

heavy cloak from his shoulders, to disembarass his movements, and the stern, statue-like features, and fiery eyes, looked full upon the almost cowering villain.

"Miscreant!" he said, in a tone of intense and deadly calmness, "well may you despair—conscience tells you you deserve to die—here, this moment, by my hand—I were but to touch this trigger, and all your villainies are ended; but, murderer as you are, I will not at advantage take your life, unless you force me to it; nay, avenge not your hand to the hilt; turn not upon me, except as I direct you; by heaven you die upon the spot, even were you innocent, as you are in reality blasted with every crime. Now, sir, we understand each other, I charge you, on your life, restore my commission; nay, no dallying so there now, sir, follow your troops at what pace you please."

Garrett hesitated for a moment, eyed his companion with a look of hideous rage, and, perhaps, for a moment upon the point of risking all upon one desperate struggle; he wheeled about, however, and furiously dashed the spurs into his steed, was scarcely a pistol-shot away, when he shouted the alarm at the top of his voice.

"Now for it—now, my good Roland, thy master's life is in thy keeping—true mettle—fling of limb—away—away!"

As he spoke, he gave him rein, and, spring after spring, away they went. Soaring like the wind down the steep road—behind them thundered the clatter of pursuit, and the hoarse shouting of the chase lends wings to their headlong speed, and, now, he plunges into the ford; high sheets the water round him, in glittering spray, and down the steep road he has but just descended his enemies come spurting and shouting like a demon chase, down to the water's brink they rattle.

Some plunge in, and follow; others spring from their horses and unsling their pieces. See how he plunges through the water close to the opposing bank—two shots in quick succession—ho! he is down! No! it was but a stumble—See; he shouts and waves his hat in defiance—now up the steep bank he plunges and scrambles another shot by the mass, it has spun his hat off—he turns in the saddle as he clears the brow, and waves his hand with an exulting cheer, and in a moment more the rising bank has interposed; he gains upon them every second.

For a mile or more at reckless speed the chase was maintained. The interval, however, was obviously increasing between the pursued and pursuers, and Garrett, in rage and despair reins in his horse at last. Hoarse with curses and threats, he railed and stormed at his men, and at the fugitive in turn.

(To be Continued.)

The conduct of the Commander of the Federal war steamer on board the Trent has done some service, even if it leads to bloodshed, for it has reminded Europeans that there is a law of nations, and that the violation of it is not a very slight matter. The public affairs of England and France have been hitherto managed in utter disregard of the fundamental principles of that law which is supposed to regulate the intercourse of one nation with another. This daring outrage of the Federal sloop is as nothing compared with the deeds which the Liberals of Europe have applauded, and which Ministers of State have deliberately sanctioned, but it has had the good result of opening men's minds, partially at least, to the dangers which are before them; and the world will gain, we trust, by the deed, though it may be a costly lesson on both sides. For nations as well as individuals are bound by law, and liable to serious inconveniences whenever they place their own caprices in the place of justice, and measure right by the strength of might.

As the last straw broke the camel's back, so we would now gladly hope that the ministers of Emperors and Kings will learn from the insult to the British flag that there is no security or peace when people make themselves a law to themselves. The captain of the San Jacinto thought more of the end than of the means, and having satisfied himself that the seizure of the Southern Commissioners would be a service to the Government that employed him, he determined to do his work without respect to any law which forbade the deed. He acted on the doctrine of the Piedmontese, who having persuaded themselves that they would be the best rulers of Italy, proceeded to carry out their views in open violation of the law of nations, and of the Commandments of God.

For nearly fifty years, the Whigs and Liberals have been in power in this country, and their relations with Foreign Governments have been uniformly of the like nature with this deed of the Federal captain. Whenever and wherever it was possible to threaten and insult with impunity, threats and insults have been the habitual weapons of our Government. The Whigs in power made a law of nations for their own purposes, and executed it, without remorse, wherever they found it necessary. In India, in China, in Italy, in Greece, wherever mischief could be done, there the Whigs were sure to do it, owing no law but their own convenience, acknowledging no right save that which they could not subvert. There is now an opportunity given us to consider our ways, a most favourable occasion for doing justice and securing its observance for the future. The English Government has a good cause as against the Federal States, and it is to be hoped that the Government will do a little penance for the past, while vindicating a law too much neglected, but which has been broken in too glaring a manner to pass unaverted.

The English Liberals have hitherto laughed at the habitual violations of public law in Europe; and they have aided and abetted the criminals; many of them have subscribed money to be spent directly in acts of wrong; they have ridiculed treaties, and trampled upon rights; and, both in the gravity and multiplicity of the acts committed, leave the captain of the San Jacinto far behind them. He is but a pale and obscure reflection of their deeds and has much to do before he can compare with the men who are now determined, and with justice, to demand and obtain full reparation for his outrage on the high seas. The English fleet will be more honourably employed in American waters than it has been in the Mediterranean. It will have a just cause for its activity, and it will be employed in vindicating a law which is now the sole security of civilized nations. If this law should be set aside by common consent of Europe and America, were to the weaker States, for no nation can keep its own while another stronger than it covets what it possesses. Though our Government cannot with clean hands demand redress from Abraham Lincoln, yet it is better for all the world that it should be done; for it is a sign of returning health to the body politic, and a guarantee, so far as it goes, that the Queen's Government means to be honest for the future.

The present Whig Government violated the law of nations, when it insisted, together with the Emperor of the French, upon the introduction of certain changes into the administration of the Two Sicilies. It had no more right to do so than had the captain of

the San Jacinto to take the Southern Commissioners out of the Trent. The excuse made in both cases was the same, that the intervention of the English fleet was so disposed in the Mediterranean as to be a protection to the pirates. Garrett thought at the same time in American waters the English fleet helped to shoot General Walker, the western imitator of the Southern brigand. The English Government has since then acknowledged Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy, though his claim to that title is nothing else but a successful, and hitherto unopposed, violation of that very law, the infringement of which on board the Trent we are about to visit with war. The King of Sardinia sent pirates and brigands to invade Sicily and Naples, paid them and provisioned them, and when he saw that they could not do the work for which he had hired them, sent the regular army to assist them, but without any previous declaration of war. Here was a greater violation of the law of nations than is the act of the Federal captain. The English Government has never complained of the King of Sardinia; never admitted that he did the least wrong; on the contrary, that Government has sanctioned his deeds, and recognised him as the lawful Sovereign of a territory acquired by violence and fraud, in defiance of treaties, and in the ostentatious violation of the fundamental maxims of the law of nations. That lawless Sovereign meditates still further violations of public law; the brigands he originally employed, are waiting for further orders, and ready to do his bidding. But it will be a sad but not strange sight, if the English Liberals who are bent on chastising the American, should applaud the Royal Sibilist when he accomplishes his acts of plunder. It would be far more cheering if we could hope for a thorough change in this respect: the war with America, if war must be, will be more tolerable in its horrors, if it is to be the beginning of a new life to our statesmen, the first act of their public penance, and a sincere confession of their adherence to the law for the future, which in the past they had so ostentatiously set on one side. If on the other hand they do not change their policy, but defend and abet Victor Emmanuel, the American war will be a gross hypocrisy, and in truth, a more desperate violation of the law they undertake to vindicate, because it will be simply a confession that law as such is not the object of the war.—*London Tablet.*

THE LAND OF THE FREE.

(From the Saturday Review.)

The Model Republic has exposed herself to a good deal of ignominy by the devices of government which she has borrowed from the tyrannies of the Old World, and especially from that tyranny which rose, ten years ago, upon the ruins of a Republic. The imitation is, on the whole, much more faithful than the differences of race and history would have led us to expect. The model in which Mr. Lincoln saves society in America varies in very few particulars from the treatment applied with so much success by the original Saviour of Society in France. They have both founded a reign of force on vote by ballot and universal suffrage. They both select inconvenient Legislatures by the simple process of incarcerating the members; and they both devote their particular attention to the perfect subjugation of the press. But there is one point in which the pupil has far outstripped his master. To Louis Napoleon the discovery is due that the conventional phrases of freedom might, even in these enlightened days, be made, to a very great extent, to do duty for the reality. He has found that there is a positive value in mock elections, a mock Legislature, and a mock freedom of the press, even though the delusion be perfectly transparent to his subjects. It has enabled Imperialist scribes, both in France and elsewhere, without exposing themselves to the risk of being looked upon as liars, to use the verbiage of Liberalism, and to appeal to "the principles of '89." The example has not been overlooked by the Republic which admires Imperialism so much. It has only been followed, but improved. The necessity of giving some colour to the mendacity of partisans at home and abroad has been felt as keenly at Washington as at Paris. Northern orators, and such Northern journalists as are allowed to write, still love to celebrate their country as "The land of the free, and the home of the brave." Its title to the latter designation has been conclusively established at Leesburgh and Bull's Run; and Mr. Lincoln has learned from his French models an ingenious machinery for preserving its claim to the former. The policy of veiling tyrannical measures under a flimsy covering of Liberal pretences has never, even in Europe, been carried so far. Scarcely any European despot has broken the laws that bound him more outrageously, for none has been bound by laws so definite and precise. But Mr. Lincoln religiously preserves the forms and phrases of liberty, and would have the world believe that, in suspending all the rights of freedom by his mere fiat, he has not in the least exceeded the powers accorded to him by a Constitution whose informing spirit was jealousy of the Executive. Of course, there is a satisfactory side to these subterfuges. Hypocrisy is the homage which vice pays to virtue; and it also is the homage which the creatures of universal suffrage pay to freedom.

Poor Maryland is destined to furnish the most striking illustration of the compatibility of absolute servitude with the outward forms of freedom. Mr. Lincoln will not treat her avowedly as a rebellious province. Practically she is in a state of siege; but he dislikes the phrase. It might suggest unedifying comparisons with Hungary or Poland. In theory, therefore, Maryland is still a Sovereign State, governed by her own Executive, obeying the laws of her own Legislature, and owing no obedience to the Government of Washington, except in certain matters specifically agreed upon. Practically, General Dix, holding the President's commission, is as absolute as Count Palffy in Hungary. The Legislature meets; but it has been carefully purged of its obnoxious members, who are enjoying a residence in that particular spot in the "Land of the Free," which, by an old whim of fortune, bears the name of Fort Lafayette. With praiseworthy foresight, General Dix has recently taken measures absolutely to secure the future allegiance of the Maryland Legislature. He has issued an order directing the officers at the polling-booths—creatures of his own—to refuse the votes, and arrest the persons of all voters who shall suspect of having abetted the cause of the Confederates. No limit is imposed upon their discretion, either in respect to the nature of the abetment or the extent of proof required. Even Louis Napoleon never imagined a more summary method of disposing of a hostile majority. The hearty co-operation of the Executive has been secured by a similar process. The City Marshal of Baltimore has been arrested, and a suppler instrument fills his place. The police have been disbanded; and the only persons who can be found to perform their duties to the satisfaction of the Government at Washington are the least reputable portion of the population of the town, who, before they became policemen, were "well-known to the police." Numerous anecdotes have made English readers quite familiar with the outrages these men have committed. Causeless arrests, domiciliary visits without warrant, imprisonment of women on account of the colour of their ribbons, have been incidents of daily occurrence in this happy region of the Land of the Free. But his dislike of the ignominy of being compelled to declare a state of siege, like any European despotism, has involved Mr. Lincoln in still more serious embarrassments. Spite of Fort Lafayette, the writ of *habeas corpus*, is still by law the right of every citizen who is deprived of his liberty; and so long as the law stands, there are lawyers and judges who are not afraid to act on it. This causes the President great perplexity. He would not, for the world, inflict such a blow upon American liberty as to suspend

the law. Accordingly he leaves the legal right in full vigour; but he opposes the execution of the writ with military force, and threatens with imprisonment all judges and lawyers who are concerned in issuing it. The fate of Judge Merrick—who granted the writ, not to release from prison an alleged traitor, but to obtain the discharge of a lad who had been carried off into the army without his parents' consent—will, no doubt, serve as a warning to his brethren. The following account from Washington indicates what the lawyers have to expect:—

"It is known that General Porter acted throughout under the advice of the State Department, and that it is the intention of the Government hereafter to arrest any lawyer who seeks to embarrass our officers in the discharge of their duties. By order of the President the payment of the salary of Judge Merrick has been stopped, and he is himself now under the surveillance of the police. In this connexion I feel warranted in saying that the employment of counsel in any way to recognize the employment of counsel to procure the release of persons arrested and imprisoned for political offences. The Secretary of State will consider it his duty to promptly investigate the case of any person arrested, and to act upon the facts obtained without argument of counsel. He will not permit the discharge of any person who is guilty, even though a hundred lawyers plead his case, and he will not permit the innocent to be subjected to the expense of feeling professional advocates who can do them no possible service. Neither will lawyers be admitted to interviews with State prisoners. Admission will be granted to any of the near relatives, but to no others. Imperative orders to this effect have been issued with the purpose of preventing the hired interference of sharpers. The attention of the Government has been called to the action of several lawyers in Philadelphia and New York, who, under the guise of doing a professional duty, are endeavouring to intimidate the officers, and so embarrass the action of the Government, and ultimately to give encouragement to the Confederates. It may be, as well to say that the Government has determined to treat all such intermediaries as traitors, and to arrest and confine them where they will be incapable of further mischief."

The French Emperor himself, under the terror of assassination, never did any thing to rival this. Surely the time has come when the pupil may teach the teacher, Napoleon may learn from the President of a free and enlightened republic how to tame a refractory court of law.

The arrest of the English lady in the harbor of New York, on board an English steamer, and the attempt to prevent her from leaving the country, which we have heard of this week, is another illustration of the ease with which President Lincoln's despotism outstrips all European rivalry. It would be very hard to find a parallel to this proceeding in the recent annals even of the most despotic State. The Americans have already strained international law to its utmost limits in their treatment of suspected foreigners. It has not been usual in modern times to inflict unlimited imprisonment upon the subjects of a friendly power on mere suspicion of political intrigue. The more ordinary course is to direct them to leave the country. But the attempt to detain them when they are in the act of leaving the country is not only an act of oppression which we must go back to Stuart times to parallel, but is absolutely inconsistent with the most elementary obligations of a friendly power. The only excuse for the arrest of the British subjects who are even now under imprisonment in American fortresses is the allegation that they were plotting treason on American ground. But such an allegation in respect to a lady who was in the act of betaking herself to the distance of thousands of miles from American territory was, on the face of it, absurd. The only conceivable explanation of such a proceeding is, that in their mad access of despotism they have forgotten international law as well as every other kind of law; and that their object was to restrain her from acts which she was suspected of intending to do upon "English" ground. As no harm has been actually done, no explanations will probably be demanded; but the incident uncomfortably betrays the slenderness of the thread upon which peace between the two nations hangs. At all events, it completes the list of the advantages that mark "the land of the free." It is a land in which electors may not vote for fear of arrest, and judges may not execute the law for fear of dismissal—in which unsubmissive advocates are threatened with imprisonment, and hostile newspapers are suppressed—in which women cannot live in safety, and from which they may not depart in peace.

A MONTH WITH THE REBELS.

Blackwood's Magazine for December has a paper entitled as above, which will be read with interest as the testimony of a recent visitor to the Southern theatre of war. The writer's sympathies are with the Southern chivalry, but there is no violence in his style. He begins by admitting that Kentucky is not altogether a Secessionist. Her legislature is still strong for the Union. Whole counties are the same. Distinguished men, opposed to the Government, still adhere to the Stars and Stripes. The matured and honoured judgment of the venerable Crittenden is yet against "the rebels," but where are Morehead, Buchner, Preston, Breckenridge?

The following extracts may not be unacceptable to our readers:—

SPECIMENS OF SOUTHERN SPIRIT.

"Our party at the little inn broke up on the arrival of a train, and we found standing-room in a car crowded with soldiers. Few were dressed in uniform, but all were well armed: one beside us, not a bad sample of the rest, had a breech-loading carbine slung over his shoulder, two revolvers in one side of his belt, and a bowie-knife in the other. What a contrast these men presented to the soldiers we had hitherto seen! Determination and reckless daring marked every feature and gesture."

"Do you think the Yankees are going to whip us, sir?" inquired our friend, looking like a walking infernal machine.

"Well, they have a fine army, and will do their best, I think."

"Don't care, sir, they can't do it. If the best us in the field, we'll take to the woods, and shoot them down like squirrels." Look here, sir; see what they have done to me. I am a shoemaker by trade. They tried to arrest me in Elizabeth Town: I got away, but they took my wife; so by—, I'll take five-and-twenty Yankee scalps, or they shall have mine!"

"Being disappointed in finding any of that Union feeling in the South of Kentucky of which we had heard so much in New York, we proceeded to Nashville in Tennessee. More camps, more soldiers, more drilling. Men, women, and children, think of nothing but the war. Fathers of large families are frequently seen serving in the rank as privates, side by side with their sons. Ladies make soldiers' coats and trousers, while children knit their stockings. Trade is in a great measure at a standstill; but the rapidly with which the people, hitherto dependent upon the North for every manufactured article, however simple, are beginning to supply their wants for themselves, receives at Nashville a curious exemplification. A few weeks ago a boy discovered a method of making percussion caps, which the army was much in need of. A factory was forthwith established, that now turns out some millions per week."

SOUTHERN CARED ABOUT COTTON.

"The Government have not prohibited the export of cotton, except to the Northern States; but self-constituted authorities have, in more than one instance that we know of, made it impossible for ships to load which had run the blockade, and whose owners were desirous of doing so again. The popular feeling which has dictated these violent acts

caused, first by the desire that the North should be made to suffer for enforcing the blockade, and the apprehension that, if cotton were to be allowed to leave the country, Massachusetts would manage to obtain it; and secondly, by the impression that in laying on a general embargo they would injure European governments to recognize the Confederacy. Amongst the enlightened this latter motive was always repudiated; but there can be no doubt that the prevalent conviction throughout the South is that England cannot do without the 'king,' that all cotton, except American, is either too short or too long; and that the medium is the only staple which Manchester cares to have. In vain we would tell them that our manufacturers would soon change their machinery, and adapt it to the necessities of the times; that our government was making great exertions to procure cotton from India and Africa; that it was our interest to foster our own colonies; and to produce it, if there is possible; and that the longer we are deprived of America as a market, the more strenuous would be our efforts to render ourselves independent of it. But it was no use; they were irrefragably impressed with the conviction that they can command the market at any time; and that the distance from England at which its rivals are placed must always give the Confederacy a great advantage."

COMPOSITION AND SUPPLIES OF SOUTHERN ARMY.

"Numbers of wealthy planters serve as privates side by side with the professional man, the shopkeeper, the clerk, the labourer; and all go through the ordinary fatigue duties incident to camp life. We saw a poor negro servant actually shedding tears because his master, on being told off to dig a trench round a battery, would not allow him to 'lend a hand.'"

"I will neither do, massa," he said; "I go tarnal mad wid dem darnd Yankees."

"One day we heard a lad boasting to one of a different regiment of the number of gentlemen in his company who had thousands of dollars at their command. The latter replied, 'Oh, of course they fight; but we have some in ours who have not got a cent.' The Washington Artillery, comprising many batteries, is composed of the best blood in New Orleans. The gunners, dressed in light blue uniforms, are all men of independent means. General Beauregard's son, for instance, left his father's staff, and entered as a private. The drivers are regularly enlisted into the army, and paid by the regiment; so here is a force which does not cost the country a single farthing. Their efficiency is undoubted, and the execution which they did at Bull's Run has led to their augmentation, and the formation of others on similar principles. From the same city comes a very different regiment, called the New Orleans Zouaves; dressed in red caps, blue braided jackets, and trousers striped with light grey and red. These men look like pirates—bearded, fierce-looking fellows—"

"Theirs to believe no prey, no plan amiss." Apparently at least; for as they marched past the General with a long swinging step, singing a wild martial air, we thought they were as formidable a body of men as we should care to see.

"The drill of the army is the same as the French, the step even quicker than the Zouaves, and a good deal longer than that of the English infantry. Movements are executed with considerable precision, and as rapidly as in English light infantry battalions. "From the reports we had heard in the North, we expected to find ragged and half-clothed regiments; instead of which we found many rides through the various camps, to see one man who was not clad in serviceable attire. It was expected that winter clothing would be served out before the 1st of November, and that dress would then become more uniform."

But the point to which the attention of officers and men is directed is the arms. Besides the Enfield rifle, most of the privates in the army carry at least one revolver and a bowie knife; these are invariably kept bright and in good condition; and the early training which all the Southerners undergo in shooting squirrels as soon as they are able to handle a gun, gives them a facility of using their weapons and a correctness of aim that renders their fire unusually formidable.

"The commissariat seemed to be most efficiently administered."

"A large depot of breadstuffs is placed in convenient position, whence the different corps are supplied in waggon to be drawn by four horses, one of which a negro generally rides. The resources of the country produce the fresh meat necessary for the enormous daily consumption; and we frequently saw scores of cattle and sheep driven along the roads, from the condition of which it was evident that their journey had not been long. Indeed, a country gentleman informed us that there were animals enough in two counties of Virginia adjacent to the seat of war, to last the army for two years."

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

MEETING OF "NATIONALISTS."—The *Morning Post* has a paragraph to the effect that, The O'Donoghue presided at the demonstration of the National Brotherhood of St. Patrick, on Thursday evening. There were 3,000 of the humbler class (mechanics) present. The O'Donoghue made a violent speech upon the probability of war between England and America. He alleged that it gave Irishmen intense satisfaction. Ireland's opportunity—an opportunity such as she never before enjoyed—was approaching, and if they did not take advantage of it they would be practically accepting a foreign dominion and slavery. It was the object of England, he continued, to force North-America into war, that she might destroy her commerce. The rest of the speech aimed at inflaming the minds of the people against England. She was about to enter on an unjust war. Other persons followed, persons of no position, but evidently instructed to appeal to the passions of Irish Americans. A committee was named to carry out the purposes of the meeting by an organisation. So far as respectability went, the meeting was a dead failure.—*Tablet.*

Mr. Plunkett, a member of the Dublin Corporation, has addressed the following letter to the editor of the *Morning News*:—

"Dear Sir,—I perceive by the report of last night's meeting at the Round, at which I was not present, that I was appointed on a committee without my knowledge or consent. I take leave to state that I decline the honour intended, and will not act on that, nor any other committee, until I first ascertain and approve its aims and objects, and the means of carrying them out."

"Your obedient servant,"

JAMES PLUNKETT."

A GOOD LANDLADY.—Lady Healdy is giving extensive employment to her poorer tenants at Glenbeigh, in the reclamation of some waste mountain land. This work, which has been commenced for the sole purpose of affording employment to the people during the pressure of the coming winter, will, we understand, be continued till that pressure shall be overpast. Not less than two hundred men are now engaged on the work, at wages that will save their families from want.—*Kerry Star.*

The culture of the potato now occupies much attention among farmers and agricultural chymists. Early sowing on fresh, well-drained land, and new seed, are the chief conditions required. The *Agricultural Review*, a good authority on such matters, concludes an article on that subject thus:—"We say, then, in conclusion, that although the potato crop has proved a failure this season, as it has done for so many preceding seasons, while we are to exercise the greatest caution in general cultivation, we are not to despair of the plant altogether, but rather to hope and to labour, in increasing intelligence, for its restoration to a healthy and reliable condition."

CONTEMPLATED NEW BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER BOYNE AT DROGHEDA.—Drogheda, Nov. 29.—It will be recollected that, for some years past, the inhabitants of this town have been holding public meetings, and that the Harbour Commissioners and Corporation of the Borough have been exerting themselves towards the erection of one or two bridges over the Boyne, the present old narrow bridge at Shop Street being inadequate for the great traffic carried on with the districts in the county of Meath, besides its having been declared dangerous by engineers employed to examine it. A presentation has been lodged for £2,500, to be laid before the grand jury at the next assizes, as a portion of the expense of removing the old and erecting a new bridge on the same site. The Harbour Commissioners have consented to contribute £2,000 more; and it is expected that the Corporation will supply whatever sums may be required for the completion of the work. Instead of three arches, as at present, the river must be crossed by one span only, that being the condition on which the Harbour Commissioners have consented to contribute the sum named. As the matter will be taken up zealously by the two local boards in a few days, there can be little doubt the undertaking will be speedily accomplished.—*Correspondent.*

The last letter of the special correspondent of *Saunders's News Letter*, written from Killybeg, a thriving little town near the mouth of the Shannon, in the county Clare, contains some interesting information as to the condition of the peasantry in that district lying between the Shannon and the Atlantic. He gives the following illustration of the industry of the people:—

"When a storm rages, the residents near the coast assemble in hundreds at the water's edge to collect the sea-weed which the waves cast on the beach. Men, women, and even children, are often engaged in this toilsome occupation during the whole night, exposed to wind and rain and drenched by the spray and the labour thus commenced is not unfrequently prolonged throughout the day, with a vigour and perseverance which refute the imputation so often levelled against our countrymen that they are indolent and idle. Ignorant they may be, and obstinately attached to their own customs they too often are, but it must not be forgotten that few persons have taken the trouble to win their confidence, to remove their prejudices, and to set them a good example. I believe that more peaceable, tractable, and well-disposed people than the inhabitants of this county do not exist. Crime is almost unknown among them, their honesty is proverbial, and drunkenness, so long the bane of Ireland, is, I am happy to say, greatly on the decrease—a result which, it is only just to say, is mainly attributable to the zealous exertions of the Roman Catholic clergy. As to the industry of the people, I have said enough on that subject. There can be no doubt of their willingness to work hard, but unfortunately there is no employment given after the harvest operations have been concluded, and the loss of the potato, which was their main dependence, must therefore, in very many cases result in extreme destitution. I have spoken to a great many persons of intelligence who are intimately acquainted with the habits and modes of life of these people, and they all concur in the opinion that the dearth of food and fuel must ruin many of the small farmers and send vast numbers of the labouring class to the poorhouse if employment of some description be not provided for them. Of course, no one need starve. The workhouses are empty, the rates are low, the population greatly reduced, and all who are absolutely in want can obtain food and shelter without very seriously impairing the resources of the ratepayers; but it is melancholy to contemplate the breaking up and pauperization of whole families, and every effort should be made to avert such a result."

THE IRISH MILITIA.—We learn, on good authority, that the government purposes embodying all the militia artillery regiments in Ireland; and, should the present difficulty with America continue, many other Irish militia regiments will be embodied.—*United Service Gazette.*

That certain offences carry with them scarcely any penal consequences in the North of Ireland is a fact which is equally notorious and disgraceful. Not that the statute-book does not provide against such offences, but that the law is not carried out. Offenders of the class alluded to are sent to trial, it is true, and counsel make speeches, and witnesses are examined and cross-examined, and judges "sum up" with more or less impartiality; but, save in very rare instances, the whole thing eventuates in an evasion of justice. Be it murder, be it manslaughter, be it a statutory offence of one kind or other, let the case be only tainted by a religious or political complexion, and the probability is that the offender walks out of the dock purged of his offence. Either the jury acquit, or the jury disagree, or some compromise is obliged to be come to; but practically the result is that the offender is again let loose on society, flushed with triumph, if not thirsting for further vengeance. In the South of Ireland—say in Tipperary or in Cork—if one man murder another, the probability is that he is made to pay the full penalty of the law. If one man waylay and beat another, the offence is almost certain of meeting its reward in adequate punishment. But in the North, let an Orangeman perpetrate any outrage on a Catholic, and the probability is that the Orangemen gets off scot free. It has been said of the Irish that they are a justice-loving people. But what respect can the Northern Catholic entertain for that justice which is one-sided, partial, and the cloak and shield of the guilty? The root of the evil is in the Jury Panel. From the panel the jury is selected; and if the panel be corruptly tampered with, the necessary consequence is that the jury is partially constituted, and is therefore unsuited to try any case in which life, liberty, or property happens to be involved. Such a jury must be a packed jury, because the panel is a packed panel, and to try a case involving life with a packed jury is about the most infamous offence which can be possibly perpetrated in the name of justice. The accused man has no chance with a jury biased against him, and ready to turn every piece of evidence to his prejudice. To the jury, however, it may jangle away human life, we do not attribute so much blame as to the parties by whom the jury has been selected, or the panel from which the jury has been selected, but to the man who pollutes the very springs of justice.—*Cork Examiner.*

THE MURDER OF JOHN QUINLAN, IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.—We are enabled to state that Patrick Hayes, against whom a verdict of wilful murder was found at the inquest on the body of John Quinlan, who was brutally shot near his own house at Oola, about a fortnight since, was arrested by the constabulary on Saturday night last, at Annamore, where he was harbored by a farmer living in that locality. Hayes fled from his own house after the murder, and the police have been increasing in their exertions to arrest him, which efforts have now, happily for the ends of justice, proved successful.—*Evening Mail.*

AN AGED PAUPER.—A woman named Margaret Smith, a native of this town, applied for admission into our workhouse on last Thursday, November 28. She is 101 years of age, and in good health. This is the oldest person, it is said, residing within very many miles of Drogheda, and certainly the oldest that ever received support at the workhouse.—*Drogheda Correspondent.*

INQUEST IN THE COUNTY MEATH.—A man named Richard Mallon, employed at the Messrs. McNamee's mills, at Beaumont, county Meath, met his death by being caught in the cogs of a wheel in motion, while he was engaged attending to the machinery. At an inquest held before Mr. Martin, on last Thursday, a verdict of "accidental death" was returned. Deceased had left a wife and family, who were depending on him for support.—*Correspondent.*