

system; and even after his elevation to the Episcopate, it was proposed, with his sanction, to found for him a Cathedral in Louisville.

We regret very much to see the attitude assumed by the Assistant Bishop of Kentucky. On a former occasion his visit was kindly discommodated by the Diocesan of Illinois,—that subsequently he should again visit Chicago, and there use expressions derogatory to the Bishop of Illinois, is unworthy of gentlemanly courtesy and fraternal propriety. Of this there can be no question.

We learn that the Rev. Edward Sullivan, the Rector of Trinity Church, was in no way privy to the act of those who invited Bishop Cummins to the pulpit, who, we cannot learn, were ever authorized by the vestry so to do.

Political.

THE ROOT OF IRISH DISCONTENT.

Those who wish to arrive at a just conclusion with respect to Irish grievances will do well to go a little further into the subject than English orators or writers care to take them. The common representation that Ireland is only "another Poland," that she is ruthlessly trodden down and oppressed by England, that the people are driven into exile by bad laws and ill usage, may suffice for the purposes of the agitator, but it will not bear investigation, and therefore ought not to be accepted by any one aspiring to guide public opinion. The fact that great dissatisfaction does exist in Ireland is admitted by all; the precise causes of it remain to be explored.

The tendency of English legislation for more than forty years past has been to do justice to Ireland. One by one the distinctions in the laws between the two countries have been quietly removed. The Roman Catholics no longer labor under any disabilities. They are eligible for the highest posts at the Bar, on the Bench, or in Parliament. The Irishman stands the same chance as an Englishman in winning his way to distinction in any path of life, so far as the laws are concerned. It is admitted that England has given Ireland an infinitely better system of national education than she possesses herself. The Irish national school books are invaluable for the purposes of self-education. A Roman Catholic college is endowed by the State, and even while the Protestant Church is being disendowed and disestablished, some provision is made for Maynooth. So far there is clearly no inequality of the law in favor of England and adverse to Ireland.

If we inquire still further into the details of the government of Ireland, we shall see cause for surprise at some of the concessions often brought against England, even in Congress, where—abroad at least—men are supposed to be moderately well informed. The roads in Ireland are kept up, not by imposing local burdens upon the people, but by imperial taxation—that is, by taxation paid by England. All public buildings in Ireland, and there are many very fine ones, are paid for out of the Consolidated Fund—the Irish people are not taxed for them. There are twelve Judges on the Irish Bench, and since we hear so much about the "farce of justice" as dispensed in Ireland, it is natural to suppose that most of these Judges are Englishmen. On the contrary, they are all Irishmen, and nine out of the twelve are Roman Catholics. They are selected from the most eminent men at the Bar. The resident Magistrates in the country are likewise Irishmen to a man, and their salaries are paid out of Imperial taxation. The members of the Bar are all Irish. The Police are every one Irishmen—12,000 of them; they are nearly all Roman Catholics, and they, too, are paid out of the Imperial funds. In England these expenses are met by local rates, for which every householder is liable. Thus far Ireland is better off than England. She is exempted from imposts which Englishmen are called upon to pay. The Irish pay no assessed taxes—an exemption, we need scarcely state, of the greatest possible importance. In fact, the people of England pay out of their own pockets for the expenses of government, for the roads, Judges, Police and Magistrates, and Ireland is not even required to bear any share of the common burdens of the nation.

All this is very unlike the way in which Poland is governed. We fail to see in the circumstances we have mentioned any evidence of that "grinding tyranny" which is said to have called the Fenian organization into existence. But where there is discontent there must be a cause for it, and when we look about for the cause we shall discover that it all turns on the land question. Now there is one popular misapprehension which ought to be corrected at the very outset. Nine people out of ten, if asked to define their ideas of the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland, would say, "The landlord may at any moment evict his tenant—in other words, drive him from the farm which he has brought under cultivation, and upon which he and his family depend for support. This is a most cruel measure, and it ought not to be possible." We answer that it is not possible, and that it never occurs. A tenant cannot be evicted unless he has neglected to pay his rent for a year and a half, and then only after six months' notice. Six months' notice is required in every case. If any land-owner in New York State let a farm to a man who absolutely refused to pay rent for a year and a half, what would

he do? Let the defaulter remain on his land, consuming its profits, forever—or eject him? We think the landlord would eject his tenant. In Ireland the tenant so treated thinks he has a moral right to shoot the landlord dead. In short, he believes that he ought to be allowed to live on the land without paying for it. This impression is drilled into the minds of the people by the traditions of their race, and by the teachings of their compatriots here and elsewhere.

The sentiments which those famous Irish patriots, Wolfe Tone and Lord Edward Fitzgerald, avowed in the latter part of their careers, is, when all is told, the only one which goes to the very root of Irish discontent. It is this, "Let England and Ireland be two countries, independent of each other, neither of them desiring or asserting supremacy." The desire for independent self-government is at the root of all the Irish discontent. The Irish demand that the English shall cease to govern Ireland at all,—whether they govern it well or ill. Instead of this radical cure, which cannot be applied, the most thoughtful and the most advanced of English politicians suggest partial remedies which must utterly fail to extirpate the disease. Some of them are utterly impracticable, while others are capable of being carried into effect. But they all fall short of the only thing which will silence Irish complaint against English government—namely, the abandonment of English government altogether. That the Irish people would govern Ireland better than the English do, or that they would be any better contented permanently with their own government than they are now with that of England, is by no means certain. But it is quite certain that self-government is what they want. As a matter of course, this will not be conceded; and all the parties interested must, therefore, make up their minds to a continuance for some time longer of the chronic and clamorous discontent of the Irish people. The best thing they can do, under existing circumstances, very clearly, is to emigrate to America. And probably the best thing the English government can do short of granting them independence, is to aid them to emigrate.—*N. Y. Times.*

ANNEXATION.—Our cousins over the way have recently spent some good-natured breath in trying to make themselves believe that the British provinces are ripe for annexation to the great republic. They tell us that it would settle our little difficulties, financial and otherwise, and be a "big thing" for us. As for ourselves, they are not anxious for the transfer of title, oh no! but they would consent to the arrangement mainly out of their great regard for the principles of pure democracy which gush spontaneously from their bosoms. They pity our condition of vassalism to an effete monarchy, and would release us from the tyranny of the iron hand of Britain, &c., &c. To this end the ubiquitous "Carleton" wrote letters from Canada, noticeably mainly for their absurd mistakes. The *New York Herald* and other journals have given their gratuitous advice, and many well-disposed and kind-hearted people in the neighboring republic have had their sympathies excited for our condition. We owe them thanks, but at the same time beg leave to say that the majority of Canadians are so obtuse as not to fully appreciate the motives of their friends. Like our neighbors, we have our trials and tribulations. Like them, we do not always get good harvests; not unlike their present position, there is a dulness and stagnation of trade and manufactures; money is scarce; we have defaulting officials, but not on the magnificent scale of their compeers in the States; occasionally a bank collapses, but cannot compare with the swindlers of Wall street. On the whole, we are not so differently situated from our neighbors as we might be. It is true our national indebtedness is not so great, but the difference may very likely be made up in the course of a few years. So far as "liberty" goes we have the right to do pretty much as we like, and that is the embodiment of the democratic idea. Seriously, there is no such thing as an annexation party in Canada.—[*From the Stanstead Journal.*]

—But there are others who talk about "independence," and even one or two journals which advocate it. They seem to think that the action of the New Dominion has smoothed away all difficulties in such a path and rest their advocacy of it chiefly on the language used by some half-demented English Radicals in reference to "Colonial Emancipation." A late speech of the Governor General at Quebec, in which he declared that if Canada desired to separate from England, the latter would throw no difficulty in the way, was, for a time a perfect God-sent to those gentlemen. It seems now, however, to be pretty generally admitted that His Excellency said nothing more than has been repeatedly said by Ministers and Legislators during the last 20 years. Thus this chance of proving that Britain is resolved to get rid of us fails. By way of something to show that no such feeling exists in any force we would present the following extract from the *London Spectator*, one of the most ultra-Liberal journals in England, and which would, therefore, be most likely of all others to support such a scheme. The *Spectator* says, with regard to the relations of the Mother country to the colonies "we

venture to submit that the country should be asked whether it approves, whether it desires to become a Holland, whether it is willing, after all its sacrifices and in spite of its history, to reduce its dominion once more to a couple of petty islands in the north west corner of Europe, to surrender wilfully, and once for all, its status in the world. The people as yet have no suspicion that such a policy is in contemplation. It has never been presented to Parliament, never discussed, never made the subject of hustings speeches, never explained in one ministerial address to the electors." If this had come from a conservative journal, we would, of course, have been told that the view there taken was merely that of a "fossil Tory." But coming from such a journal as the *Spectator* it goes far to prove that the idea of "Colonial Emancipation" has not been generally adopted even by English Radicals. Meanwhile we would counsel Canadians not to show themselves ready to meet half-way the few there may be. It is certain that we are losers by the connection.—[*From the Bruce Review.*]

Scientific.

GLYCERINE.—Hardly have the echoes of the nitro-glycerine explosion in Wales died away when there reaches us from Brazil an account of an accident not less disastrous in its consequences, and quite as significant as to the dangerously sensitive character of this explosive. The *Brazilian Times* of the 23rd ultimo contains the following account of the occurrence:—Seven Brazilian victims have been added to the number sacrificed by that unsteady compound, nitro-glycerine. A quantity had been procured by the military arsenal for experiment, but its use was deferred upon the public works in progress, and orders were therefore given to get rid of it. Accordingly on the 9th six cans of it, containing 60 lbs., were taken in a launch to about a furlong's distance from the arsenal to be sunk in the bay, but, unhappily, on throwing out the first can it exploded, the explosion extended to the others, the boat was blown to pieces with six of the crew, and the seventh man was rescued only to die soon after.

POMPEII.—A painting has been found in a chamber adjoining the one which was opened at the time of the Princess Margherita's visit to Pompeii, which represents the Circus such as it existed not long before the eruption, and is the first of this kind which has been brought to light, as the Romans ordinarily selected mythological, rural, or purely ideal subjects. The representation shows that the amphitheatre was played with trees. The excavation is not above mediocrity. Near the Circus is to be seen a large edifice of which, hitherto, not the slightest indication existed. Commander Fiorelli is said to have the intention of immediately searching for this building, so as to complete the knowledge already possessed of the buried city. The painting has been detached from the wall on which it was executed, and will be removed to the Museum in order to be protected from the action of the atmosphere.

QUICKER THAN THOUGHT.—One of the most remarkable objects at the recent meeting of the mechanical engineers at Newcastle was the new chronoscope, for measuring the rapidity of a projectile within the bore of a gun, the invention of Captain Andrew Noble, late Royal Artillery, now of the firm of Sir William Armstrong & Co. This wonderful instrument is capable of measuring portions of time so minute that the human mind is as unable to realize them as it is to grasp ideas of infinity. To most of us, a second of time seems to pass very rapidly, and a clock denoting tenths of seconds is looked upon as a most accurate instrument. What shall we then say to a machine capable of dividing the second into a million parts?—to an instrument where the inaccuracy of the thousandth part of a second would be a greater comparative error than the loss of an hour a day by an ordinary watch? The chronoscope consists of six brass discs, each 36 in. in circumference, and about 1/2 in. thick. These are firmly secured to a spindle or axle, which is geared to a train of wheelwork, the whole being driven by a weight something similar to a clock weight. Each wheel travels five times as fast as the one immediately preceding it, so that every rapid motion of rotation is imparted to the discs, the rate of speed being measured by a clock or stop-watch attached to one of the slower-moving wheels. When the instrument is in full spin the discs are revolving at a rate of about 25 times in one second, and as they are 26 inches in circumference an inch of disc corresponds to about the thousandth part of a second, the tenth of an inch to the ten-thousandth part of a second, and the thousandth of an inch to the millionth of a second. The instrument is provided with a graduated scale, vernier or magnifier, by which the thousandth of an inch is read off. The passage of the shot in the bore of the gun is recorded on the edge of each disc by a tiny electric spark derived from a Ruhmkorff coil. A brass discharger is fixed in an ebonite plate; opposite each disc wires pass from this through electric battery and coil to the gun, where they communicate with the interior of the bore by means of screw plugs in the side of the gun. The shot cannot pass out of the bore without cutting the wires thus communicating with the inside, and as each wire is cut a spark is emitted from

the discharger, and the edge of the corresponding disc receives a mark on some prepared paper with which it is covered. Thus, let us suppose the gun to be fitted with six plugs each two inches apart, the first being in such a position that when the gun is loaded the front part of the shot just touches the first wire. The instant the gun is discharged the shot begins to move, and so breaks the second wire, and marks the first disc; it then breaks the second wire, and marks the second disc, &c., until it finally breaks the sixth wire, and marks the sixth disc. While, however, the shot was passing from the first to the sixth wire the instrument was revolving, and the sparks, instead of being in a straight line on the discs, will appear in a helix, the distance between each of them corresponding to the time taken by the projectile in passing from wire to wire. This most ingenious instrument has been in use for some months at Woolwich, and will be extensively used by the special committee on explosives during their experiments on the pressure of fired gunpowder of various descriptions in the bores of heavy guns.

—A party of the Neapolitan aristocracy had a moonlight fete in Pompeii about a fortnight since; supper was served in the Forum, and *tableaux vivants* were represented in the Temple of Jupiter after the substantial were disposed of. That which was most applauded represented a scene from Lord Lytton's "Last Days of Pompeii."

—A New York organ firm is filling an order for an instrument to go to Yokohama. It will be the first organ ever heard in Japan.

SILK CULTURE IN CALIFORNIA.—The *San Francisco Mining and Scientific Press* believes that, from the peculiarly favorable conditions of the climate of California, and its nearness to the silk-producing regions and cheap labor of Eastern Asia, the State is placed on an equality with the cheapest and best skilled labor of Europe in the production of silk. Three years ago there were only about 4,000,000 mulberry trees in the State, now the number cannot be less than 20,000,000. With regard to the present year's production of cocoons, the probability is that the number will certainly reach 75,000,000, and most probably 100,000,000, or more. One million of cocoons will weigh about one ton. Extensive preparations have been made for the permanent introduction of the business in the vicinity of Los Angeles, at San Gabriel Mission, in the counties of Yolo and Nevada, and in other portions of the State.

Miscellaneous.

"THE POPE'S INVITATION TO HIS GENERAL COUNCIL OF 1869."

The Rev. Dr. Cumming delivered a lecture on the above subject on the afternoon of Tuesday, in the St. George's Hall, Canterbury, Colonel Horsely in the chair. The Rev. Lee Warner, opened the meeting with prayer.

The learned lecturer commenced by saying there had not been a General Council held by the Church of Rome since the year 1564, and that the object of the forthcoming General Council was to discuss the subject of the Pope's infallibility. He then went on to say with what an eager eye the Pope watched England, Scotland, and Ireland; that Popery was, and had been, losing ground upon the Continent, while she was gaining fast in England and Scotland (alas! that such should be the fact in this great empire, which gained its present position by once boldly throwing off the shackles of Rome!) In proof of this statement, the learned doctor referred his audience to Austria, Italy, and Spain. He went on to say how very much rejoiced the Pope was at the liberality (?) of Scotland and England. The invitation, he said, was addressed to the patriarchs and other officers of the Greek Church, together with Protestant in general. The Rev. gentleman read the correspondence which took place between himself and Dr. Manning relative to the attendance at the General Council. Dr. Manning's reply to the Rev. gentleman was certainly courteous and civil, but, Jesuit like, evaded the point in question raised in Dr. Cumming's letter; and having been informed that higher authority than that of Dr. Manning was necessary for the required information, the Rev. lecturer stated that he applied to the Pope about a fortnight since, but had not yet received a reply; and that on the receipt of a reply, he should come down and treat them to an hour-and-a-half comment upon it. What the Rev. gentleman wanted to know from Dr. Manning was, whether or not he should have full liberty of speech accorded him at the Council, inasmuch as he is anxious to lay before them some important considerations. The Archbishop of Canterbury was, he stated, considered by the Pope as merely a superintendent of a district called Canterbury; and that the Church of England, and others, were simply civil institutions, without the sanction of any high authority, and whose ministers were not properly ordained. A letter was then read from a lady who lives at Rome, and who takes a great interest in Dr. Cumming, advising him not to hazard his life in attending it; for if he even managed to escape the intrigues of the Pope and Council, his life might be endangered by the poisoning, &c., of his food. Supremacy in England, said the Rev. lecturer, is Rome's great object; and then he stated that we

are verily living at a time when a great crisis is at hand. The Rev. gentleman kept the undivided attention of his audience for the space of an hour-and-a-half; and at the end of his lecture made an appeal of the Protestant Reformation Society, for which there was made a collection at the door. The lecturer was highly appreciated by his intelligent audience; and a vote of thanks having been passed to the worthy doctor by the chairman, the proceedings terminated with prayer. Considering the unfavourableness of the day the audience was very good, numbering about 300, and was equally represented by both sexes.

VANDERBILT'S WEDDING.—The arrival at London of Commodore Vanderbilt, the celebrated New York railway magnate and party on Friday morning, was the occasion (says the *Free Press*) of quite a flutter amongst the *quidnuncs* and gossips of the Forest City. His every movement naturally attracted observation, and excited the most wide and extravagant surmises. Every conceivable purpose from that of buying up the Great Western, body and breeches, to taking a dip in the modern Pool of Bethesda, the Sulphur Baths here, was discussed with painful gravity. What did he come here for, and what did he want? Had he anything to do with Sir Francis Hincks? Doubtful! Was he in any way connected with the great corn question, or the inspection of London volunteers? Not probable; and indeed every other conjecture seemed at fault, especially that of a local contemporary, in regard to his pursuit of the water cure. The Commodore preserved the most vexatious reticence, even his name did not appear on the hotel register and he kept in religious seclusion in his rooms, as if under strict medical injunction to avoid pernicious drafts and the still more afflicting effects of vulgar curiosity. But our little world went to sleep, fatigued by the heat of the weather and forgetful that so great a personage as an eighty million dollar capitalist with his stocks and his steamers, railroads and river palaces even paid us a visit and still more obvious of its purpose. Early on Saturday morning, however, the great question was answered. And the answer was that the Commodore had merely taken a temporary refuge in the respectability and quietude of the most flourishing city of the Dominion to consummate a marriage with a young, beautiful and estimable lady, and thus escape all the glare and heat, the fuss and feathers, the lace, vanity and oppressive stare of the New York fashionable world. And so it came about that at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, in a private parlour of the Tecumseh Hotel, Commodore Vanderbilt was married to Miss Crawford, daughter of the late Mr. E. Crawford, cotton broker, of Mobile, Ala., the Rev. W. Briggs, Wesleyan Minister of this city, officiating at the ceremony. The gallant bridegroom, whose summers are seventy-six, was dressed in plain black, wearing in his shirt diamond studs of intense brilliancy and great value. He is a noble-looking gentleman, erect in figure, active in movement, intelligent in expression, and almost courtly in bearing. As may be supposed from the fact of his years, his hair and whiskers are white; but he is so well preserved even amid all the cares and responsibilities of his position, that he looks to be not more than sixty-one or two years old. His bride is comparatively young, being but thirty years of age. She is of medium height and symmetrical figure, wearing always a singularly happy expression of face, which is one of gentle beauty. She was dressed in a simple travelling costume, and wore a blue veil on her bonnet, which was not lowered. The Commodore and his bride are second cousins. Among the witnesses to the ceremony were the mother of the bride, Mrs. Crawford, and Mr. Crawford, jun., her brother and his wife; General Braxton, Bragg and Judge Bragg; Mr. J. Tillinghast, manager of the New York Central, of Buffalo, and Mr. Augustus Scher, the well-known lawyer of New York.

METHODIST CONFIRMATION.—*Zion's Herald*, of Boston, under the heading "A Good Custom," says: "Rev. A. MeKeown, of the Winthrop Street Church, in this city, has introduced what may be a novelty but should be a custom of the church. At the close of a sermon lately he called forward fifteen adult persons, six of whom had been baptized in infancy, the remaining nine not having received the ordinance. They all stood up together and took upon themselves the vows of the baptismal covenant, those who had been baptized in infancy thus ratifying and adopting the pious act of their parents as their own, and making for themselves a profession of their faith in baptism. This was an eminently proper procedure. Something of this sort is needed to complement and complete in the mind of the recipient, his infant baptism. It is this that the Episcopal Church has in confirmation, with this important difference, that that Church expects it of their baptized upon their coming to riper years as a matter of course, while the Methodist pastor should properly restrict it to those who profess to have experienced a change of heart." We are glad to see that the Methodists are recognizing the propriety of "ratifying and confirming" baptismal promises when "children have come to years of discretion." We wish, however, to correct a slight misapprehension. The Episcopal Church expects confirmation of her baptized as a