ROBBING IRELAND.

THE SCANDALOUS INJUSTICE OF ENGLISH MISGOVERNMENT.

ERIN HAS BEEN FINANCIALLY "SWEATED" FOR THE BENEFIT OF ENGLAND—TAX ATION HAS INCREASED AT A STARTLING RATE-"WE STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF NA-TIONAL ASSASSINATION AND ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE."

A question connected with Ireland, which must arise almost immediatelyprobably in the next budget-is that of its financial relations to Great Britain. It has taken six years for the Irish royal | echoes of the chapel, and from the Rea scandalous instance of government in those soul-stirring Irish melodies that gratitude, or perhaps duplicity to hide heart, until late at night, when the the injustice done to Ireland in this respect. Since the paper union the taxation of Ireland per head increased at a startling rate, without any adequate corresponding advantages. She has, in fact. been financially "sweated" for the bene-fit of England. Before the union the taxes in Ireland never, as the evidence the evening, given by the members of before the royal commission exclusively St. Anselm's academy. The entertainproves, exceeded 9 shillings per head; now it is as high as £2 9s.; and this with a falling population and decaying or extinct industries. In Great Britain, on the contrary, imperial taxation has decreased since the beginning of the cen-

the union, says Reynolds' Newspaper, the burden of England's foreign policy fell on England alone. For many years after the union had been effected Ireland was still indifferent to England's imperial march, more especially as she derived say the least, it was a most decided sucmarch, more especially as she derived no share of the benefits. Nothwithstanding this, however, she was made to pay | thorough training, and the young actors a very large additional contribution to deserve no little credit for the excellent meet the expense of this policy, even though the millions spent on the manufacture of the munitions of war and of naval shipbuilding were entirely confin-Ireland still suffers. The increased durendered. The dramatis personn was as ties passed on such things as tobacco and follows:—

We cannot close without a word of

EFFECTUALLY KILLED THE MANUFACTURE

of those articles in Ireland, as at a previous period the prohibition, by English acts of Parliament, of the Irish shipping and woolen industries wiped out these sources of industry and income. But no class in Ireland was to escape. In 1853 the middle people—relatively much poor er in Ireland than in England-were called upon for a proportion out of their income in taxation. Again, any taxes remitted were those which chiefly affected English industries; those affecting Irish remained.

As if this were not enough, England in her treatment of Ireland has refused to allow her to remedy the maladministration of her local rates. England has a system of representative county government; Ireland has none. England has popular election of all her poor law guardians; Ireland has not. England has a democratic municipal franchise; Ireland has not. The local affairs of Ireland are governed by and for the benefit of the landlords, many of whom are absentees, who thus drain from the country, as effeetnally as if it were a direct tax several millions annually, for the benefit of England. Ireland, again, unlike our colonies, or even India is in the unhappy

land falls upon the agricultural classes. and as Ireland depends for her existence upon agriculture, it is obvious that in any scheme of the government for the relief of agricultural depression Ireland must first be considered. The poverty of her farmers prevents them acquiring the machinery necessary to keep pace with the competition of Denmark, Normany and other European countries in rhethods of culture, or of cattle breeding. Consequently not only is the farmer worsted in the international contest, but the capital value of the land is steadily falling, and the landlords' share, therefore, is rapidly diminishing.

TO THE SHAME OF WEAETHY ENGLAND

be it said that she extracts from Ireland one-third of her taxable income, while imposing on Great Britain only one-ninth of hers. And what a cut throat policy it is! Ireland's poverty is England's misfortune. In the one article of tea, the lessened consumption in Ireland, owing to the imigration of its population to other countries within half a century, represents a loss to the English merchants of £1,000,000 yearly. And the consumption of all other English manufactures in Ireland has fallen proportionately. Similary, England's policy towards Ireland has driven a couple of millions of Irish people to compete in the labor markets of Great Britain—people who would have much preferred to stay at home had there been a chance of a decent living for them in their native country. Finally, the expatriated Irishman in America revenges himself against the conquering and evicting nation by fomenting ill will between the States and Great Britain, with the result that England is put to several additional millions yearly of war expenditure to meet eventualities. England has put a people in chancery. Ireland is the "Bleak House" of all the nations. Under English misrule her population dropped from 8,175,124, in 1841, to 4,704,-750 in 1891, and in this year is not more than 4,500,000. With her people have gone their saving. Such is English rule in Ireland.

No matter in what direction we turn the picture is gloomy in the extreme. In tifty years the proportion of paupers has doubled. In 1894 the paupers of Ireland were ninety-five per thousand of the population; in England, twenty-six per thousand. The rural towns are in ruins. The land is slipping back into the bog.

ROOFLESS AND DESERTED HOMESTEADS

stand melancholy skeletons, reminding the people of their doom under the heel of the ruthless all-grabber. Of eight leading European countries, Ireland has the smallest birth rate, and the lowest marriage rate. We stand in the presence of national assassination and rob-

the criminals.

Let us hope that the election of Mr. Differ to the chairmanship of the Irish party will mark a new crain the history of the sister island.—The Republic.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT MONTREAL amateur. COLLEGE.

Never, in the history of Montreal Coldrama was brought to a successful termination, not a full, not a pause, was there in the round of pleasure and enjoyment that St. Patrick's Day never fails to bring, wherever a son of the Emerald Isle finds a home. The principal part of the celebration was, without doubt, the dramatic and musical entertainment in ment opened with an operatta in French, entitled "Les Filbustriers, or, the Bear and the Gendarmes." Bruin's well-trained manœuvres and polite demeanor convulsed the audience with laughter and showed unmistakably that he had been trained by an artist well skilled in his Prior to Ireland being incorporated in profession. Altogether, his antics were a source of much editication to a large audience and won its unqualified apces. The acting showed careful and manner in which they impersonated the different characters.

The piece as a whole is difficult, and considering the time taken to prepare it ed to England, a grievance from which (about four weeks) it was extremely well unfortunately, the limited time would

Frederick, a Law StudentJ. J. Sheehan
Mr. Martin, his FatherR. H. Daly
Mr. Mattin, ms Pather
Angelo, his brotherGeo. F. Headen
Alfred, his triend E. Faucher
Harry " H. V. Carroll
Harry "
FosterE. F. Cray
Prof. Allgood, Teacher of Augelo
J. E. Walsh.

J.J. Blaine Phineas, a visitor from the Emerald

E. G. Polan. Attenda'ts J. McAllister
A. F. McDougall
J.J. McDonald Bob Spencer C. E. Desrosiers Samuel Tightfist, a Wallstreet Broker.....

M. J. Woodcock. Gen. Watson, U.S.A. Commander of

2nd Newsboy.....F. Elliot Zouaves, Mariners, Citizens, &c.

It would take too much time and space to go into details and cite all those who deserve commendation. To tell the hero, and the interest increases continutruth, all did very well, and all contri- ally to the end. Many other colleges position of being forced to pay a share buted more or less to the success of the Dame, Holy Cross, St. Michael's (Toronts), lord long before the position of the play. There are, however, some parts and everywhere it has received the highland long before the period of the union.

As three-fourths of the taxation of Ireof the difficulty which the acting preof the difficulty which the acting presented and the praise-worthy manner in which the gentlemen who filled certain parts acquitted themselves of their duty. "Frederick, the Prodigal Law Student," as impersonated by Mr J. J. Sheehan, was the hero of the drama. Mr. Sheehan proved himself a thorough master of the part he assumed. His figure upon the stage was graceful and bore testimony to the gentleman's ability in the art of dairy produce. For a similar reason they acting. The most impressive scene in cannot take advantage of improved the drama was that in the second act, the drama was that in the second act, where the Prodigal is represented imploring pardon at the feet of an angry



The mirror doesn't lie. It is not a flatterer. Its story is plainly told, and cannot be contradicted.
Women whose
blood is poor and
whose whole system is run down by sickness and weakness, are afraid and asham-

ed to look in the glass. The condition of all the body is written in the face.

Thousands of women are dragging out a weary, miserable existence, because they do not fully realize what is the matter with them. They know that they have "female weakness" but they do

not really appreciate what that means. They do not know that to this one trouble is traceable almost all of their bodily ills. They consider it a disease by itself, and if they have also neuralgia, nervous headaches, biliousness, kidney troubles and other things, they see no connection between them and the derangements of a strictly feminine nature. Busy and overworked physicians often treat these things as separate ailments, when the whole trouble has the one source. The reproductive organs are so important a part of the body that when they are out of order, the whole system is deranged. Whatever illness a woman has, she will do well to look there

for the cause. A great many women knowingly neglect themselves, because they dread the telling of their troubles to a physician and the subsequent examination and "local treatment." All this is needless for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has been found to perfectly and permanently restore lost strength and promote regu-

larity of functional action. Ten cents sent to World's Dispensary Medical Association, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y., will bring a large 168 page book, called "Woman and Her Diseases." (Securely sealed in a plain

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MONTREAL.

bery with violence. What wonder if father. It was a very difficult part, but live a lifetime within a block of pure ber of days to the month, and his cal-Ireland is constantly calling for ven- Mr. Sheehan succeeded in holding the French and never learn to do more than endar, as a whole, was so excellent and geance and retribution on the heads of audience spell-bound during the few exchange the civilities of life in French its errors were so slight that it was genmoments that the scene lasted.

Mr. Daly, too, as "Mr. Martin," deserves particular mention. His acting in the scene just mentioned contributed greatly to its impressiveness, and all through he carried out his part with a naturalness and ease wonderful in an

The villain is always the all-important feature of the modern drama, and certainly, in the present case, no better lege, was the feast of Ireland's Patron choice could have been made than that celebrated in a more becoming manner of Mr. M. J. Woodcock, to fill the part of than it was to day. From early morn—"Tightfist." Mr. Woodcock's acting when that glorious anthem "All praise throughout was graceful, easy, and a to St. Patrick," awakened the joytul perfect impersonation of the character he assumed. He deserves, however commission to investigate this matter- | creation hall came forth the strains of | special mention for the effective and realistic manner in which he cuacted the never fail to touch a chord in the Irish | death scene in the third act. His acting was perfect, and we venture to say that had the gentleman chosen the stage for his public career, he would not remain long unknown to the theatre-going world.

Mr. Polan, as "Phineas," provoked the laughter of the aucience hroughout the whole play, and he cannot be passed without a word of praise. His acting was jolly and easy, and especially so in the third act, where, after too free an acquaintance with Bacchus, he encounters "Tighttist" on the wharf and mistakes him for a wheel-barrow. This part was particularly well done.

Messrs. Blain, Carroll, Faucher and Headen also filled their respective parts with credit, as did, in fact, all.

There is one more feature, however, that we must mention whilst offering our hearty thanks and congratulations to all those concerned. We speak of the drill. The military evolutions gone through by the Zouaves, under the management of Mr. A. J. McMillan, as "Gen. Watson," were certainly a surprise to everyone, and reflect great credit on those who undertook the arduous task of drilling the company. The audience showed its appreciation of the boys' efforts by its thundering applause and its repeated calls for an encore, which,

congratulation to the gentlemen of the orchestra. Never before was the band in such a flourishing condition. Never be fore could Montreal College boast of a better orchestra, although in past years the College band was considered very good. Never before had our young friends attained such a degree of proticiency, and we take great pleasure at this time in giving public expression, in Mr. Richard, a friend of Mr. Martin..... the name of St. Anselm's Academy, of our thanks to all those concerned for their kindness in assisting at the drama on Tuesday evening. Many parts of the play depended for success almost entirely on their efforts, and we are pleased to say that not only were those efforts not wanting, but in many other respects did these gentlemen show such segood will and desire for the success of the drama, that they have burdened those who had charge of the play, as well as these who took part in it, with a debt of gratitude that cannot be cancelled.

The "Prodigal Law Student" is altogether a modern drama; all the personages are real, and the incidents are based on an episode of contemporary American history. It is interesting and enter-taining. The audience cannot help feeling an interest in the fate of the young and everywhere it has received the highest praise,

That a large audience left the dramatic hall of Montreal College, Tuesday evening, not only satisfied, but pleased and delighted, and all loud in their praises of the evening's performance, is excellent proof of the merits of the play, as well as of the success of the young actors.

THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

ITS UTILITY IN CANADA-AN ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF ITS BEING LEARNED-ENGLISH NOT ALONE SUFFICIENT.

The Star of last Wednesday contained the following leader. We reproduce it for the benefit of any of our readers who may not have read our editorial on the same subject on the occasion of the St. Jean Baptiste celebration in 1893. The arguments are the same and the illustration not very dissimilar. We must, therefore, conclude that there is some thing strong and substantial in the contentions of the Star, since the same views are held by different organs and sections of the public:

"Every Canadian is born heir to two languages—the tongue of Shakespeare and the tongue of Molieer. Unfortunately, very many of us never claim our full heritage. The loss that we suffer by this neglect is incalculable. French and English are the two first languages of the world. In them are embalmed the two greatest literatures, at least of modern times. A knowledge of them both constitutes a pair of keys which will open to the possessor two vast libraries in which will be found, either as originally written or in translations enriched by comment, practically all of the best

thought of the human race. "It might have so happened in the shaking of the dice box of events that Canada would have found herself the possessor of two languages, and but one literature. The second language might have been unimportant and poorly equipped, being thrust upon us only by the circumstance that a section of our own people chanced to speak it. Happily our late has been far different If we had been given the choice of the two languages that we would learn, that choice would have fallen by an overwhelming majority upon the English and French tongues. English is the commercial language of the day; French is the language of diplomacy and of European intercourse. Go to the court of St. Petersburg and you hear French. Traffic for tea in the market of Hong Kong and you hear English. Travellers unite in saying that, with French and English, a man can go round the world.

"While all this is as widely known as any other fact of the kind, the Englishspeaking people of Canada are especially neglectful of their unparalleled opportunity to learn French. Americans go to Paris for this purpose. Montrealers I

with a disguising accent that would | etally adopted. puzzle the detective of fiction. In this way they limit their business capacity in this bilingual community, and deprive themselves of an easy acquaintance with a literature as entertaining as it is instructive, as rich in philosophy as it is bright in comedy. The best talent of the French stage comes to the city, and the movable feasts of the C arch, which are reckoned from it, we et rown only a fortunate few can follow the play out of the proper order. Tor me y this, with sufficient readiness to obtain from

it the fulness of enjoyment that it offers. "We must, most of us, be content with clumsy translations of French books, in the best of which the light touches of the writer are entirely lost, and in the common run of which we get little more than an insipid explanation of the plot. dreath year should not be a leap year, Imagine a man who must take his Shakespeare through the medium of an unsympathetic translation into a foreign tongue! At the best, the more characteristic features of any author simply cannot be decanted from one language to another. Idioms, phrases, catch-words. epigrams, nicely balanced sentences and the like, are usually untranslatable. " Politically it would pay the English-

speaking Canadians to learn French. Then we should far better understand the motives that sway our compatriots, and the barrier that difference of language always erects between two peoples would be largely torn away. That mutual comprehension and common sympathy, which everyone desires to see spring up between all sections of our language or languages. That the task is abundantly testifies. Our "fellow citizens of French origin" are setting us a good example in this respect. And the application that it may require will be abundantly repaid in ways we do not

" It is probably not an exaggeration to say that the English-speaking Canadian who is equipping himself for life can in no other way obtain so much valuable knowledge for the same expenditure of energy as by taking the time to thor oughly learn the French language."

THE CLOCK OF TIME.

PUT IN ORDER FOR ALL AGES BY POPE GREGORY.

BIGOTRY FORCED TO YIELD TO COMMON SENSE-WHY 1900 WILL NOT BE A LEAP YEAR.

Not one of the least remarkable feasomething happened on February 29 for McKinley, filling the man of the without their anniversary for eight plains with joy and mixed drinks. years, for the year 1900 will not be a leap

women forget that the regulation of our father, who was hastily trying to do some calendar requires every hundredth year translating which his excited opponent a leap year. It was all settled years ago. when the final changes in the calendar were made, and to understand that no tion or peaceful settlement, and then he enmity against women was intended an understanding of the methods of reckon- both fists in commission. He was broading the year is necessary.

EARLY METHODS OF COMPUTING TIME.

The primeval system of reckoning time was based on the moon's changes, is is shown in our word "months." Ву the ruling of the moon, months were reckoned with either twenty-nine or thirty days. Then the rotation of the seasons was made to serve as a standard. It soon appeared, however, that the two systems did not fully agree. It was then that it was found necessary to invent some means of adjustment. One of the earliest means devised was that in use among the Egyptians. By their arrangement the year was made up of the seasons, and included 365 days, with twelve months of thirty days each. In order to fill out the lack arising from this system, five supplementary days were added at the end of the year.

JEWISH, GREEK AND ROMAN SYSTEMS.

The Jews reckoned their years as composed of twelve lunar months of twentynine and thirty days alternately, and the discrepancy which resulted was relieved by the occasional introduction of a thirteenth month. The Syrians,
Macedonians and kindred people generally followed the Jewish method. In pursuing this reckoning seven years in a cycle of nineteen have this intercalary month, and the number of days in any year varies from 353 to

The ancient Greeks made their year to consist of twelve really lunar months, but Solon in 594 made a law for the Athenians that the months should comprise twenty-nine and thirty days, with the addition of an intercalary period occasionally. Afterward three times in eight years a month of thirty days was added, by which means the average length of each year was made to be 3641 days.

Ancient Rome had but ten months in the year, but in the time of its kings the lunar year was introduced, numbering 355 days in the twelve months, an occasional intercalary month being employed to make the necessary additions. The Roman system of computing time, how ever, was beset with many difficulties, and innumerable blunders were made in their reckoning until chronology was hopelessly confused.

JULIAN CALENDAR EFFECTED SOME IM-

PROVEMENT. Julius Cresar, in the year 46 B.C., devised the calendar which bears his name. In his system the year had 365 days, save every fourth, which had 366, making the average about 3651. Exactly reckoned, the year was made up of 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 50 seconds, or 11 minutes and 10 seconds less than 3651. Casar gave also the current num-

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Marchenter des des des des des des des des des

AN ERROR OF TEN DAYS.

Until the year 1582 A.D. no change was made in it, but by that time the eleven minutes and ten seconds of err r in each year had grown to ten complete days. As a result the time of Easter, Pope Gregory VIII. assemb.cd the astronomers of Europe in Rome, and as a result of their labors it was decreed by the Pope that October 5, 1582, should be reckoned as October 15, 1582. To guard against a recurrence of the trouble, Por e Gregory also decreed that every hinsave every four hundredth, but that exception beginning only at 2000 A.D. The excellence of the Gregorian calendar is obvious, since a brief computation shows that the total discrepancy would amount to no more than one day in five thousand years, and this has been pro-vided for by further computations so that the clock of time has been regulated for all future generations. ENGLAND ELEVEN DAYS OUT BEFORE THE

POPE'S CALENDAR WAS ADOPTED.

Italy, Spain and Portugal unhesitatingly adopted the new style, France made the change in the same year, in December, instead of October, as did also the Low Countries. The Protestants, in the fury of Reformation, refused to people, would be greatly the gainers if make any such change, and presisted in Canadians could converse in the same refusing until 1700, when the Lutherans of Germany and Switzerland adopted not a hard one, the success of many the Gregorian system. By that time abundantly testifies. Our "fellow citi- the continuance of the old error made it necessary to make a change of cleven days instead of ten. Scotland adopted the system in 1600. England refused to yield until 1752. When the bill was first introduced it failed, but prejudice was not able to totally destroy common sense, wherefore George II., in 1752, made the calendar of Great Britain and Ireland to agree with the Gregorian.

Russia, Greece, Roumania and like races yet retain the old method, as the result of which, when one sends a letter from one of those countries to some region where the calendar has been cor rected, it must be doubly dated, as for example, in this tashion, there being twelve days' difference new, "January 1-13," or "June 20-July 2."—Michigan Catholic.

A COLLISION

IN WHICH THE BALLTATION "DOMINUS VOBISCUM" WAS MISUNDERSTOOD.

"Dominus vobiscum," said an athletic but absent-minded priest who collided ures of the coming century year is that with a big Westerner on a St. Louis it leaves those unhappy mortals to whom street the day after Kansas had declared

"You're another," roared the layman as he let go from the shoulder at the Centuries are so long that men and fresh but surprised face of the good -although divisible by four-not to be mistook for a note of defiance. The priest warded and ducked until convinced that there was no chance of arbitrawaded in. He was a handy man with shouldered, deep of chest and full of latent ginger that rapidly began to work. He was a very busy and efficient personage for a few minutes, at the end of which the huge westerner, who wears the belt in his section, was one of the most artistically whipped men that has appeared west of the Mississippi in many a day.

"What was that you called me?" asked the vanquished when he began to reslize that he was still alive.

"I said 'Dominus vobiscum'- 'May the Lord be with you.' "

"Well, he wasn't with me; but if you'd just talked United States I'd have bought a small bottle, for you're the first feller that ever gave me that kind of a boost After this I'll do a little investigating when a prize fighter in disguise lets any Dago gibberish fly at me."-Free

"IMMORTELLES OF CATHOLIC COLUMBIAN LITERATURE."

From St. Teresa's Ursuline Convent 137-139 Henry Street, New York City, we received the following circular, which explains itself:—We have completed a work designed as a supplementary Reader, entitled "Immortelles of Catholic Columbian Literature," consisting of biographical sketches of very many of the Catholic women writers of America with selections, in prose and verse, from their writings; making a veritable manual of literature. It is not graded, therefore available in any grade from the "Second Reader" to the "Rhetor-

The plan has received encouragement from competent judges interested in educational and literary progress, and we have an autograph letter of approval from his Grace the most Rev. Archbishop of New York.

Before issuing, we desire to learn the extent of the edition likely to be needed. and beg you will consider the plan and inform us early if you will place it among your text books and give us an order proportionate to the number of the pupils who can use it.

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He came from his daily grind at the office, and, falling into a chair, said: "What have you to read? I'm just in the mood for reading something sensational and startling-something that will make one's hair stand on end." "Here's the bill for my dresses, darling."

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