



LOUGH GILL, SLIGO.

the passage leading to the bench. McDonagh, the counsel, called out to him: "Come back, sir; where are you going? Do you think you are a judge?" "Indeed, sir," said the old man, looking up at Judge Barton, "indeed, sir, I believe I am fit for little else."

This propensity to ridicule is as strong among the clergy as among the legal fraternity, and they are often met with a rejoinder that turns the laugh from the victim to the perpetrator of a joke.

Charles Kean's picture of the stevedore at the hatchway, shouting down to the men in the hold: "Now, then, how many of yez is down there?" "Five of us." "Thin, half of yez kum up directly," cried the stevedore.

A very general impression prevails in this country that Ireland is much oppressed by the English government, and the cry of Home Rule is much more frequently heard on this side of the water than among the industrious classes in Ireland. The facts are that while taxation is the same in England, Ireland, and Scotland, the British Government returns to Ireland for

educational and other beneficent purposes a large proportion of the taxes collected, so that in reality taxation is lighter in Ireland than in any other portion of the British dominion, while the tenant right of Irish landholders is far superior to any in Scotland or England.

No more prosperous part of the British dominion exists than the province of Ulster, peopled chiefly by descendants from England and Scotland, and—without instituting invidious comparisons—wherever the Protestant faith prevails industry and prosperity go hand in hand.

As we have said once before, there is no more prosperous city in the world to-day, or one that is more rapidly stepping to the front rank of great cities, than Belfast, and her citizens are happy and content under the rule of their good King.

Most people forget that there exist two distinct nationalities in Ireland, viz.: Celtic—Roman Catholic to a man—and Saxon—chiefly Protestants. These Saxon Protestants furnish the brain, brawn, and financial capital of the country, north and south.