



AN IRISH ARCHBISHOP!

DR. THOS. W. CROKE

VISITED AT HIS HOME

IN TIPPERARY

A LEADER OF THE PEOPLE.

HIS VIEWS ON THE LAND BILL AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE PEERS.

Schemes of Federation

(From N. Y. Herald.)

DUBLIN, July 16, 1881.

Imagine a tall, erect and perfectly proportioned stately figure, clad in a Catholic Archbishop's robes, a face handsome, fresh, frank, determined and genial, and you have the outlines of a picture for Dr. Thomas W. Croke, the famous Archbishop of Cashel, a man for many years endeared to the people, not only of his own diocese, but of all Ireland, because his love of country followed closely after his love of the Almighty, and because he was never afraid to brave his superiors and his Government for the benefit of those who looked to him for advice. Many have wondered how Parnell—cold, methodical, unmagnetic; alike ignorant of and untouched by the poetry, the battles, the heroes and adventures by flood and field which fill the pages of Irish history and appeal so strongly to Irish imagination—could ever have found so warm a place in the breasts of his countrymen. The man whom all Ireland would have selected for a leader is their favorite Archbishop, fitted by nature and education to direct the people, to control their passions while arousing them to energy and action, and to appeal to their noblest feelings. Tipperary has been a national county as long back as living memory can travel. The late John B. Dillon, a rebel of '48, was its proud representative; the present John Dillon is a "fighting" member, and has given his liberty to his opinions; F. J. Smyth, another rebel of '48, is Dillon's fellow member. What wonder, then, that Tipperary has an Archbishop in sympathy with its people, and what could be better in the interests of humanity than that an ardent populace should be led and controlled by one in whom they have absolute confidence, but who knows that the national cause may best be served by peaceful means? In the present crisis he has sprung to a power perhaps possessed before, but not before so fully recognized, and he skillfully checked a rising storm of violence without sacrificing the affections of the people nor yet commending himself to the praise of English authorities—to do which may be considered the unpardonable sin in Ireland—and it is to him equally with Parnell that the people look at present for guidance and instruction.

A POPULAR WELCOME.

When I arrived in the south of Ireland a few weeks ago I found his name on every tongue; all his movements were topics of public interest. At Tipperary, when going to a great public demonstration, I followed in his track and found the roadway crisscrossed at intervals for miles with floral emblems of devotion to him, the trees hung with mottoes of welcome, and flowers strewn along his path, which was lined by thousands of cheering people. Wherever I went nothing could exceed his popularity, no character in romance was ever the hero of more incidents creditable alike to head and heart. Spurred by curiosity I ventured to visit Thurles, the seat of the Archbishop of Cashel, a Sunday or two since, and finding a crowd making its way to "The Palace," as the residences of the Bishops of Ireland are somewhat fancifully called, I followed in its wake and soon found myself on a velvety lawn before a house which, if not actually a palace, is a large, beautiful and exceedingly comfortable mansion. I found the Archbishop addressing the people, who turned out to be a deputation from Waterford, and they had been presenting him with an address which testified to their devotion to him and to their approval of his recent actions. After they had gone His Grace treated me cordially and invited me into the house, the interior of which offered numerous evidences of the tastes, the travels and the popularity of its occupant. It was replete with every comfort, the tables covered with books and the numerous illuminated addresses from town corporations and societies are an interesting feature of the dining room, and curiosities characteristic of Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and the Continent are in every room. Perhaps the importation most highly valued in the palace at Thurles is a restless, scared looking little dog from the Fiji Islands, which accompanies the Archbishop wherever he goes, will take his dinner from no other hand and goes frequently to church, where he is as quiet as a monk.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

The opening words of this letter sufficiently describe Archbishop Croke's personal appearance. His age I do not know. A personal acquaintance of His Lordship assured me that he was sixty. Another gentleman who also "knew" informed me, with implicit confidence in his own information, that the Archbishop was forty-eight. I did not personally ask him his age, because I had heard of

the fate of a man who had allowed his curiosity to outweigh his discretion. "Have you any objection to telling me your age, My Lord?" asked this bold individual. "I have, sir," replied the Archbishop with mock severity; "the next thing I know you may be asking me what my income is." I can, however, safely hazard this much. If Dr. Croke be sixty times as dear to his country as he is to himself, he bears his honors and his youth with the dignity and seriousness of one much older. His hair is just tinged with silver, his blue eyes are bright and piercing, his face has not a mark of age, his step is firm and the grip of his hand warm and earnest.

From this time I had several opportunities of conversing with his Lordship, and found him a remarkably entertaining and fascinating talker, with original ideas and easy, graceful ways of expressing them. He has travelled more than most men, seen many countries and many great men. Combining the experience gained by education and many years residence in one of the oldest civilizations—Italy—with several years' life in one of the newest—New Zealand—his mind is naturally broad, liberal and unbiased. He is fond of the impressive ceremonial displays in the conduct of the service of his Church, and I could almost believe I was in some old Romish or Parisian Church at evensong when I wandered into the aisles of the really magnificent Thurles Cathedral, saw the kneeling multitude by the dim lights around the far off altar, heard the low chanting words of the priest and then the slow, sweet music of the organ. Yet the Archbishop is awake to every New World idea, is progressive, and even democratic. He has in his travels been a close observer. He likes to talk over his experience in various parts of the world. His memory of places is remarkable, and even to the details of streets and names of minor people he is never at a loss. He remembers with pleasure his visit to the United States, and particularly to New York and San Francisco, and has many stories, serious and amusing, illustrative of American character and of the unbounded hospitality he met with there.

POLITICAL ATTITUDE.

The attitude of Archbishop Croke has during the progress of the land agitation been noteworthy and creditable alike to his principles and good sense, though to be sure he has not escaped calumny. Appearing first as a firm defender of Parnell and the movement he leads, braving the admonishing voice of the Head of the Church, he has in some degree been forced to appear in the lists against the dictator, by advising the acceptance of the Land Bill as an instalment of justice, though Parnell has openly stamped upon it the mark of his disapproval. That His Lordship is not at all sanguine as regards the effect of the Land Bill will be seen in his conversation below, but it was necessary six weeks ago to calm the people who were becoming riotous and exasperated. In April and May last there were signs of disturbance. The people were irritated at the increasing evictions, the victories of the Landlords' Protective committees, the arrest of a favorite priest, and the threatened arrest of others; they were without leaders, their chiefs being in Parliament or in jail, and the more reckless element of the League was showing itself. The rising could never have been serious. The country was full of military, sufficient to quell any disturbance, but it was desirable that there should not even be the slightest bloodshed. The resistance to authority had gone a step too far, the government showed its teeth, and a strong man and friend of the people was needed to draw the populace back to the line of safety. Archbishop Croke saw the position. It was a difficult one, but his genius was equal to it. In the latter part of May he made a tour of his diocese, during which time he delivered six or eight speeches, in all of which he discussed fully the state of public affairs. Those who watched his course were surprised to see the first address ringing with bold and bitter denunciation of the ruling class, offering no compromise but cheering the people on to further efforts in their own behalf and reminding them of the heroes of their history and the great deeds for liberty accomplished by fishmen dead and gone; while the final speeches, though without anything, advised the acceptance of the Land Bill as a temporary measure, and cautioned them against resisting the authorities, who were goading them on to violence and resistance in order to put them in the wrong. The speeches all through had been becoming more and more moderate, and many thought His Grace was recanting. No such thing. When he began the people were fully aroused; they had been offered with strong words and national sentiments, and would listen to nothing else. Dr. Croke gave them what they wanted, and having gained their complete attention he proceeded to temper his words with reasonable advice. I have heard it said that the Archbishop delivered his last speech first he would have lost his case. Be this as it may he retained and added to his tremendous influence and yet restrained his countrymen from excesses greater than any that had been committed before.

INTERVIEWED.

In the course of his conversations with me Dr. Croke expressed himself frankly as regards the situation in Ireland, and I have made note of some of his more important and interesting utterances, which are here given. Correspondent—Do you think, My Lord, that the Gladstone Land Bill will settle the agrarian question in Ireland? Archbishop Croke—There is not the least likelihood that it will. Rents under the new measure will, I fear, be ever so much too high, and the landlords in many instances cannot afford to lower them, while in other cases they will not consent to do so. Correspondent—Is not the Land Commission to settle disputes a good idea? Archbishop Croke—The commission will at best be a very moderate affair and no

striking effect will be produced by it in this matter.

Correspondent—Do you think the lords will tamper seriously with the Land Bill?

Archbishop Croke—I think the House of Lords will certainly attempt to mutilate the Land Bill and really do so; but I am at the same time of opinion that Mr. Gladstone will not allow them to alter the measure materially for the worse without a struggle. Should he, however, suffer them to have their way, then the useless character of the Land Bill will be placed beyond a doubt.

Correspondent—What would be the feeling in the country if the bill was thrown out or seriously mutilated by the Lords?

Archbishop Croke—There are many, I think, who would like to see the bill thrown out by the Lords or seriously injured by them. I know several among the best thinkers in the popular ranks who believe that the people alone can settle the land question, and that it will never be satisfactorily settled by British legislators. Let the people, they say, now stand to their guns, keep united, determinedly object to pay excessive rents, avoid land grabbers, refuse to bid for or take a farm from which a man has been evicted for non-payment of a rack rent and continue the agitation for a year or two longer, and then landlords will have to come and ask terms from the tenants, who can thus settle the land question on an equitable and "let live" basis. Speaking more generally, however, I am decidedly of opinion that the great bulk of our farming, and, indeed, shopkeeping classes, would be glad to see the present Land Bill provisionally passed into law, especially if fair provision be made in it for leaseholders and tenants in arrears, and still more so if the commissioners appointed by the government under the act be such as to inspire confidence.

Correspondent—Do you think the resentful feeling of the populace would lead them into committing acts of violence?

Archbishop Croke—I think there may be desultory acts of violence here and there in

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BRADLAUGH.

THE ENGLISH DANTON—A PHYSICAL STRUGGLE—SOMETHING LESS THAN A MILLION MEN.

NEW YORK, August 3.—The *Telegraph's* London special says:—When Bradlaugh approached the House of Commons this morning he looked pale and evidently suffered from suppressed excitement. His black dress heightened the effect of his pallor, and it was remarked he looked like an animated corpse. The arrangements to prevent Bradlaugh's entrance were most complete. At the door of the House stood two Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms, flanked on either side by policemen picked for great bodily strength. A number of athletic Conservative members also stood close to the door, anxious to distinguish themselves as volunteers in suppressing the atheist. With a resolute stride the member from Northampton made directly for the door, and so eager were the members to hear and see all that occurred that the rush nearly pushed him with the Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms into the sacred precincts. Erskine, however, barred the way, and informed Bradlaugh that, by the Speaker's orders, he was obliged to forbid him to pass. A parley ensued. Suddenly Bradlaugh seized Erskine and attempted to push him aside. Immediately the member from Northampton was seized by deputies and policemen, who proceeded to drag him across the lobby towards the entrance. He struggled violently, and a most painful scene ensued. He was half pulled and shoved through the door by force, followed by a hundred members, principally Conservatives. Many indulged in jibes. Down the broad stairway, struggling with might and main, with the risk of breaking his own and his captor's necks, Bradlaugh was dragged, until Palace Yard was reached. Then the door was swung to, and the expelled member released from the grip of his assailants. A number of delegates witnessed the scene from beyond the line of policemen, and cries of "shame, shame" rent the air as Bradlaugh was hurled out of the door. These men made a rush to his aid. Umbrellas were brandished, and the angry cries of the spectators in Palace Yard were taken up and echoed by the thousands who were shut out of the yard by a strong cordon of police. When Bradlaugh, who stood in the centre of a circle of policemen, recovered, he said to Inspector Denning that he would return with a force that would compel his admission or arrest. Denning asked him how many would come with him? Bradlaugh replied "Something less than a million." Cheer after cheer was given for Bradlaugh by the people, but the police cleared the precincts of the House and Bradlaugh was left standing almost alone in the midst of the policemen. He remained for half an hour and then left heartily cheered by the crowd.

When Bradlaugh was seized by the member he grappled with him fiercely, shouting, "If any one dares to hinder me." He was hustled down the members' staircase, grappling with the police and members, but no blows were struck. The summonses against the police, applied for by Bradlaugh, were refused, but the magistrate advised him to prepare information in reference to the summonses and charge of assault.

Mr. Bradlaugh's case will be considered by a Cabinet Council. A Ministerial statement on the subject is expected before the close of the session. The *Daily News*, discussing the Bradlaugh affair, says:—We have always maintained, in accordance with the opinion of Lord Salisbury, Law Officers of the Crown, late Attorney-General, and majority of lawyers, that the right claimed by the House of Commons is one which does not belong to it, which it never exercised before, and which sooner or later must, if persisted in, bring it into serious conflict with the constitution. Bradlaugh's own impudence cannot alter the fact that he has been treated with the grossest injustice, and that he represents a principle of the highest political importance.

THE LAND WAR

IN IRELAND

THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

The LAND BILL

WHAT THE "LORDS" ARE DOING.

WHAT THE IRISH PEOPLE ARE DOING.

LETTER FROM MICHAEL DAVITT.

Dillon Would Not Compromise!

[By Cable.]

DUBLIN, August 2. At a meeting of the Land League it was announced that the League would hold a National Convention in Dublin on the 15th of September, to consider the best means to obtain Irish land for Irishmen. The suggestion was unanimously approved. Parnell advised the tenants not to trust to the Land Bill.

Parnell said it would be the duty of the League to select test cases, in different parts of Ireland, to see what the Land Commissioners were going to do, and how much they were going to lower the rents. That would be a test whereby the working of the bill would stand or fall.

There is a strong feeling among a number of Liberal members of Parliament in favor of amnesty to the Irish prisoners on passing of the Land Bill. Parnell's action on Monday checked this feeling, but it is likely to find formal expression before the House rises.

The *Standard* says the attitude of the Parnellites has become increasingly menacing. On Tuesday they were painfully critical of the estimates. There is reason to suppose that their tactics will develop to very combative proportions before the end of the week. Owing to this attitude, negotiations have been re-opened by the Government with the Opposition to secure a declaration of urgency for the remainder of the supply. Conservative amendments to the Land Bill, including those purely technical or verbal, exceed fifty, but the really important ones number less than twenty.

DUBLIN, August 3.—The Land Court has granted the application for liberty of substitutes service of writs in different parts of County Limerick, on the ground that service could not be effected in the usual way owing to the state of the country.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords the Duke of Argyll (Liberal) in an hour's speech attacked the Land Bill, to which, however, he said the Government appeared to be driven, as the Lords were also, by circumstances. He compared the Government to a jelly fish. He advised the Government to tell the Irish that they will henceforth support the decisions of the courts, and that poverty is no excuse for wrong. The Duke of Marlborough (Conservative) also spoke in condemnation of the Bill.

The Duke of Argyll, in his speech on the Land Bill to-day, said there was a feeling of bitterness and humiliation, which was not confined to that House, in being obliged to accept the Bill to which so many had strong fundamental objections. Universal power, he said is given these men of valuing rents all over Ireland, which was eminently ridiculous, and giving absolute right of sale to everybody was eminently unjust. He particularly attacked the provision enabling the Land Court to interfere in leases. The effect of the bill was to retain a poor class of tenants in holdings. This would only perpetuate difficulties in Ireland. No people could prosper who, like many Irish tenants, had been pleading poverty as an excuse for fraud.

Lord Salisbury, Lord High Chancellor, said the Land Bill was fenced in with such safeguards as would prevent any undue interference with the rights of property. The bill would strengthen the moral power of the Government for the enforcement of law.

Cairns (Conservative) said the fact that landlords were suffering by the present state of affairs was due to the Government's abnegation of its primary function and its encouragement it had given the agitation, but he was glad, under the circumstances, of the House not coming to an issue on the second reading, as important amendments in details of the Bill were necessary.

Earl Kimberley having replied to Cairns, the second reading of the bill was adopted without division, and Kimberley expressed satisfaction at the general tone of the debate, showing the unanimous opinion that legislation is necessary upon the lines of the Government's policy.

Denman (Liberal) announced that he would move the rejection of the bill on going into committee, which was fixed for Thursday next.

Lord Denman's motion for the rejection of the Land Bill, on the House going into Committee to-day, was rejected without division.

The first amendment to the Land Bill, excluding from the operation of the bill parts of estates managed on the English system, was adopted without division. The amendment stood in the name of the Duke of Argyll, as did also an amendment which

was carried, 219 to 67, giving to the landlord the right to compensation in case of the sale of a holding of which he had formerly bought up the tenant right.

An amendment offered by Earl Donoughmore, a Conservative, limiting the compensation for disturbance to £250, which was opposed by the Government, was carried, 180 to 91. The Duke of Argyll voted with the minority.

Lord Salisbury's amendment that the words "Court should have reference to interest of tenant and landlord respectively," be struck out, was carried, 184 to 93.

Earl Lansdowne's amendment to strike out the words, "prohibiting the Court from entertaining a proposal for the resumption of any part of a holding for any purpose other than providing for laborers' cottages and gardens during the statutory term," was carried, 195 to 77.

London, August 4.—The *News* says: The obstruction of Liberal measures will continue as long as the constitution of the House of Lords secures the presence of an overwhelming Tory majority. Whatever may be the preponderance of Liberal opinion in the country, the modification of the second chamber is a question which the Lords are rapidly bringing into the range of practical politics.

London, Aug. 6.—The Cabinet Council yesterday considered amendments made to the Irish Land bill by the House of Lords, and, with few minor exceptions, the Cabinet determined to offer uncompromising resistance to their insertions in the act.

August 9.

The House of Lords to-night read the Land Bill a third time without division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Replying to a question by Mr. Cowen (Radical) as to whether the Irish "suspects" would be released or granted a trial, Gladstone said the Government were bound from time to time to consider the circumstances under which they obtained exceptional powers, but his answer must not be considered as foreshadowing any decision.

Mr. Trevelyan, Secretary of the Admiralty, gave confirmation of the report that two torpedo boats had been built in the United States for the British Government.

Sir Charles Dilke said the Government was negotiating with Japan relative to the opium trade, and communicating with other Powers on the subject.

In the House of Commons last night on going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Parnell brought under review the suspension of Mr. O'Kelly, Home Ruler, some weeks ago for characterizing the statement of Earl Tottenham, Conservative, as lying and calumnious. Mr. Parnell argued that the standing order under which Mr. O'Kelly had been suspended was intended only to check persistent obstruction and not to punish the hasty use of language, and he blamed the Speaker for not giving him an opportunity of withdrawing the language he used in the first instance, when he was suspended by a vote of the House for persisting in spite of the Speaker's ruling in raising the question of the Irish political prisoners.

Mr. Gladstone commented very warmly on the liberty assumed by Mr. Parnell of appealing to the rules of the House one night and insulting them the next night, and he severely censured him for introducing the subject at a time when it was impossible for the House to pronounce judgment. Considering that Mr. O'Kelly had used the words immediately after Mr. T. P. O'Connell had been called to order for using the word "mondoctores," he thought the charge against the Speaker had completely failed. The subject then dropped.

London, Aug. 8.—Mr. Forster stated that Mr. Dillon was released because of the report received that further confinement would endanger his life. The report upon investigation was confirmed by the physicians. Under these circumstances it was not thought necessary to ask Mr. Dillon to sign any conditions.

Mr. Labouchere asked the Government's intentions regarding Mr. Bradlaugh. Mr. Gladstone replied that the Government understood that the resolutions preventing Mr. Bradlaugh from taking the oath expired with the present session, and Mr. Bradlaugh would be asked to have the oath administered to him. Meanwhile the Government would consider the matter.

In consequence of Mr. Gladstone's answer, Mr. Labouchere announced he would not proceed with a resolution enabling Mr. Bradlaugh to take the oath despite the resolutions against him.

Mr. Ashley, Secretary of the Board of Trade, replying to the question as to the progress of negotiations for a Consular Convention with the United States, said the Board of Trade had taken initial steps by asking the Foreign Office to move in the matter.

London, Aug. 8.—A Dublin correspondent says the time of the manufacturing and industrial classes is coming, and when the Land question is settled, other questions already beginning to loom before the eyes of political observers will come to agitate the country as much as ever. The agitators will do their utmost to keep the country in a state of ferment. The release of Dillon was quite unexpected. The pastoral of Archbishop McAuley, which was read in the chapels on Sunday, chiefly deals with the prevalence of infidelity on the continent and the danger of its extending to Ireland. It described the Land Bill as a measure which competent men will greatly approve.

The release of Dillon will be followed by the release of nearly all the other persons arrested and imprisoned under the Coercion Act, save those to whom the commission of actual crime is imputed.

Parnell's party have designated the newspaper *The Flag of Ireland* and the *Irishman* the official organs of the Land League.

DUBLIN, Aug. 8.—The release of John Dillon from Kilmalsham Jail has been the cause of universal rejoicing throughout Ireland. At Brossa, Ireland, yesterday, a man named

Murphy was arrested under the Coercion Act. DUBLIN, Aug. 8.—Speaking of Mr. Dillon's release, the *Freeman's Journal* says: We trust this act of justice is as the dawn of the day of liberty to Michael Davitt, and to all John Dillon's fellow prisoners. No tenant could celebrate a Land Bill while the advocate of the tenant lingered in gaol. Mr. Dillon was arrested nominally for a speech at a Land League meeting, but really for the determined agitation against the tyranny which the Government itself has had to de throne.

The *Herald* correspondent saw Mr. Dillon to-day. While ready to speak on personal matters he did not wish to say anything of a political nature. Mr. Dillon stated that he got on well for the first two months, but in the last month his health had given way and caused great uneasiness to his friends. Dr. Kenny and the prison physician both recommended his discharge a week ago but on Saturday Mr. Dillon was informed that the first three months of his confinement had expired and that his term had been extended for three months longer. Dr. Kenny visited him on Sunday afternoon, but then had no idea that his patient would be released for several weeks. The correspondent is informed that a congratulatory meeting of the League was to have been held as a compliment to Mr. Dillon, but he declined it. It is not likely that he will speak at the League meeting to-morrow. If he does speak he will be brief. He will remain in Dublin for two or three days. He is receiving congratulatory telegrams from all parts of the country and America. Reports are hourly arriving of boultres and rejoicings in all parts of Ireland.

The unexpected release of Mr. Dillon created almost as much excitement in Dublin to-day, as his arrest on the 3rd of May last. No reason, whatever, has been assigned for the step on the part of the Government. Mr. Dillon is not in bad health as was at first reported. The statement that he has been released on this ground turns out to be a mere guess.

The evening "meal" when the Governor of Kilmalsham visited him and informed him that he was no longer under restraint. In less than 20 minutes Mr. Dillon was driving home. As he passed up Backville street he did not even stop at the Land League's offices, although there were lights in the windows. The news of the release was accidentally made public by a reporter who called at an out-of-the-way detective station, but it was not credited until the reporters inquired at Mr. Dillon's house and found him in bed. In answer to inquiries he stated that his release was unconditional, and he had not the slightest expectation of his imprisonment being so suddenly curtailed.

A serious conflict between soldiers and civilians has taken place at New Ross.

LONDON, Aug. 9.—Indirect overtures to Dillon, that he should be released on condition of going to Madeira or elsewhere where the climate was favorable for pulmonary disease, were firmly rejected by him. He also positively declined to make any conditions upon his release. In compliance with the urgent requests of Parnell and many Home Rule members of Parliament, he is to be present when the amendments in the House of Lords to the land bill are considered.

LONDON, August 9.—It is stated that Davitt, now in Portland prison, will probably be released by Sept. 1st, on the condition that he does not return to Ireland for 7 years.

LETTER FROM MICHAEL DAVITT.

Mr. Davitt writes as follows from Portland prison to his sister: Since my arrival here my general health has been fairly good. The tonic atmosphere and sea breezes of the island, though somewhat boisterous sometimes, is an agreeable contrast to the damp, foggy climate of Dartmoor, of foggy memory, and as I am at the same time subject once more to those favoured disciplinary conditions of life by which health, wealth and wisdom are at least proverbially acquired, I am, you see, in want of nothing that goes in making sublimity happiness, if I except among a few other trifles those of liberty, the newspaper and some one to speak to.

SCOTCH NEWS.

A small yacht has been sunk off the coast of Butehire, Scotland. Five persons were drowned, including three ladies.

The new Cunard Liner *Servia* left the Clyde on 13th July for the Mersey, where the official trials of the vessel will be made.

The remains of the late Earl of Home were on 12th July interred in St. Bride's, Douglas, the burial place of the Douglas family.

Mr. Asher was on 13th July returned unopposed for the Elgin Burghs, in the room of Mr. Grant Duff, who has been appointed Governor of Madras.

Mr. T. F. Callaghan, Governor of the Bahamas, died suddenly on Sunday in New York, through which he was passing on his way to England in ill-health. Mr. Callaghan was appointed last year.

At a meeting of shareholders in Edinburgh, on 11th July, of the Forth Bridge Railway Company, it was agreed to approve of the withdrawal of the Forth Bridge Railway Abandonment Bill from the House of Lords. The construction of a continuous girder bridge is contemplated.

At J. P. Court in Glasgow, on 14th July, John Gray, master of the SS. *Theils*, was fined £100 for contravention of the Merchant Shipping Act in taking on board twenty seamen at Bordeaux without the consent of the British Consul, and discharging them at Glasgow without appearing before the shipping master.

The deaths registered in Glasgow for the week ending on Saturday last were equal to a rate of 23 per thousand of the population, as compared with 24 per thousand the preceding week. For the corresponding week last year the rate was 26 per thousand, and for the same period in 1879 and 1878 it was 24 and 20 respectively.