

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

Dublin, Nov. 19.—An appeal to the generous spirit of Irishmen of all classes has been made on behalf of the family of the late Mr. Maguire, M.P., who are left by his unexpected death without adequate provision. It has called forth a hearty response from the political opponents as well as from the friends of the lamented gentleman, and it is hoped that a national and permanent testimonial will be a most fitting with this object in view. An influential meeting with this object in view was held yesterday at the Mansion-house. It was presided over by the Lord Mayor, and comprised a number of gentlemen who are prominently identified with different lines of political action. A spirit of harmony, as gratifying as it is rare, was manifested by all present, and the work in hand was undertaken with an earnestness which augurs well for its success. Mr. J. A. Blake, Dr. Munsell, and Mr. Mark A. O'Shaughnessy were appointed honorary secretaries. The first resolution was moved by Mr. Pim, M.P., and testified to the sorrow widely prevalent among men of all parties in consequence of the death of a distinguished countryman, in whose public life and labors they recognized and honored the unselfish devotion to what he believed to be the public good, a generous consideration for the feelings of others, and an indefatigable zeal in the advancement of the social, moral, and material interests of the country. Mr. Pim bore witness from personal observation to the fact that Mr. Maguire was an able and attentive member of the House of Commons, that he was listened to with respect, and was very desirous of promoting the public good. Major Knox, D.L., seconded the resolution. The next resolution, which was moved by the Hon. D. Plunket, M.P., seconded by Mr. M. P. D'Arcy, M.P., expressed regret that the unremitting and laborious attention which Mr. Maguire bestowed on his public duties not only brought on the disease from which he died, but left his young and numerous family without adequate provision. Mr. Plunket observed that there were many questions not concerned with politics in which he had been able to agree with the deceased gentleman, who by his character in the House and in the country, and still more by his exertions and eloquence, nobly assisted in promoting the success of the common cause. He had found Mr. Maguire a kind and considerate opponent in public, and in private a courteous, considerate, and honest friend. On the motion of Sir J. Gray, M.P., seconded by Mr. Lombar, J.P., a resolution was passed, in which it was recommended that a national fund be raised for the exclusive benefit of Mr. Maguire's family, and by a subsequent resolution a committee was appointed to carry out the object of the meeting. A subscription of £100 from Mr. Mitchell Henry, M.P., was acknowledged.

The Court of Queen's Bench refused an application on the part of the defendant to change the venue in the action for libel brought by Mr. Stannus, J.P., lato agent of the Hertford estates, against the proprietor of the Northern Whig. To-day the Court is expected to give judgment on a motion of Sergeant Armstrong, on the part of the plaintiff, to set aside certain defences filed by the defendant. Two publications in August last were especially complained of, and formed the subject of the action. One was as follows:—

"A tenant on the Hertford estate has also called on us, and given the following statement:—The feeling over the estate is universally one of rejoicing that Sir Richard Wallace is about to become our landlord, and hardly less so the feeling that Mr. Walter Trevor Stannus should cease to be our agent. Nevertheless, a number of memorials have undoubtedly been prepared and sent out praying Sir Richard Wallace to continue Mr. Stannus as agent; and it is not impossible that, by misrepresentation and exercising the pressure which has so often been applied, some of the tenants may be induced or intimidated into signing these memorials. It is the duty of every honest man on the estate who in his heart condemns the tyrannical system of managing tenants to act as his conscience dictates, and refuse to put his hand to what he well knows to be untrue. Any tenant who holds the opinions which have been referred to will be false to himself and false to his fellow tenants if he, through any vain fear of possible consequences, is so weak or so craven, as to sign one of those memorials. None need be afraid of refusing, or refraining, for, with the Land Act to protect them, no agent can do them wrong in the future. The Hertford tenantry if they could vote by ballot would vote 99 out of every 100 against Mr. Walter Stannus being continued as agent over them. Every one on the estate knows this, and it is hoped no independent man will be found to belie his convictions by signing these memorials."

The interpretation put on the article was that the plaintiff had caused a memorial to be prepared praying Sir Richard Wallace to retain him in the agency, and had used misrepresentation and undue pressure to induce the tenants to sign it. The second publication was an article announcing that a new agent would be appointed, with the sarcastic remark that the news would not be very agreeable to Mr. Walter Stannus, though it would be right welcome to the tenants. The writer proceeded to comment upon the change in the condition of the tenants, who had been in a state of despondency, without even a landlord to whom they could occasionally appeal for sympathy against an apparently irresponsible agent, but who had become tenant of one of the most generous of men, and, referring to the management of the property, remarked that the complaint "had long been that the officer interfered in all social and political relations of the tenants," and that Dean Stannus and his son, the plaintiff in the action after having "so long enjoyed such authority on the estate in the late Marquis's name, showed their respect for his memory by disregarding the codicil of the will conferring the Hertford property on Sir Richard Wallace." Counsel objected to a plea traversing the publication, and said it would be monstrous to oblige the plaintiff to resort to a bill of discovery in equity to prove publication. He objected that other pleas stated nothing which could be met, but averred at large matters that on the trial might lead to endless investigation. Mr. Butt, Q.C., supported the defence, which included pleas of fair comment, privileged communication, and that the articles were not published maliciously.

William Collins, an accountant in the Cork Gas Company's employment, who lately absconded with £6,000, and, after an active pursuit, was arrested in Geneva, was brought before the magistrats yesterday and committed for trial. A large sum of money—nearly the whole of what he abstracted—was found on him when arrested.

The election for Derry is fixed for to-morrow.—The Home Rule party had a meeting last night, at which Mr. Bigger and some of the usual speakers at the meetings of the association in Dublin were present. A letter was read from Mr. John Martin, M.P., recommending him to the electors, and resolutions were passed in his favor. Mr. Lewis and Mr. McCorkell are still in the field on the Conservative side.

A singular case came before the Court of Queen's Bench yesterday. A man named John Reynolds is in prison on a charge of highway robbery, and an application was made to discharge him. It was opposed on the part of the Crown, and the facts stated were briefly the following:—The prosecutor was Mr. George Henry Taylor, an English gentleman, a widower, from Lincoln's-inn, who came to Ireland on a matrimonial expedition. He had a servant of the same name, and alleged to be a cousin of the prisoner, to whom, in London, he had communicated his desire to get married again if he could meet with

a person in as good circumstances as himself or better. Reynolds, his servant mentioned as an eligible lady "Miss Mary Ann McKenna, of No. 5, Drumshambo," who, he said, was the only child of a gentleman worth £1,000 a year, and who had 600 acres of land. The prosecutor asked was there any use in writing to her, and in reply was assured that she had often asked Reynolds to get an Englishman to marry her. He wrote to the address, "No. 5, Drumshambo." He received by post a letter in reply, addressed to John Reynolds, inviting his servant and himself to come over to Ireland. He did not comply with the request, but sent Reynolds over with his likeness. Reynolds returned on the 28th or 29th of July with a letter signed "Mary Ann McKenna," in which she stated that she would meet him at Crews Station along with John Reynolds. He went to Crews, but she was not there. He telegraphed to her, but got no answer. After some time he got a letter informing him that her father was dead. He Ireland to meet her and Miss McKenna, but received a letter in reply that Reynolds would go to him, and he did so. In September he came to Ireland along with Reynolds and a stranger, whom he met at Crews, and who, Reynolds told him was the lady's groom. After arriving in Dublin, he proceeded to Carrick-on-Shannon by train, and then proposed to hire a trap to take him to Drumshambo. Reynolds said it was a fine night, and they could walk. After going about a mile along a by-road, he complained of being ill, and then came the denouement of the plot. The stranger man struck him in the eye with a stone, and John Reynolds ran off with his carpet-bag, followed by the stranger. He went to the police station at Leitrim, where he reported the occurrence, and the prisoner was arrested. He gave the same name as the servant, and stated that he too had been duped. He also pointed out to the police the place where the prosecutor's portmanteau was concealed under a haystack. One of the strangest parts of the case was that the prosecutor had £39 in cash and a gold watch, but escaped without losing them. Counsel contended that the fact of the money and watch being left untouched proved that the prisoner had no felonious intent. The majority of the Court, however, were of opinion that he must remain in custody.

The Court of Queen's Bench gave judgment to-day on a motion in the case of Stannus v. the Northern Whig, to set up certain defences. Justices Barry, Fitzgerald, and O'Brien gave judgment in favor of the defendant on the principal question as to whether the plea of fair comment should set out all the alleged arbitrary acts of the plaintiff, but directed that the defendant should within a given time furnish a bill of particulars. The Chief Justice dissented, but concurred in the remainder of the decision, that in some less important respects, such as prolixity and double statement of plea, the defence should be amended. The defendant was ordered to pay costs.—*Times's Correspondent.*

A DOUBTFUL BLESSING.—"There was a time," says Froude, sad because it was not employed, when the religious question, which has vexed Ireland for centuries, could have been settled. This was immediately after the battle of Athlincry. "If the English government had not tied the hands of the Protestants," he says, "they would have made complete work of it. They would have driven every priest out of Ireland." According to Froude's theories, justice suffered by these cruel bonds. The expulsion of the priests and the consequent destruction of the religious faith of the people, are a preliminary step, in his opinion, to the prosperity of Ireland. As the priest still infests the island and the people cling to their religion, Mr. Froude in love for Ireland longs for the completion of the work of ecclesiastical expulsion. That, however, which now appears to Froude in the guise of a blessing might turn out an evil. If the priests were gone and a moral religion like Protestantism sprung from the bludious intrigues of a corrupt court took their place, he might be compelled like his English brethren to guard his house by bars and bolts against good Protestant invaders. We fear that his love of persecution would in a short time grow beautifully less—he would hardly consider midnight burglary a national blessing or deem it a convincing sign of national improvement.—*Catholic Telegraph.*

DUBLIN, Nov. 21.—The ballot was brought into use for the first time in Ireland at the Derry election yesterday, and its promoters may be congratulated upon the result. A happy change was effected, in the tranquillity and order which prevailed at the nomination. The contrast could not fail to strike every person who remembered the scene of confusion and tumult which was witnessed in the Court-house on the last occasion, when Mr. Dowse and Mr. Baxter contested the representation of the city, and the provisions of the Act were slightly complied with. There was no political pantomime on the hustings where candidates declaimed unheard amid the yells of uproarious mobs, and the form of Her Majesty's writ was complied with in dumb show, but the first business of the election was quietly, rapidly, and completely transacted in private before the Mayor as Returning Officer, the candidates with their proposers and seconders, and one other gentleman accompanying each.

Is there never to be an end of the widely ramified litigation arising out of the frauds of John Sadleir? After the lapse of 16 years it still yields a fruitful crop to the lawyers—a practical comment upon the comparative failure of the law reformers to shorten and simplify proceedings. In the Court of Chancery Appeal yesterday judgment was given on an appeal which revived the facts and names connected with the Tipperary Fank, with which the public for many years were painfully familiar. Two suits were instituted by gentlemen named Norris and Clement for the administration of the real and personal assets of the late John Sadleir. In the winding-up of the bank affairs, an administration of the personal estate having been granted to Mr. Anthony Norris, the petitioner in one of the suits, he was ordered to pay £43,000 in respect of calls unpaid by Sadleir. This demand was subsequently increased, by £291,100, the amount due by Sadleir to the bank. In November, 1870, the official manager filed a charge claiming to be a specialty creditor in respect of those two sums. In December, 1870, and October 1871, the executors of Mr. Thomas Joseph Eyre, who had extensive transactions with Sadleir, filed a discharge contesting the claim of the official manager.

FOOD AND FUEL IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND.—The whole Food Question, indeed, is becoming very serious and even alarming. In the Three Kingdoms the potato crop is very far from good. As well as we can make out in very nearly half the counties of Ireland the blight has made considerable havoc with this root, while in several others the potatoes are very small and watery. Add to this the lamentable circumstance that in consequence of the wretched weather of the last few weeks, the corn crop has been very seriously damaged everywhere, and it will be easy to believe that the next twelve months will be one of the worst for all classes for years. The Fuel question looked a week or two since just as serious and alarming as the Food question. There was an increase of nearly 100 per cent. in the price of coals, and there was only a prospect of a still larger increase. In consequence, the industry of England suffered to a large extent—many steamships, for instance, being laid up altogether. Although this state of things still continues, it is becoming clear that it cannot continue much longer. It is now plain that the rise in the price of coal is not due, as has hitherto been generally supposed, and as the owners of collieries would have us believe, to strikes of the colliers, whatever else may be its cause; for at a meeting of delegates representing 37 colliers

and 7,000 men and boys, in the north of England, it was solemnly declared that the advances of wages hitherto made have in no case exceeded one penny per ton for every shilling increase demanded in the price of coal by their employers; and, unless facts are grossly mis-stated, the assertion is abundantly proved. And, if it is proved that the coal-owners have raised the price of coal simply to make an exorbitant profit, John Bull, we may be sure, will not be long in making them retrace their steps. He may, for instance, stop by an export duty the large export of coals from England; for when he finds Free Trade hurtful to him, he becomes as much enamored of Protection as Thiers or Horace Greeley himself.—*Dublin Nation.*

DEATH OF LORD CLARINA.—The Right Hon. Eyre Massey, Lord Clarina, one of the Irish representative peers, died a day or two since, at his seat in the county of Limerick. He was the third Baron, being the eldest son of Nathaniel William, second Lord, and was born in the year 1798. He succeeded to the honours of the Peerage while still in his minority, and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1819. He was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for the county of Limerick, and was chosen a representative peer in 1849. The Masses, of whom the late nobleman was a member, are a family of Cheshire extraction, but, according to Sir Bernard Burke, they have been settled in Ireland since the reign of Charles I., when Hugh Massey held a high military command in that country. His great grandson Eyre Massey, a general officer in the Army, Marshal of the Army in Ireland, and Governor of Limerick, and had seen active service at Culloden and in America, was raised to the Peerage at the time of the Union as Lord Clarina, of Ely-park, in the county of Limerick.—His grandson was the peer just deceased.—The title passes to the eldest son, the Hon. Eyre Chalmers Henry Massey, who was born in 1830, and who now becomes fourth Baron. His Lordship is a Colonel in the Army, and served with distinction in the Crimea.

THE ENNISCORRY PETTY SESSIONS, county of Wexford, held before Sir James Power, Lord Carey, and 12 other Justices of the Peace, Walter Sweetman, a large landed proprietor in the county, was charged with having attempted to murder Capt. George Quinn, late of the 79th Highlanders, whilst hunting near Ennischorry on November 14th. The case was of an extraordinary character. From the evidence adduced to sustain the prosecution, it seemed that whilst the parties, together with a large company of the surrounding gentry, were riding along the Ballymore Road, Mr. Sweetman jostled his horse against Captain Quinn's, and almost unhorsed him. Captain Quinn asked him was this conduct going to continue. Mr. Sweetman replied that it was. The captain tightening the cord of his whip round his hand, remarked that he would put an end to it, and struck Mr. Sweetman a blow in the face. The accused then put his hand into his breast pocket, drew a revolver and fired at Captain Quinn, whose horse took flight. Immediately afterwards Mr. Sweetman fired a second shot, and followed in pursuit of Captain Quinn's brother, Mr. Henry Quinn, levelling a revolver at him as he passed. Subsequently the accused was apprehended, and the revolver, with two chambers loaded and the others empty, leaving marks of having once recently discharged, was found in his pocket. He was at once lodged in the county gaol, and was brought down to court in close custody. Mr. Fitzgerald, who was especially retained for his behalf, said his client reserved his defence. The case was then referred to next assizes, which will be held in March.

THE GALWAY PROSECUTIONS.—On Saturday the defendants, lay and clerical, entered an appearance by attorney in the Crown Office, Dublin, to the informations filed against them. Within four days from this the plea, or defence, in each case must be put in the ordinary course. It is impossible, if the trial is held in Dublin, that it can begin until the after-sittings of Hilary Term.

A reward of One Hundred Pounds has been offered by the Government for such private information as may assist in bringing to justice the party who fired shots into the dwelling house of Lieutenant John M'Manus, of Hollyville, Drumbriskin, Barony of Tullyhuno, on the night of the 1st November. Picarats to the above effect are extensively posted throughout Arva District.

The Ballina Herald states that a list signed by all her tenants, has been presented to Mrs. Grant, expressing abhorrence at the atrocious attempt made to murder Mr. John Oram, of Burrishoole, agent to Mrs. Grant, and that they pledge themselves to lose no opportunity of bringing the would-be murderer to justice.

On the 6th inst., a sum of £500, in bank notes received in change by a customer of one of the Belfast Banks, was actually stolen from the counter whilst the customer was transacting other bank business.

The telegraph messengers of Dublin struck recently for higher pay, but the business of the department was not seriously affected.

The Local Government Board raised the salary of the Catholic chaplain of the Limerick workhouse to £150 a year, in compliance with the wish of the guardians of the union.

GREAT BRITAIN.

WARNING TO ORTHODOXY.—The Bishop of Natal has in the press "Twenty-six Popular Lectures on the Pentateuch and the Moabite Stone," with appendices, containing—1, the Elohist Narrative in Genesis; 2, the original Story of the Exodus; 3, the Pre-Christian Cross. The work will appear about the 1st of January.—*Athenum.*

Some little while ago it was announced that an American military gentleman, Sergeant Bates by name, had set out to carry the Star-spangled banner from the Scottish border to Guildhall, London. The object of this flag carrying journey was said to be to solve a problem which had given rise to sundry wagers: Would the inhabitants of England suffer the flag to pass without in any way showing dissent? According to the American papers, Mr. Bates would insult and sought eagerly after defunct cats, ancient eggs, or even imprecations. "He flaunted his flag," says the New York Times, "in the face of the bucolic Briton, and challenged even the small-boy to insult him and his precious burden. All the way from Scotland to Guildhall he pined for some one to 'punch his head,' and by his manner seemed to cry out for casual persons to kick him." But it was all in vain. The British public, doubtless, stared at Mr. Bates with wondering eyes, and, perhaps, many silently viced him a person wanting sense; but—where's French politeness after this?—so very proper was the behavior of the people, that the Sergeant has written to the London Times, returning thanks to the British public. The New York Times thinks that this letter writing feat was simply one more effort—asort of fast resource—by which the Sergeant hoped to evoke a growl from the British Lion. But the ruse has failed, though, as our New York contemporary remarks, "He need not, however, quite despair. He has only to keep on writing letters until the patience of the English public is exhausted, to be sure of ultimately receiving something in the way of insult which he can regard as substantial and satisfactory."—*Evening Star.*

The city magistrats, at Worcester, have had before them an individual dressed like a High Church clergyman, charged under the Rev. Arthur Henry Morton, alias the Rev. Dr. Thomas Keating, alias the Rev. J. Crouch, with obtaining a gold watch and chain by means of false pretences from Mr. J. M. Skarratt, jeweller, &c., Worcester, on the 23rd

August 1865. It seemed that in the early part of August, 1864, the Rev. T. L. Wheeler, the rector of the parish of St. Martin, advertised for a curate. The prisoner, says the Birmingham Post, applied for the appointment, and at an interview that he had with Mr. Wheeler produced some document, from which it appeared that he had been ordained by the Bishop of Bath and Wells. As the Rev. Mr. Morton's testimonials, &c., appeared to be satisfactory, the rector engaged him, and the new curate officiated in religious ceremonies for several weeks afterwards. He performed the rite of baptism, conducted several burials, and married several couples, and his sermons were considered satisfactory by the congregation. From something that shortly afterwards transpired, however, the Rev. Mr. Wheeler's suspicions were aroused, and he therefore demanded an interview with his curate, and told him that he had reason to suppose that there was something wrong about his ordination papers. The young clergyman, however, denied the imputation, and went away with an apparent sense of injured innocence; but immediately afterwards he was missing. Subsequent investigation revealed the fact that the ordination papers were not the Rev. Mr. Morton's property at all, that he had erased from the parchment the name of the celebrated Father Ignatius, and substituted his own. Further inquiries were instituted, and it turned out that the Rev. Mr. Morton had been for some time an inmate of the Monastery, at Norwich, by the name of Brother Morris, and that he was leader in a sort of rebellion on the part of a number of the monks in that institution against Father Ignatius's authority. It was discovered, too, that he had previously lived in various parts of England, and also in Australia, assuming a different name in each place. Soon after the Rev. gentleman left Worcester it came out that he had obtained a very valuable gold watch and chain from Mr. Skarratt during his curacy at St. Martin's by false pretences, as it was alleged; and although every inquiry was made by the police, nothing was heard of him until a few days since, when, in consequence of a letter received in Worcester from the secretary of the Charity Organization Society in London, Police-sergeant Thorne went to the metropolis, and apprehended the so-called clergyman in Safford-street, where it appeared he resided under the name of the "Rev. Dr. Keating." When the officer read the warrant over to him, changing him with obtaining a gold watch and chain at Worcester by false pretences, on the 23rd of August, 1865, under the name of Rev. Arthur Henry Morton, he denied the accusation, and said he could prove that he was in America at the time. On Saturday morning he was brought to Worcester, and identified by the Rev. Mr. Wheeler as his former curate, by the clerk and the sexton, and by a woman whose child he had christened at Worcester. The magistrats remanded the defendant.

They are not a few in Montreal who could add interesting items to this reverend gentleman's biography as given above.—*Mont. Herald.*

The present rate of desertion from the Army is causing considerable astonishment and anxiety. The number of deserters, not including those from the Royal Marines or Militia, who have been advertised in the *Pocket Gazette* during the last 12 months, is 8,360, and desertions are continuing at the rate of 700 or 800 a month. This fact is attributed to various causes—such as the demand for labor throughout the country, the laxity of punishment in the Army, and the want of more effective means of discovering the runaways, as scarcely 10 per cent. are ever apprehended. The abolition of bounties which offered an inducement for re-enlistment was intended to act as a check upon those who contemplated desertion, but it has failed in that respect, and a recent reduction in the reward for the apprehension of deserters, from £1 to 5s. the minimum, has decidedly not accelerated the efforts of the police or recruiting parties. The reward is stated to be from 5s. to £1, according to the particular circumstances of each case, but it is stipulated that no application for a reward will be entertained unless submitted through and recommended by the magistrats by whom the deserter is committed.

The *Pull Mall Gazette* declares that to be perfectly cool and deliberate in the face of an emergency is no doubt a great merit, but even presence of mind may be carried too far at times, and there are occasions when the impulse of the heart is a safer guide than the slower operations of the brain. "An inquest was held a day or two ago at Castleford on the body of a pork butcher who destroyed himself owing to distress of mind produced by an unfounded rumor that he had killed some pigs suffering from foot-and-mouth disease. On Saturday, after getting his dinner, he went into an outhouse, while his wife was upstairs, and hanged himself. When his wife came down stairs, she found him hanging, but instead of giving an alarm or cutting him down she went into the house, put on her shawl, walked to Normanton, and then took a cab to Wakefield, where she informed a friend of the melancholy occurrence. The friend immediately drove over to Castleford and told the police, who at once cut the body down. Such coolness as this almost equals that of the old maiden lady who, after seeing her sister, with whom she lived, consumed accidentally by fire in the parlor, merely rang the bell, and when the servant appeared said, 'Sweep up those ashes Jane, and we shall only want one roll for breakfast to-morrow morning.'"

PHARMACY AT SEA.—Not a few humorous anecdotes are current respecting the use and abuse of the medicine chest on board British merchant vessels. The *Chemist and Druggist* says that the following occurrence is vouched for.—A sailor applied to his captain for relief, telling him that he "seemed to have something on his stomach." The captain referred to his book of directions, and promptly prescribed a dose of No. 15. Unfortunately, however, there had been a run on No. 15, and the bottle was empty.—But the skipper was by no means at the end of his resources. There was plenty of No. 8 and plenty of No. 7. "Seven and eight make fifteen," said the captain; and Jack, to whom the calculation seemed quite natural, took the joint mixture with startling effect; for whatever was on his stomach came up with a rapidly, that would have astonished the Royal College of Physicians, and which a landman might have envied.

In a recent action before Lord Jerviswoode, in Edinburgh, a female witness was undergoing a severe cross-examination as to a certain date to which she had positively deposed in her examination in chief. Counsel—"How do you know that this event happened on the particular date to which you have sworn—do you keep a diary?" Witness, who evidently thought there was some connection between a "diary" and a milk shop, indignantly replied—"No, sir; I keep a whusky shop." It is almost unnecessary to add that counsel put no further questions.

PLEASANT FOR TOPPER.—A writer in the *Scientific Review*, an English magazine, some time ago enumerated a few of the ingredients used for the adulteration of ale, beer, and porter, which are supposed to be, and doubtless are, the most wholesome beverages in the way of intoxicating drinks. Yet these simple (?) drinks are generally adulterated with the following ingredients:—Cream of tartar, alum, green vitriol, copper, lead, pirotic acid, coeliacus indicus, grains of paradise, coloring matters of various descriptions, quassia, and other cheaper and more hurtful bitters. *Idium palutere, myrica gall, and datura stramonium.* One of the receipts in a book published for the guidance and assistance of publicans and vintners, say that "a pinch or two of oxalic acid"—almost deadly poison—makes "a great improvement" in a certain common drink!

The Law Courts are likely to be occupied with a new Scotch peerage trial. The earl of Stirling lapsed in 1739; but over 50 years ago Mr. Alexander

UNITED STATES.

THE COLORED CATHOLICS OF WASHINGTON.—The congregation of St. Martin's Catholic Church, Washington, is composed exclusively of colored people. Rev. Father Borotti is its pastor. The church is plainly but tastefully fitted up, and Father Borotti, the estimable pastor, is beloved by his colored congregation. They do all that good Catholics can do for the comfort of their pastor, and those things are done in such a quiet, sentimental manner as to make them doubly agreeable. Take it all in all, the church of St. Martin's is the most interesting people of the District should take an interest in assisting and encouraging the colored congregation of St. Martin's. The *Irish Republican* of Washington says: "Here in this colored church we find the same emblems, the same altar, the same sacrifices which are found in the Catholic churches. The same attitudes of devotion, the same spirit of humility before the Lord. We feel the spirit of the Church which brings us face to face with God, and all our prejudices melt away in shame before the great Father of all."

Times and manners have changed greatly in the Southern States of the adjoining Republic, and now the school master shoots his pupils, instead of being shot by them, as was the usage of old. Here comes report of a Georgia instructor who came into serious collision with a female pupil on the subject of the orthography of the word "marriage." The tutor maintained the correctness of the formula "marriage," the pupil, with great pertinacity, insisted upon the authenticity of "marriage;" and the dispute waxed so hot that a brother of the young lady entered upon the scene, and, after testifying to his impartiality and freedom from bias by saying that he did not "care how it was spelled," proceeded to spin in gations of hostility towards the teacher, who ineffectually fled, leaving the etymological question unsettled but the enemy in full possession of the field. Brooding upon this discomfiture, and still fired with a noble desire to vindicate and maintain the purity of the English language, the teacher borrowed a neighboring Derringer and wended his way to an industrial evening "blow-out," known in these regions as a "corn-shucking." There he found his refractory pupil still possessed with irrational views of orthography; and there also loomed the brother, still dispassionate and unprejudiced as far as the literary aspects of the quarrel were concerned, but still evincing an energetic desire to "put a head" upon the obstinate and unreasonable pedagogue. This not unmutual inclination was frustrated by the explosion of the Derringer, which deposited something like an ounce of lead in the young man's elbow, who, thus plainly and expeditiously proved to have been in the wrong, went home, and is believed to have adopted the teacher's mode of spelling.—*Montreal Gazette.*

THE IMPROVED BATTERY.—Reference was made in these columns, a few days since, to the proposition of an English philanthropist, that the galvanic battery should be used in British prisons as an instrument of punishment. It now appears that galvanism is at the present moment in use, in the Parisian Jardin des Plantes, as a means of taming wild animals. An ingenious Frenchman has harnessed the zebra and the wild ass to a light wagon, which contains in addition to himself, a small galvanic battery, with wires leading to the respective noses of his team. No sooner does either the zebra or the ass manifest any signs of insubordination than a galvanic shock is promptly administered to the unruly beast. The result is that he is instantly brought to a condition of absolute immobility, while the unpleasant nature of the punishment produces a wholesome dread of its repetition, which the severest application of the whip would fail to excite. The success of this new application of galvanism will doubtless lead to its introduction into the family circle. If wild animals can be tamed by the battery, surely the riotous small boy, the unruly husband, or the obnoxious mother-in-law, would be benefited by being subjected to its calming influence. The small boy, who is actively engaged in disturbing the peace of the neighborhood by any of those countless devices of which he is the malignant master, could be shocked into complete harmlessness and a full conviction of the error of his ways; the unpleasant husband, who might undertake to upbraid his wife with unnecessary extravagance or injudicious flirtation, could be compelled to instant silence by a smart application of the battery; and the most undomated mother-in-law, who should unleash a torrent of reproach upon the helpless husband detected in the act of smoking in the drawing room, and thus bringing down to early graves the combined hair of his wife and her fearless mother, could be converted into a speechless statue, quivering, perhaps, with the violence of the galvanic current, but absolutely unable to continue her onation, and firmly decided never again to incur the galvanic cruelty of her heartless son-in-law. The same gentle that tames the wild beast and enforces family discipline might, with equal success, be used to drill armies, control legislative assemblies, and keep in subjection the after dinner orator. Indeed, it is difficult to conceive of a field of human activity, in which the influence of one man over another is a matter of moment, wherein the galvanic battery could not be introduced with the most beneficial results. If the promise held out by the means of galvanism, in connection with the zebra, is fulfilled, steam will be effectively dethroned, and instead of describing the present period as the century of steam, accuracy will require that it be henceforth referred to as the glorious age of galvanism and the era of the beneficent battery.—*N. Y. Times.*

TERRIBLE CASUALTY.—NEW YORK, Dec. 11th.—A fire broke out at a little past eleven last night in the upper part of Fifth Avenue Hotel on Twenty-third street. The engines were quickly on the spot and soon at work pouring streams upon the flames, which, at midnight, enveloped the whole of the building. Many guests had retired or were about to retire when the alarm was sounded, and when the firemen brought the hose into the interior of the building a panic ensued among the more timid of them, and rush was made for trunks, &c., demanding a settlement of their bills and left the house. After the fire had been pretty well extinguished the firemen on going through the rooms in which was what is known as a cock-loft, occupied by laundry women and domestics, were horrified on stumbling over the remains of human beings which were piled on the floor. Lanterns were procured by many and a horrible sight revealed. On the floor of a room about twelve feet square were found no less than fifteen bodies all burned beyond recognition. The bodies were found lying near the only window of the room which was barred so that escape by that means was impossible. The staircase leading to the room being on fire they were compelled to wait for death. It is said that many were burned to death while asleep. The positions of some charred remains showed that the unfortunate creatures died in great agony. Up to 20 minutes past two o'clock twenty-two dead bodies had been recovered, sixteen in one room and six in another, which is probably all. The fire originated in the elevator or staircase leading to the laundry. There were five hundred guests in the house, but none are reported injured. The damage by fire and water will not fall short of one hundred thousand dollars.