

Queen's County. Up to the time of the withering of the stalks—the crop had presented the most healthy appearance of any year since the disease first set in; its traces being very light and seldom, indeed, but now, on the digging out of the crop, it is found that the roots are, generally and in some cases seriously affected. However on the whole the yield will be a good one, and farmers console themselves with the reflection that black potatoes are as good for pig feeding purposes [as process in general use in this part of the country] as sound ones.

The island of Valentia, the terminus of the Atlantic cables in Ireland, is the property of Mr. Fitzgibbon "Knight of Kerry" and its extreme point is the most accessible in Europe. The Knight is a constant resident, and takes great interest in his estate, which presents a most favorable specimen of Irish property. The traveller finds a neat and comfortable inn, and the scenery from Killarney to Valentia, and thence via Waterville and Kenmare to Cork will amply repay him. Valentia produces enormous slabs of slate.

We deeply regret, (says the Limerick Reporter) to announce the death in another part of our columns of a very old, most valued, and esteemed friend in the person of Matthew Quinlan, Esq., of Thurles. He was one of the best known of the old stock, in North Tipperary, and one of the most respectable. He attained the venerable age of ninety years amid the love and affection of all who best knew his many truly amiable qualities. His remains were conveyed for interment to the ancient family tomb in the churchyard of Thurles, accompanied by the Lord Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, the Most Rev. Dr. Croke, a large concourse of the clergy, and a great gathering of his friends among the laity.

The death [says the correspondent of the Freeman] of the late Mrs. McGauran, of Dublin and Cavan the wife of Mr. McGauran, the much-respected, Clerk of the Crown, for Cavan, was the source of sincere grief to the inhabitants of the town of Cavan, and to a large circle of friends to whom she had endeared herself in Dublin. She died after a comparatively brief illness, leaving a large young family to feel their sad and great bereavement. Her funeral obsequies and interment took place in Cavan on Wednesday week and were, attended by a vast number of the clergy and laity of the surrounding district. The Lord Bishop of Kilmore presided at the solemn ceremonies in the Cathedral Church.

A few days ago Mr. John Pender, auctioneer, sold the valuable freehold estate of Polorone, in the county of Kilkenny, formerly belonging to Messrs. John and Edward Maher. Mr. Dobby, solicitor, read the conditions of sale, after which the five lots were offered for sale respectively, but no bidding was made except an offer of £1000 for the first lot by Mr. Scurry. On the entire property being offered, the bidding commenced by £7,000, by Mr. Boucher, and continued as follows: Power (on behalf of Mr. John McEnery), £7,100; Mosley £7,200; Power, £7,300; Mosley, £7,350; Power, £7,400; Mosley, £7,450; Power, £7,500; Mosley, £7,550; Power, £7,620. Mr. McEnery was declared the purchaser.—Nation, Nov. 11th.

At a meeting of the Ennis town board on the 6th ult., a report was read from Dr. Greene, sanitary officer, to the effect that the filth and fluid by which the town was polluted by the holding of monthly fairs in the principal streets was a great nuisance and dangerous to health, and that the fairs should be removed to the spacious ground provided for the purpose. The report gave rise to a long discussion, the feeling of the majority being in favour of the retention of the fairs in the streets. It was proposed to change the fair from Saturday to Thursday, so as not to interfere with the ordinary market day, but Mr. M'Beth [says the Irish Times] will not consent to a change.

Father Tom Burke arrived in Ennis on Saturday 4th ult., at 8.20, when he was met by the following gentlemen, who were appointed to act as a reception committee:—Rev. Mr. Fitzgibbon, Administrator; Rev. Daniel Fogarty, D. O.; Mr. Dillon, Superior of the Christian Brothers; Thomas Green, Esq., J. P.; and P. J. Dillon, storekeeper. The committee escorted him to the residence of the Catholic clergy in Jail-street. The object of the rev. gentleman's visit to Ennis was to preach a charity sermon in aid of the Christian Brothers' Schools. The hour appointed was immediately after 12 o'clock Mass. It is estimated that there were upwards of 6,000 accommodated with seats in the church on Sunday, and the crowd without numbered about the same. Father Burke's eloquent appeal was not in vain. The amount realized exceeded £200. The very rev. gentleman was to have been presented with an address on behalf of the Catholics of Ennis, but a letter received on Saturday morning announced that his state of health would not permit him to go through the ceremony.

At the last meeting of the Maryborough town board a circular was read announcing a contemplated visit of the Government inspectors of corporate towns to Maryborough, and the chairman said the sooner these gentlemen honoured them with their presence the better. There were some very important public matters to be inquired into at Maryborough, and amongst them was the question of the Green, which originally contained some 300 acres of land, granted by the Government for the support and maintenance of the ancient borough of Maryborough. This had been monopolised by some of the old corporators, and quietly appropriated for their own use and benefit. He was aware that it was stated in the leases since granted of this ground that the holders should be ready to give it up to Government when demanded. It was also stated that if this land could be regained for the borough it would now be worth some £2,000 annually, a most important matter, indeed, for the town.

On the 6th ult., St. Peter's Catholic church, Drogheda, witnessed the opening of a Mission by the Redemptorist Fathers, on which occasion his Grace the Primate was present, and by his presence gave an additional eclat to the proceedings. At three o'clock p.m. an interesting ceremony was witnessed in the blessing of the banners of the Christian Schools by his Grace the Primate. The boys attending the schools, to the number of 500, assembled in the chief institution at Sunday-gate, and being marshalled in proper order, two deep, with the Christian Brothers in charge, and headed by a beautiful banner of St. Joseph, they marched through the streets to the church. Arrived in the church, the banners were brought into the sanctuary by the pupils, who acted as standard-bearers. The Primate then came out on the altar vested in full pontificals, and solemnly blessed the banners, handing them over at the conclusion of the ceremony to the schools. The banner of St. Patrick contains inter alia four medallions representing the coats of arms of each of the four provinces of Ireland, and a beautiful scroll is at the bottom, bearing the immortal words of Shakespeare, adapted on a memorable occasion by the illustrious Henry Grattan to Ireland:—"Beauty's ensign yet [my country] is crimson on thy lip and on thy cheek, And death's pale flag is not advanced there."

Mr. Droghda delivered a lecture in Edinburgh recently, on "The Uses of the Landed Gentry" in the course of which he alluded to the Irish land question in a manner ill calculated to please his admirers in our West-English press. "The landlords in Ireland," he said, "represented conquest and confiscation, and they had gone on from generation to generation with an indifference to the welfare of the people which would never have been tolerated in England or Scotland." The law, he went on to observe, had at last to interfere in the

form of Mr. Gladstone's Land Act, "perhaps the only really good measure passed for Ireland in the last two hundred years." A long time, by the way, to wait for a measure of justice and necessity:—United Irishman.

The death is announced, on the 3rd ult., at the patriarchal age of 78, of the Very Rev. John Cannon Falvey, Parish Priest of St. Patrick's, Cork, and Precentor of the Cathedral of the Diocese. Canon Falvey was a man of very considerable distinction in the political as well as the ecclesiastical concerns of Cork, and was almost the last of a class of clergymen, contemporaries at Maynooth, nearly all of whom attained to positions of eminence in the Church, especially in this diocese. He was born at Christmas, 1798, entered the Cork Diocesan College at an early age, proceeded thence to Maynooth, where he became conspicuous by reason of his great musical talents, in addition to many other attributes of true genius which he possessed. He commenced his ministry in Cork, and in times of great political and intellectual activity took a prominent part in public affairs. A thorough going O'Connellite, he frequently lent the aid of a powerful eloquence to the vindication of sound principles of public policy and social interest. For many years he discharged the pastoral office in the parish of Glanmire, and thence was translated to St. Patrick's, in Cork, where he remained up to the time of his death. For several years he suffered from an affection of the heart which, complicated subsequently with a bronchial ailment, slowly but surely brought about his dissolution.

A SENSIBLE HINT FROM DR. MULCABY.—In his last speech or lecture at Dublin, Dr. Mulcaby seemed to sketch out a sensible line of action, in respect to Home Rule and separation. "The party of action," he said, "would keep no peace with the British Government on the terms of a Home Rule Parliament. If they had a Home Rule Government they would conspire against that Government as readily as against the Foreign Government." Just so. Let Dr. Mulcaby's supporters stick to that. If the Home Rule Government does not turn out to be a sound National Government, by all means let all true Irishmen conspire against it. All the genuine Home Rulers would be sure to do so. Only wait until it has been set in operation and has been proved to be either national or anti-national. If Home Rule does not satisfy Irish patriots, they will be able to introduce a better state of things much easier when Ireland will have had the control of her own resources for a few years. If Dr. Mulcaby always indicated a statesman like policy there would be more aiding profit from his counsels.—United Irishman.

IRISH NATIONAL LAND CONFERENCE.—The National Conference was held in Dublin on the 23rd and 24th ult. It was a large and important meeting, and all parts of Ireland were well represented. On the first day of the meeting, Mr. Black, of Randalstown, County Antrim, was chairman. The first day's proceedings were mostly preliminary, Mr. Butt, M. P., giving a review of the question and its history. On the second day of the meeting Mr. Butt presided. The following resolutions were adopted:—

I.—"That we reaffirm our conviction that the Land Act has failed to accomplish the objects contemplated by the Legislature; and that further legislation is absolutely necessary to give the occupiers of the soil that security of tenure which is essential to the peace and prosperity of the country."

II.—"That the intentions of the Legislature have been upon many estates notoriously and openly defeated by forcing on the tenants agreements by which their rights under the Land Act have been insidiously taken away, and by compelling them to pay increased rents of an amount which virtually confiscates the property which the Legislature had declared to belong to the tenant in the improvements effected by his capital and industry, while the Land Act gives the tenant no adequate protection against the exercise of arbitrary power."

III.—"That, in the opinion of this conference, the necessity of an early settlement of the land question should be earnestly pressed upon the attention of Parliament in the next session, and this should be done by a resolution or a bill only, or by a bill and resolution, as may be determined on by the members of Parliament."

IV.—"That in the opinion of this meeting, and with such amendments of detail as may be necessary, the tenant-farmers of Ireland adhere to the adoption of Mr. Butt's bill as the basis of legislative action, being the best exponent of the tenants' views yet before the country."

Other resolutions of a similar character were also passed, and a committee appointed to watch over the interests of the tenant-farmers of Ireland in all Parliamentary proceedings that may affect them.

GREAT BRITAIN

The military force of England, militia, yeomanry, and volunteers included is reckoned at 470,766, of which 191,334 are regular troops. The navy numbers 65,000 men.

HOME RULE FOR SCOTLAND.—Provost Bennett, of Edinburgh, the President of the Convocation, has issued a circular to the Town Councils, and all the other elective Boards of Scotland, directing their attention to the shameful neglect of Scotch business in the English Parliament, and requesting the benefit of their advice and support in an attempt to remedy the evil. Should the replies be favourable the Provost proposes to assemble in Edinburgh a convention [which the Daily Telegraph likens to the Home Rule Conference held in the Dublin Rotundo] to organise the Scottish Home Rule party for a campaign. The significance of this movement cannot be over-estimated. The union of an Irish and a Scottish Home Rule party would command success, and even if such an union was never effected, it is plain that the tide has turned strong against the policy of centralisation.—Ulster Examiner.

ORIENTAL IMPALING DESCRIBED BY THE PREMIER IN THE "WONDERFUL TALE OF ALOY."—Lord Bencossigh's own view of the practice of impalement is given in "Aloy," chapter 17. Honian is conversing with Aloy. "To-morrow it was doomed Aloy should die, and what a death! A death of infinite torture! Hast ever seen a man impaled?" "Hah! To view it is alone a doom. God of Heaven!" "It is so horrible, that 'tis even remarked, that when this direful ceremony occurs the average deaths in cities greatly increase." "Tis from the turning of the blood in the spectators, who yet, from some ungovernable madness, cannot refrain from hurrying to the scene. I speak with some authority. I speak as a physician." In a note to this passage the author says—"A friend of mine witnessed this horrible punishment in Upper Egypt. The victim was a man who had secretly murdered nine persons."

George Cruikshank's latest argument against intemperance was expressed in the following words the other evening when the veteran artist was addressing a meeting of teetotalers:—"If intoxicating liquor," said he, "could be taken without danger, then temperance would be a good principle; but as it is a deadly poison, and did so much mischief, the best thing was to abstain from it altogether; therefore he maintained that a teetotal or total abstinence society ought to be the title. He had been working for many years to try and stop the use of these drinks but he could not succeed. He was much interested when the agitation was started and eagerly watched its progress. Subsequently he brought out a work entitled 'The Bottle,' but at

that time he confessed he was not a teetotaler. 'The Bottle' showed eight phases of a drunkard's life, and its scenes were represented at many theatres. He had visited one or two theatres at the time to see how the audience took 'The Bottle' of his. (Laughter.) He found them struck with the tragic incidents represented, but still they all went out and had something to drink! At last he found it was no use preaching without setting an example; therefore he became a total abstainer, and had been one for thirty years. He used also to smoke, but was glad to say that he had now left off that bad habit. He was now eighty-four years old, and judging from his own experience, a life of temperance was conducive to health."

A subscriber forwards to us an advertisement taken from the Daily Telegraph of October 26th, and wants to know our opinion on the business. The advertisement which we give as a specimen of the variations of Protestantism, is as follows:—

WANTED, by a clergyman of the Church of England, a CHAPEL for Christian worship. Not Popish or pagan. To be opened for service without any connection whatever with the now Apostate Church of England.—LTD. Mr. Barry's London Road, Forest Hill.

It is obvious that the advertiser is a seceder from the Established Church, which he only now regards as apostate, but which has been apostate ever since it was founded by Henry VIII. Not finding anyone of the numerous Protestant religions fit for his fancy, the advertiser wants evidently a chapel of his own, with no connection with the Church he has just left. This caution puts us in mind of the grocer's assistant who, seceding from his master's shop, sets up one of his own, and in the hope of catching customers, advertises no connection with the shop over the way. This seceder-up of a new fancy religion declares, after his fashion of speaking, that he does not want a "Popish" chapel. It is a superfluous suggestion Catholics do not change their religion or give up their chapels or churches to the discoverer of new religions, whether they have or not connection with the Church they have left. If we were to offer advice to the advertiser, it would be to go back to the "shop" he has left. It must at least be better than the new one which he is, according to his advertisement, about to open. From the Anglican Church how many thousands have been led to the knowledge of the Catholic faith and to submission to the Holy See? who knows if the advertiser, meek and humble as he becomes the would-be founder of a new religion, may not discover the error of his ways and return to the religion of his forefathers?—London University.

A CELTIC PROFESSORSHIP.—The half-yearly meeting of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh was held on Friday, 12th inst. in Queen-street Hall, Professor Sir Robert Christison presiding. Professor Blackie reported that the total amount contributed towards the establishment of the Celtic Chair was £29,775 15s. 3d, but that there was besides a sum of £220 lying in the bank to the credit of the fund in Ceylon. He said that what the originators of the Celtic Chair contemplated was not a mere drilling palestra for Highland preachers and schoolmasters—though no doubt that would be one of its most valuable practical adjuncts—but a grand national school of comparative philology, of which, along with Greek, Latin, Sanscrit, German, and English, Gaelic and other Celtic languages should form an essential part. This object, now generally recognised, had secured for the chair patronage of not a few distinguished individuals, who, from the mere Highland point of view, might have hesitated to concur. As matters were, there could be no doubt that the institution of a Celtic Chair in Edinburgh, following as it was about to do, close upon the heels of a similar Chair at Oxford, and acting in concert with the Anglo-Saxon Chair in the same University, would supply a most important basis of operations for all inquiries into the early laws, customs, institutions, and traditions of the British Empire. It appeared from the statements he had made that they were within £1,000 of the sum originally contemplated as a capital to supply an endowment to the Chair, but as £400 a year would be but a moderate endowment for such a Chair, and as the emolument from fees could not be expected to be very large, the committee were decidedly of opinion that it would be impolitic and unadvisable to content themselves with the minimum sum of £10,000 necessary by University rule for the foundation of a new Chair and that they ought by all means to stand out for £12,000. This was the right procedure he personally could have no doubt, for Chairs were meagre salaries were extremely apt to be jobbed and to be used only as a lucky perquisite by some person who devoted his main energies to anything but the business for which he was appointed; and there could not now be the slightest doubt that many persons, not only Highlanders, but gentlemen of illustrious rank, high station, and intellectual mark eager for the honour of Scotland, would not allow a national enterprise of the significance to fail, or to come out in a stunted form, for the lack of £2,000. He then went on to say that since the most important additions to the fund since last report the committee might be pardoned for specially mentioning the subscription of £100 by his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, of £113 from the Highlanders of Melbourn, of £22 from the Highlanders and Scotsmen of Transvaire, of £63 from the Highlanders and Scotsmen of Poverty Bay, New Zealand, and of £50 from the Caledonian Club, San Francisco. Special mention was demanded of the large-hearted generosity of Mr. McKinnon, Balakiel, Cantire, who, instead of withdrawing altogether, as he was legally entitled to do, his original conditional contribution of £100, came forward spontaneously with £200. On the whole, though he might justly anticipate a considerable amount of labour before the full sum was realized, he looked upon the work which, when actually finished, would be recognized over the world as a speaking symbol of the deep-rooted patriotism and lofty educational ambition of the Scotch people. The report was adopted.

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THE NATIONAL EVILS AND THEIR PROPOSED REMEDY.—By common consent it is agreed that the people of the United States are suffering from some very grievous evils. The tone of political morality is confessedly low, a large portion of the country is grievously misgoverned, crimes of startling magnitude occur with unpensating frequency; defalcations and breaches of trust are constantly committed by the most educated persons, our divorce courts are very busy, and we are unable to carry out a good Indian policy because we cannot find out honest men to do it. Stock gambling abounds, capitalists form rings for the purpose of securing exorbitant profits, immense numbers of working people are starving, and Communism raises its head in Chicago and New York; and both our great political parties are unable or unwilling to apply suitable remedies to change this condition of things. But, stop a minute—we are wrong. On the contrary, both parties have come to an agreement on this subject, and "when they do agree, their unanimity is wonderful." They both agree that there must be no religion in the schools. They are both heartily of the opinion that the boys and girls, who will be mothers and fathers in the future, must receive no religious instruction, except they pick it up by accident. That is the sovereign panacea for our national ills, the remedy that will cure the diseases of the body politic. The less people remember their Creator the better citizens they will be! 'Tis true that history never shows us any people without some religion. 'Tis true that a corrupt people like the Romans under the Empire, or like the Hindoos of all ages are always found to be slaves. 'Tis true that every great and noble deed has been inspired by religion, and that every heroic and free people have always been religious in some shape or form. All this is true; but perish the teachings of history, experience and common sense, and let the nation go to ruin, so that we only save the children from being taught any dogmas! For, even if the Catholics can train good citizens in their schools, which is admitted, they will believe in the Pope, in the Blessed Virgin and in the Sacraments, and will go to confession, these things are "sectarian" in the eyes of modern legislators. Faith is "the fly in the pot of ointment," and even a very little of it vitiate the best education. Help the Catholics to train good citizens, who would go to Mass on Sunday! Perish the thought!—Catholic Advocate.

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LEAVING THE FARM.—The depression which has existed in the commercial world during the past few years has not been an unmitigated evil by any means. Hundreds of weak firms with but little of either capital or experience have gone to the wall. And it is well that they have. Sound business men who conduct their affairs upon proper business principles, have, in a few instances, been forced to succumb. But sufferers have almost invariably been those who rushed into commercial business without any adequate training therefor, and who, as a matter of course went down before the adverse gale. To have such as these removed from the sphere of commerce is a gain to the country, and will ultimately be a gain to themselves. Very many of these novices in store-keeping who have of late come to grief are young men brought up to agricultural pursuits, but who became dissatisfied with what they are pleased to term the humdrum life of the farmer, and resolved to take a new departure. But a short experience in the retail trade has as a rule been sufficient to demonstrate to them in a very practical manner indeed their hallucination in taking everything that glittered for gold. This experience, however, is unfortunately not brought very cheaply, and but few are able to get back to their original occupation with anything left in their pockets. There is nothing so precarious as commerce. And if those who are so anxious to rush into it would but look about them and pay heed to statistics of trade ers deciding to leave a certain occupation for that which is extremely uncertain even in the hands of the shrewdest and most experienced business men, they would consult their own individual interest as well as the interests of the country at large. Young men upon farms who long to get to towns and cities should take these things to heart, and ponder well the probabilities ere turning their steps from the old home. As a distant journal very truly says,—by impressing the danger upon the inexperienced, some may be led to avoid the path in which others have erred. The mechanic's son, who longed to be a clerk, and who finds himself working longer hours and at more severe labor than his father, while his receipts continue very small, may in time retrace his steps and try a trade which he ought to have learned years before. Parents sometimes make a mistake in allowing free choice to a child, whose experience is not enough to guide him. Farmers' sons in Canada have swelled the lists of clerks, but the numerous bankruptcies of the last few years have sent many of them back to the farm entirely cured of their ambitious dreams. As clerks they were dissatisfied with their scant remuneration, and as amateur merchants they have proved sorry failures. By-and-by they learn that farming pays better than any other occupation, and when they return to it they find that there is as much room for the exercise of brains in agriculture as in store-keeping. The stage in the life of a young man and woman, when stylish clothes are preferred to independence and competence, is a critical one. Happy are those who pass it without a false step; and even those who are convinced of their error in time to retrieve their loss are to be congratulated.—Woodstock Review.

CANADA

The Town Clerk of Belleville gives notice of an application to the Local Legislature for an Act incorporating the town as a city.

Application will be made to the Dominion Parliament at its forthcoming session for an Act to incorporate a company for the construction of a bridge over the navigable waters of the Bay of Quinte at Belleville.

The agitation for making Halifax the winter port of the Dominion continues, and several of the newspapers are calling for a public meeting to show the unanimity of the people on the subject.

The Bar Society of Halifax has passed a resolution approving of the granting of law degrees by the new Halifax University, and pledging the assistance of the Society in perfecting the system of examination.

A rumour is current to the effect that a movement is being made by some of the members of the Quebec Legislature with the object of increasing the sessional allowance from \$600 to \$800.

The North Sydney Herald says:—The fishing season for this year is ended; and the last of the whaleboats has gone to its winter quarters. The fares were varied; some made good, some indifferent, and some bad fares, but all doing much better than they could have done at any other employment offered.

The Fredericton Farmer says:—A young man named McGilton, who lives at the King Settlement, one day last week discovered a piece of black thread projecting from the skin near his right knee. He came to this city and consulted a surgeon, who extracted a thread about three inches long with a piece of needle on the end of it. The question is how they got there.

Small-pox is prevalent in Sherbrooke, and the City Council have passed a resolution condemning the Corporation of the town of Cornwall for sending the horrible disease among them through a person recently arrived there from Cornwall. The people of the latter town are exceedingly indignant and insulted over the implication, and the Council has in return demanded an apology for what is said to be a false charge, it being alleged that the girl who was ill with the disease went to Sherbrooke voluntarily.

KILLED ON THE TRACK.—The Gannaque Reporter says: "About nine o'clock, on Thursday evening, the driver of a freight train, when just below the crossing at Mr. Thos. Haig's, observed a woman lying on the track. The whole train passed over, completely severing the lower portion of the body. It proved to be Catherine McGivern, 19 years of age, daughter of Michael McGivern, a farmer living three miles east of Gannaque. The body was brought to this station, and an inquest was held at Thomson's Hotel, by Dr. Atkinson, Coroner. It is supposed that she laid down on the track with the intention of committing suicide, while deranged. But others incline to the opinion that she was wandering aimlessly, and being feeble in body, had fallen over the rails, without strength to arise or power to realise her dangerous position, and had met her death unconsciously. The jury brought in a verdict of accidental death."

At the sittings of the Division Court, St. Mary's, held last week, a case was tried, which may be of some interest to the mercantile community. Mr.

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