

ing the statement she told an untruth. When the investigation had concluded, Lord John Browne remarked that the magistrates had done all they could mark for the due administration of the law, but that, for the present, they failed in making the perpetrators amenable to justice. Reddy, of course, should seek compensation for the injuries he sustained at presentment sessions.

The Justices of Dandak, at their last Petty Sessions, heard a case of public interest, in which a constable of police summoned seven young men, inhabitants of the town, for playing upon musical instruments in the street, as it is declared, they often did before, without act or sign of molestation. The evidence of the constable was that at about twelve o'clock he was awakened by the orderly, and, hearing the sound of music, he went into the street and found the defendants 'armed' with musical instruments, to wit, a concertina, a piccolo, and a guitar, of which the latter at the time was mute. The young men did not avoid the awful guardian of the peace, because they were probably quite unconscious that they had tampered with the object of his summons; neither did they resist him in what he regarded as 'the execution of his duty,' but, on the contrary, they yielded themselves to his arrest, and went with him to the barrack, where, without further signifying the cause of his conduct than by saying he would not tolerate theirs, the constable searched their pockets, locked them up in a 'black hole,' and left them there till nine next morning. Their captor, having impounded the 'arms,' they signified their compliance with 'O'Donnell's' and such kind of strains as shocked the ears of their captor as 'most outrageous,' and he might have been believed by somebody else, if the quiet submission of the whole party to one constable in a civilian garb had not been too strong a proof. When the magistrates found that neither disorderly conduct nor playing of 'party music' was charged against the seven young men in evidence they offered to dismiss the case on a promise that the act would not be repeated, but the defendant solicitor manfully stood against even a tacit acknowledgment of breach of the law, and the case broke down to unconditional dismissal. One of the best papers very properly suggests a suit for false imprisonment against the constable.—Nation

The 'Central Protestant Defence Association' held its annual meeting yesterday in the Ancient Concert Hall. The name looks rather startling; and the appearance of the Association in the political field, where it did but for the Irish Church, may be thought a mere spectral illusion. It is not so, however, but a living body, which has survived the fall of its beloved institution, and is ready to fight as resolutely for any other, but equally determined to perish in the attempt. Some friends thought that it would have been more respectful to the memory of the Church Establishment if the Association had ceased to exist after the passing of the Act of last Session. Others were unwilling to dissolve, and the question 'to be or not to be' was referred for the annual meeting. Lord Longford was voted into the chair. His lordship eulogized the ability and earnestness shown in the management of the society, and stated that its deputations had made an impression in London, and had obtained for it a high place in public estimation. They had to counter very uphill work in attempting to prevent the enactment of 'that detestable Bill which had been placed as a black spot on our Statute book, and which must prejudice the interests of religion and good Government in this country.' But the Association could say that it had lent no consenting hand to any part of the proceedings, but had raised a strong and continued protest. He referred to the various changes and disorders which had occurred in Ireland, and said he thought it was doubtful whether these successive waves of violence which swept over the land did so seriously disturb the relations of society as this high tide of justice and peace which is now come over us. The anticipations indulged in with respect to it had not yet been realized. It could hardly be supposed that if any political contingency should make another attack upon the Protestant cause, they would hesitate to legislate further in the same direction. He, therefore, approved a resolution which recommended the continuance of their organization. The Committee's report was then read.—It gave an elaborate account of the proceedings of the Association last year to resist the Church Bill, and stated that after paying all expenses there is a balance of £700 now in hand. It took a gloomy view of the condition of the country; warned Irish Protestants that the institutions which they deem essential to insure liberty, the free exercise of private judgment, and the maintenance of the rights of conscience are endangered; that the interests of all who have anything to lose are in peril; that 'the foundations of social order and civil government are undermined, the law fails to reach the assassin; and the Executive is wanting in its first duty, the protection of life and property,' and he repeated the appeal to be united and make 'redoubled efforts on behalf of constitutional principles and the maintenance of the time-honored institutions of our country.—Times

Our Ballinacree correspondent under date Sunday night, reports that a lengthened investigation was held before Captain Whelan, R.M., at the Court-house of Holt-moat on Saturday, into the case of a man named James Quin, who was brought up in custody charged with being the author of no less than eight threatening letters to different gentlemen residing in and around this neighbourhood. Mr. W. J. Burke, Sessions Crown Solicitor, attended on behalf of the Crown, and the prisoner was undefended. The first witness examined was Mr. James Simpson (a Scotchman), who swore that he received a threatening letter on Sunday, the 19th December, bearing the Castlebar and Hollymount post marks; that he received another in January 1870, and that the purport of each of the letters ran thus:—'If he did not give up his farm and leave the county he would be shot,' &c. He swore he compared the threatening letters with a receipt he had in the handwriting of prisoner, and that he believed both to be written by the same party; he was from the South of Scotland, and is residing on the farm he now holds since 1855. On the application of the Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Simpson was bound over in £100 to prosecute at the next Mayo assizes. Mr. Ephraim Anderson was next examined. Witness is an extensive shareholder; he swore he knew the prisoner, that he lately received four threatening letters; the letters were all written in the same handwriting, and corresponded with the receipt (produced), which bore the signature of prisoner; witness holds his land from Major P. C. Lynch, and he believed that gentleman sold the interest of it to a Mr. Lamb, of London; witness after saw prisoner write, and to the best of his opinion he was the author of the letters now produced; he also got a threatening letter for his ploughman, John Prendergast, which was written in the same handwriting as the other. After the examination of Mr. O'Keefe, S. J., Ballinrobe, and several other witnesses, the prisoner was remanded to Tuesday next, when another investigation will be held into the case at the county prison. It is but right to say that the accused denied any knowledge whatever of any of the letters. There are several other cases of a like nature occurred of late, and shots have been fired into the houses of two or three parties, but in this hurried communication I have not time to give you further particulars.—Freeman's Journal.

A large number of Englishmen believe that life in Ireland is hedged in by certain appalling conditions wholly unknown to our English civilization. It may be acknowledged that Irish scenery is attractive; but river and mountain, moor and fell, are poisoned by the haunting suspicion that assassination lies in wait behind the hedges that border the fairest lakes and brutal outrages flow from the grasp of law on the slopes of the most imposing hills. The Judicial and Criminal Statistics collected for the Irish Government by Dr. Neilson Hancock would do much to dispel this unfortunate illusion, but the work, though full of interest, is not exactly intended for popular reading. The agrarian crimes which have obtained for Ireland a bad prominence in the judicial annals of the kingdom strike a far wider terror than any murders, even the most savage, recorded in any country. Irish agrarian crime aims at the social life of a class, not merely at an individual existence; it arrogates to itself the moral prerogatives of that 'wild justice' which, according to Bacon is revenge, and in the class so menaced with the extremest punishment no one can tell where the next blow may fall. Thus in the most baneful influence of law-breaking—the terror which the crime inspires among the law-abiding classes—agrarian outrages in Ireland surpass all other forms of criminality. Yet the fact ought to be published and insisted upon that life and property in Ireland—setting aside the exceptional cases of agrarian crime—are less exposed to serious danger than in any other part of the United Kingdom. The criminal classes in Ireland during 1865 are returned as numbering 27,121; and the English statistics for the previous year show that in a population equivalent to that of Ireland the classes living in violation of the law would amount to 36,157. The difference, too, will appear considerably greater when we remember that the stringent operation of the Irish Poor Law, almost excluding outdoor relief, causes the proportion of vagrancy to be nearly double what it is in England. The greater numbers of the police, also, must contribute powerfully to hold crime in check; and, in fact, though the statement conflicts with a very general impression, the ratio of apprehensions to crimes committed is considerably greater in Ireland than it is in England and Wales. The highest proportion of apprehensions ever attained in England was 58.2 per cent. of the crimes committed (in the year 1863). In Ireland for 1868 the proportion was not less than 63 per cent. Turning to the record of actual crimes, we find that Ireland claims a discreditable precedence in murders, but, contrary to all our preconceived opinions and natural expectations, the balance is turned by the cases of infanticide. On the other hand attempts to murder are in a large excess in England, and so are immoral offences; but Ireland again takes the lead in the score of manslaughter, acts of violence and common assaults. It is noticeable that all offences against property, with the exception of those termed 'petty,' the English statistics contrast unfavorably with those of Ireland, while in riot, breach of the peace, and miscellaneous offences, including sedition, Ireland again wins the foremost position. Recurring to the crime of murder, which in Irish affairs has a melancholy apocalyptic and fascination, it may be observed that, setting apart cases of infanticide, only twenty-three murders were committed in Ireland during 1868 while in the previous year 255 murders were committed in England and Wales, which would give sixty-five as the proportionate number in a population equal to that of the island. This consideration should weigh with those persons who dread a Ribandian's blunders behind every Irish bush. We have already taken into account the natural effect of those agrarian outrages which terrify the whole landlord class in Ireland, but, setting these aside, the statistics in the present volume are not of a kind to discourage any sincere and sympathetic friend to Irish social advancement.

Information Wanted of John and William Wallace, who left Hamilton's Bawn, county Armagh, in the year 1847, and sailed for Quebec. Any information respecting them will be thankfully received by John Wallace's two sons, Joseph and Mark Wallace Johnston, Scotland.

Information Wanted of Michael Daly, who was a clerk in a dry goods store, in the city of Hamilton, Canada West, about 1853, or of his son, George. Any information from William Makies, Toronto, or any of his friends relative to Michael Daly or family, will be thankfully received by Edward McGaskin, 15 Water-street, Birmingham, England. Michael Daly was formerly connected with the press in Ireland, and is supposed to have written for the Hamilton Times.

Information Wanted of James, Rose, Mary, Bridget and Nancy Finnegan, who left Tuillevan, parish of Dunamony, county Monaghan, Ireland, about twenty years ago for Canada. Any information will be thankfully received by their sister, Mrs. Charles Connor, Meadowhead, Airdrie, Scotland.

The Nationalist journals in Ireland anticipate that the Government Land Bill will be unsatisfactory, as not coming up to the standard of their requirements, and, therefore, continue to denounce the British connexion and insist upon repeal of the union as the only solution of Irish wrongs and demands. Some fault is found with the new Irish Church scheme, as placing too much power in the hands of the bishops. London Times.

Among the contrasts of Irish life which are often to be seen in the closest proximity, not the least remarkable are to be found in the county of Tipperary. We hear, for example, of threatening notices to some landlords, and of respectful addresses to others. A blunderbuss is presented at one—a piece of plate to another. In one place the landlord is the victim of a terrible murder; in another he is the chief actor in a festive scene, surrounded by a contented and grateful tenantry. It is gratifying to find the bright colours of the picture coming out more distinctly, and withdrawing attention even for a time from its repulsive features. Some illustrations of good feeling between landlord and tenant have lately been noticed. Another is given in the Chronical Chronicle of Saturday. Mr. Chadwick of Ballynary, had given an entertainment to his tenants; and they, in accordance with a laudable practice which is now springing up, gave a banquet in return to their host. They adopted an original and effectual mode of collecting funds for the purpose by imposing a voluntary assessment of 3s. in the pound on Griffiths' valuation of their farms. The proceeds of the levy were placed in the hands of a committee, and a banquet followed by a dance, was given at the residence of Mr. J. Hoarigan, where 200 of the tenants and their families met to do honour to Mr. Chadwick and a number of his personal friends, among whom were some officers of the 'flying column' who found more agreeable pursuits than they expected in Tipperary. Before the close of the entertainment Mr. Coffey, one of the tenants, came forward and read an address in their behalf to Mr. Chadwick. It alluded in grateful terms to his conduct as a landlord 'who had allowed them to under him to enjoy all the privileges of a real fixity of tenure.' They regarded him as 'a model in the country,' and declared their belief that 'if every landlord only acted as theirs had done there would be an end to agrarian outrages and threatening letters.' Mr. E. Cooper Chadwick returned thanks on the part of his father-in-law, who was prevented by ill-health from being present. The health of Captain Hatton and Mr. Blake, Sub-Inspector of Constabulary, were also given. The same journal mentions an incident which affords another proof of the undying hatred with which informers are regarded. It transpired, during the hearing of a charge at the Petty Sessions of Tipperary, that a subscription was recently entered into to collect fuel for a bonfire to express the joy of the people at the death of a young man who gave evidence at one of the Fenian trials. A woman who refused to contribute 2s. was assaulted and had stones thrown into her shop.—Times Corr.

DECREASE OF AGRARIAN CRIME IN IRELAND.—It is consoling to know that, with occasional fluctuations, the number of Irish murders is rapidly decreasing. Taking periods of five years from 1828, we have the following results:—From 1828-1833 1,676 persons were tried for murder, 152 sentenced to death, and

108 executed; in 1834-1838 the number tried for murder was 1,588, of whom 131 were sentenced to death, and 75 executed; in 1839-1843 the numbers were 851 tried, 85 sentenced, and 28 executed; in 1844-1848 the numbers were 631 tried, 104 sentenced, and 47 executed; in 1849-1853 we have 542 tried, 81 sentenced, and 33 executed; in 1854-1858 we have 226 tried, 14 sentenced, and 9 executed; in 1859-1863 we have 175 tried, 18 sentenced, and 11 executed; in 1864-1868 the figures are 110 tried, 16 sentenced, and 8 executed.

Even the papers hitherto most hostile to Repeal, now admit that the Union caused considerable injury to Ireland. Respecting its effect on the capital, the Dublin Conservative Journal, known as Saunders's News-Letter, thus writes in the same sense:—'Men of all shades of political opinion readily admit that the extinction of an Irish Legislature, or rather the amalgamation of a portion of it with the British Parliament, was a heavy blow and great discouragement to the continued improvement, progress, and prosperity of the city of Dublin. The most superficial observer cannot fail to notice that the wisest and its accompaniments are conspicuous by their absence. The pecuniary depletion incident to the transfer of expenditure to another country is an undoubted evil, incident to the removal of our Legislature.' Our own conviction is, that the Repeal will come. There is a general tendency in all nations to decentralization and local self-government on home matters, combined with a strong central control on Imperial questions. In fact, the Constitution which the United States has worked out for itself, expresses, we believe, that form to which all are tending.

The wonderful rapidity with which the resources of Ireland have been developed, leads us to inquire whether all is yet obtained which ordinary skill and labour may gain from her soil. During the twenty years which have elapsed since the famine, the average rate of increase of live stock has been as follows:—

Cattle ..... 47 800 a year.  
Sheep ..... 143 550 a year.  
Pigs ..... 14 200 a year.

The exports of live stock have increased in proportion, and yet this enormous increase in live stock has not been effected by turning 1 1/2 million acres into pasture, for the extent of 1-nd under cover of all kinds has increased during that period by 39,095 acres. Again, we find that during the decennial period from 1851 to 1861 the value of live stock to each of the population increased 32 per cent., and the value to each square mile increased 20 per cent.

Now if we compare the results obtained in Scotland, whose soil and climate are though a like yet less favourable than those of Ireland, we find as follows:—

Proportion, exclusive of mountain and waste—  
Scotland, Ireland.  
Under cereal crops ..... 33 per cent. 14 per cent.  
Under stockfed crops including permanent pastures ..... 67 per cent. 86 per cent.

There is, therefore, in Ireland, 19 per cent. more of the cultivated land available for animal food than in Scotland, and yet a comparison of our live stock per 100 acres of cultivated land shows that, instead of producing 19 per cent. more meat than Scotland, we are, even after the great improvement of late years in Ireland, still far behind our neighbours, as the following figures will indicate, viz:—

For every 100 acres of tillage and pasture:—  
Scotland, Ireland.  
Cattle ..... 22 4 ..... 23 8  
Sheep ..... 157 4 ..... 21 1

This gives a tolerably fair idea of the state of agriculture in Ireland at the present time, after the remarkable improvement which we have referred to as having taken place within the last twenty years; and seeing what is done in Scotland, may we not look forward to a still greater development of the agricultural wealth of Ireland within the next twenty years, if the improvement of land is continued and encouraged?

Taking into account the enhanced value as well as the increased yield of farm produce, we can understand the large sums said to have been saved by Irish farmers of late years; and some light is thrown on the rapid increase in the occupation value of land in Ireland since 1849.

Disturbed Condition of the West.—The Castlebar (Mayo) correspondent of the Dublin Freeman's Journal, writing on Saturday, 13th, says:—'Considerable alarm has been caused here in consequence of rumours, almost hourly circulated, regarding the posting of a notice threatening landlords and agents. It appears that a few days ago a notice was posted on Mr. Fitzgerald's house, at Turlough, calling on the tenants not to pay more rent than the government valuation of the lands. On the day appointed for the collection of the rents the tenants, on seeing the notice, I am told, returned home without discharging their obligations. More excitement was created this (Saturday) morning by a report that a large body of men marched into Swinford town in martial order to demand of a magistrate an admittance to bail of some person whose examination was held on Friday in that town when the magistrate refused bail. A large party of police left Castlebar on Friday night, on cars, and returned on Saturday morning with one prisoner. I am informed the constabulary and military are on duty every night. The cavalry have to keep their horses saddled, ready to turn out at any notice. From about eight to ten o'clock on Friday night several parts of the county about Castlebar were brilliantly illuminated, as if thousands of torchlights were in motion through the mountains, and more particularly in that part of the county between Bally and Foxford. The object of such a strange circumstance is, of course, a complete mystery to every person.'

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir George Bowyer is going to Rome to take his turn in guarding the door of the Council Chamber. Sir George owes this distinction to the fact of his being a Knight of Malta, to which order this duty has been entrusted.

Among those who have recently embraced the Catholic faith, the 'Westminster Gazette' mentions Mr. Rale, late curate of the Rev. Arthur Wagner's church, St. Paul's, Brighton, and his family; and Lady Douglas, wife of Sir Charles Douglas, who is already a Catholic. Lady Douglas was daughter of Sir H. W. de Vere.

On the authority of a private letter from Rome the 'Weekly Register' states that the name of a well-known peer will have to be added to the list of Catholics who have seats in the House of Lords. This nobleman is stated to have been received into the Church during the octave of the Epiphany by one of the English Bishops.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The 'Telegraph' is assured that Lord Derby will accept the Conservative leadership in the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Jenkinson gave notice of enquiry into the reception of the returning Fenians at Dublin, and the speech of the Queen's Counsel there.

At an infant Sunday School the teacher gave the Bible story of the 'Prodigal Son.' When he came to the place where the poor ragged son reached his former home, and his father saw him 'a great way off,' he inquired what his father probably did. One of the smallest boys, with his fist clenched, said 'I dunno, but I dessey he set the dog on him.'

POSITION OF PROTESTANTISM.—It would be well that Protestants, while they abuse the Pope and the Council who are endeavoring to save the world from infidelity, should sometimes look at the position of their own Denomination. The 'Church Times' has

done this in the following language:—'Wherever those principles [of Protestantism] have been fairly and logically carried out, there blank infidelity has been the inevitable result with the majority of once professing believers. Of the seventy millions of Protestants in the world, it is not an over-estimate to say that from forty five to fifty millions are Arians, Deists or Infidels. The enormous majority in Germany, Switzerland, and Holland are so. Rather more than half in the United States and France, and a powerful section in England and Scotland must be so classed. Whatever it is not so, it is either because there is some powerful counterbalancing force, such as the Church of England, to check the centrifugal movement, or else man's heart is stronger than his logic, and they cling instinctively to a belief which they have repudiated in principle.—This, at all events, is plain speaking and deserves the serious attention of those whom it concerns.'

The story that Dr. Livingstone had been first poisoned and then burned, on suspicion of having caused the death of an African chief by witchcraft, bids fair to rival in unpopularity the previous narrative of his supposed death. The letters of Sir R. Murchison and Mr. Waller, show that the story is probably false again; Messrs Grant, Brodie, and Co. do more than half for they show how the rumour arose and that the date fixed for the sad event was prior to a time at which the traveller is known to have been still alive and well.

CLERICAL MARRIAGES.—While parents of the superior classes allow their daughters to marry clergymen, in consideration of the value and attainments of ecclesiastical preferments, parents of the inferior classes are ambitious of clerical alliances for their girls out of regard for the distinction which attaches in the number of the middle grades, to a clergyman's wife. The amount of wealth that steadily flows to the clerical order through the action of this particular tendency is enormous. In our large cities this tendency of newly-acquired riches is very observable. This prosperous tradesman or small merchant, who would regard his daughter's marriage with a thriving man of business as no affair for exultation, and who would refuse his consent to her marriage with a struggling doctor unable to make a settlement upon her, is well pleased to give his only girl with her fortune of ten or twenty thousand pounds, to a clerical incumbent, whose private fortune would not furnish his bride's drawing-room, and whose professional income does not exceed an average curate's stipend. The girl, he argues, has enough for herself and children; and, though she won't have a rich husband, she will be a rector's wife. Setting aside the fortunes made by our great bankers and merchant princes, I am disposed to think, that of the wealth realized and accumulated during the last two generations in this country, by enterprise in commerce, and the industrial arts, at least one third has flowed to the clerical order through the wedding ring.—Jenkinson's Book about the Clergy.

The Solicitor-General for England met his constituents at Exeter on Thursday evening week, and made a lengthened speech on public affairs, in which he referred as follows to the land question:—'You know that we are engaged, that government is engaged, or will be engaged, in bringing forward a great land bill for Ireland. Now, it is very difficult for me to speak upon this subject except in very general terms, but I think I may say this, without any danger whatever of misleading, that there is no chance that the bill to be brought forward by a government which contains in it some of the largest English and largest Irish landowners or their sons in the country—will be any very rude shock to what have been rather too freely called the 'rights of property.' When people talk about 'rights of property,' they very often mean 'rights of landlords.' It has been common to say that tenants' rights is landlords' wrong, forgetting that landlords' rights might possibly be tenants' wrong (hear hear), and that if a landlord has a property in the land, so has the tenant a property in what he puts into it; and that there is, except by artificial rules, no more violation of principle, no more violation of sense of justice, in giving the tenant security than in giving the landlord security [cheers]. There ought to be nothing, therefore, which should shock principle, which should offend against the strictest rights of property in this country, in securing to the Irish tenant that which he has a right to—a feeling of security in his holding. I saw in the Times to-day a remarkable article, in which it is said that Mr. Bright's plan, which has been so freely abused, contained the elements of good, and was in truth, a very wise and patriotic measure in its principles. At all events, I think this is clear—that whatever is done in Ireland will be done for the purpose of giving to the tenant neither more nor less than that which a fair man, and an equitable man, will say he has a right to [applause]. If I were to take a text for myself and were to adopt the language upon this subject of any other man, I should be inclined to adopt the language that was spoken in my presence, close to me, at a dinner at Newton, in November by the Earl of Devon. Now, the Earl of Devon is a man of the highest possible character; he is a man of very large landed Irish property and rejoices in, I believe, a perfectly contented tenantry; and he said, for his part, he thought that, as his tenants in Ireland were the great improvers of the land, so they ought to have security given them for their improvements; that he was not afraid of usurers, and that by whatever name the government bill was called, if the object of it was to give the tenant a feeling of security that was wanted in Ireland, and that should have his undivided and hearty support. Now, what Earl Devon said at a dinner at Newton—I know the noble lord quite well enough—he will say, if he need say it, in the House of Lords when the measure comes on for discussion, and I do not desire for myself any broader or more liberal principles for a land bill in Ireland than were laid down by the Earl of Devon—a Tory landowner, known and respected by you all—in reference to his own Irish establishment [cheers].—Times.

It is said that a Mr. Austin a Yankee millionaire, of a ship-building firm has agreed to purchase Deptford Dockyard for £140,000. We hope this is true, and it may be the means of finding employment for numbers of the dismissed Government artificers and labourers.

We make no pretensions to be acquainted with Cabinet secrets, or to know more than our neighbours what is being laid measure every day, and is now pretty well understood, but what direction it will take and within what moderate limits it must be confined. It will certainly not be what some Englishmen feared, and what many Irishmen hoped. The more closely ministers examined the allegations of wrong and oppression put forward by the agitators, the more did they shrink and vanish, the fewer of them it was found could be substantiated, and the easier did the residue—real enough, if largely reduced—appear to deal with. The clearer, too, became the right mode of dealing with that residue. The longer, again, the mass of tenant farmers were left to expound their claims and formulate their demands the more selfish, extravagant, and unjust were those demands seen to be; the longer agitators studied the agitation the more they came to understand it; finding it impossible to satisfy the agitators, they resolved to abandon the attempt, and to do what was right and abide by the consequences—to redress all real grievances, to remedy or prevent all actual oppression, and to ignore or negative all monstrous or inadmissible pretensions. In a word, enlightened by the spectacle of the last four months, and hopeless of being popular they came to the conclusion to be just. They will probably do what we pointed out in November as the only thing they could do on any sound principle and with any prospect of real good—viz., provide a cheap, prompt, accessible, and specially qualified tribu-

nal to discourage capricious evictions and compensate their harshness by awarding full and fair value for all the tenant's unexhausted improvements and unrepaid outlay, and probably an adequate equivalent for the loss of an occupancy on which custom and his landlord's proceedings had given him a right to come; and which his own conduct or failings had done nothing to forfeit. But a measure of this sort—though it will satisfy all the claims of justice, and will embrace all that can be offered with safety or with advantage to the people themselves—will, of course, bitterly disappoint those who have been led to demand, and really to half believe they could obtain, absolute fixity of tenure at a rent determined by government valuation. For many months every attempt has been made by their unscrupulous leaders aided too often by men who might have been expected to know better and act more patriotically, to lash them into a conviction that they could extort this, and that they should be content with nothing short of this. It is certain, therefore, that their anger and disgust will be extreme on the first announcement of the ministerial scheme, and that a fierce and perhaps a violent opposition, in some shape or other, if not in that of actual outbreak, must be anticipated. For this the government will be very supine and very guilty if it be not prepared, and the country will be easily deluded and wanting to itself if it do not heartily back ministers in whatever measures may be deemed necessary to preserve peace and enforce obedience to law. Let us cast a comprehensive glance on the several features of the situation, and see how grave and full of menace they are in their cumulative probabilities. It is our fear, and almost our conviction, that no such difficult or perplexing crisis has ever yet threatened our Executive in its relations with the sister island—in the present century at least. The Repeal agitation was not half so grave; the Fenian outbreak was not half so formidable; even the emancipation demand was incomparably less dangerous because that could rightfully be dismissed by concession. But here it would be wicked and fatal as well as weak to yield; the law must be enforced, the rights and property of citizens must be maintained, and their lives must be protected. Civil war must be courageously faced, if it were necessary. It will, however, we believe, be the fault of the government if this perilous conjuncture should be permitted to arrive. To avert it is our judgment requires only adequate determination and adequate promptitude. No really lawless or unjust agitation in Ireland is ever dangerous if it be faced and firmly and promptly dealt with.—Let the government, immediately before they bring forward their land scheme, arm themselves with ample powers to suppress all violence, sedition, and resistance, and make the law once again supreme. Let them take authority—using it fearlessly, but with caution—to punish incendiary journalists, to arrest and imprison, not as a penal but as a precautionary measure, all disturbers of the public peace or instigators to violence or outbreak, whether secret or open; to lay hands on every suspected assassin (in many cases there is no great doubt as to the actual criminal) and keep him in goal till the restoration of the reign of order shall make it possible to bring him to trial on fitting evidence; to paralyze the Fenian movement by incarcerating its known leaders; and to deal in the same summary way with men who openly conspire to pay no rent.—Pall Mall Gazette.

THE GAELIC LANGUAGE IN SCOTLAND.—Out of the 3895 parishes of worship in Scotland there are at least 561, or about one eighth, in which services are steadily administered either in whole or in part in the Gaelic language. The six northern synods of Scotland comprehend a territorial area of nearly 11,000 square miles, or a little more than one-third of the kingdom, and in this Gaelic is the predominant language. The text of this must be held to be the language in which religious services are conducted. In this the Synods of Argyll, Perth, Stirling, Moray, Ross, Sutherland, Orkney, and Shetland, the Establishment has 229 and the Free Church 155, making together 384 churches in which services are conducted either wholly or in part in the Gaelic language. Within the same area there are but 274 places of worship in which Gaelic services are not conducted. Within fifteen Established Presbyterian and thirteen Free Churches of the Free Church in these synods, there is not a single church in which there are not Gaelic services, although the churches within their bounds number 288. In all, in the six synods named there are 384 churches of the two leading Presbyterian denominations in which Gaelic is preached besides many others connected with other denominations, and in the majority of towns of Scotland there are Gaelic churches.

REFRESHMENTS TAKEN BY SCOTCH TOWN COUNCILLORS BETWEEN CHURCH SERVICES.—An animated discussion took place at the last meeting of the Stirling town council touching the amount of refreshment taken by certain members on the occasion of the protest and councillors having officially attended church, Mr. Councilor Thomson, making himself the mouth-piece of strong rumours about the town, accused twelve of his colleagues of having drunk between the services four bottles of whiskey, several bottles of wine, and an unnamed quantity of ale. One of the accused gentlemen insisted that there were only three bottles of whiskey, but the production of the bill disposed of this objection.

UNITED STATES

A pretty story is told of a ten year old youngster in Boston, who took a just direction of his uncle, to ask Prince Arthur to tea, for soldier earnest. The Uncle had forgotten all about it, when an hour after Johnny came running in and declared the prince was real nice, though they tried to prevent my seeing him. We had a long talk, and I told him all about mother were we live and ever so much. 'So you saw him, did you? Well what did he say? Is he coming to tea?' 'No, he can't come, he's only got time to attend the funeral, and he's real sorry.' It turned out, on inquiry, that Johnny had presented himself to the usher of the prince's apartments, was put off but would not be rebuffed. He wanted to see the prince and 'mum,' for his uncle had sent him. His persistence finally gained him admittance; he was presented and honoured, the interview was mutually agreeable, and the lad had the longest and liveliest chat with Arthur of any person in Massachusetts.

Appleton's Journal for Feb. 23 contains an interesting article by Mr. Charles L. Brace on 'The Dangerous Classes of New York, from which we clip the following extracts:—Certain small districts can be found in our metropolis with the unhappy fame of containing more human beings packed to the square yard, and stained with more acts of blood and riot, within a given period, than is true of any other equal space of earth in the civilized world. The young ruffians of New York are mainly the products of accidents. Among a million people, such as compose the population of this city and its suburbs, there will always be a great number of misfortunes; fathers die and leave their children unprotected; parents drink, and abuse their little ones, and they float away on the currents of the street; step mothers or step-fathers drive out, by neglect or ill-treatment, their sons from the home. One cause which is a fruitful source of crime is among the work class, a little respect for marriage.

In a religious excitement, in Boston, a person met a neighbour who took him by the hand and said—'I have become a Christian.' 'I am glad of it,' replied the other. 'Suppose we have a settlement of that little account between us; pay what thou owest.' 'No,' said the new born child, turning on his heel; 'religion is religion, and business is business.'

A New Orleans husband wants a divorce on the ground that what he calls his wife is more chignon, false teeth and padding than woman.