

was made to one of the courts in Dublin in reference to the service of an ejectment in a certain county, which the reporters did not indicate except by saying that it had been recently much disturbed; so that it might have been Mayo, Westmeath, or any of half-a-dozen other places. No one, it was said, could be found daring enough to serve the writ! no bailiff would undertake it, so great was the terror that prevailed in the district—so frightful was the influence of Rory-of-the-Hills. The case was that of *Clarks v. Gleeson* and the county was Tipperary. The Rory whom the bailiffs would not dare to meet was a Tipperary Rory; and the murder of Kirwan was a Tipperary murder, no idle fess. The case shows that they entertained no idle fess. The case was subsequently compromised, and £300 was paid for the goodwill of the farm. Another important fact has been brought to light. In a small pass book, which was in the pocket of the deceased, was a threatening letter, addressed to the unfortunate man himself, and dated as far back as December 1867. It does not appear that he ever told his employer, or any other person about it.

A second proclamation has been issued by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, placing the districts already proclaimed under the operation of the strongest powers conferred by the Peace Preservation Act. Outrages of a cruel and barbarous character are again reported, and threatening letters are frequent occurrences. The 'Nationalist' press encourages the apparent willingness of a portion of the Protestant community to join in a Repeal movement—a state of things that causes much anxiety on both sides of St. George's Channel.

DUBLIN, April 30.—The Government have found it necessary to put the most stringent provisions of the Peace Preservation Act in force in the counties which have been generally proclaimed. Proclamations which have been published in the *Dublin Gazette* of last night requiring persons in the eight districts to which the Act has been extended to deposit their arms of every kind at the nearest police station on or before Tuesday next. The districts to which the Act is applied are certain parishes in the county of Longford, baronies in Cavan and Sligo, parishes in Roscommon, the counties of Meath, Westmeath, and Mayo, and parishes in the King's County. There are also eight special proclamations bringing the second parts of the Act into operation in the above districts from this day. These will place in the hands of magistrates the power to arrest suspicious characters who may be found out at night and unable to show that they are upon lawful business. They will also place strangers and tramps under a salutary surveillance. If the police be on the alert and in sufficient force in the specially proclaimed localities, 'Rory of the Hills' will find it very difficult to pursue his occupation.

The *Nation* writes in a pacific and conciliatory tone. Its leading sentiment is 'Let us have peace,' and, lamenting the fact that Ireland has long been the theatre of social strife, it discusses the question how the existing evil may be removed, and such a state of feeling established between Irishmen of all classes as will bring peace and happiness, prosperity and strength, to our long-suffered country. It contends that there is but one way open to the Irish landlords by which they may end the Irish social war, win for themselves the confidence and esteem of the people, and confer lasting benefit upon their country, and that is 'uniting with the people for patriotic and national purposes.' It appeals to the landlords to meet their countrymen on the common ground of nationality, and show that they are not foreigners in heart and spirit, but Irishmen, who love their country. Out of their present position, which only brings them into collision with the people, English legislation, it thinks, can never help them.

The *Weekly News* observes, with expression of pleasure, the 'light in the clouds,' and writes also quietly on the subject of union among Irishmen.

A correspondent of the *Freeman* states that John Lyddy, a native of the County Clare, who has recently returned from Australia, and is apparently respectable, has been committed to Bann Gall on a warrant charging him with avowing himself a staunch and resolute Fenian, and declaring that he had come home to aid his country, and had brought plenty of arms and ammunition with him. When searched, however, none were found in his possession. The same journal reports that on Saturday evening a man named Reddy, of Knockmore, within five miles of Oron. County Kildare, received a blow of a stone while passing a grove on his own farm, and died in eight hours afterwards. A man named Hussey is in custody. It is supposed not to be an agrarian crime.—*Times* Cor.

It is not, perhaps, generally known that by the Disestablishment Act the Protestant Bishops in Ireland will come under the operation of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act, and that these titles will be illegal. There is indeed a *Necessity*. The necessity of dealing with this difficulty will probably give the coup de grace to the unlucky Titles Act, as it affects Catholic Bishops, since it would be impossible to legalize the assumption of what are called territorial titles by the Protestant Bishops of the minority, and make them still illegal for the Catholic Bishops of the Irish nation. Following conversation took place on Thursday night in the House of Commons.—Mr. Stowell asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether he could state when it was proposed to introduce the proposed Bill for the repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. Mr. Gladstone said the necessity for legislation on the subject matter of his hon. friend's question was as great in the view of the Government as it had ever been, and, indeed, a case which was anticipated as possible had actually occurred because one of the Irish Bishops having died, a gentleman had been appointed to the See of Kildare who at present bears the title of the See conformably to law, but on the 1st of January it would become illegal. It was, therefore, in his view, urgent to deal with the Ecclesiastical Titles Act.

At the sitting of the Quarter Sessions Court, Queenstown, before Mr. D. R. Kane Q.C., Chairman, John Walsh, a mason, was put forward, to receive sentence under a conviction for having had a loaded revolver in his possession in a proclaimed district. Mr. P. O'Connell, on the part of the crown, produced documents, showing that a warrant had been issued for the arrest of the prisoner on the following charges:—Having, with fourteen others (named and described in the same documents) on the 5th of March, 1867, at Dromeliffa and Kibbaha, Co. Clare, appeared in arms, and attacked houses for arms; also, for on the same day, attacking the coastguard station at Kibbaha, wounding one coastguard, and depriving him of his revolver; and, further, for pressing others to join in those unlawful proceedings. The Chairman, in passing sentence, said that the character of the prisoner's father was irreproachable. The sentence he was about to pass, after due reflection would be hoped, make the prisoner mend his ways. He strongly disapproved of the difference he had with the police, and the efforts he made at that time; but he thought these circumstances might account for his having had the revolver in his possession. On a review of the whole case, he felt that he could not, in justice to the country, and having due regard to the character of the present times and the provisions of the recent Act of Parliament pass upon him a less sentence than nine months' imprisonment, with hard labour. The prisoner (leaving the dock) —There will be an exchange of prisoners before that time. When being removed in a cart to the County Gaol, he exclaimed, 'God save Ireland!'—*Examiner* of Sa. urday.

A correspondent of the *Freeman* states that on Monday morning three armed men called at the house of a widow named Brady, residing at Lyragh, in the county of Cavan, and, having forced open the door, obliged her to promise that she would give up some land which she holds under another woman of the same name. They threatened to return and shoot her if she did not keep her word. They then

visited the house of a man named Grehan, another tenant of the same woman, and, placing him on his knees, put a revolver to his breast and made him swear to leave his employment as herd of Mrs. Brady. They next obliged him to accompany them to the house of Mrs. Brady where they demanded admittance, but were refused. They then asked for money, and some money being thrown out of a window to them, they warned her to give up to the former owner a farm which her late husband had purchased, and that if she failed to do so she would not get off so well when they next came to see her. These outrages were committed in broad daylight. It is supposed that the party came from the adjoining county of Meath. A correspondent of the *Daily Express* reports another of a similar class. A Miss Counsel, daughter of Mr. Laurence Counsel, a Roman Catholic gentleman, was returning from Moate, county of Westmeath, on Monday morning, about 10 o'clock, accompanied by her sister. The cart in which they were seated was stopped by a strange man, who told her that he would shortly be at her father's funeral and her own wake. Mr. Counsel has been for some time in possession of a small estate at Oreggan, which formerly belonged to the late Captain Tarleton, who, it will be remembered, was murdered last year. Mr. Counsel had a tenant who held a small piece of land, for which he paid £s. a year, a nominal rent, intended only as a recognition of ownership. The man died recently, and his son, who is now in occupation, refuses to pay any rent. Mr. Counsel lately received a threatening letter, and he deemed it necessary to have an escort of police. A correspondent of the same journal states that a man named M'Phillips was savagely beaten when returning from the fair of Monaghan on Monday night. His teeth were struck about the road, his upper lip cut away, his jawbone broken, and his face terribly bruised. No motive is assigned for the outrage, but it is conjectured that it arose from a quarrel between the Fenians and Ribandmen, who in that and some other adjoining counties are at open war and have had many violent encounters. The police have arrested some persons on suspicion. Searches for arms are made in different places, but rarely with any success. One of the exceptional instances occurred in Ennisearney on Tuesday, when a few firearms were seized and the owners summoned.

The *Evening Mail* says—We understand that the Government has decided upon appointing several new resident magistrates, with temporary rank, to assist in carrying out the peace Preservation Act in the proclaimed districts.

The Irish Catholics may very fairly say to leaders of public opinion in England: 'In determining whether the education of Catholics in Ireland is to be secular or Catholic, the question is not 'which do you think the best?' nor even 'which is the best?' but, 'which do we prefer?'—*Tablet*.

The Cork correspondent of the *Dublin Freeman* says: Intelligence reached Cork on Saturday of a communication having been received from a person in America by a magistrate at Skibbereen, offering for £500 to divulge the particulars of an intended Fenian rising, naming the date, also offering information of secret Fenian arsenals, with a list of magistrates it was arranged to 'silence,' the person addressed being one of them.

A respectable young man named John Reddy, whose father holds nearly three hundred acres of land in the district of Newtown, county Kildare, when returning from work, on the evening of the 23rd ult., was attacked by an assassin, who, taking deadly aim at the deceased, struck him on the head with such force that he died shortly afterwards. A young man named John Husey was arrested by the constabulary on the following morning on suspicion, and was present at the subsequent investigation.—The evidence went to show that some bad feeling existed between the accused and the other parties in consequence of a demonstration with horns having taken place on the occasion of the second marriage of the prisoner's father, and in which the deceased was accused of taking part. The jury having found a verdict of wilful murder, the coroner committed Husey on the circumstantial evidence. Reddy was an inoffensive, unassuming young man, and was held in the highest estimation by all classes of the community.

The Irish are a religious and a Catholic people. How great then is the folly which chooses the present moment for getting up a wanton persecution of our religious communities. If our readers desire to know the kind of religious fame that is being kindled, they have but to refer to the words of the Mayor of Cork, as quoted in the *Times*:—'I would say, as chief magistrate of the city of Cork, if this be passed into law it is at the point of the bayonet the inspectors will go into our convents. I would stand up as a magistrate of Cork and have the city of Cork rise in rebellion against them [the nuns]; and we would have men at the convents of the city who would not allow them to enter the thresholds of the doors. So much do I know of convent life and its purity, I would not send my daughters there if there was badness there in any shape or form. And when I find ladies there of the highest class, educating rich and poor, I say they have no right to be insulted by any Government; and if any Government will do so, let them take care that they are not going too far.' A similar meeting has been held in Dublin, the Lord Mayor presiding. Alderman M'Sweeney in his speech declared, that if the vote of the House of Commons were ratified on Thursday, it would empower the knights of Exeter Hall to establish in our own land an inquisition as hateful and exacting as any that ever existed in an age or country in the world. He mistook his countrymen very much if they would tamely submit to see 'their relations and friends who had left their homes' to instruct the neglected 'children of Great Britain,' dragged before a tribunal instituted under the auspices of Mr. Newdegate.—*Tablet*.

A journal published in Skibbereen, county Cork, states that a letter has been received by a magistrate residing in that district from an American Fenian, in which the writer states that large quantities of firearms and pikes are concealed in the neighborhood of Skibbereen, and that an outbreak has been fixed for a particular day. He further offers to give valuable information to the English government on condition that he shall receive £500. He adds that if the receiver of the letter doubts his ability to give information, he should hand the letter to the sub-inspector of police, who may think otherwise of the matter. He also states that large numbers of Fenians had left America for London and other parts of England. The letter has been forwarded to the Government.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NONNERY QUESTION.—The number of nuns in Great Britain has been stated by Mr. Newdegate and others to amount to 6300. This is an exaggeration, and a very considerable one. The number of convents in England amounts to 216, and in Scotland to 17—total, 233; and the total number of professed nuns and lay sisters (not including novices) amounts to rather more than 2500, or less than half the number stated by those who are arguing in favour of a parliamentary committee of inquiry. We suspect that, in the very liberal statement of 6000 nuns, Mr. Newdegate has included not only the novices who are in the various convents to try their vocation, but also the young ladies, and even the poor school girls, who are in some of the religious houses for education. But these, even if we include the unfortunate women who are being reclaimed in some of our convents, would not make the number up to 6000. Of the 216 convents in England there are not more than 20 that belong to cloistered orders; and amongst the 17 religious houses in Scotland there is only one convent that is cloistered.—*Weekly Register*.

The Rev. W. Molloy, Catholic priest at Haaley, denounced Fenianism from the pulpit on Sunday morning; and, after warning his hearers of the consequences of complicity in the movement, declared his determination to spare no pains to root out the Fenians he had discovered to be existing in the town even if it cost him his life. It is said that there are a good number of Fenians among the Irish population of the Potteries.

The seven Irishmen who were found drilling near Liverpool, armed with revolvers, have been discharged, the magistrates holding that the evidence against them was insufficient to establish any legal offence.

LONDON, May 16.—Considerable excitement was created here yesterday by the arrest of 50 persons, who had just arrived from Birmingham by rail-road. The prisoners all had revolvers on their persons, and were plentifully supplied with money. They are supposed to be Fenians. The authorities are taking further measures to prevent any disorders. The supposed Fenians arrested here yesterday were examined to-day. The evidence was unsatisfactory, and the prisoners were remanded.

SUPERSTITION IN DRYEN.—An old man named Philip Batch, nearly 80 years of age, was on Friday charged before the Barnstable borough magistrates with assaulting Mary Stephens. It appears that on Thursday the defendant met the complainant in the market and suddenly scratched her arm with a needle, causing it to bleed. On being questioned by her as to his conduct he replied, 'You have had power over me long enough, and now I will be revenged.' The old man, in answer to the charge, told the Bench that he had been persuaded by more than 100 persons that if he could 'fetch' the blood of the woman he should be able to overcome her. He went on to state that he had suffered affliction through Mary Stephens for the last five years, and had four complaints upon him at once, he had also lost 14 canaries and about 50 goldfinches. He was fined 2s 6d and costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.

The Liverpool Albion says there is now being fitted up in Liverpool, from which place she will sail in the course of a few days for New York, a small boat, about 20 feet long, called the City of Raguse, the property of Captain Pimores, but to be sailed by Captain J O Buckley. Both gentlemen appear confident that with the course they have planned out for themselves and fair weather, they will be able to reach New York in about 50 days. The City of Raguse is being made as comfortable and as seaworthy as possible. She is covered over her whole length, and lined inside to the flooring, having a mahogany or cockpit amidships. 'Below' is fitted up with as much comfort as the limited space would permit. There is a patent stove for cooking the provisions—there being three months' supplies on board—on the voyage; and also a sleeping space for either skipper when he is not on 'watch.' The boat is rigged as a yawl, and can spread about 70 yards of canvas. Her tanks are capable of containing 1000 gallons of water; but should any accident occur by which it would be necessary to lighten the vessel, a tap can be undone, and the water, if necessary, allowed to escape. The City of Raguse is fitted up with a two-bladed auxiliary propeller, which can be worked by hand, on the same principle as a ship's pump. Besides Captains Pimores and Buckley—the latter gentleman having received the Royal Humane Society's medals for saving life at sea—the only living thing on board will be a fine Newfoundland dog.

SUSPECTED TRADE OUTRAGE NEAR MANCHESTER.—An attempt was made about midnight on Saturday to blow up, by means of gunpowder, the dwelling house of Mr. E. Johnson, builder and contractor, situated at Levenshulme. Mr. Johnson, owing to the adoption of machinery in the manufacture of bricks, has long considered his life in jeopardy, and, it is said, has been during the last fortnight in the habit of changing his quarters at night, sleeping at hotels, and the houses of friends, in consequence. On Saturday night he had just reached home, when he was alarmed by hearing a loud explosion beneath his drawing-room window. Upon search being made the fact was discovered that a bottle containing gunpowder, lighted by means of a fuse, had been dashed against the drawing-room window, but that, owing to its having struck a part of the wooden frame, it had rebounded and exploded without doing any mischief. The bottle had been encased in half burnt clay. Further search led to the discovery, within a few yards of the window, of two other bottles filled with gunpowder, the fuses attached to which had burnt out, probably owing to their having been exposed to the rain. No fewer than sixty spent matches were picked up along with the bottles. The same night, and within half an hour of the above occurrence, a timber-shed belonging to Mr. Johnson, situated in Chapel-street, Ancoats, was discovered to be on fire, and although Mr. Tozer with his fire brigade was promptly on the spot, damage to the extent of 800l. (partly covered by insurance) was done before the flames were subdued. None of Mr. Johnson's workmen were upon the premises after 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Everything tends to show that the fire was the work of an incendiary, probably acting in concert with the miscreants who committed the outrage at Mr. Johnson's house. The police have the description of the men supposed to have been engaged in this outrage, and there is reason to hope they may be brought to punishment.

An attempt to assassinate Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P. for West Surrey, was made on Friday morning at his residence in Grosvenor crescent, Hyde Park. Mr. Buxton for some years has had in his service as secretary a young man named Arthur White, in whom the most implicit confidence was placed. Lately, however, he neglected his duty so much that Mr. Buxton felt constrained to give him a three months' notice to leave, and subsequently he had occasion to reduce the time to one month. On Tuesday he attended in Grosvenor crescent as usual, but Mr. Buxton was called away, and White was desired to await his return. He failed to do so, and on Wednesday Mr. Buxton requested him to meet him yesterday morning at 9.30 as usual. Mr. Buxton reproved him slightly for not waiting his return on Tuesday, and said that at any rate he might have sent him the papers by post, and to this White made no reply. Mr. Buxton then requested him to procure the 'Army List' from another apartment. The man for some time was as sullen as before but ultimately he made an impertinent observation, and in consequence was told to leave the house. He then said, 'You want the 'Army List do you?' And Mr. Buxton replied, 'Yes, go and get it.' He then fetched the book and as he went towards Mr. Buxton the latter said, 'Mr. White, why do you treat me so insolently? I have done all I could to get you another situation, but really I can hardly recommend any one to employ you.' White answered, 'I don't believe a word of it,' and, leaning on the table, he scowled violently at Mr. Buxton. Thinking that the man merely intended to assault him, Mr. Buxton remained seated, and said, 'Why, you know I asked a gentleman to employ you, and he've been looking out in other directions,' and White then returned to his seat at a table. The conversation was continued for a minute or so, and then Mr. Buxton desired him to leave, as he could not tolerate his conduct any longer. Mr. Buxton went towards the door and instantly he heard the report of a pistol. Starting round, he saw the man standing in front of him and pointing a revolver at his head. Believing that a second shot was intended, the hon. gentleman threw himself down behind a table, upon which his head was assassin observed, 'Are you wounded, Sir?' Mr. Buxton rushed at the man for the purpose of disturbing his aim, the revolver being still pointed towards him when white rushed to the door and ran into the hall, followed by his master. Before Mr. Buxton could secure him, however, he had opened

the street door, had entered a cab, and had got clear away. On searching the study a bullet mark was found in a wall immediately over where Mr. Buxton stood when fired at, and the bullet itself was found lying in the middle of the room. It is believed that White, who is a young man of eccentric habits, and suffering from a pulmonary complaint, is laboring under a fit of insanity. Information of the attempt to murder was immediately given to the authorities at Scotland-yard, and Colonel Henderson placed the matter in the hands of Inspector Pay and Sergeant Daisy. White is still at large. His age is about 27, and his height 5ft 10in.; he is of pale complexion, and without whiskers or moustache.

The *Spectator* thinks 'there is something almost painful in the spectacle of Mr. Gladstone's single-handedness in this Irish Land Bill-baiting. Unfortunately, Mr. Fortescue, simple as is his knowledge of this bill, is not a ready speaker, and has not the art of illustrating the force of his position in a few graphic words, and Mr. Serjeant Dowse has got so great a reputation for humour that the House, with true English narrowness, insists that he always means a joke, and laughs before he opens his mouth, so as quite to take away the force of a serious answer given in Committee to an argument resting wholly upon detail. And beyond these two supporters, who act the part of Aaron and Hur to Mr. Gladstone, holding up his arms as the battle rages all day long till the shades of evening come on, and the Amalekites, weary as they are, decline to be discomfited and flee, he has no supporters of any account on the Treasury bench at all. The English Attorney General and Solicitor General evidently know nothing of the bill, and even united are no more able to encounter Sir Roundell Palmer than two wooden ships of the line to fight an armour proof of the first class. As for the members of the Cabinet, none of them have mastered it except the Irish Secretary and the Prime Minister. Mr. Bright is out of the field; Mr. Lowe is high in finance; Mr. Cardwell can hardly hold his own, and, besides, no doubt feels some disgust at a measure which he was so careful to condemn with judicial peremptoriness so late as 1865; Mr. Childers has his own home's nest; amongst those who are aggrieved by the naval retirement scheme; Mr. Austin Bruce has always some unhappy convict or other on his mind; and Mr. Goschen is as full of rages as rates are full of trouble. Under these circumstances, Mr. Gladstone has to fight his battle of weary detail all but alone.'

UNITED STATES.

A SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF PROTECTION.—The *Tribune* writes thus:—The Novelty Iron Works has sold out most of its machinery and tools. The Alliance Works is now occupied as a stable. The Etina Iron Works has ceased to make marine engines. The Fulton Iron Works are for sale. W. U. Webb's ship-yard is to let. Henry Steers's yard is empty. The Continental Iron Works is almost deserted, and green grass is growing in nearly all of the ship-yards which, five years ago, were filled with workmen [So much for National policy!]

A man in Rhode Island has been sent to gaol for ten days for sleeping in church. Nothing was done to the clergyman.

The coal operators are at work in Pennsylvania preparing the prices for the coming season, fearing that if they leave things alone coal will be too cheap. They are manipulating that great and favored instrument, the bogus strike. One strike is in progress, and it is hoped to extend through the whole coal region. 'If the movement to bring about a suspension in Lehigh and Wyoming fails a decline in the price of coal may be looked for,' and we may therefore confidently believe this movement will not fail if the coal operators can help it.

Speaking of the anticipated 'Protestant Ecumenical,' the *New York Sun*, after touching on the absence of unity of faith and consequent lack of harmony to be expected therein, says:—'Thus it will be seen that the Council is not preceded by that degree of unanimity, even among Protestants, that would bespeak for it the entire respect of the world. And we shall not be surprised if, so far from proving itself a means of exhibiting the essential unity of the Church of Christ, as intended the Conference or Council shall merely result in making conspicuous the warfare of the schools, and strengthening the Church of Rome by showing what a rope of sand binds its opponents together.'

NEW YORK, May 16th.—The steamer *George B. Upton*, a Cuban war vessel, which sailed from this port on Saturday, had her clearance papers. The Upton came about 10 miles north of Barnegat, where a schooner came alongside, and additional passengers, shot, shell and powder, were put on board.—Previous to that, the Upton was transferred to the Cuban authorities, and when ready to start on her mission, did so with the Cuban flag at her peak and the pennant on her main, and 200 fighting men on board. The steamer is 607 tons register, 175 feet long, 57 feet beam, 13 feet depth of hold; is a screw, and steams fast.

Dr. Nathan Allen of Lowell, a prominent member of the Massachusetts Board of State Charities proved in a recent paper that the birth rate among the native inhabitants of the New England States is still on the decrease, so much so, that the original Yankee race must eventually die out, unless some steps are taken to increase its powers of reproduction. Dr. Allen's argument will hold good here as well as in New England, although we have not arrived at that perfection of New England civilization which classifies babies among the 'nuisances' of life, or at least makes them a 'rarity.'

The corruption that has tainted the judicial offices in America is a most alarming indication, the *Law Times* affirms, of a degeneracy in public virtue. The newspapers of the United States are full of the subject. It is impossible to take up any one of them without finding somewhere a complaint that the judges are awayed by reality or partisanship. Whether the question be political or social it is not now decided by its merits, but according to the known leanings of the judges by whom it is to be tried. The example is unfortunately set by those who should be most anxious to maintain the integrity of the judgment seat. The Senate is the highest and greatest offender, and it is not wonderful that so eminent an example should be followed by others. A notable instance has just occurred. A question has been raised as to the legality of certain proceedings of the Legislature relating to reconstruction. The majority of the judges of the Supreme Court held the opinion that these proceedings were illegal. That illegality seriously affected the particular interests of the ruling party in the Senate, and therefore the Senate has vetoed the nomination of all independent candidates for the high offices of Judge of the Supreme Court, and have put in their places creatures of their own, pledged to support their interests whatever may be the law. In the State of New York judges are elected by popular vote, and there being a great fight between four rival railways, each company has expended vast sums to procure the election of judges who will issue processes and give decisions favourable to itself. An independent judge has almost ceased to exist.

When the session was broken out some notable minded patriot proceeded to Arlington, residence of Mrs. Curtis Lee a descendant of George Washington, and there stole his sword, his hat, and his breeches. The chronicles of the time do not say whether the hero was rewarded with a commission, but at all events the Secretary at War approved of the deed and ordered the 'relic' to be placed in the Patent office. Mrs. Lee has now petitioned Congress for their return, and Congress has, in its wisdom, refused to give them up doubtless believing that they form a palladium, the retention of which is essential to northern progress and security.

NEW NAMES FOR OLD CRIMES.—There is a strong tendency to gloss over crimes and villainies, by speaking of them in terms which disguise their hideousness and impart a sense of toleration and lenity towards the offence which does not shock the mind nor cause it to recoil with indignation and horror. It cannot be denied that the extraordinary verdicts pronounced in some of our Courts have contributed largely to the spread of crime, and that this wonderful rapid increase has familiarized the public with its commission, blunting the finer feelings, and creating a species of indifference in its regard, unless its effects fall upon ourselves, and then we wonder at the want of sympathy exhibited by others. The theory that a man is sane the instant before committing murder, sane the instant he has consummated the homicide, but insane while perpetrating the act, is not calculated to insure the safety of life. The practice of characterizing the most outrageous crimes by softened and eunuchlike deified terms, may be seen in the fact that when one murders another it is said of him that he made his victim 'pass in his cheeks.' Adultery is now known as 'affinity,' and men run off with others' wives because they have an 'affinity.' Perjury is denominated an 'error of judgment,' robbery is defined as due to having too much 'acquisitiveness,' downright stealing is excused under the name of 'kleptomaniac,' self-murder finds a ready plea in 'temporary insanity,' cheating in business receives hearty applause as 'smartness,' official plundering is called 'defaulting,' and if the 'defaulter' gets off with his booty—which he does in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred—he immediately becomes a 'clever fellow,' a villainous bankrupt is seen in his carriage, with liveried servants, in less than a week after embezzling the money of other people, and the coward crowd lift their hats as he passes. In this manner not only is the social and moral atmosphere poisoned and vitiated, but the streams of business are corrupted defiled and impeded. These terrible evils have been fostered by coining new names for old crimes, and refraining from giving them the abhorrent titles by which they were known to our more primitive and honorable fathers. The press should set the example, and brand every vice by its most expressive title, with the view of ousting the literary filth which has obtained of late years.—*Ex.*

One of the most singular sights growing out of the war is a continuous line of peach trees of nearly fifty miles in length around Petersburg, and extending towards Richmond. They grow from the breastworks thrown up by the rebel army and are the only legacy left by the poor fellows who were on the advance line within one hundred yards of our forces. Having eaten the fruit while on picket duty, they cast the seed aside, and now they appear in one continuous line of forty five miles of beautiful trees, which yielded an abundant crop the last year.

In this connection we have given the telegrams announcing the advance of a Fenian army under Indian guides to fight this Red River expedition, which has not yet started. The absurdity of the canard is so apparent that it is only necessary to say that there is no such army, and that there never was such a person as 'Col. Rankin' in the Fenian organization, in order to expose the fallacy of the whole thing. Of a like nature is the statement of the *New York Sun*, that General O'Neill had left New York on Saturday last, accompanied by two hundred men. Gen. O'Neill was in this city on Monday afternoon; and, if he left then, it certainly was not with any such following. He has made many mistakes of late; but to attempt a movement now, when he is utterly destitute of money, deficient in necessary munitions of war, and unsupported by the bulk of the national organization, would be a crime, of which no one would be guilty but a frenzied madman, or a villain upon whom the execrations of every future generation of our people would fall, for the ruin of a cause that had been brought to near success by the toil and sacrifices of patriotic thousands. We have heard rumors of such a 'movement,' but we warn our people that it is not in the interest of Ireland, but to hide the disgrace of a clique, who, in grasping at a shadowy phantom of power, not based on worth, election, or intellect, have miserably failed, and would fall over upon their fall in a *fiat*. No good or prudent nationalist will countenance any such endeavor that upon which the hope of millions of the Irish race now rest.—*N. Y. Irish American*.

Some A'bany girls who had charge of a table at a Fair for religious purposes in that city played a pretty sharp game to draw custom. They inserted a 'personal' in the papers, in which 'Lizzie' entreated her 'dear John' to meet her at the table named. Every eye was on the look out for the meeting and bought something while waiting.

AN INDIAN WAR THROCK.—The following extract from a letter written by a soldier on the plains to a friend in Milwaukee is printed in the *Evening Wisconsin* of that city.—'We are after the Indians hot blast, and I tell you the man who kicks these fellows up for dogs finds himself woefully deceived. A part of one troop had been on trail of a small band of Sioux, and they had dodged us, and beat us, until we determined to have them, and it appeared, so suddenly, too, that there was no chance for them to escape. Each man seated himself squarely in his saddle, and, with revolver in his hand, we dashed on. There squat each identical Sioux on his pony, just as though we were miles away, and as stoically indifferent as though they didn't care a continental. As we, at gallop, drew near the officer in command felt that we were riding into some trap, but it was too late to sound a retreat, and on we went. I think the distance between us and the Sioux and their ponies was just twelve feet, before a single redskin had moved a muscle; for the shoulders of each identical Sioux came the fiery red blanket he wore, and up and down it was shaken vigorously in the very faces of our horses, and they would do anything we wanted them to—that is to say, they would drive through a prairie fire, alongside a bull buffalo, through a prairie dog village, and over dead Indians, but I tell you, you ought to have seen them, to a horse, turn tail and run from these blankets. We were getting along so nicely and each trooper was so eager to make a sure dead thing of his redskin, that we let the horses have much their own way, and we repented of it. Just as frightened as they could be they paid no attention to curb, and away they went in every direction. Troopers were sprawling on the ground, and others were hauging to horses' manes, with both feet not only out of the stirrups, but pointing up in the air. It was the worst stampede I ever saw, and I have looked at 'some' in my day. If the Sioux had followed up, they might have made a few scalps but they were so well pleased with the result of the trick that those who were unhorsed near them say they disappeared as if they had gone down through the earth. When our troop assembled, we, one and all, declared that the thing was the best of the kind ever heard of, but determined that we would pay them back for it one of these days, and so we will.

A Pennsylvania paper said that a man in town had been drunk thirty-five years, and over a score of others have claimed that it meant them. But neither of them was the right one.

For two or three weeks past a terrible fire has been raging in the Shawangunk mountains, which traverse Sullivan, Orange, Delaware, Dutchess, and Madison counties, New York, and a portion of Pennsylvania. Whether the fire was started purposely or accidentally is not known, but it has already destroyed property to the amount of several millions, and caused the loss of at least three lives, if not more. The whole section swept by the uncontrollable flames present a scene of utter desolation.