

halted at some distance from the main thoroughfare, where a large block of bog oak lay alongside; to this the yeoman (still gagged and pined) was firmly tied, and then, Darcy donning the cloak and helmet of his captive, mounted his horse and dashed along at a sharp canter. The troopers were stout and fresh; as day dawned they were safe from interruption or danger, and could distinctly see the French fleet at anchor in the bay below them.

"What a glorious sight!" exclaimed Lord Edward, in ecstasy, as they proceeded. "Now, Mike, now success is certain, and our liberties are secured. And yet," he added, "forty-six vessels of all sizes left Brest; I count only twenty-seven here; but that matters not; with Hoche and half the number embarked, there can be no doubt of the result. How I long to grasp the hand of the young Conqueror of the Rhine!—The Pacificator of La Vendee; no better commander could be chosen for our purpose. Uniting the talents of an able diplomatist with those of a first-rate soldier, he is just the man to render justice to all, and to command the confidence of the different political and religious parties into which our suffering country is so unhappily divided. Ha! see! another ship is full in view, and I think I can discern more still further off; all well, all's well. How surprised you will be, Mike, to see Mon Ami Hoche, only twenty-six years of age; with the appearance of a boy and the modesty of a girl; he has already achieved glorious actions, which will embazon his name in the page of history, and if he lives is certain to reach the highest military honors his country bestows."

"Springing from their horses, Lord Edward and his companions jumped into a boat, which was laden with provisions for the fleet, and pulling to the nearest ship of the line, demanded in French to see the Commander-in-Chief. After some delay, they were permitted to come on board, but were left peering the deck while awaiting an introduction to the General, who had not as yet quitted his cabin. From one of the officers who joined them Lord Edward learned that the fleet had experienced very severe weather since their departure from France, and that, on the very night they sailed, a seventy-four, with all on board, had perished; that subsequently the Commander-in-Chief and the Admiral, both embarked in the same frigate, were, with some vessels of war and many transports, separated from them, and had not yet reached the rendezvous. At length, after some preliminary inquiries made by an aide-de-camp, they were conducted below, and on entering the cabin, found themselves in the presence of a man in the prime of life, but of cold and cautious manners. Conscious of his own social and political position, Lord Edward advanced towards him with the self-possession of a man of rank, and the warmth of an Irish gentleman; but he was formally, even suspiciously, received, the disorders and indeed almost indignant condition of his own and his companion's dress, half military, half civilian as it was, rendering them, as it appeared, persons of suspicious character in the eyes of the General. Hurt for a moment, but at once remembering that appearances were against them, Lord Edward commenced by felicitating the General on his safe arrival, and on the favorable opportunity which chance had given him of distinguishing himself by striking a blow at English power before the arrival of his chief. But the compliments and anticipations seemed alike thrown away. Grouchy's manner remained the same—haughty, reserved, and unconfiding. At length, after a pause in the conversation, Lord Edward fairly proceeded to business:

"I presume, General, that you will lose no time in effecting a disembarkation. The wind has fallen to a calm, and there is not a regular soldier within twenty miles to oppose your progress. By at once marching on Dublin, the whole country will rise as you pass, and within the city you will find aid enough to render its capture a matter of little difficulty."

"Sir," replied Grouchy, "it is not for me to say what proceedings the General-in-Chief may adopt, should he arrive. I am only second in command, and though no doubt, in the absence of my superior, I am entitled to act on my own opinion, still, in such a very critical position as I find myself placed, I do not feel inclined to incur additional responsibility."

"But surely, sir, you will not hesitate to act. You have escaped the English fleet, which will no doubt be soon upon your track. By landing your troops and stores, you may at once dismiss your ships, and allow them to avoid an action. Your force is amply sufficient; the whole country is armed and prepared to join you."

"Sir," interrupted the French General, "you will pardon me for declining to communicate any plans, or to adopt yours. I may say, however, that it is not likely that I shall undertake with ten thousand men a task which Hoche demanded sixteen thousand to accomplish."

"I shall take all responsibility on myself," hastily answered Lord Edward, "and hold you harmless both to Hoche and the Directory."

There was a smile of sneering incredulity on Grouchy's lips, as he replied:

"Really, sir, I must decline any further conversation with you upon the subject of my duty. I have not the honor of your personal acquaintance. It is possible that you are Lord Edward Fitzgerald, as you represent yourself to be, or (pardon me for saying it) you may be for aught I know an English spy. All the Irishmen who accompany the expedition are with the Admiral, and unless you have some means of proving your identity, you cannot reasonably expect me to have faith in your statement or confidence in your advice, the more particularly, to speak plainly, as I see on your helmet the royal arms, and on the buttons of your cloak the crown of England."

The justice of the remark struck Lord Edward dumb. He carried no document, not even his card, to prove his identity which, up to the present moment, it was so necessary for him to conceal. He looked blankly at Mike, and the General, ascribing his silence and confusion to guilt, seemed more confirmed than before in his unfavorable opinions. Lord Edward explained the occurrence in their flight, which would account for the eccentricity of his costume, but the story, improbable as it was, only added to Grouchy's caution.

"Assuming all you say to be true, sir, as regards the steps you were obliged to take for safety on your journey here, such facts tally badly with your assertion that the people are armed and prepared to rise; if such were really the case, surely the acknowledged leaders of the insurrection could have no difficulty in passing through the country without having recourse to a disguise which, disaffection being abroad, would be more likely to hazard his life than to secure it."

"There is much truth in what you say, and I shall not further seek to convince you. Hoche's arrival will soon set the matter at rest; but once again I entreat you to not vigorously; you will soon ascertain the truth of my assertions, and we shall remain as hostages in your hands until the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief. Meantime, as we have ridden far and farred badly, we would gladly avail ourselves of your hospitality—we really require something to eat."

The free and easy manner of Lord Edward found no sympathy in Grouchy's breast. Rising from his seat, he coldly remarked, "that it was impossible they should remain on board, for he had determined on putting to sea again that very day, and was quite uncertain as to whether he should any longer await Hoche on the Irish coast, or at once return to France." Then ringing his bell and bowing them out, his steward was ordered to provide them with breakfast.

They had scarcely finished a lasty meal, when an officer announced that a boat was alongside to take them ashore. Lord Edward asked to see the General, but he was positively refused another interview; and to his remonstrances that surely he would not be forced on shore to be thrown into the hands of his enemies, the only answer returned was, "that the orders were peremptory and must be obeyed."

"What misfortune!" cried Lord Edward, when they were left alone on the beach. "A curse seems to attend every effort made for Ireland's freedom. Here is a force sufficient twice over to attain the object, nothing to oppose their landing or their progress, and the fatal chance which has placed a coward or a traitor (for he, too, may have been bought by Pitt) in command mars all our projects, and may utterly ruin our cause. But," after a moment's pause, he added gayly, "with that transition from the desponding to the hopeful which was so habitual to him, "all is not yet lost. Hoche may still reach our shores in time, and if he does—"

"But, in the meantime, what's to become of us? The arrival of this fleet will soon bring the loyalists into the neighborhood; we are strangers, and will certainly be arrested. Better beg an asylum on board and run the risk of a return to France if it cannot be avoided."

"Impossible for me. Should this armament return without effecting anything, we must then act for ourselves, and were I absent, what chance would there be of getting the secret committee to move? Fools and poltroons as they were, they declined the offer of the militia regiments to seize the Castle and arrest the Lord Lieutenant. Had I been there, both should have been in our power, and a general rising been accomplished. No; to Dublin I must attempt to go, no matter what the consequences."

"And I shall not desert you," replied Mike.

As they hastened back, almost unconsciously, towards the hill from which they had first seen the French fleet, Darcy joined them. Having relations in the neighborhood, he had procured corn for the horses and breakfast for himself. His manner expressed astonishment at the apparent result of the visit to the French ships, but he asked no questions, rightly conjecturing that Lord Edward was not in a humour to be interrogated.

"Should we remain here for the night, can you procure us beds or even a waste horse to sleep in, Darcy?"

"Why, then, your lordship, it'd be a droll thing if I could; I don't my mother's third cousin, Terence Macgillituddy, live not a mile off—he's related to Macgillituddy of the Reeks, and has the strongest faction in 'the parish;—he's a man of the right sort, and so is his wife; and maybe they won't receive ye both; aye would they, if there was a dozen of the likes of ye."

"Then, like a good fellow, go and see about it. But, mind, be cautious; our names must not be known. I need not tell you that there are advertisements and rewards for taking me, and that being found in my company would be fatal to Master Mike."

"My lord," said Darcy, with the air of a man offered and hurt, "d'ye think I'd bring you where there was any danger of breachery? The bank couldn't buy Terence or his wife, or one belonging to them; and it's proud they'll be to their dying day, and their children's children after them, to have it said that they sheltered you, if the house was burned over their heads and they lost every four-footed beast they have in the world on your account."

"Come, come, Darcy, I could suspect no one who had a drop of your blood in their veins; but people are incautious, and if I were discovered, I should run, perhaps, more danger from the love of my friends than from the vigilance of my enemies."

"Keep," said Darcy, when about to leave them, "along the brow of this hill close by the sea; get into some hollow, where you can see without being seen; nothing can come near you from the water, for there is three hundred feet of clean rock; but mind well the land side, and if there is any danger make for that old tower, which ye can get up, and stay there till I come to ye; don't be near the horses that are in yonder old walls, on any account; they're likely to be looked after, and if found here, they'll think that the French stole them."

The gentlemen proceeded, as directed, and not finding any suitable place of concealment, continued their walk until they arrived at the tower, which they were anxious to explore in case they should afterwards be obliged to have resort to it as a place of concealment or resistance. It was one of those round towers, peculiar to Ireland, about which antiquarians have had such learned discussions with such unsatisfactory results, their origin and object remaining still undiscovered! Above one hundred feet in height it was ascended by a circular stone staircase, and from its top, which was open, the view seemed almost boundless. Although this tower had been roofless for a least the Christian era, and the walls were exposed unprotected to the effects of the weather, still the cement resisted the attacks of time, and the building was as complete, and much more solid, than any modern erection. The stairs were here and there broken; in some cases the steps had been altogether removed, but, evidently, those defects arose from mischievous idleness, or from a desire to apply the abstracted stones to some domestic purpose; although there were many such breaches in the stairs, the ascent was easily enough accomplished, either by means of the fragments of the broken steps which still remained, or by holes in the walls, which enabled the person ascending to make his way with little risk of danger.

As the friends mounted, Lord Edward, who led the way, remarked: "This is a God-send; nowhere could we find a place more suitable for our purposes; from hence we can, even with the naked eye, observe the motions and the doings of the fleet, defend ourselves if attacked, and, if need be, sell our lives dearly. There's a prospect," he continued, as he moved along a bench or sort of gallery, which ran all round the interior of the building at a few feet from the top; ha, by this inexpressible coward is about to abandon us; but no," he added, after a moment's pause, "I wronged him. See, the leading ship is heading northward; perhaps, after all, he is right to keep the open sea, when he hesitates to effect a landing; but, oh! what a glorious sight, and what an opportunity lost; oh! for the arrival of Hoche. Do you see a ship to the south-westward—aye, two—two certainly. I see, hurrah! Mike, the cause may still be saved—see, the vessels below us are making signals as they pass; hurrah! my Heaven be thanked!"

The Rev. Canon Rooney, P.P., Clontarf, is dead.

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Irish Catholic Intelligence.

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Recently was the Rev. Cornelius Sheehan, P.P., Castlemaize, county Kerry, was proceeding to his chapel at Keel, the horse which he was driving took fright and jumped over the bridge at Glounacurra, near the "White Gate."

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Irish News.

Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon has been appointed Lord Justice of Appeal.

Mr. Bridge is about to retire from the management of Mr. Buckley's Galtee estate.

A banquet was given to Barry Sullivan in Dublin on the evening of November 23rd.

CURATOR MESS.—A meeting was held in the new hall of the Catholic University for the purpose of considering the question of reform in church music.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—Dr. Houghton made a genial and patriotic speech in favor of a grant of a charter to the Catholic University.

THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—The revival of the Irish language is progressing more favorably than its most sanguine friends could have anticipated.

NEW BRIDGE AT CARRICK-ON-SUIR.—A new bridge is to be erected at Carrick-in-Suir. The townspeople have petitioned the Lord Lieutenant to have a portcullis made in the bridge in order to allow ships to pass through.

TENANT DEFENCE IN GALWAY.—A meeting was held in the chapel yard at Kilmannin, County Galway, to protest against some evictions that recently took place, and to form a Tenant Defence Association. The meeting was a success.

AN IRISH COLLEGE FOR AMERICAN MISSIONARIES.—The Cork Examiner has a long account of the contemplated college established near Cork, for the purpose of training missionaries for work in Africa.

IRISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF INTemperance.—This society is progressing favorably. It has a guarantee fund of £2,000. The society resolved to communicate with the Commander of the Forces in Ireland regarding the sale of drink to civilians in the military canteens during prohibited hours.

LINEN MANUFACTURERS.—A deputation of linen manufacturers of Ulster, waited on Mr. Lowther a few days ago for the purpose of urging upon him the expediency of certain alterations in the Linen and Hemp Manufacturers' (Ireland) Bill.

THE FRANCHISE.—It is well known that the borough franchise in Ireland is much higher than it is in England. The Irish people naturally think this a great injustice.

THE COMMERCIAL DEPRESSION IN BELFAST.—It was stated in Belfast that in one of the extensive flax mills on the Falls-road, in that town, a notice has been issued to workers, stating that they will only be employed four days in the week owing to the depressed state of trade.

ORANGE OUTRAGE.—Recently the Orangemen tore from the gable of the Catholic church at Killyman, County Tyrone, the crosses, and wrecked the church. The locality is notoriously Orange, many lodges being in the vicinity.

ORANGE ROUNDTOP.—It is a custom on Saturday evenings for Orange bands with big drums to march through certain quarters of Belfast, playing party tunes, and insulting any Catholics they chance to meet.

By the death of Cardinal Cullen, the number of members of the Sacred College has been reduced to 59, viz: 6 Cardinal Bishops, 48 Cardinal Priests, and 5 Cardinal Deacons.

The office of Assistant Librarian in the Local Legislature has been abolished, and one of the messengers appointed to do the work.

The latest fish story is that of four Long Branch fishermen, whose anchor line was seized by a whale which made straight for the open sea, towing the boat at tremendous speed.

Scotland.

The haddock fishing at Eyemouth is poor. The Skye lochs have suddenly and unexpectedly become stocked with shoals of herrings.

The Marquis of Lorne retains his office as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Argyll and Bute Artillery Volunteers.

The sum of £1,200 has been guaranteed towards the proposed hall in Edinburgh for free discussion.

There is a serious outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia on several farms in the Stewartry, Kirkcubrightshire.

The Glasgow School of Cookery was opened for the winter session on the 5th ult. with an increased number of students.

J. Nicol Fleming, ex-director of the City of Glasgow Bank, against whom a warrant was issued, has actually escaped to Spain.

Snow fell heavily on the 9th ult., and street traffic, including the running of the tramway cars, was to some extent impeded.

A civil debtor named Peter Cook, a powerloom tender, committed suicide in Dunfermline Prison by hanging himself on the 4th ult.

The teacher of the Gaelic School in Greenock has been sued for £50 for damages said to have been caused through his having flogged a pupil.

Mr. Kenneth MacKay, miniature painter the first of the originators of the Royal Scottish Academy, has died at Edinburgh at the age of 76.

On the 9th ult., during the busy part of the day, a bag containing £100 in silver was stolen from the counter of one of the banks in the New Town.

Polmadie has declined annexation to Glasgow, even though it was assured that the city ratepayers would pay half its taxes for it for five years.

Dr. Montgomerie died at Ayr on the 1st ult., aged 68 years. He had been an invalid for some time. All who knew him esteemed him highly.

The Queen has decided that the old tapestries of Holyrood Palace, which are in a very dilapidated condition, should be restored at the Royal tapestry works, Old Windsor.

On the 3rd ult. the Tramway Company started a Sunday car between Patrick and Glasgow. It is expected that there will be a strong protest against the innovation.

William Tesdale, a billsticker, was killed in the Dumfries theatre on the 10th ult. by the explosion of a rotort while he was producing gas for the lights in the theatre.

The tenantry on the Airrie estates having agreed to present Lady Blanche Ogilvy with a present on the occasion of her marriage to Captain Hozier, have forwarded to her a handsome sum of money to be used as she thinks best.

The shareholders of the Greenock Railway Company have agreed to sanction the excess of stocks, amounting to £215,000, fraudulently issued by the late secretary, and to permanently reduce the dividends to cover the deficit.

Miscellaneous Items.

English counterfeiters have of late turned their attention to Russian bank notes.

A new bird of paradise has been found on the west coast of New Guinea.

A memorial window to Livingstone, the African explorer, is to be put in Westminster Abbey.

Marie Fechter, daughter of the tragedian, has abandoned the operatic for the dramatic stage, and makes a charming actress.

The Prince of Wales has concluded arrangements for renting Macleinch Castle, Radnorshire, and will occupy it early next year.

Miss Helen McDonald argued her own case in an infringement of her dress protector patent in the United States Court in Boston the other day. Ben Butler was on the other side.

Orson Hyde, one of the Mormon "Twelve Apostles," and for many years among the ablest and most active workers in behalf of the Latter-day Saints, died in Utah on Thanksgiving Day.

Madame Rose gave her impressions of America to a Chicago reporter: "I like it very much," she said. "Indeed, I love it, and no wonder. People have been so kind and good. We have had a delightful summer."

Anna Salome Hill is a new singer, who inherits her musical genius from her grandfather, Col. Lehmanowsky, who commanded the First Napoleon's body guard, and was known throughout Europe as a celebrated vocalist.

A SWEETING OPERATOR.—Professor Thorold Rogers, of Oxford, speaking at a meeting held last week, said that every man without a head upon his shoulders, every swindler, every pick-pocket, and every man on the turf belonged to the "Tory party."

LOFTY STRAITS FOR A SERMON.—The dignity of the pulpit is rising. The subject of a sermon preached about a fortnight ago in a church in New York was, "The Witch of Endor—Was She a Spiritualist?" The preacher was the Rev. W. Hatfield, a Methodist Episcopal minister.

The Limerick counts of the Marquis of Conyngham have held a meeting and adopted resolutions requesting his lordship not to dispose of his property and continue their landlord. Those resident on the Kilkee property have succeeded in inducing the Marquis to abandon the sale.

The "social" papers continue to come to the front. At Bow Street Police Court on Thursday Mr. Poland applied to Sir James Ligham, on behalf of Mr. Edgar Ray, the editor of *Townstone*, for a summons against Mr. Edmund Yates, the editor of the *World*, for having used threatening language. Sir James Ligham granted the summons.

It is estimated that there are 114,043,940 tons of coal consumed annually in England. If the quantity of sulphur contained in this coal be supposed to be 1 per cent.—there has been no accurate determination of the percentage of sulphur—nearly less than 3,500,000 tons of sulphuric acid is discharged each year into the atmosphere.

THE LATE MRS. TITMENS.—A handsome monument has just been erected in All Souls' Cemetery, Kensal Green, Hurrow Road, London, over the tomb of the late Mlle. Titmens. It is of red polished granite. At the head and feet are wreaths in white marble. The following is the inscription:—"In memory of Therese Titmens, who died October 3, 1877."

CHIEF IN EDINBURGH.—An Edinburgh police official of long standing has stated that the present term was the worst within his remembrance for reported thefts. These include £100 in silver from a bank in St. Andrew Square, pocket-picking at Hallow Fair, and elsewhere, &c. The theft from the bank was committed during the bustle of Monday, the 10th day.

An interesting relic of the American war of Independence has turned up in an antiquarian bookstore in Baireuth, Bavaria. One of the officers of the Hessian troops who served in the British army kept a daily record not only of events, but also of the news and rumors of the day, and the document found in his manuscript diary from January, 1778, to March, 1779.

Everything in nature indicates in an amusement of some kind. The lightning plays, the wind whistles, the thunder rolls, the snow flies, the hills and cascades sing and dance, the waves leap, the fields smile, the vines creep and run, and the buds shoot. But some of them have also their seasons of melancholy. The tempests moan, the zephyrs sigh, the brooks murmur, and the mountains look blue.

Persons and Things.

Ice Cast formed in the Washington mine, Lake Superior, two or three years ago, was so well congealed that it still remains ice.

Miss Rosina Heikel, the first lady doctor in Finland, has been given an encouraging start in her profession. The women of Wasa, where she settled for practice, gave a grand concert in her honor and are making preparations for a public dinner.

The present Duke of Northumberland has presented to the town library of Lexington, Mass., a portrait of Lord Percy, who conducted the retreat of the British forces after the battle in 1775. The gift was made through the Rev. E. G. Porter, of Lexington who has been the Duke's guest during the last month.

Proceedings in a California court, in regard to the widow of William C. Ralston, the "banking prince" of San Francisco, who committed suicide, show that she has squandered a fortune of \$120,000 in the three years since her husband's death, and unless a guardian be appointed, will beggar her children.

Ernest Longfellow, the poet's son, and a successful painter, has some pictures on exhibition in Boston which are attracting marked attention. He is thoroughly American in his style, although his pictures are painted in Europe. In his figure pieces he is said to show the poetical talent inherited from his father.

The following communication, in reply to a memorial presented last week, was received from His Excellency the Governor-General: OTTAWA, December 7, 1878.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA, December 7, 1878. To the President, Vice-President and Secretary of the Caledonian Society of Montreal: GENTLEMEN.—In reply to your memorial, I am instructed by His Excellency to say that it will afford him great pleasure to accept the office of honorary patron to the Caledonian Society of Montreal.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, Your obedient servant, F. DE WYKON, Major R. A., Governor-General's Secretary.

Challenged.

Norman Taylor, of Boston, challenges John Hughes, of New York, John Rainey, of Ottawa, or D. J. Ross, of Quebec, to run a race of twenty miles for \$250 a side. Should the challenge not be accepted, Taylor says he will claim the championship, and at once undertake to run twenty miles in two hours.

Catholic Missions in India.

The official calendar recently published at Madras contains full particulars of the establishments connected with the Catholic Church in India, Ceylon, Burma, and Siam, from which it appears that in 1877 there were 23 Vicars Apostolic, 21 Bishops, 1098 priests, 1,088,000 professing members of the various churches, besides 1,422 schools, containing between them 51,404 pupils. The Archbishopric of Goa contained 766 priests, having under their charge flocks to the number of 1,561,000. These numbers compare with 20 Vicars Apostolic, 16 Bishops, 790 priests, having congregations of 915,590 persons and 710 schools, with 27,068 pupils, in 1866. The *Journal du Commerce Maritime* says that in the prefecture of Pondicherry alone there were in 1866 69 priests, whose flocks numbered 112,000, and 90 schools, with 1,300 pupils; in 1877 the numbers had increased to 85 priests, 141,250 persons professing the Catholic faith, and schools with 4,000 pupils. Of this number of Catholics in the French colony of Pondicherry, only 3,000 were Europeans. Of the 85 priests, 25 were natives of India. The number of adult converts from heathenism baptized in 1877 was 1,920, besides 1,513 children; and 87 Protestants are said to have been converted to the Catholic faith in the same period. Pondicherry has four separate orders of sisterhoods. The greater part of the natives professing Catholicism are said to be descended from the converts made by the Jesuit missionaries of the 17th and 18th centuries.

DISTRESS IN SHEFFIELD.—A deputation waited on the Mayor of Sheffield for the purpose of inaugurating an organized effort to relieve the great distress existing amongst the working classes of Sheffield in consequence of the continued depression in trade. The distress was great last winter, and £4,000 were distributed in relief but a much greater effort will be required this year, as the distress is more urgent and general than it has been hitherto.

(To be continued.)