort were greeted with authority of God, and to cast off all obedience to Him in public matters, and la Commune." The palibearers were even in private and comestic matters, is members of the Commune of 1871. the greatest perversion of liberty and the worst kind of Liberalism, and," the Holy and cries of "Vive la Commune" were Father says, "against this what we have said applies in its fullest sense."

Hence he declares that there is no wrong in the preference which some people have for a democratic form of government, if the Catholic doctrine be maintained as to the origin and use of power. And the Church does not condemn those who, if it can be done without violation of justice, wish to make their country independent of any foreign or domestic power.

Throughout this great Encyclical manifests most profound thought, and sets clearly before our eyes the true principles by which the modern theories, usually called Liberal, are to be judged. A party is not necessarily to be condemned eight who were detained. The Parkian | because it is called, or it calls itself, a Liberal party, but if, as is frequently the case, under the name of Liberalism, it aims at subverting the divine authority and law, it must come under the severest condemuation.

This important Encyclical will be known by the title "Libertas Prostantissimum," as it is usual thus to indicate such documents of the Holy See by the words with which they begin.

## A SECOND BURCHARD.

The election campaign in the neighborng Republic has produced a second Burchard, whose bigotry may not, however, prove so disserrous to the Republicans as that of his prototype, because the Republican candidate is not this time made responsible for his utterance, as he has in no way seemed to approve of it as Mr. Blaine did by his si'ence when the original Burchard addressed him on the importance of repressing "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion." This time it is Dr. John H. Vincent, lately elected Bishop of the Method'st Church, who has made an asinine exhibition of bigotry, which might have proved as fatal to the Bepublican cause, as Burchard's in 1884.

Bishop Vincent is of the opinion that the Republican party is deminated by anti-Catholic prejudice, and he is not backward in stating that it is this conviction that makes him a partisan of that party. His courage is certainly to be ad. mired, but his political prudence does not seem to be quite so worthy of commenda. tion, in view of the fact that it has been demonstrated that Dr. Burchard's courage and indiscretion together were the direct cause of the loss of the last Presidential election.

Dr. Vincent being questioned as to his political faith wrote a letter which was published, in which he states "I am not a third party man. Being a true Prohibitionist and an anti-Romanist, I am a Republican." Unless the Republicars keep their Burchards locked up in some Asylum they are in danger of dire defeat. The original Burchard, however, is said

It is worthy of remark that respectable Republican journals repudiate both Bishop Vincent's expression and himself, as may be seen by the following from the Philadelphia American, which also spologies for Mr. Blaine as to the folly of Burchard the

"Dr. Vircent, the fourder of Chautau-qua, is a very able and useful man. But he is capable of saying very foolish and mischievous things, To a lady who wrote to remonstrate with him for not voting with the Prohibition party, Dr. Vincent wrote in reply: "I am an anti-Romanist, and therefore a Republican." If Dr. Vircent's sectarian antipathies control his politics in this way, he has mistaken his Vircent's sectarian antipathies control his politics in this way, he has mistaken his party. He rightfully belongs to the little faction which calls itself the American party, and has organized on the Knownothing platform. The Republican party wages no warfare on any religious body which obeys the laws of the country. It does not, and it never did. It has attacked the Church of the "Latter Day Saints." only on account of its breaches Saints," only on account of its breaches of the law. If Mormonism abandons They forget that what hurt Mr. Blaine in that matter was that those words-Rum, Romanism and Rebellion-were uttered the eminent Auglo Indian, was present at the interview in which Dr. Burchard figured, and said he saw that Mr. Blaine was bgured, and said he saw that Mr. Blaine we paying no attention whatever to him. But the words were printed in a lessflet and distributed at the door of every Reman Catholic Church in New York

THE PARNELL INQUIRY.

The bill providing for a commission to examine into the Times' charges against Mr. Parnell and others passed its third reading on the 8 h irst., by 180 to 164. Amendments having for object to render it really efficient, and to bring the charges against Mr. Parnell and other members of Parliament to be the real subject of investigation were all voted down, so that the Government will have it to their liking, a roving commission enquiring into all the acts of the Land Leegue in Great Britain and America.

Mr. Matthews moved to insert the following :- Any person who, baving been served with a summons under this Act, shell fail to appear, the commission shall have power to issue a werrant for the arrest of such person. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Matthews moved that anybody who

is summoned to appear before the commis-sion and refuses or fails to attend shall be liable to punishment for contempt of Mr. Parnell moved to amend, that any

person refusing to make a full disclosure in all matters in respect of which he might be examined shall be liable to punishment by the High Court of Justice. The amendment was received with Mr. Parnell explained that his object

was to compel the Times to produce the person who supplied the letters that had been ascribed to him. Mr. Parnell's amendment was re-Mr. Clancy (Nationalist) introduced an amendment empowering the com mission to report from time to time,

which was accepted by the Government A long discussion ensued on a proposal by Mr. W. A. Hunter, to compel the Times to formulate its charges before the opening of the enquiry by the commission.

The proposal was rejected-184 to Mr. Healey moved that no accused

member of Parliament should be de member of Parliament should be detained in prison under the Crimes Act during the sitting of the commissian.

Mr. L. H. Courtney suggested that Mr. Healey's object might be attained by means of a short process securing the attendance of accused persons.

The Government leader accepted the suggestion, and Mr. Healey withdrew his motion.

Other new clauses were then debated. and the Home adjourned at 2 40 a. m. The Parnell Chamberlain duel is becoming interesting, the more so as it now seems likely to be fought out in the Times Most people who opened that paper on Monday and saw a long letter in big type signed "Your obedient servant, Charles Stewart Parnell," thought the paper had been hoaxed, but this letter at all events, is genuine. One object of it is to challenge Mr. Cuamberlain to produce the documents referred to in the O'Shea letter. The most important of these are Mr. Parnell's draft of the National Council scheme and the Coercion bill, altered in Mr. Parnell's own hand in the form in Mr. Parnell's own hand in the form in which according to Mr. O'Shes, he proposed it should be passed, with just enough show of opposition for him to satisfy these concerned. "I think," says Mr. Parnell, "If Mr. Chamberlain possesses

these alleged proofs he is bound to publish them, and I call upon him to do so." Yesterday appeared in the Times the following four line letter from Mr. Cnamberlain:—"I accept Mr. Parnell's challenges and will forward to you in the course of a few days a full statement of the communications initialled by him which passed between us in 1884 and 1885." This is, in fact, accepting Mr. Parnell's challenge, and something more. In fact, Mr. Chamberlain assumes the offensive, which, like other warlike per sonsges, he almost always regards as the best defensive tactics.

Mr. Parnell's other point, which he argues at length, is of great historical interest, but less exciting moment. "True," he says, "in effect I have favored the National Council scheme, but it was only for administra scheme, but it was only lot as the tive and not legislative purposes. Only a step towards Home Rule, not a substitute for it. When I found you meant it to be adopted as finality, instead of the Irish Parliament, we parted company. You accuse us of double dealing because we first proposed, then opposed, this scheme. There is the explanation. We scheme. accept it as a means: we rejected it as an end." Mr. Chamberlain's promised

publication is awaited with extreme in On the 9th, the Bill passed its first read-

ing in the House of Lords.
United Ireland says the Parnell Commis sion bill is the greatest fraud ever fashioned. The Parnellites did not reject tt, because their action would have been misinterpreted, and did not accept it because it is a fraud, and the tribunal will be packed. The Parnellites, however, will pass the ordeal earnestly, and in good faith. Though the dice are loaded, they feel that the game is theirs.

## THE FORGED LETTERS.

The Honorable Reginald Brett, who stated that the Times' torgeries were hawked about for sale previously to their publication by the Times, declares his readiness to give evidence before the Judges' Commission. Speaking at Lostwithel a few days ago he said that letters similar to those which appeared in the Times were offered to him for £1000. He declares that the letters are undoubtedly forgeries. Lostwithel is within the division for which he is a candidate, namely Liskeard Domain. The person who called upon him with this offer was an ex-M. P., who wished at the same time to bind him to secrecy as to the source from which the letters came. He was asked also to submit the same offer to Lord Hartington, but he indignantly refused to have anything to do with the transaction. He said a'so N