

sell the remaining fortunes of her brave brother.

Ferdinand di Mendoza, shortly after their return to Malta, closed his mother's eyes, and then having been wounded again and again in engagements with the Turks, fell at last in 1645 while gallantly defending the bastion of St. Andrew for the Venetians against the infidels, when the island of Crete was at last wrested from them by the Turks. He lived and died as became a Knight of the Cross, and his body—brought back to Malta, by the care of his friend and commander in arms, Adrien de Vignacourt, now rests in the Church of St. John. Very often did his gallant comrade, even when in his turn, many years after, chosen Grand Master, speak of the virtues of his brave brother-in-arms, Ferdinand di Mendoza, and those of his uncle Diego di Santa Croce, and hold them up to his brethren as patterns of Christian heroism, and the flower of the chivalry of Malta.

And Annetta—the poor penitent Annetta Chinese? She was received back again into the bosom of the Church, and, after some time of trial and a penitent life, took the habit of the Third Order of St. Francis. Her aim was ever to imitate the austere life of her aunt; but her constitution could not bear it. Still she persevered, saying nothing could expiate sins like hers. She took the name of Sister Magdalene, and in the hope and love of the penitent saint ended her days in peace. She rests in the vault beneath the Church of St. John, beside the good and humble Sister Francesca, who had prayed so long and so earnestly for her conversion, and the mother, whose prayers at last won the grace of her poor child's return to the fold of Christ.

Reader, if you have had any pleasure in perusing this little tale, in your charity say an Ave for the writer, and then breathe one little prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the removal of that great stumbling block in the way of many English hearts to the truth, that scandal of Christendom,—the schism that separates the East from Catholic unity. It is one of the great thoughts which occupies the paternal heart of the Sainly Pius IX., and Indulgences have been granted for devotions used to this end. Prayer is the Catholic's weapon, and it is one that cannot fail where the glory of God is the end asked for; and our Mother, the Church, points out the formulas she wishes to be used to attain it.—There are few that fully take in the immense importance of this devotion, nor how truly the morning is beginning to dawn over the benighted lands of the once glorious East, grovelling till now beneath Moslem sway, priestly fanaticism and ignorance, and arising, we hope, to a fairer and better day. The apostolate of the greatest part of the Catholic world is prayer; and when the Lord of the harvest comes to make up His sheaves, what will be the joy of the poor, the ignorant, the sick, the helpless, to find that their petitions have helped on the hour when all shall be gathered into the one fold under the one Shepherd!

THE END.

IRELAND AND ITS CONDITION.

(From the London Times.)

Ireland is just now enjoying one of those glimpses of peace and prosperity which, like its own sunshine, its own rainbows, and its own green waterside meadows, ever and anon relieve its sunniest moods and its dreariest scenes.—Since the waters retired, there has been no such country for change. Indeed, those who talk of submerging the island for twenty-four hours can hardly know how much the country, at least where its breasts the Atlantic, looks as if it had but just emerged from the watery waste. But that is its social as well as its physical character, and just now it is basking in the sunshine. Yesterday we had to record the rare incident of a maiden Assize for the county. In the former instance the traditional white gloves meant something more than the sessions had disposed of the business, for they had been equally immaculate for some time. Yet Kilkenny is a large and populous town, known for centuries, on the one hand as the stronghold of rapacious lords supported by a dominant class, and on the other hand, as the resort of an oppressed and turbulent population. The name has not lost its savor even in these times, but in this happy year of grace, outrage and crime are unknown there.—One is reminded of the old Saxon chronicles, which, amid long annals of misery and violence, tells us of regions when a man might safely leave his purse hanging on a twig by the roadside, and the feeblest and fairest might traverse England a foot without hurt or harm. Ireland, in truth, has never done herself justice in the eyes of her critical sister. She complains so much, she keeps up such a wrangle of class grievance, and drives far away both the passing tourist and the permanent settler. In her own line of melancholy beauty—a medley of all things, like a poet's dream half created, half ruined, a chaos of mountains, lakes, sea, and land, earth and sky—she has no equal that we know of. But, with all this, she has a people as interesting at least as the Swiss, Italian, Arab, or any of the still more outlandish races known to the British tourist. The people do their best to please their visitors, and are not more unreasonable in their expectation than is usual with those who depend on this short and precarious harvest. The accommodation and conveyances are quite equal to the demand, and the roads, as everybody knows, are considerably in advance of it. There is less robbery, less incivility, less rudeness, less fraud, and less to annoy the moral sense than in countries pretending to a much higher civilization.

In truth, there is not so much material of crime, or opportunity of crime, or habit of crime, as in cities full of all kinds of wealth in its most portable forms, where social check and personal responsibility are lost in the crowd, and where the vices have their institutions and schools. If any of our people are wholly undecided whether to turn their wandering steps, we assure them that they will not repent an Irish tour. They will see a combination of curious old towns,

ancient churches, castles, abbeys, monuments of unknown antiquity, lakes, cataracts, mountains, sea friths; archipelago of islands, and landscapes of undefeatable beauty and grandeur, which can nowhere else be found, except in a wide and distant pilgrimage. And they will see it all with fewer annoyances and lingering heartburns than are sure to mar the pleasure of most other tours. We are not sure, we may not add that the English tourist will find himself in better company than in the more frequented Continental routes, where he often has cause to be ashamed of his country.

It is not easy to say why that prosperity which seems to flow westward should hitherto have left so few traces of its passage on the westernmost shore of this empire, and of this quarter of the world. Why has not Ireland its New York, its Boston, its Philadelphia, and its Baltimore?—We grant that its bays have little protection, its rivers are not very navigable, its soil not very fertile, and its climate somewhat capricious, if not absolutely ungenial. But a commanding position has often counterbalanced more serious disadvantages. A large population can be supported, and life can be enjoyed in Ireland; and the Irishman who has never touched other soil is quite as fine a specimen of humanity as the native Scotchman, Yorkshireman, or East Anglian. He is quite as able to make his way under new circumstances, and far more lively, cheerful, and witty.

Is it too much to say that Ireland has not yet seen her day, and attained her highest destiny—that destiny which dances like a dream in her history and her fictions, and has hitherto refused to be grasped and embodied? If such a consummation be still in store, and that ancient tree has still to bear fruit, all history surely indicates one necessary step that way. No nation ever became great except by a mixture of races. It is the mixed race that swallows up the less mixed all around, and becomes the leaven of a mass out of all proportion to itself. The nationalities which fill the world with their complaints, but are never able to right themselves, and cannot even stand alone without aid, are those of pure ancient blood. They are too distinct to assimilate, or to get on well with their neighbors. They can neither comprehend nor be comprehended, and are eventually crushed and ground to powder rather than be fused or affiliated. Ireland has hitherto been too Irish [perhaps too Catholic, Mr. Times!] to make her way with the rest of us.—A time may come when the proportion of Irish to English there, or, rather, of all foreigners to the natives, will put the country in a better condition for the great race of nations. Ireland may then be no more distant from us than Lancashire or the valley of the Clyde. The tourist, however, is content to see Ireland without her fair share of spinning-jennies, power looms, tall chimneys, and coal smoke. He wants to see nature in her wildest moods, and adorned rather with the melancholy relics of the past than with the living presence of vulgar prosperity. He can go there and be grave or gay at discretion; he can live in the past, the present, or the future; in the face of nature or the mind of the people—whichever he will. He will have his choice of factions, religions, and politics; and he will find he brings back at least as much as he could have done from any Continental tour of twice the time, mileage, and cost.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

ENNIS CONVENT OF MERCY.—On Thursday morning at ten o'clock a Solemn Office and High Mass were offered up at the Convent of Mercy, Ennis, for the repose of the soul of Miss Catherine Kenny, sister of the Very Rev. Dean Kenny, of that town, who departed this life on Tuesday, in the 72nd year of her age. For some time previous to this sad lady's decease she had resided at the Convent, whither she had retired in order the more fully to enjoy all the advantages arising from pious care and heavenly contemplation. During her last moments she was surrounded by the good Nuns, whose Order owes its establishment in Ennis as much to her elevated and disinterested piety as to the pious exertions of her venerable brother. After the celebration of Mass, at which the Rev. Mr. Newport was Celebrant, Rev. Mr. Shannon, Deacon, and Rev. Mr. Semple, Subdeacon, a solemn procession of about thirty Priests was formed, who chanted the Requiem, followed by twenty-eight of the Sisters of Mercy bearing lighted tapers, who in turn were succeeded by the relatives of the deceased lady, together with a vast number of other respectable persons. The burial took place in the cemetery of the Convent, and was the first in its sacred precinct.—Correspondent of the Dublin Freeman.

ST. BRENDAN'S SEMINARY, KILLARNEY.—The directors of St. Brendan's Seminary have taken means to supply a want which was much needed in connection with that invaluable institution. They have arranged with the admirable brothers of the Presentation Monastery to board and lodge a certain number of the pupils receiving their education in the institution, thereby supplying a desideratum in the arrangements, in that way, which must satisfy the lay friends of the youthful students, as well as their reverend guardians, while it assures the Lord Bishop of the diocese that their recreation will be equally subjected to that discipline which is the best aid to learning, and the safest preparation for their future career, whether secular or ecclesiastical. It is seldom, indeed, that a Catholic seminary can call in aid the co-operation of such a hall of residence, and seldom can the alumni of any educational college, secure such advantages as a residence in this monastery will afford.—Trilce Chronicle.

ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM.—His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Tuam proceeded on Monday last to attend the Synod of the Prelates which has been going on in Dublin during the week. The Rev. Ulic J. Bourke, Professor St. Jarlath's has been also to the City. On Friday week our illustrious Archbishop accompanied by his chaplain the Rev. James McGee, has returned in the enjoyment of his wonted good health.—Comnaught Patriot.

The Most Rev. Dr. O'Regan, Bishop of Chicago, United States has been sojourning at Framore this week. His Lordship, who is a native of Tuam, was a class fellow at Maynooth with the Rev. P. Kent, the respected pastor of St. Patrick's, in this city, who was favoured with an early visit from the most reverend gentleman.—Waterford News.

Lately the ceremony of clothing with the White Veil was performed in the choir of the Presentation Convent, Carrick-on-Suir, by the Very Rev. R. Fitzgerald, P.P., V.G., in the absence of the Lord Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, the Right Rev. Dr. O'Brien. Miss Catherine O'Neill (in religion Sister Mary Margaret Alacque, Religious of the Order of the Visitation) is the young lady who had the happiness of receiving the holy habit on this occasion.—Waterford Citizen.

MONASTERY OF ST. ANTHONY, DUBLIN.—In this convent of the Redemptorists, (the only one of the Order in the United Kingdom) the interesting ceremony of Reception took place on the Feast of St. Bartholomew, the 24th inst. The holy habit was received by Miss Emma Smyth, of Cork, in religion Sister Mary Margaret of the Sacred Heart, and Miss Margaret Power, of Limerick, in religion Sister Mary Veronica of Jesus Crucified. The Very Rev. Canon Power officiated, and preached a sermon suitable to the solemn occasion. There were several Clergymen and some of the students of Holy Cross College present as well as a large circle of the relatives and friends of the newly received.—Freeman.

PROPOSED CONFERENCE OF IRISH MEMBERS.—There cannot be a doubt that action is expected from the present members by their constituencies—and not action merely, but initiative. They cannot all be aware of the labour rival in Ireland of something like a working hope in resort to Parliament, for those political and social reforms upon which the material prosperity of the country is felt so largely to depend. We are amongst those, it will probably be admitted, who laboured most steadily to spread our own conviction—that, whatever might be the value or success of a parliamentary policy; that there was now no other possible for Ireland. Neither will it be denied, we think, that an unexpectedly general response has been given by the good sense of the country, to the appeals which it knew to be honest, and to reasons, which for the present, at all events, it has accepted as convincing. The people of Ireland have pronounced once more in favour of resort to Parliament; but we cannot resist the feeling, that they have so decided for the last time, if during the coming Parliament—be its duration long or short—nothing shall be wisely, laboriously, and above all, harmoniously attempted by the Irish members for the service of the country. The people are not so unreasonable as to look for immediate success to the labours of their representatives, but they are entitled to have the only conditions under which success is possible—steady work and intelligent co-operation—complied with by their servants. There must be, we take it, a considerable number of popular representatives substantially agreed on all the leading features of the Irish programme; for these, assuredly, there should be nothing easier than concert. If concert implied leadership, there might be difficulty in the way; but nothing of the kind is requisite. Conference, comparison of ideas, and adjustment of individual opinion to the opinion of a majority, make up all the requirements of concord, sufficient to bring about a common policy and habitual co-operation amongst those of the Irish Liberals—and we believe them to be many—who are in earnest. This concerted action, however, it is plain, is not to be had without meeting, without conference, and correspondence. We do not pretend to suggest the day or the place; some of the Irish representatives may be out of immediate reach, and some may be engaged in private business for which time, it will be pleased, must be allowed them, at least during the recess. Still there is nothing to prevent the immediate assembling of as many as can be drawn together, the organization of a correspondence with the more distant, and the making of arrangements for the fully attended conference at some convenient time before the meeting of Parliament. This is the very first practical earnest of sincerity which will be required by the constituencies from their representatives; this is the first step that any rational man would recommend towards the establishment of an Irish Liberal party, whose steady, harmonious, and well ordered work in Parliament would be the most powerful agency that can be suggested for the creation of that enlightened opinion in the country upon which the Irish representatives will have to depend for a great part of their usefulness. We referred to the subject once before within the last few days. It has, since then, received valuable discussion in our columns and elsewhere, and we have thought it right, under a persuasion of the absolute necessity of a common policy as well as of close and sustained co-operation amongst the Irish Liberal members, to press the matter once again upon constituents and representatives, with a view to the earliest action that can be taken by both, during the four or five months' interval between the present date and the meeting of Parliament.—(Dublin Evening Post.)

IRISH FISHERIES.—A deputation waited on the Lord Lieutenant on Tuesday for the purpose of obtaining his co-operation in influencing the Government to obtain a naval training vessel for Galway Bay.—The deputation consisted of Lord Oubrock, Hon. Gerald Dillon, High Sheriff of Galway; Sergeant Armstrong, M.P.; Mr. Michael Morris, Q.C., M.P.; Captain Burke Foster, J.P.; Mr. J. M. Paine, J.P.; Mr. George Morris, J.P.; Captain Marcus Lynch, J.P.; and others. A memorial was handed in, setting forth the advantage there was in having a naval training ship stationed on a coast where so many fishermen subsisted; that it would benefit the navy by obtaining many seamen, and largely benefit the people on the coast, who were very poor. The memorialists concluded by saying they considered it but a very small instalment of imperial expenditure within the province of Connaught, that this request should be granted. It is a request whose foundation is justice, whose aim is self-reliant improvement, and whose effects are conducive to the best interests of the empire. Mr. Morris, M.P., who introduced the deputation, said there was no naval training vessel in any port of Ireland at present. There was merely a coast-guard ship at Kingston, while there were six or seven training vessels at English ports and two in Scotland. Mr. Oubrock stated that in consequence of the depression of trade and decrease of trading vessels entering Galway, employment for the seafaring population, especially the boys, had fallen off, and the deputation thought if they could have these boys sent on board a training vessel a national benefit would be gained. They had not a fair share of public expenditure in Galway. All the soldiers had been taken away. The Lord Lieutenant.—That speaks well for the peace of the neighbourhood. Mr. Oubrock.—Yes; but it certainly lessens our revenue is not having the expenditure of the sum of money that would be given by a regiment. The Lord Lieutenant.—Is there a large seafaring population? Mr. Oubrock.—There is. The bay of Galway consists of a multiplicity of bays, and almost every man is a fisherman. The Lord Lieutenant.—I fancied the bays were very good but that the population were not so seafaring as might be, considering the opportunities afforded them. Mr. Oubrock.—I do not think in the world you would find a better class of men. Taking the whole west coast, it abounds with a fishing population, and there are families wholly dependent upon maritime exertions. I don't think you could find a district from Kilrush to Sligo where there are a greater number of boys fit for maritime life, and these have no other place to go after they have been educated in the National Schools, and have attained the age of fourteen or fifteen years. The Lord Lieutenant.—Your Excellency has asked a question with reference to the seafaring population. I think I am quite correct in stating that there is no place in the country where there is such a superabundance of such a population, for all round the coast, no matter what means of subsistence the people have, they all take part in fishing, and they are in the habit of being out in boats at all times; and as to practical experience in seamanship there could not be a better school than the harbor of Galway. I have no doubt that if the boys were taken and educated they would be very useful. Mr. Halliday observed that, taking into account two unions in Clare, three in Galway, four in Mayo, and one in Sligo, these afforded a coast of which the population was 66,400.

The Lord Lieutenant.—Are many of these seafaring people? Mr. Halliday said three out of four were; and a large proportion were engaged in the seaweed trade. Taking the indentations of the coast between the points he had indicated, it gave a line of 370 miles. The Lord Lieutenant.—I will forward this application to the Admiralty, but it is a matter that depends entirely upon them. It is beyond my competency, and one in which my opinion is of little value. I will send the memorial to the proper quarter, and state how much importance is attached to it, and it must then depend upon the Admiralty alone. The deputation then withdrew.

THE CROPS IN THE NORTH OF IRELAND.—With the exception of some slight showers, the past week has been most favourable to harvest operations, and a large portion of grain crops have been cut down and stooked. Another week or ten days of fine weather will probably see the whole of the cereal harvest finished. The wheat continues to turn out exceedingly well, and oats are likely to be an average, though short in the straw. Flax is now ready for the mill. A good deal, indeed, has been scutched, and the reports of such as had been put through its last stage, and sent to market, are more favourable than the earlier accounts led us to expect. The yield is greater, and fibre is more sound and finer than last year's crop, although, of course, there are exceptions. We regret to notice that the potato disease has shown itself in many quarters throughout this district. Hitherto the blight has not extended to the tubers, and with dry, fine weather, the roots may yet be saved from infection; but should the weather turn very wet the probabilities are that the loss will be considerable, as a great breadth of land was put under crop this year. We may mention that there is no appearance of the cattle plague in this or other parts of the country.—Belfast Whig.

THE POTATO CROP.—Accounts from various parts of Ireland, both north and south, represents the potato crop as considerably affected with the blight of former years. In many fields in the districts around this city, the brown rusty spot on the leaves only too plainly indicates the old disease. As yet, few of the tubers are affected, as a general rule, although in some parts of the country serious damage appears to have been sustained. The Sligo Chronicle, referring to that neighborhood, says,—Rocks have withstood the attack. In some fields where flounders are growing, no less than a third part of the crop is destroyed. On the whole, however, it is hoped that, as the crop is so far advanced, the effects of the blight will be, therefore, inconsiderable, while the crop itself is superior and abundant.—London Standard.

A traveller, in a letter to the Northern Whig, gives the following description of the crops in the south and west of Ireland, as viewed from a railway carriage.—

From Belfast to Portadown the cultivation is good and crops in general good. Oats and flax short in the straw. Most of the latter was either spread after steeping or in stooks, some of which appeared at Portadown to be the longest I have seen this year.—There were small quantities here and there stooked up for seed. From Portadown to Dundalk there was very little flax to be seen, only small patches such as a family would sow for their own use, and the same may be said all along the rest of the line, only less quantities and far between, some patches growing seemingly not worth pulling. About Dundalk and Drogheda the crops seemed very good, and reaping had commenced. About Dublin the crops are excellent. Passing through Kildare, Queen's County, Tipperary, and Kerry, and back to Limerick, there is very little cultivation, so much so that it would appear not equal to supply the rural population.—Everywhere through these latter counties were to be seen large numbers of fine cattle and sheep, and some few young horses. I expected to have seen the fields in the Southern counties cleared of grain, but this year we are as far forward with the harvest in this part of the country Down as they are in the South; but it rained every day, less or more, from the time we arrived in Dublin, on the 8th, until we returned to Belfast on the 19th inst, which must have prevented reaping, as the grain in most places seemed quite ripe—barley in particular, of which large quantities are sown near all towns, and seemed a good crop. Potatoes seemed a good crop everywhere, but very soft, and not well tasted in any town I stopped at above Dublin, but in the metropolis they were excellent. Before I left Kerry, the old disease was visible in the tops, and an odd tuber was found diseased in every dish; however, they are now nearly ripe, and it is to be hoped there will be but little loss when they are taken out of the ground.—On our return journey we stopped at Moira station, and had a splendid view of a large tract of the county Down, which, for cultivation and grain crops, seemed to yield more corn than any two counties showed on the line of railway. To return to Holywood, I will not positively state the average of the crops, but at present my opinion is they are an average; and potatoes will be above an average if they turn out as well as the tops appear. DEATH FROM DISEASED MEAT.—We have been informed that several deaths which have occurred amongst the peasantry during the present month have been traceable to the use of diseased pork, as an epidemic is raging amongst pigs, large numbers having been carried off, the flesh too frequently being used by the lower orders, and as a consequence, a species of English cholera attacked the partakers of this unwholesome food. Our attention has been called to this matter by an inquest held by Colonel Rutledge and Mr. George Maloney, R.M., at Curragherrow (Kilcommon), on the bodies of John and Martin Sheridan, who it was found by medical testimony had come to their deaths after eating a small quantity of diseased pork, which was also partaken of by members of the same family, but who, fortunately, by medical care, recovered from its poisonous effects. The jury very properly, under the directions of the presiding magistrates, appended the following caution to their verdict:—"We, the undersigned jurors, from the evidence we have heard, are of opinion that the said Martin and John Sheridan came by their deaths from eating unwholesome food, and we would earnestly caution the poor people of this neighbourhood to abstain from eating the flesh of animals that have been diseased." We trust the authorities throughout the country will use every effort to prevent the sale or consumption of the flesh of diseased animals, as we regret to say there are persons unprincipled enough to purchase these carcasses and dispose of them to the poorer classes.—Mayo Constitution.

A special correspondent of Saunders' Newsletter gives the following account of the present Social aspect of the South of Ireland:—

Unless the peasant mistakes you for a spy, a gauger, or a valuator going to raise the rent on him, his intelligence and practical knowledge are very valuable in enabling you to go below the surface, and learn the true condition of the country. The first great apparent change is in the improved condition of the dwellings and dress of the people. In Wexford, Kilkenny, Tipperary, and Waterford, one no longer sees the normal dung pit and pool of fetid water in close proximity to the house, the unfailing friend to typhus fever and dysentery; the roofs are now fairly thatched and the walls whitewashed; and not rarely may be observed some little attempt at ornament in the way of a hedge row, or flowers in the potato garden. But it is in the dress, especially of the women, that the most marked progress has been made. Twenty years ago the wearing of shoes and stockings was the exception and not the rule, and on a fair or market-day, when the little properties of life were to be observed, these articles were carried until the owners reached the environs of the town, and were then put on, more for ornament than use. But at present the neatly-shaped boot is to be found inside the house, while a more clumsy shoe is available for the rough work in the fields; and on

Sundays the road glitters with the variety of bright colours suspended on the crinolines, which fashion has imported into the most primitive districts. It may, however, be asked, has this external improvement been gained by rising into idleness, or, if not, from whence can the money be obtained? The solution is an easy one; the price of butter, of poultry, of eggs, &c., has increased enormously, and the demand is still more than equivalent to the supply; and shippers who send to England have their various agents going about and opening depots, whose purchases are promptly made; so that eggs, which used to be sold for three or four a penny in any village, will realize in summer from 7d. to 10d. a dozen, and in winter go up as high as even 1s.; and chickens that were a drug at 6d. are readily taken at 1s. and more. The daughters of the small farmers are allowed to rear fowls for themselves; and one woman, whose flock of turkeys in a wild part of the county Waterford constituted quite a picture, stated that she paid the rent of the ground she held—namely, 33s. a year; by this one source of revenue. It is in the matter of food and creature comforts that no equal progress has been made; and from my observation I should be led to the conclusion that those of the Irish who are a little elevated over the hand-to-mouth condition of the mere labourer, display a wonderful amount of prudence, forbearance, and cheerfulness of mind, under what would try the temper and incite the impudence of the same class of people at the other side of the Channel. They are grateful for the returning supply of wholesome and cheap food, given through the agency of the potato, and buttermilk is an indulgence, while the use of fresh milk would be a luxury only to be occasionally gratified. Rarely, even on a Sunday does bacon accompany the pot of cabbage, and pigs, butter, fowl, and even eggs, are reserved for sale, not for personal enjoyment. No doubt 'starvation' will and must demoralize, but the peasantry here, who certainly enjoy but a restricted and little-varying diet, are not debilitated; and even the most prejudiced must admit that the virtue of the women is a fine feature in their character. With respect to the diminished numbers of the people, from the effects of the famine years and subsequent emigration, the result of inquiry from various quarters leads to the conclusion that while the soil if worked adequately would sustain more than were ever on its surface, yet that in the present state of agriculture there are hands enough to do the required work, and that without the employer being obliged to pay more than a decent rate of wages. There were periods when a man, willing to work for 3d. a day and his diet could not even be secure of that; and surely the average of 6s. or 7s. a week for one who, most likely, has others dependent on him, is not in excess of what the most cold-blooded of political economists would sanction, when balancing his favourite rows of figures against the shrieking and sensitive objects of humanity placed in the opposite scale. Many of the farmers are now beginning to buy or hire reaping machines, and in the very busiest period of the harvest 2s. or 2s. 6d. for men, with their diet, and 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. for binders constituted no very excessive tariff. It was an amusing sight to behold the 'hiring,' as it took place in the o. e. space before the Parade at Kilkenny. A farmer or steward would approach one of the groups and make his offer. Eventually something like an issue was kept between the parties, and, when a band was fairly hired they were greeted either with cheers, if the price obtained was a high one, or with derisive groans if they yielded too easily to the pressure which capital can always apply when in antagonism to unemployed labour. The steward, &c., then collected the reaping books of his gang as a 'material guarantee' for their faithful attendance, and thus by degrees the Parade became thinned. But when the last batches of f' thews and sinews' won a higher price, the enthusiasm burst forth.

At a *déjeuner* given on Monday in Kingstown harbour, on board the Mongolia by the directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company, Mr. Anderson, the chairman, gave an interesting sketch of the rise and progress of the Company:—

The Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company was, he said, substantially an Irish enterprise, and it was very gratifying to him to be able to tell the Irish shareholders that their interests had not been neglected, besides giving them an opportunity of inspecting one of their splendid steam vessels (hear, hear). The company had a humble beginning; its projects lost at least two or three hundred pounds; but they were not discouraged, they persevered and at length arose the great Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, of whose position that day he and they might feel justly proud (applause). The company possessed about sixty steam vessels of the finest class and largest dimensions in the world (hear, hear). They employed nearly 8,000 men in connection with their ships, and afforded altogether employment and subsistence to between 30,000 and 40,000 persons (hear, hear). The company carried on the most important steam communication in the world, and performed the duty in the most satisfactory manner. It was true the complaint was made that they had a monopoly. Well, all he could say was that, if they had a monopoly, they deserved it; as long as they carried on the public traffic cheaper and better than the government paid others to do it, he trusted that they would continue to enjoy their monopoly, for it was most creditable to them (hear, hear). In conclusion, he begged to repeat the expression of his gratitude for the kind manner in which his name had been greeted, and to assure the Irish shareholders, whom he hoped to see on many occasions in future (hear, hear), that he would never cease to pay the utmost attention to their interests in the great company (applause).

NO IRISH NEED APPLY.—The following article appears among the leaders of the Irish Times:—

The following advertisement appeared in the Irish Times of yesterday:—

Wanted daily or periodical instruction for his two little boys, by a man living close to a station on the Meath Railway. The instruction comprising Latin can be given either at the home of children or tutor. No Irish gentleman need take the trouble of replying. Address L. A., Post Office, Booterstown, Co. Meath.

We are happy to say that no advertisement of a similar character has ever before been sent for publication to the Irish Times. We know not who the gentleman living close to a station on the Meath Railway may be, who thus insolently states "that no Irish gentleman need take the trouble of applying to tutor to his little boys. This, however, we do know, that no teachers are superior, and very few are equal, to those Irish gentlemen who earn an honorable competency by training the youth of their country to beat competitors from all quarters in the fair field of open competition. Perhaps the advertiser is a Cockney; but he might have had the prudence to advertise for 'a native of England' and avoid wantonly insulting the country in which, and around which, he lives. Those little boys may hereafter have lasting cause to regret that their education was not entrusted to an Irish gentleman, who would have taught them, at least, that vulgar insolence they are likely to learn.

We notice in the Spectator a violent protest against the granting of the protecting measure claimed by those Irish persons who have an interest in cattle.—It objects to the recognition of 'geographical lines' within the British Empire, and to 'special legislation'—though, as a matter of fact, those lines are recognised and such legislation takes place in every session of Parliament. The Spectator admits that the prohibitions, might be 'serviceable to Ireland'; but then 'national legislation must be for the benefit of the nation, not of this or that morsel of it.' That is the Imperial policy, the application of which is pauperising and depopulating Ireland. It is for Irishmen to reply that their country has a right to be legislated for by a home Government; that will protect and develop Irish interests, irrespective of how far they may or may not accord with the interests of the British Empire.