

right, and to sell them to the highest bidder, should he desire to give up his holding. Until the tenant gets this freedom of action, in vain will he be asked to improve the soil. It would be neither safe nor profitable for him to do so. Under a just landlord, he might, of course, risk something; but if just landlords are followed by unjust ones, as is often the case, improving tenants would be treated unfairly. We are often surprised at the folly of some landlords, who will do nothing to encourage tenants to improve their farms; and in vain do we look for an explanation, unless we find it in the fact, that most of the landlords belong to England's garrison in Ireland, and that they feel it to be their duty to keep the Irish down, and sunk in poverty, lest, becoming rich, they might think it time for the old natives to recover their estates. But all this, we hope, will be ended by Mr. Gladstone's legislation; and if such be the case, it will then be seen how what are called 'the lazy Irish' will make their country smile like a well-tilled, luxuriant garden.—Dundalk Democrat.

The following memorial has been presented by the Irish Protestant Bishops to the Queen:— To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, We, the Archbishops and Bishops of the Irish branch of the United Church of England and Ireland respectfully approach your Majesty, humbly praying that your Majesty would be graciously pleased to grant to this branch of the United Church the same liberty of meeting in Convocation which is enjoyed by the English provinces.

We have felt it our duty to lay the same request before your Majesty already, but we do it the more urgently at the present, nearly spring, that measures are pending which may nearly affect the welfare of this Church, on which, while yet in debate, it seems only just that the Bishops and clergy should be able in a regular and constitutional manner to deliberate and express their views.

We are further persuaded that in the event of serious changes being made in the outward conditions of our Church, the consequences would be most disastrous if there were no such body already in existence, able to consult and advise the whole Church with authority in a crisis which, at the best, must be full of difficulty and danger.

And your petitioners will ever pray. (Signed) M. G. Armagh, Samuel Math, R. Down, H. Kilmore, Charles B. Toan, William Derry, J. H. C. Dublin, J. F. O'Story & Pertz, Robert Cahel, Wm. Killalee, John Cork, Charles Limerick.

It has received the following reply:— Whitehall, Jan. 29. My Lord, I beg to inform your Grace that I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the memorial of the Archbishops and Bishops of the Irish branch of the United Church transmitted by your Grace to the Secretary of State, on the 23rd of December last, and praying that her Majesty would be graciously pleased to grant to that branch of the United Church the same liberty of meeting in Convocation which is enjoyed by the English provinces, and I regret to inform your Grace that Her Majesty's Government, after mature consideration of the memorial, do not feel justified in advising Her Majesty to accede to its prayer.

I have, &c. H. A. Baccz. His Grace the Archbishop of Armagh.

The Irish Bishops appear to be awakening to a sense of their situation. It has become clear to them, as it has been for some time clear to other and humbler mortals, that the days of their supremacy are approaching their end. No matter what Ministers may be called to advise Her Majesty and to direct the government of the realm, no matter what difficulties may beset their path through the faithfulness of some or the ill-measured zeal of others, the Irish Establishment must speedily cease to exist. The re-division of the Establishment to the status of a voluntary communion and its disendowment are, of course, the duty of the present Administration. Upon this policy they attacked Mr. Disraeli, upon this policy they have been borne triumphantly into power. The fate of the Irish Establishment, however, does not depend on the continuance in office of the present Ministers. The report of the Commission of Inquiry appointed by the late Government proved the impossibility of maintaining the present distribution of the Irish ecclesiastical revenues. The Commissioners recommended a complete reorganization of the Ecclesiastical Communion in Ireland. But before their report appeared it was confessed their recommendations came too late. It is not by redistribution within the fold of the Church, but by disendowment, that the anomalies of the Establishment—or rather that anomaly, the Establishment itself—can be abated. Let any one imagine, then, what would happen should the present Government be again forced to make way for Mr. Disraeli and his colleagues. A repetition of the tactics of Reform would be inevitable. Mr. Disraeli could only retain office on condition of outbidding his opponents. A generous trust in the ardent voluntary efforts of the faithful would be proclaimed just as a generous trust in the conservative habits of the people of England was made the apology for enacting Household Suffrage. A few would be sentimentalized just as the knot of scoundrels represented by Lord Salisbury and Lord Carnarvon were sentimentalized two years since; but the majority would recognize and bow to the stroke of fate, and the Liberal Opposition would be doing their work, the process of destruction would be speedily consummated. The Irish Bishops are wise, then, in awakening to a sense of their situation. But it is not easy to be wise in all things all at once, and as soon as the Irish Bishops had arrived at the sound conclusion that from open foe or uneasy friend they must meet their fate, they followed up their prudent counsel by a foolish act. 'We are going to be disestablished,' they said to each other, 'and to be disestablished: how shall we die this wrath to come? Let us pray that Convocation may be revived.' And they proceeded to draw up a petition to Her Majesty, asking that the Irish branch of the United Church should have the same liberty of meeting as that enjoyed by the English provinces. We would not be hard upon men called upon for the first time to consider collectively how to meet an imminent peril, but it is scarcely conceivable that any set of practical persons, with the experience of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury before their eyes, should dream that safety lay in taking this rusty old weapon out of the armoury of disused things. The Government answered through the Home Secretary, that after mature consideration they did not feel justified in advising Her Majesty to accede to the prayer of the Episcopal memorial; and public opinion will confirm the prudence of this reply. The truth is that the assembling of an Irish Convocation at this moment might do much mischief, and could do no good.—Times.

TRAVEL IN ARAN.—A strange tale of bigotry comes to us from a very remote quarter. The Aran group of islands lie outside Galway. The islands contain over 3,000 inhabitants, who subsist principally by fishing. Some years ago Mr. Lever wrote a picturesque novel in which the scene was laid here. The place is full of shrines and holy wells. There are the remains of 20 churches and monastic establishments scattered about (Encyclopedia Britannica). The old proprietors, Mr. Lever's friends, have disappeared, like many other old Irish proprietors, and the whole district now belongs to a couple of ladies.—These ladies are religious, and so is their agent, Mr. Thompson. For the last few years Mr. Thompson has made the most desperate efforts to bring over the arrears to the Established Church. He had a schoolmaster, in the first place, to teach the rudiments and insinuate theology. Our information is not precise as to whether reinforcements formed part

of the curriculum in this instance, but they probably did. The schoolmaster was a failure. The priests warned their flocks against him, and the consequence was the academy was neglected. But Mr. Thompson has other means of conversion. In Aran bread is brought from the mainland. Mr. Thompson prohibits the importation of bread, and transmits the dominion into a baker. The heretics had nothing for it but to eat Protestant bread, baked by a Protestant, and for all the knead with something in the dough dangerous to faith and morals. No boat was allowed to land with loaves, bread was declared contraband. The Arranes stood against Thompson and his principles. They went without quarters for three months, but at last the restriction became intolerable, and the Roman Catholic clergy of the islands presented a petition to their behalf. His Excellency Earl Spencer was requested to send a gunboat to Aran to settle the difficulty.—The rampagous purpose, the all-dwelling battlemented whole, was put before Mr. Bright to dispose of in a wholesome manner; but what was the perplexity involved in their treatment to the bewilderment of Earl Spencer, who, before he was a foreignist in Ireland, was asked to despatch a gunboat to restrain an agent from vexing people into Protestantism; here are the words of the petition:—'Your memorialists would therefore pray your Excellency to inquire into the matter, and if your Excellency finds that through the absolute vicium of one man 3,000 individuals have been deprived of the privilege of free trade in bread for so long a period, notwithstanding the exceptional landlord and tenant relations in this county, we sincerely trust in the exercise of your high prerogative you will order a Government gunboat to the Bay of Galway to ply between Aran and Galway for purpose of maintaining the rights of British subjects against the authority of an individual until the law obliges him to succumb to respect the duties of landlordism as zealously as he enforces his rights.' Mr. Thompson states that though a copy of this petition was placed in the papers it has not as yet been lodged at the Admiralty. He went there to ascertain, and to give a flat denial to the statements. But there is the fact that things have come, in some manner, to such a pass that a vessel of war is required, and Mr. Thompson does not deny that he forbids the usual bread ship from landing at the islands. What is the gunboat to do when she arrives at the seat of war? Blow down the Protestant bakery and knead Mr. Thompson? Or is it that both priests and people are so afraid of the latter that they would feel a sense of security in the sight of a union jack?—There is a side to the affair, however, more serious than would appear at the first glance. If this is the way in which converts are to be won, the fewer we have of Galway or Aran Protestants the better. A story was current a few years ago that in hard times a close-pressed countryman of Galway would leave his priest to go to church until his prospects brightened. By a little Jesuitical compliances the honest rustic procured a daily meal for himself and his family, besides a suit of clothes bestowed to exhibit the peophyte to advantage, and in order that his comparatively gorgeous appearance might encourage the others. If the facts be true that come to us from Aran, we can quite believe these tales of temporary Protestants. No doubt the Misses Digby and Mr. Thompson may be actuated by noble feelings but enthusiasm often leads people astray who do not know how to curb it.—[Pall Mall Gazette.

GRAT BRITAIN.

London Feb. 24.—In the House of Commons last night the Solicitor General (Gladstone) introduced a bill to abolish University Tests.

The Archbishop of York preached a sermon at the opening of the new choir of the Ripon Cathedral the chief argument of which, according to the Pall Mall Gazette, was that the Church would not suffer by separation from the State.

Great distress prevails among the handloom weavers of Glasgow, and as trade in Scotland is generally dull large numbers of work people are idle, and philanthropists are moving for their relief.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE.—Great interest attaches at the present moment to the movements of the Marquis of Bute. No wonder. A young nobleman with £300,000 a year, and without a wife, is calculated to set all the mothers in Belgrave, and indeed all the matrons in England, to say nothing of the young and blushing maidens, on the qui vive. When it was first announced that the noble marquis had become a Catholic, a kind of moral overspread the land—a terrible calamity, hardly inferior to the shock of an earthquake, shook our whole social system. In high quarters might be heard wailings of deep intensity. This was followed by the announcement that the marquis had become a priest! Aburd as the statement was, it found believers, especially in the higher circles of English social life, the female inmates of which rejoiced in the consolation that as they could not grasp the coveted prize, no one else would. There was a sedative to rivalry in the reflection. It now appears that the marquis has gone to make a tour in the East, accompanied by two old Oxford friends, and *misabile dictum!* Monsignor Cappel former one of the party; he is not a bishop of the Catholic Church, but a simple priest with the honorary rank of monsignor, who received the marquis into the Catholic Church. How will the Oxonians fare in such company? Can they expect to return uncontented? It matters little to them, for they cannot, we presume, rival the marquis in the good things of this world. It is added that the latter, on his return, will marry the daughter of a lately-created Duke. Can this have reference to the family of the late Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland? More work here for Monsignor Cappel, for the latter, it is added, is not of the Marquis's way of thinking in matters of religion. Thackeray, in his history of the 'Four Georges' states that a German matron of the Royal house, who had a batch of marriageable daughters, was once asked the religion of one of the young ladies, and she candidly replied that she could not answer the question, for the simple reason that she did not yet know the religion of her future husband! We will venture to affirm that Monsignor Cappel, or Archbishop Manning, or whoever may be selected for the delicate task, will have little trouble when the time comes assuming the statement to have a resemblance of truth—with the favoured daughter of a lately-created Duke. The lady will readily accommodate herself to circumstances, and £300,000 a year. But it seems that the Marquis of Bute, though he has become a Catholic, has not ceased to be a Tory, if we are to credit a statement said to have been lately made by his agent at Cardiff.

We are willing to believe that no English minister ever guided the State helm more anxiously to do justice to the Irish nation than the Premier who in ten or eleven days from the present time will meet the British Parliament, and lay before it his propositions for sweeping away the English State Church in a Catholic country. We can await with patience the development of his schemes for the inauguration of a brighter and better era. But in the interim, we may as well glance at the existence of a nuisance so offensive and so revolting that Mr. Gladstone's sense of decency must be shocked at it when it is made known to him. Ulster, as every one knows, is the most Protestant section of the sister kingdom; but even in Ulster the Catholic element, as the last census showed, is considerably in advance of the Protestant element, and yet this numerical superiority finds no recognition in honorary and other offices. Take the case of Newry as an illustration. Newry is essentially a Catholic town—that is, the Catholic population of the place outnumber all other forms of belief in the proportion of two-thirds to one third, and yet while four gentlemen have been elevated to the magistratical bench to represent the minority in Newry, there are only three

Catholic magistrates to represent the majority!—Northern Star.

A correspondent of the Glasgow Herald, signing himself 'An Engineer,' attributes the loss of the steamer Hibernia to the want of a governor to regulate the speed of the engines, and concludes his letter thus:—'In the absence of information, and judging by the evidence, I have no hesitation in concluding that there was no governor, and that that cause primarily the loss of the ship is to be attributed. The captain, and I think one of the officers, averred that they heard the engines 'racing.' Even if this 'racing' was heard after the breaking of the shaft, and when the engines were relieved of the burden of the propeller, it should not have occurred. Engines when controlled by a good governor do not, and cannot 'race' (as working too fast is termed). Now one of the greatest dangers to the machinery of a steamship in a storm, and more especially to a screw or paddle shaft, is the 'racing' of the engines. It can easily be understood. When the stern of the ship is elevated by a great wave, the propeller is raised clear of water. The engines then, if not otherwise controlled, will run off at a high velocity, and whenever the stern dips deeply into the solid water the high velocity of the propeller is brought to a sudden check, and the shaft, unless very strong, must snap. It is quite clear to many other engineers, if they liked to speak out, that it was under such circumstances that the screw shaft of the Hibernia broke and if the speed of the engines had been regulated by a governor, no such catastrophe as the breakage of the shaft, and the consequent loss of such a fine steamer, with all its attendant deplorable results, could have happened. 'Marine governors' are not expensive nor difficult to had. There are many good ones being manufactured and in constant use and I think it is the duty of the Board of Trade to order that every sea-going steamer carrying passengers should be provided with an improved marine governor.'

THE ARMY AND NAVY.—The provisional papers are full of important news. They fully confirm the statement which was questioned by the Globe as to the withdrawal of a large number of troops from the colonies. The Army and Navy Gazette says that the withdrawal of troops from certain of our colonies, in reduction of the carriage to be maintained in them, has been decided upon. The staff will be reduced; the 4th West India Regiment disbanded; the Omdurman and Ceylon Regts reduced. The Broad Arrow says that the policy of concentrating the military forces of the Empire as far as possible in the mother country was fully confirmed at the last Cabinet Council, and as soon as the weather will permit, one regiment of cavalry, five of infantry, and seven batteries of artillery will be withdrawn from North America. As regards the army at home, the Engineer Train is to be abolished, though the equipment will be kept up. The Military Train is to be re-organized. It is probable that the cavalry will be re-organized on the squadron system, that the grade of cornet and ensign will be abolished, and the number of subalterns largely reduced, but those who have recently passed their examination will receive commissions; that the staff will be reduced and a large number of horses and drivers in the artillery (half of each battery) will be struck off. A great central council to be established at the War Office, to which all important questions in artillery and engineer matters will be referred instead of the decisions being left to the individual heads of departments. The changes in the navy are no less serious and organic. Mr. Childers' scheme for reducing expenditure is said to be all but complete and will embrace the following changes:—The abolition of the office of admirals' and captains' superintendent of the dockyards, from March 31st; the abolition of all unimportant foreign commands, and the substitution of flying squadrons under rear-admirals; and, according to the United Service Gazette, the abolition of the Royal Naval Reserve.

THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE.—The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, a tribunal which attracts an unusual attention and interest just now, comprises more members than many persons suppose. It includes the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of York, the peer Chancellors of Great Britain—viz, Lords St. Leonards, Chelmsford Wensbury and Cairns; the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, the Lords Justices of Appeal in Chancery (we believe), the Master of the Rolls, the Judge of the Arches Court of Canterbury, the Judge of the Admiralty Court, besides Sir W. Erie, Sir J. T. Colvridge, and other retired judges, being Privy Counsellors. It is obvious that a very strong bench might be obtained from these sources, though it may be unsatisfactory that prelates not bred to the law should have any voice when the question is whether a learned professional lawyer and judge has or has not decided according to the law of the land. The old Court of Appeal, the Court of Delegates, was specially commissioned for each case. Seven cases, more or less involving questions of religious doctrine, came before it subsequently to the Restoration. The first was for blasphemous speeches against the orthodox faith by a clerk in holy orders; the second was for immorality and disaffection to the Church of England, the latter apparently 'not baptizing with the sign of the Cross'; the third was for, among other things, preaching in favour of Popery; but as in the preceding case the proceedings were discontinued; the fourth was for speaking against the book of Common Prayer; the fifth was against Whiston for heresy; the sixth was against churchwardens for setting up painted glass in the eastern window of the parish church representing 'superstition, pictures or images'; but the case was discontinued, though not till after a decree had been pronounced on the grievance; the last was for writing a pamphlet impugning the credentials of religion; but the appeal was abandoned after an incidental decree had been pronounced. In the first five of these cases the Court consisted of six many bishops as common law judges, but with the addition of several doctors, members of the College of Orillians. In the last two cases, in 1759 and 1775, the Commission was addressed to common law judges and civilians only. In the famous prosecution of Whiston for heresy the Commission of Appeal issued in 1713 was addressed to five bishops, three common law judges, and five doctors of law, civilians; and in 1715 three more bishops and two more judges were added. The proceedings were ultimately discontinued, but a decree was pronounced by all the members of the original Commission except one of the bishops. The Judicial Committee can at any time be further strengthened by making more of the judges Privy Counsellors. We should not now much like the old court, with its attendant sittings,—the cloth removed, and the company straightway becoming 'the High Court of Delegates.'

It is reported that on Saturday a gentleman was robbed in the express train between London and Edinburgh in a manner that has created a considerable amount of interest. The circumstances are these:—The express train arrived at the Waverley Bridge Station, from London, about a quarter before nine on Saturday morning. Some of the passengers left the carriages, and, among others, a gentleman having the appearance of a foreigner, who in a few minutes after getting on the platform felt for his pocket book, but found that it had disappeared. On discovering his loss he became very excited, and ultimately swooned. The officials at the station gave immediate assistance, and in a short time the gentleman, after getting somewhat composed, informed them that he had been robbed of a pocket-book containing £180. As only one gentleman occupied the same compartment with him from London, his suspicions naturally fell upon his fellow-traveller.—These suspicions were further confirmed when he recollected he had the money in his possession when

near Berwick. At that time his companion, it is stated, offered him a sup from a flask of brandy which he carried in his pocket. He took the draught from the flask, and immediately became quite unconscious of everything around him. As he continued some time in a state of stupor, he concluded that the robbery must have been then effected. The express had left for Glasgow some minutes before the railway officials got these details, and their informant could not state positively whether the suspected gentleman left at the Waverley Station, or passed on to the West. However, a telegram was sent to Glasgow for an officer to wait the arrival of the express train and to keep a sharp look out for the occupant of a certain carriage. We understand that the Glasgow detectives have since apprehended a person answering in every respect to the description supplied from Edinburgh; and it is further stated that he had in his possession a large sum of money.—Edinburgh Review.

A CLEAR CASE OF WEARING THE BREWERS.—One of the witnesses examined in the Lichfield election petition case was Ann Richey, who stated that the night before the election her husband went out with a man named Fisher, who said, 'He's only going to have a little supper at my house—some tripe and a glass of beer.' They did not come home, and witness went to look for them. She saw Fisher at the door of the Blue Bell, and asked where her husband was. Fisher said, 'He would not come with me; he's down at Balamore.' Witness said, 'He's here; and as it is a public-house, I shall go up.' She went up, and saw her husband in a room, with 20 or 30 men, and told him if he did not come home she would have him fetched by the police. A man named Dagmore caught hold of witness's husband round the waist, and tried to detain him, but witness then said that Dagmore did not lose him she would strike Dagmore. Thereupon Dagmore let go his hold, and witness took her husband by the collar and pushed him downstairs, telling him as she did so, 'I'll give you Colonel Dunt when I get you home.' (Laughter.) She then took her husband home. He voted for Major Anson. George Richey, husband of the last witness, corroborated his wife's evidence.

THE TUNNEL BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.—Mr. H. Beckett, F.R.S., the gentleman appointed by the Governments of Great Britain and France to report upon the possibility of effecting a communication between the two countries by a submarine tunnel under the Straits of Dover, presided at a meeting of the Dudley Geological Society lately, and read a paper on the scheme. Mr. Beckett commenced by referring to the former plans proposed to obtain the desired communication, and then pointed out with great clearness the character of the various beds of chalk and marl on the English coast opposite to France. He showed, from their undoubted identity with the marl exposed on the French coast, that the opinion generally agreed upon among geologists, that the two countries were at one time united, was based upon reliable principles. The reader then pointed out the shallowness of the water between the two countries, as shown by the Admiralty chart, and argued from the 'dip' of the beds, which was uniform on both sides of the Straits, that the proposed tunnel would not have to traverse 'faults' but, on the contrary, the whole of the work would be through the same crustaceous bed. This bed could be easily worked, was free from fissures and joints, and was to a great extent impervious to water. Mr. Beckett said the promoters of the scheme proposed to drive two parallel tunnels for a single line of rails, and were of opinion that the total cost would be considerably less than £10,000,000 sterling.

A SO-CALLED REFORMER.—Some time ago Mr. Bradlaugh, better known as 'Iconoclast,' in fraternal rivalry with whom Mr. Mill lost his election for Westminster, brought an action for libel against one of the comic publications, and obtained a verdict with a 'farthing' damages. The officers of Inland Revenue have now taken this atheistical lecturer in hand, and are prosecuting him for certain offences against the law in the matter of his newspaper, the so-called National Reformer. Mr. Bradlaugh denies that his publication is a newspaper, a point which has yet to be decided, for the proceedings have not finally come to a close; but most right-minded persons will deny with equal vehemence that it can without a violation of language be called 'A National Reformer.' The officers of the crown, however, have so far farred better than he in his attack upon the comic press—they have already secured judgment for penalties in some hundreds of pounds.

A MILD WINTER.—A London paper says: Some weeks ago a paragraph was published in the papers describing incidents that illustrated the remarkable mildness of the winter. Other instances still more remarkable from their existence at a period in the year so much later, can now be related. Beside the paper on which this is written there lies a small bunch of cherries which were gathered on December 18th in the garden of a house at Bickley, in Kent, very appropriately named Sunnyside. The tree from which they were picked stands in the open air, and enjoys no special advantage of situation; it may, therefore, be inferred that similar unreasonable manifestations may have happened in the cherry orchards; if so, it bodes ill for the next crop. In the same locality may be seen various wild flowers in full bloom; primroses are common, and garden rosebuds, just ready to unfold their petals, were to be seen in many gardens on Christmas Day. On December 11th a correspondent wrote that he had seen a swallow flying about, and another, writing three or four days later, mentions the same thing. The birds appear sorely misguided by the mildness of the weather. Blackbirds and other birds may still be heard singing in the woods in a manner which suggests that the hen is hatching her eggs, and in confirmation of the probability that this is the case, it may be mentioned that a Mr. Humberly has in his garden a nest containing eggs. There are several rookeries in the neighbourhood of Bromley and Chislehurst, and in one of these rooks were assembled a day or two since, apparently preparing to make their nests.

THE CANADIAN CHURCH FROM AN ENGLISH STAND-POINT.—The following letter is addressed to the editor of the Pall Mall Gazette:— Sir, In your article yesterday on 'Disestablishment,' you refer to the Canadian Church as having been 'in a healthier state' since its recent changes. I do not wish to say anything disrespectful of the Church in Canada, but when it is held up as a model for us to follow it may be as well briefly to state some reasons why its 'health' may be doubted. Let any one read the article on that subject in the October number of Macmillan's Magazine, by a liberal clergyman well acquainted with the Canadian Church, and he will see that, whatever other effects the changes had, they have succeeded in extinguishing all free thought and movement in that Church. It is also well known that the Canadian Bishops were amongst the most zealous in promoting the Pan-Anglican Synod, and the most exclusive and exaggerated propositions of that synod. It is also known that almost every election to a bishopric in Canada since the abandonment of the Crown nominations has been vehemently contested and attended with scandals. It is also well known that the primacy of the Canadian Church, which fell vacant a few weeks before the primacy of the Church of England, has never yet been filled up. The contending parties have not been able to come to any agreement, what long and fierce discussions, and the whole process is adjourned till May, leaving the Canadian Church meantime without a head and its important diocese without a bishop.

I submit that this not a 'healthy' state, nor one to be imitated. ANGLICANUS.

UNITED STATES. In 'Harper's Magazine' we find the following amusing description of the scenes that occurred on the occasion of the presentation to the Emperor, of the United States residents in Paris, by their representative, Mr. Mason. This gentleman was not much acquainted with the Court etiquette of France, and his troubles, and those of his compatriots, are humorously described:— It requires something more, however, than the experience of American official life, even when sustained by the best of whiskey and the purest tobacco, to enable one to look calmly through the gilding of a court such as that imperial tailor and upholsterer, Louis Napoleon, has created. Mr. Mason was not of that class who can pierce the outer seeming to the real substance and retain a self-possession from an inner sense of superior merit. The rattling roar of carriage, the glare of lights, the gorgeous stalfway made beautiful by flowers and imposing by the 'Cent Guards,' up which swept a living stream of beautiful women and decorated men, struck awe into the soul of the Virginia diplomat. How he found his way to the presentation room remains a mystery. When there his trouble began. The room reserved for Americans was the one given also to English. Mr. Mason was immediately surrounded by citizens of our free land, done up in court costume that, either through the awkwardness of the wearers or from the fact that the hired dresses did not fit comfortably, made them resemble the actors on the stage in spectacular dramas, that stalk about conscious of the jeers and laughter of the audience. Crowding about their unhappy Minister, they begged to know what they were to do, where place themselves, and how to act? The appearance of the diplomat was as ludicrous as his fiscal was pitiable. The back of his unbuttoned coat made a straight line from collar to tail. That part of his rotund person which the satirical Denton said was content only when filled with oysters, seemed to round out twice its ordinary size, while his cocked hat was fixed firmly to the back of his good-natured old head. Firmly grasping his dress-word, he rolled to and fro, using language more remarkable for its force than polish in reply to the 'rubleous' questions of the excited crowd. Strango to relate, an English *attache* came to the relief of the perplexed Minister. He begged pardon for his intrusion, and said that he saw the Minister and his *attaches* were now to be the business, and begged leave to suggest that if Mr. Mason would place his compatriots on one side of the room, in a line, he, the Minister, could observe the manner the English Ambassador went through the ceremony. It consisted merely in walking backward before the Emperor, and presenting each one by name, with his or her residence. The line was soon formed. A new trouble presented itself. The people to be introduced, each by name, were strangers to Mr. Mason. He did not know their several cognomens, and walking up and down the line he demanded earnestly that they should 'sing out their names.' But when their names were so sung out he found that he could not remember them. While thus engaged the Emperor and suite entered, and the presentation of the English began. Mr. Mason ceased his demand for names, and gazed earnestly at the process being gone through with, that he might learn something of his duties. The Americans ceased talking, and settled in a fixed stare at the world wide celebrity before them. The English presentation came at last to an end, and Mr. Mason's task began. Remembering the name of his first victim, he succeeded without blunder, in making the American Muggins and the Third Napoleon acquainted with each other. But with the next our Minister came to a full stop. He could not remember the name, and the poor man tried in vain by a *deus ex machina* to communicate the magic word. The Emperor waited with that calm indifference which is far more aggravating than any expression of impatience. He waited without result, and he might have so waited an indefinite time, for the wretched man whose introduction stopped the way suddenly grew red in the face, and lost all power of articulation. Judge Mason saw apoplexy before him, when relief came in the shape of a happy idea that struck his diplomatic brain. Stepping back a few paces he exclaimed:— 'I have the honour to introduce your Majesty to all these good people. They are all Americans.'

This mode of presenting, by platoon, was new to his Majesty's foresaid; but accepting the situation he withdrew a few paces, so as to take in the entire line, and then began his usual speech on such occasions:— 'You have done me great compliment, ladies and gentlemen, by coming so far to visit my court. You come from a great country. I remember your country—I was once there myself.' At this point a tall, awkward New Englander, looking at the court thus referred to through a pair of gold-rimmed spectacles thought it about time to say something to relieve the general sense of restraint, and so cried out, in a very insinuating, soothing, though rather nasal, tone:— 'And we were very glad to have you among us, your Majesty.'

A burly gentleman full of conceit, and gorgeously decorated with a medal some enthusiastic fire company had presented him, indignantly that any other than himself should presume to speak, added, in a loud voice:— 'And we hope soon to see you there again, your Majesty.'

The proposition, made so heartily, to resume travels once more that had proven so mean and miserable, discontinued his Imperial Majesty to such an extent that he abruptly terminated the review, by gathering up his side-arms and going off almost at a canter. This absurd scene was acted quietly enough, the disposition to laugh being controlled by the politeness so general in the polished capital of France, and by the restraint necessary to success in establishing the elaborate etiquette of a new court. One, only, failed to hide his intense satisfaction. A large man, in a very gay court dress, found afterward to be the Master of Horse, indulged in a grin that extended from ear to ear the moment the Emperor's back was turned, and the Master of Horse saved himself from a horse-laugh by punching violently his companion as they marched away. The line of presented Americans immediately broke ranks, and, surrounding the two unfortunate who had thus unexpectedly terminated the imperial interview so dear to the American heart, poured out their indignation in language more pointed than polite. The elongated nuisance from New England, who had opened the conversation with the Third Napoleon to relieve his embarrassment, seized on a very fleshy woman, and began walking to the first notes of music that smote upon his ear. As it was in violation of court etiquette for any one to walk before the imperial quadrille had ended, a number of flunkies started in pursuit of the wrongdoers. This created some confusion and in the midst of it came a cry of 'Make way.' Open a passage, will you? and above the crowd was seen a tall yellow feather, violently agitated as the passenger of a ship in a head sea. Directly the Minister and family were discovered been conducted to the diplomatic benches, where seats had been reserved. On reaching the place designated, Mr. Mason found that the stout gentleman from New York with the fire company's decoration, and bravely flanked by seven daughters, had been mistaken for the American Minister, and was in quite possession of honours and comfort.

Well, exclaimed Mr. Mason, 'I'll be—' But words failed to do the subject justice. Thus ended our presentation at Court.