

Our Irish Letter.

DUBLIN, July 25.—It is now understood that the authorities have practically arranged that the Duke and Duchess of York's visit to Ireland will coincide with the opening of the Horse Show in Dublin in the third week in August.

THE FUNERALS OF TWO NOTED PRIESTS.

The funeral of the Rev. Bernard Murphy, R.P., V.F., of Carrickmore, took place last week in the Carrickmore churchyard. The funeral obsequies were of the most solemn character.

On Tuesday last the mortal remains of the late Rev. Father William O'Connor of St. Vincent College, Castleknock, were consigned to their last resting place in the cemetery of the College.

CARMELITE FATHERS' CELEBRATION.

The Carmelite Fathers, Kinsale, celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, on the 16th and 18th inst., with great solemnity.

REWARDING A FAITHFUL PASTOR.

Father Ring, of Silvertown, has been presented by his parishioners with an illuminated address and a purse containing eighty sovereigns in recognition of his great work.

A WELL KNOWN NUN DEAD.

The death is announced of Mother Mary Teresa O'Callaghan, of the Convent of Mercy, Passage West, which took place after a brief illness.

IN MEMORIAM DANIEL O'CONNELL.

On Monday evening in St. James Church, Dublin, there was a Solemn Requiem Office recited by the members of the Christian Doctrine Confraternity, assisted by the various confraternities of the city.

MR HAYDEN, M. P., AND THE OLERGY.

There is apparently very little interest manifest in the South River common election. The Irish Party is unrepresented.

town and was well known and was not afraid to stand up as a Catholic, and not as a priest-hunter, and that was a great deal more than many of his opponents could say.

ARCHBISHOP WALSH AND IRISH CORK CUTTERS.

It is gratifying to observe the interest taken in the fostering of Irish industries by our prelates, as is evidenced by the following letter received by the President of the Cork Cutter's Society, from His Grace the Archbishop.

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, Dublin, 15th July, 1897.

DEAR SIR,—I have been greatly interested in the account given me by the deputation from your Society as to the present deplorable position of the cork cutting trade in Dublin, and I think you should take some means of putting a statement on the subject before the general public.

On Tuesday last the Sisters of Mercy in charge of the Ballinacree Workhouse Hospital celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their admission to the charge of that institution.

ASKING FOR PARDON FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS.

There was a large gathering in the public square, Tralee, on Sunday, to advocate the release of the remaining Irish political prisoners.

LACK OF SUFFICIENT FUNDS.

There being a deficit on the first Feis amounting to £200, the Committee has decided to make a call on the guarantors in order to cover the liabilities.

THE WORK OF ERECTION GOES ON.

Major F. G. Cullinan, sub-sheriff of Clare, has carried out several seizures for non-payment of rent on the well-known Caher estates in East Clare.

OFF FOR AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Timothy McCarthy, of Killarney, a popular young clergyman lately ordained, will, after spending a few months in Tralee on temporary duty, proceed to Australia, having volunteered for the foreign mission.

success under the Southern Cross. Rev. Michael Godley has been appointed to the pastoral charge of Glenbeigh and Glencar parish, vacated by the death of the late lamented Rev. Thomas Quiller.

A TESTIMONIAL FOR REV. FATHER BYRNE.

A movement is on foot in Ardee to present the Rev. John Byrne, P.P., Dunleer, with an address and testimonial, in testimony of the respect, love and esteem in which he was held by the people of that town.

A SILVER JUBILEE.

On Thursday last the Sisters of Mercy in charge of the Ballinacree Workhouse Hospital celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their admission to the charge of that institution.

A destructive fire broke out last week at the large flax mill, Blackpool, Cork, a thousand tons of flax and tow being destroyed.

In Cork, last week, before Mr. Justice Murphy and a special jury, Miss Kate Cronin, of Courtmacsherry, claimed £700 from Patrick O'Sullivan, Clonakilly, for breach of promise.

There is a most serious state of affairs in the Richmond Lunatic Asylum. The mysterious Eastern disease, Beri-Beri, has broken out there with terrible violence, and a special commission has been appointed to investigate.

STEVENSON ON DAMIEN.

A LITERARY MASTERPIECE.

If the late Robert Louis Stevenson had never written anything else, his "open letter" to the Rev. Dr. Hyde, of Honolulu, would have proved him as great a master of literary style and polished invective as ever lived and wrote.

"But there are duties which come before gratitude, and offences which justify 'divide friends, far more than acquaintances.' Your letter to the Rev. H. B. Gage is a document which, in my sight, if you had filled me with bread when I was starving, if you had led me to nurse my father when he lay a-dying, would yet absolve me from the bonds of gratitude.

"It is more than seven years since this letter of Stevenson was written, and the subject is now revived by its republication in the form of a 'bibelot' by Mr. Thomas B. Mosher, of Portland, Maine.

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Rev. Timothy McCarthy, of Killarney, a popular young clergyman lately ordained, will, after spending a few months in Tralee on temporary duty, proceed to Australia, having volunteered for the foreign mission.

member you, on the day when Damien of Molokai shall be named Saint, it will be in virtue of one work—your letter to the Reverend H. B. Gage."

Stevenson, writing seven years ago and without knowledge of the true light which has since been thrown upon the life and character of Father Damien, takes up *seriatim* the charges of Hyde against the martyr-priest; but he was coarse, that he was dirty, that he was bigoted, etc., and replies:—

"It is very possible. You make us 'sorry for the lepers who had only a coarse old peasant for their friend and father. But you, who were so refined, why were you not there, to cheer them with the lights of culture? Or may I remind you that we have some reason to doubt if John the Baptist were gentle; and in the case of Peter, on whose career you doubtless dwell approvingly in the pulpit, no doubt 'all his was a coarse, headstrong fisherman! Yet even in our Protestant Bibles Peter is called Saint.'"

He condoles with the poor lepers for having been annoyed with such "a dirty comrade," but the clean Dr. Hyde was bigoted, the essayist thanks God for a bigotry which produced such good results and made the bigot "one of the world's heroes and exemplars."

There was another and a viler charge; that Damien was an immoral man. Stevenson says that he had not heard of any such charge outside of Dr. Hyde's clerical parlor save once, and that was in a tavern at Apia in Samoa, and the man who made it was a beach-comber from Honolulu.

"I find a joy, continues Stevenson, in telling you how the report was welcomed in a public house. A man sprang to his feet; I am not at liberty to give his name, but from what I heard I doubt if you would care to have him to dinner in Beretania Street. 'You miserable little—' (here is a word I dare not print, it would shock your ears).

"You miserable little," he cried, 'if the story were a thousand times true, can't you see you are a million times a lower—for daring to repeat it?' I wish it could be told of you that when the report reached you in your house, perhaps after family worship, you had found in your soul enough holy anger to receive it with the same expressions: ay, even with that one, 'which I dare not print; it would not need to have been blotted away, like Uncle Toby's oath, by the tears of the recording angel; it would have been counted to you for your brightest righteousness."

"God forgive me for supposing it," says Stevenson; but for the sake of argument he does suppose that Damien ever faltered in his priestly duty, and thus closes his Open Letter with this *argumentum ad hominem*. Rev. Dr. Hyde, who if he had had the least spark of manhood in his composition, would have been ashamed to his inmost heart by the scorn of the rebuke:—

"You had a father: suppose this tale were about him, and some informant brought it to you, proof in hand; I am not making too high an estimate of your emotional nature when I suppose you would regret the circumstance? that you would feel the tale of frailty the more keenly since it shamed the author 'of your days? and that the last thing you would do would be to publish it in the religious press? Well, the man 'who tried to do what Damien did, is 'my father, and the father of all who 'love goodness; and he was your father, 'too. If God had given you grace to 'see it.'"

Some good Catholics were offended, when this Open Letter first appeared, because it seemed that Stevenson had given even hypothetical credence to the foul charges of Hyde; but in reading it now, with the proof of Father Damien's innocence known to all men, they will see that Stevenson deserves all the more credit for defending the martyr, when it seemed possible for his enemies to smirch the man.

Thank God for the Damiens whom He gives us, and for the Stevensons bravely ready to defend them against slander and envy. Both types are sufficiently rare, as their enemies, alas, are not.—Boston Pilot.



Intelligent people in this day and age at most without exception, protect themselves against small-pox, by vaccination.

Consumption approaches its victim step by step. First there is a little 'out of sorts' feeling, the digestion isn't just right, the appetite falls off, the liver is inactive, the assimilation of the life-giving elements of the food is imperfect, the blood gets impure and the body is improperly nourished.

K. C. McJin, Esq., of Kempville, Princess Anne Co., Va., writes: "When I commenced taking your 'Discovery,' I was very low with a cough, and at times spit up much blood. I was unable to do the least work, but most of the time was in bed. I was all run-down, very weak, my head was dizzy, and I was extremely dependent. The doctor told me I had to do me much good, but I had faith in it and continued to use it until I had taken fifteen bottles, and now I do not look any more like the same man I was one year ago. People are astonished, and say, 'well, last year this time I would not have thought that you would be living now.' I can thank the 'Discovery' for my recovery, and I can say, 'but for your wonderful 'Discovery,' would have resulted in my death.'"

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IT IS THE BEST.

MONEY LENDERS. Some of the Extraordinary Transactions Which Were Carried Out in England.

A Demand for Reform Causes a Parliamentary Investigation—Three Thousand Per Cent Was the Rate.

The London Spectator, in referring to the recent revelations in connection with the business of money lending, says:—

The money lenders have given themselves away. Mr. Yerburgh must have smiled to himself when Mr. Isaac Samuel refused to deny that he might have charged a client 2000 per cent, but he chuckled, we suspect, audibly when Mr. Gordon, in a spirit which we may call frank or impudent as we please, voluntarily declared that he had charged 3,000 per cent, and intended, if we understand his drift, to charge it again.

CHARGED 3 000 PER CENT.

is very different. It seems to the average member that such a man is plundering, and he resolves that plunder of that kind must and shall be made impossible, at least through the agency of Courts of Justice. It is true that it is difficult to answer the argument with which Mr. Gordon, who, though he acknowledged his record to be bad, and though he "cheeked" the committee in a way fatal to his own case, must be a very shrewd Shylock, defended his outrageous demands. "I do not," he said, "lend money; I sell money," a defence which is logically unanswerable.

CEASED TO BE A FREE AGENT.

see, in fact, a pistol at his head. Under any of these hypothesis the transaction, it will be held, ought to be made impossible, and the only point really left for discussion is the most expedient mode of creating the impossibility. If that can be done, thinks the average member, the money-lender will take less, or if he will not take less, but prefers, as Mr. Gordon coolly threatened the Committee, to retire from business, why the world of commerce may possibly survive even that loss.

MONEY-LENDER TAKING OUT A LICENCE.

in his true name, thus placing himself under the eye of the public and the courts, and rendering himself liable, if he is convicted of extortion in a court of justice, to the general opprobrium which even money-lenders may be fairly supposed to dread, if only it will limit their future custom to those whose securities are of the least value.

REDUCE THE FACILITIES FOR FRAUD.

which tempt semi-criminals into the trade, by rendering every transaction illegal in which the money said to be lent was not lent, but only a portion of it, under the pretence, that the remainder was stopped for "inquiries," or premiums, or first payments of interest. This would destroy at least one source of the user's exorbitant profits, and we cannot see that it is in any degree unjust. Every other trader is compelled to sell the goods he professes to sell, unadulterated, and why should the usurer be permitted to water down his own liquor? If he says he will lend £100 let him lend £100 or take the consequences of his own conduct, which, even if not fraudulent, will at all events be in defiance of law. This

clause would have prevented some of the very worst cases brought before the Committee, and completely prevent the oppression once common, now, we believe, infrequent, of compelling the borrower to take part of his loan in goods,—the latter a practice which we already prevent in the case of wage receivers by the various Truck Acts.

WHAT PARLIAMENT MAY DO.

And then Parliament will, we fancy, be ready to vote that no court shall grant an accumulation of interest in excess of the original principal advanced. That is an utterly illogical proviso, and one which at first sight appears to fine the lender who is lenient as to the time he allows; but this in England, where everything is illogical, the clause would check a good many quasi-fraudulent practices, and one does not see how it could interfere with perfectly legitimate advances upon reversionary securities, but an able draftsman will be able to make exceptions, and the clause would undoubtedly be in accordance with a popular belief or prejudice which holds that such a demand is extortionate to the verge of immorality. It is true that Mr. Gordon's argument about the sale of his money, if considered as stock, applies to such a proviso with unanswerable force; but then the pawnbroker might plead it too, and we do not let him do it.

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DISTRICT OF MONTREAL, No. 224.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Matlo Plinik, of the City and District of Montreal, wife, separated as to property, of Sachno Numanitsky, formerly of the said City of Montreal, and now of parts unknown, duly authorized to enter an affidavit, Plaintiff, vs. Sachno Numanitsky, formerly of the City and District of Montreal, and now of parts unknown, Defendant. The Defendant is ordered to appear within two months. Montreal, 27th July, 1897. L. A. BEDARD, Deputy Prothonotary.

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