## THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

والمعين الحجاجين المرتبة فكالمعتية وتوريته والمتراجين



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IRON RULE OF OPPRESSORS.

The Country Emerging from a State of Feudalism.

DESERTED VILLAGES, SUFFERING TEN-ANTS AND OBUEL, GBASPING LANDLORDS.

The following is an extract from a letter written by a Scotch Canadian, who is at present sojourning in Ireland, to a relative Belmullet, Co. Mayo :---

As to-day is comparatively an idle day with me, I shall endsavor to give you a sketch-simply an outline-of the aspect Ireland presents to one who has never before come in contact with its problems, social and political. As it is from the pen of " one of ourselves," let it remain amoung ourselves.

1 think nothing would strike you as a Canadian and living amid institutions so different as this one fact, that Ireland, as represented in the distressed districts, has hardly emerged from a state of feudalism.

The Lord of the Manor seems still to be in some measure the personage he was three or four centuriss ago, and to adopt the adage. nay, carry it into practice, that the "tenant lives only for his master." No sadder state of things exists, I should say, in Christian Europe, than exists in this same County Ways.

" Wretched master he must be who preve upon so wretched tenants." But I am antici-pailing, and must first give a brief description of the country. I will select County Mayo, as it is typical of the other distressed districa:

The land, by Nature, is poor, vory poor. It is mostly one extent of bog, six to ten fest of peat, and then underneath loose gravel or limestone, with no natural soil to work upon, Large tracts of it in the West are doomed to hopeloce sterility, swept as they are by the almost constant Atlantio gales, which have such a deforrent effect on vegetation, that the more exposed grounds are blighted and bare, not even the hardlest shrab managing to of petty proprietors which exist. The land grow there. Nothing could be more bleak or dreary than to jog along hour after hour and | each their " big house" as they say in Scotsee but an expanse of peat bog with the same prevailing aspect of sterility, broken only by an occasional potate patch, that seems itself to quagmire. There is not a tree, there is not even a green bush to relieve the monotony. Out of hovels indistinguishable from the bog itself, for they are simply dens scooped out in it, despairing, poverty stricken faces glance on you with timid suspicion as you pass. They live the lives of brute beasts, and as cheerless and hopeless, " wearing out life," as the saying is. For, out of such a soil only the most untiring perseverance and enterprise, sided by a just recognition on the part of the landever hope to thrive on it. But look, and you -sometimes whole villages of them-their

A few miles from Beimuliet there is the remains of a "deterted village," the streat is grass grown and overrun with weeds. The hoot of the owl is heard among the ruined walls, and sometimes a hare starts out at the approach of the visitor. I counted at least the remains of thirty

houses, which in Ireland would represent about 250 persons, and on enquiring how it had become a veritable "Auburn" I was struck with the reply.

The landlord after alle of squandering and dissipation in London and the continent, and after squeezing his tenants until he could squeeze them no tighter, sud-denly seemed to be struck with an idea, and forthwith soled upon it. It had been pointed out to him that If he reserved his land for grazing purposes he would be able to make more from it than he could possibly get from his teasats. At the first opportunity he turned every soul of them out, fathers, mothers, children; some of them possessors of holdings handed down to them from generations. No more melancholy sight could be witnessed than an Irishman turned away from the home of his here in Montreal. The letter is dated from | fathers. The Celt has the most passionate attachment to the spot on which he was reated, and gives vent to his sorrow when forced to leave it with tears and lamentations And in this case it must have been doubly hard, for he had always been able to meet the demands of the landlord, however (x)rbitant, and was only turned away because, in that

worthy's opinion he was an article of less value than-cattle. Probably you will say, " but this is an isolated ocsa." I wish for the sake ci justice, I could say it was. But it is not. Everywhere you find traces of it, people turned away from their homes, as if their claims to live were less than the brute beast.

Grazing farms are all the rage hereabouts now, so that actually quadruped, backed by landlord, seems destined to usurp the place of the peasant, and leave him not a rood to stand upon.

For a distance of 10 miles, with comparalively good land on each slute, I met with almost a continuous line of ruined homesteads, and was informed that years ago a thrility population inhabited them, but that during the general rage for stock farms, all those good grounds were taken up for cattle, and the people either turned adrift or put back to the bad bog-land, not worth a cent an acre. where they now miserably eks out an exist ence, poorly protected from the wind and rain by wratched peat hute, amid such dirt and squaior, that the wonder is they do manage to ive, and not die off, as perhaps they were intended to do.

One is undoubtedly struck by the number is all broken up into small lots, which have land.

The well-to-do farmer at home here develops into a landloid, who as the owner of halfstruggle for an existence among the universal a-dozen tenants assumes the bearing and importance of a feudal baron. He is "His honor " whose wish is law, and it is curious to see with what abject servility his for the part of Frincess Ida, which was tenants appreach him, however much they originally destined for Lillian Russell. Miss may detest him.

Your true specimen still wears the tightfitting knee-breeches as his haughty fathers did of yore, so that this must be taken as a token of his aristocratic descent. He passes his time generally in idleness as he is the exception who takes any interest in his lord, of whoever exerts those qualities, could land, so that beyond the attending of fairs and markets, his life may be said to be spent see deserted hovels at every turn of the road in utter vacuity. For of society there is none sometimes whole villages of them...their out on those wilds. In his own way lands gone back to the primeval bog, as it be is exceedingly polite and hospitable to a never hend had tried to reclaim it. And, in- stranger, and ever ready to recount to him deed, only a despairing hand ever tried it. A the hardships of his fate in being doomed to little patch was drained and cleared for live amid such monotony, and in dread of his potatoes, for that was guite a nocessity life from every exasperated tenant. This If life was to be supported. Maybe the may be true, but a lock into his larder seldom senant had some pluck and spirit, and he im- fails to prove that "His Honor" is living on the fat of the land, with pretty few luxuries that he does not possess, while his tenantry are depending on outdoor relief, or literally elarving from day to day around him. That larder, one may say, has to be filled by their agonies. So plausible and polished is he, one can hardly fall at first to sympathize with him, and it is not difficult to see how Land Commissioners and other interested strangers, who come to study Irish problems, are won away by his bland manners and hospitable geniality, when contrasted with the reserve and dogged, sullen suspicion with which the tenantry commonly receive them. Moreover, the landlord generally gets himself appointed as J.P. for his county ; he also may compose one of the Grand Jury (wholly composed of landlords), who have so much to say and so much to do with the social interests of their respective counties, of which the best proof may be the fact (I was myself a witness of it) that seldom can any measure which has s semblance of being in the interests of the poor people obtain their sanction. The Grand Juries of Ireland are undoubtedly the the war broke out his family, dreading lest opponents of social reform; they are in- his adventurous spirit should lead him into tensely jealous of their own interests, and tend to retard the progress and well being of three-fourths of the population of Ireland. Justice and common sense have no part in their considerations when it is found they would clash with landlord supremacy and oherished traditions. I doubt I am exceeding the limits of a let ter, and I did not intend to write an epistle. As I write midnight is tolling from the old fashioned chapel tower out (n the moor, and lights may altract some strolling party of "Moonlighters"-may, but not very likely, I hope, having so far come through this arduous campaign without a scratch-but I could not close without mentioning what has struck ms very forcibly, and is the best commentary on the state of feeling in Ireland, viz:-that it presents the appearance more of a conquered country than of a component part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. It is the exact fac simile of India, at our own doors, both as to its political and social aspects. Like India, it is over burdened with English officialism, which here assumes also the same haughty, domineering spirit for the "native." It is sad to remark. too, that the local laws are those which belong to a country kept under subjection by force; they are not the laws of free countries like England and Scotland, or perhaps any other nation in Europe. They are the same laws which England enforces in dealing with semi-barbarous races whose country she has conquered and annexed to her Empire. They are laws as rigorous as those which prevailed in India immediately succeeding the mutiny. The armed police and soldiers often double the population of the smaller towns, indeed all over the country are scattered police stations and barracks; a continual reminder to the people, that by the " fear" and " terror" of England they are governed, not by respect for its institutions, admination of its principles, or hope for its furnie, which only can make a people healthy, prosperous, and free.

HOW LANSDOWNE 18 TO BE BE-OEIVED.

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(To the Editor of the Evening Canadian.) Sin,-The Kerry immigrants of Conway street are preparing to accord Lansdowne a grand reception. They know him better than the citizens of Toronto. They desire once more to take a glance at this Nero of the nineteenth century, who has immortalized himself by razing to the ground many an humble cot in Kerry, and casting on the roadside to die of starvation many a poor Irish peasant. His own Kerry people are de termined to contribute a share in his reception. They will form a grand procession. Their missry, their motley appearance, their haggard looks, and poverty-stricken features will tell the history of the glorious career of Lansdowne. Let the people of Toronto gaza upon them as they march through the city on the day of the reception and Lansdowne's history will be revealed.

His history is written in the ruins of many an Irishman's home in Kerry, and his charac-ter is impressed on the mind of Canada by the voice of many an expatriated man.

Yours truly, ONE FROM CONWAY SIRRET.

Aver's Sarsaparilla is the most potent blood purlier, and a fountain of health and strengh. Be wise in time. All baneful infections are promptly removed by this unequalled alterative.

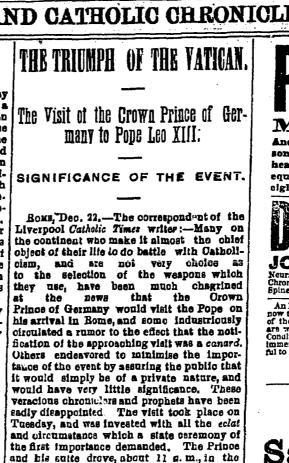
## "THE PRINCESS IDA."

GILBERT AND FULLIVAN'S NEW OPERA-IT IS PRO-NOUSCED & FAILURE.

NEW YORK, Jan 7 .- The Herald's London despatch regarding the production on Saturday night of Gilbert and Suilivan's new opera, says :- Despite the organized claque, Gilbert and Sullivan's new work, " Princess Ida" failed to please at the Savoy Theatre. That portion of the audience which was not bired to applaud was amaged to find that Mr. Gilbers had reproduced his old Olympic burlesque, adding nothing but a few patter songe of the regular burlasque type. All the originality of "Patience" and "Pinafore" had vanished. Dreary puns were as abundant as in the Galety extravaganza Even Bullivan's music nodded, and, though the score showed great scholarship, it is quite unfitted to a play of a light order. There were two rathling military pieces, one antique ballad, and one classical parcdy. The rest was emptiness. Mr. D'Oyly Uarte is master of the "puff pre-liminary." Through the press he had raised expectations that the audience would be urusually brilliant. As a matter of fact, nobody of high distinction was present. Nor was the mounting or performance of the play worthy of the theatre. In the final scene the electric light shone brilliantly on the glittering mail of the girl graduater, but the court coatumes in the prologue were as ordinary as the caps and gowns of the girls in the first act. Mr. George Grossmith in the small part of King Gama had no opportunity to dispiay his vein of peculiar humor. Leonois Braham sang well, but was physically unfit Brandram was excellent as Lady Blanche. though her metaphysical concelts were lost on the audience. But the hit of the play was made by the three knights in armour, Arao, Guron and Scynthius, who brought down the house with their song running :

For a month to dwell In a dungeon cell, Growing thin and wisen In a Foliary prison Is a poor lockout For a soldier stout Who is longing for the rattle Of a complicated battle— For the rum-tum-tum Of the miliary drum, And the guns that go boom ! And the guns that go boom ! boom ! Chorus.

Boom ! boom ! boom ! boom ! Rum-tummy-tummy-tum, Boom ! boom ! boom ! boom ! boom ! boom !



Royal carriages to the Palazzo Oaffarelli, to lunch with the German Ambassador. After remaining there about two hours, His Imperial Highness, Dr. Von bolozer, and the sides de-camp, all in full uniform, the Prince himselt wearing the dress of a general officer in the German army, with the Grand Oross of the Black Eigle and other decorations, entered three private carriages and drove to the Vatican. A number of persons were gathered in the Plazzo of St. Peter's, who uncover ed as the party passed through it. At the carriage gate called that of the Zecca-i.e. the Mint-the Swiss Goards, in full uniform, and in the Court of St. Damascus, the Pontifical Gendarmes, were drawn up to render the usual honors. At the foot of the great staircase the Prince was received by Monsignorf Cataldi, Prefact of the Pontifical Oeremonies, who accended with him, preceded by the buesolanti and palafrenieri of His Hollness, in their crimson damask dresseer, and attended on each side by Swiss Guards. At the door of the great hall of St. Olement the Prince was met by the Maggiordomo of His Holiness, Monsigno: Theodoli, together with the chief coolesiastical and civil dignitaries of the Pontifical Court in their respective costumes worn on cocasions grand formality, and by them was conducted into the first antcohambers whence the Pope's Maestio di Camera, Monsignor Maochi, who was in waiting there, introduced his Imperial Highness into the Pontifical apartments. His Holiness advanced into one of the outer rooms to meet him, and led him into his private apartment. There the Pope and the Prince remained alone together for 50 minutes. Their conversation ended, the door was opened, and the Prince presented the mem-bers of his suite. Leaving the Pontifical presence with the same ceremonial, the Prince ascended to the apartments of Oardinal Jacobini, the Pontifical Secretary of State, where he was received with all the formalities due to royal personages. With the Cardinal he remained in conversation for twenty minules, and then, accompanied by his Eminence walked through the library, the Staume of Baphasl, the coulpture galleries, the Sistine

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January 16, 1884

proved upon his patch-drained and manured enough to grow a little barley and onts dis Well.

For two or three years he might continue to do this and begin to feel it was possible to make something out of his ground after allif only he would be let alone. But, alas I factor. or landlord himself, will not allow this op-portunity to pass. He, poor landlord, has been sorely tasked and worried in trying to keep up his claim to the ranks of the "True Blue" by the exorbitant demands he makes apon the owners of the potato patches, many of whom have not been able to pay rack-rent for their wretched holdings, but have been giving their labor instead, that is, they have given time and services to their lord and master without remuneration, and are apposed on this account to be allowed to retain the den they hollowed (or burrowed) in the wet bog, where cows, pigs, poultry, paps, mamma and bairns, all seek a common shelter, for aught I know biped not objecting to occupy the same straw as quadruped.

But to the story. Landlord quietly takes notice of increased capabilities of the land thus improved by his more enterprizing tenant, quietly reflects his rental has need of replenishing, and some fine day informs the unfortunate one that land so good is worth, say 50 per cent more than the rent paid for it. and that as a reward for his own industry said tenant must consider his rental as raised by that amount. What can he do? Before he only managed to live, and for his patience, time and trouble he has thus only reapedincreased rental. He sinks into the same lethargic hopelessness as the others, his land speedily collarses into its old worthless state (for all agricultural purposes), and finally when rent day comes round he does not appear ; further notices and threats have no effect, for be it remembered this saying is a true one, "Ye canne take the breeks from a Hielanman," neither is it difficult to understand how an Irishman's rent is not forthcoming when even a reduction of 50 per cent would still leave him " less than nothing." The story is scon told. Oattle are ssleable-though tenants are not. Sheep thrive well on the bog pasture, and landlord has now his chance. The sheriffs and balliffs are quite familiar personages here, and eviction has come to be regarded as quite a chronic state of matters. But to the evicted there is still one hope left, one shelter-the workhouse; he cannot be expected to pay rent there.

Your true born Celt, however, has an instinctive horror of that very name. Though born in poverty, nursed and matured in it, he yet regards the portals of the workhouse as the entrance to disgrace and shame, and too otten does double mischief by quartering himself upon his poor friends who are hardly able to support themselves

But for a few months back one other refuge has been offered him, thanks to the awakening (so it is called) of the Government.

Those evicted tenants are the class we are engaged sending from here to Canada and to the United States. The Government defrays their passage money and gives for each a sum to be paid to them on landing abroad. Philan-thropic committees see that they are 'fed, clothed and sheltered until ready to be digpatched, which they are weekly; so many are

Young, midcle aged, or old man, suffering from nervous debility and kindred weaknesses, should send two stamps for large treatise and which sflicts her in its worst form, but evicted that we can sometimes count on 300 giving successful treatment. World's Dis- she is now over 60 and cannot withstand for one vessel.

humor of the latest Gilberting effasion. The respect due to its music helped to save the piece from utter collapse. The author and composer were summoned before the curtain without enthusiasm. Their productions are in London a species of cuit, but in America Princess Ida" would probably be summarily damned.

THE MAHDI'S LIEUTENANT.

The Parls Figuro gives some interesting details respecting a Frenchman named Soulie, who is believed to be the Mahdi's right-hand man. and to have taken a leading share in the defeat of the Egyptian force under Bicks Pacha. Soulle is described shops of the Quartier Latin some seven years ago. He was then a young fellow of about 24 years, very dark and wiry, loud in talk, and exuberant in gesticulation. He was born at Algiers, where his family still reside. When danger, summoned him home to the Algerian Capital, where he does not appear to have pursued any settled occupation.

Devoured with impatience, restless from inaction, he endeavored to find a vent for the fury of his temperament by the most perilous exercises of the acrobat and the circus rider. On his return to Paris about seven years ago he stiended to lectures of the School of Mining Engineering, and studied law ; but quiet life did not suit him, and he returned to Algiers, whence he wrote letters to friends in Paris breathing a violent hatred to England and the English, whom he conceived to have used Germany as an instrument to " crush France.

One fine morning he disappeared, and his friends were at a loss to know what had become of him, when they suddenly heard that he had joined a rabi, to gratify his passion by fighting the English. After the collapse of Arabi he migrated to Kaironan, and subsequently joined the False Prophet, in whose operations he is believed to have taken a leading part. The story, as told by the Figaro, may be pure romance, but there is this foundation for it, that there are many ad-venturers with the False Prophet, and that among them there is a Frenchman named Boulie, seems beyond a doubt.

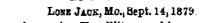
The Colonel Bartorius whose name is now so prominently before the public in connection with the operations at Suskim and the opening campaign against the False Prophet must not be confounded, says the Whitehall Review, with the officer of the same rank and name who so distingushed himself in the Ashantes war. The Sartorius of that campaign, who gained his Victoria Cross on the west coast of Africs, is at present with his regiment in India. A third Colonel Sartorius, and also a Victoria Cross man, is brother of the Ashantee hero, both being sons of our seniorAdmiral of the fleet.

Ross Bonheur's legion of friends and admirers must be prepared for the worst in respect to the great artist, says a recent Paris etter. She has obtained temporary relief from the malady which carried off her mother

the reason that the formalities observed have bsen those followed when Sovereign Princes go to the Vatican. On such occasions, the visit having been announced in person This refined song is a fair specimen of the by a repre sentative of the Eovereign, the Cardinal Secretary of State has immediately returned the representative's visit, to express the satisfaction felt by His Hollness, and to present his own homage, and that has been the course followed on the present occesion. Later in the afternoon the Orown Prince drove in the same carriage with the King and Queen of Italy, and Prince Amadeo, through the Oorso, and to the Villa Bor-ghese. The visit to His Holiness is looked upon in Catholic circles in Rome as a sign that the Royal Family of Germany recognises the influence for good which is due to the action of the Valican not only from a religious but also from a temporal and civil point of view; and that it is ready to pave the way for a kindlier treatment of German Catholics. This view is confirmed by an important article which has appeared in the Kreuz Zeitung. That journal states that the Crown Prince, having formed the intention of paying a second visit to the King of Italy, was given to understand that he could not well re-visit Bome without also paying his respects to the Pops. He was told at the same time that his calling on the Pope would gratify the Emperor, and also the Ohancellor to whom the visit seemed opportune and calculated to promote the pending negotiations between the Vatican and the Prussian Government. The Crown Prince then intimated his readi ness to pay the visit. It is to be housd itat it will bear fruit in the complete abandonment of the Kullurkampi.

Ohspel, and St. Peter's, and left the Vatican at a quarter part three. The Princs's visit

will not be returned by Cardinal Jacobini for



I have been using Hop Bitters, and have received great benefit from them for liver complaints and malarial fover, They are superior to all other medicines. P. M. BABNES.

PROGRESS AND POVERTY.

LONDON, Jap 10,-In Mr. Henry George's lecture at St. James' Hall, on " Progress and Poverty," Henry Labouchere, M. P. presided. Michael Davitt, Henry Broadburst, M. P. and Roy. Stewart Headlam were on the platform. Mr. George was loudly obsered. In the course of his lecture he said the struggle for equal rights in land must come in England. as it was sure to come in America. Davitt, in response to calls from the audience, said that Henry George was not more appreciated in America and England than he was in Ireland. Labouchere, who introduced Mr. George, dwelt particularly on the phenomenal favour with which the lecturer's theories had been received, both in his own country and abroad. It was evident that the majority of the audience were republican in their sympathles, and willingly approved of the liberal sentiments which Mr. George portrayed. At the outset several interruptions were attempted by a small opposition olique, but they soon became interested, and remained to

Ffty tame ducks were recently removed in

closs box from Short Beach to Babylon. L.

I. The next morning they were found at their

old home on the beach, waiting to be fed.

As thei wings were clipped they must have

swam the entire distance, near 7 nine miles, in a heavy sea and on a dark night.

applaud with the rest.

DROVINCE OF QUEBEC, DIS-TRIOVINCE OF GURDEC, DIS-TRIOT OF MONTREAL. Superior Court. No. 947. Dame Philomene Craig, wife of Isale Oraig, of the Oity and Distr.et of Montreal, Trader, has instituted against her said husband an action for separation as to property. T. & O. O. DELORIMIER, At ornews for Plaintiff. Montreal, 10th December, 1868. 20-5