

GOVERNMENT SPIES AND THEIR WAYS.

We were always aware that the British Government carried on its operations, both at home and abroad, by means of a set of salaried informers—a species of secret service. More especially in the Government of Ireland do we find the British spy playing an important part; but it was not to our knowledge that the system was extended to the remotest corners of the globe, and that it had its representatives in every court in the world. In this connection we came recently upon a very interesting article, which was published anonymously in one of the London papers. As it may serve both to instruct and to amuse, we will reproduce it in its entirety. The article runs thus:—

It is a matter of fact that, while the British Secret Service system as a whole is hopelessly inefficient, having been brought to that state by parsimonious Parliaments, in the matter of spies, a foreign court is especially successful than the system of any other nation in the world. "To a nation in our position of splendid isolation it is of the most vital importance that our Government should be kept aware of everything important that occurs, or is likely to occur, in foreign courts, especially courts of monarchs whose pledges and assurances of good faith cannot be implicitly relied upon, and a moment's reflection will show how well the Secret Service agents who have this difficult duty carry out their task. "It must have been noticed, for instance, that Great Britain has frequently of recent years 'intelligently anticipated' important moves which were secretly contemplated by foreign Powers, and slipped in a day or two before. How is it done? How does the Government of this country learn of the contemplated moves in time to 'steal the march'? "Probably no one person upon earth is aware of the identity of all Great Britain's spies in foreign courts, as they do not all come under the control of any one Government office. The foreign office is in touch with the majority of these valuable secret agents of the Crown, others are sent out by the Indian Government, independently of the India office. Of these latter the most important is the spy whose duty it is to keep the Indian Government informed of the doings in the Court of the Amir of Afghanistan, who requires careful watching; not so much because he is inclined to be crafty, as because it is eminently desirable that he should not be drawn into any trucking with Russia; for Afghanistan is India's garden-empire, and the safety of our Eastern Empire depends more upon this fence being unyielding than to anything else. "It is possible that the post of spy to the Amir's Court has now become a sinecure, for that personage appears to realize which side his bread is buttered, to use a colloquial

themselves in wells to escape the fury of the elements. The next morning they came out to see what the 'fairies' had done. They said they found that every haystack in Ireland had blown down. They found that straw had been driven through oak boards as clean as a carpenter would drive a nail, and there are some who declare that a stone as big as a freight car had been blown seven miles from its resting place. They found that the waters had been lashed into such terrible state that huge whales were lying upon the shores of the lakes, and that sharks and small fish were found in the ocean. The tale is told of the sailors who became shipwrecked, and the wind blew the whistles on the boats anchored at the wharves without an ounce of steam showing on the gauges. The people who remember this terrible wind tell how it carried the swords of the knights and lords from the scabbards and left the powdered hair of the Queen as natural as the day she was born, and they say that the post was removed from the barns, leaving the boards as bare as the day they came from the forest, and rocks were carried from Mount Chevalier to the town, seven miles away. Others say the bells in the churches and schoolhouses clattered as they never clattered before, and chickens were found the next morning without a feather in their tails. Leaves were found driven into the trunks of the trees, and corn was found cleaned from the cob on the stalk. Other terrible things happened sixty-one years ago on the "night of the big wind."

NOTES FROM AMERICAN CENTRES.

JUDGE SMYTH'S WILL.—The will of Justice Smyth of New York, a noted convert to the Church, has been filed for probate. The petition for probate estimates the realty at \$100,000, and the personalty at \$10,000, but the estate is much larger. The testator's wife died several years ago, and he had only one child, Anna Augusta Smyth, to whom he leaves all his personalty absolutely, free from the control of any one she may marry. The realty is to be held in trust for her for life with remainder to her issue. If she has no issue she may dispose of the realty by will. If she has no issue and fails to exercise the power of appointment, the realty is to be divided in equal shares among the Roman Catholic-Orphan Asylum, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin, in charge of the Rev. James Dougherty. A CATHOLIC SCHOOL.—Archbishop Corrigan blessed the new parochial school of St. Francis Xavier, New York, at a special service recently held. The building, which cost about \$135,000, will take the place of both the old schools of St. Francis Xavier's Parish, in Eighteenth and Nineteenth streets. All the sodalities of the parish marched from the church, in Sixteenth street, preceded by the boys' band from the Catholic Protector, just below the cathedral in the assembly room of the school began. At the conclusion of the religious ceremonial, there was an address by Mr. Mooney. The Archbishop also spoke briefly. He especially eulogized the Christian Brothers. A PRIEST'S GIFT.—Right Rev. Monsignor James McMahon on the 6th inst., by deed, transferred to the Catholic University of America eleven parcels of real estate, mostly improved and owned by him. This venerable priest has been the honored guest of the Catholic University since his magnificent gift to the institution some time ago, with which the present splendid monument to philosophy, science, and letters which bears his name was erected. GERMAN CATHOLICS.—The German Catholics of Duluth are making preparations for the annual convention of the German Catholic Benevolent Society of Minnesota, which will be held in Duluth, Sept. 23, 24 and 25. The event is the most important semi-religious gathering in the State, and it is expected that between 2,000 and 2,500 members will be present. The German Catholic Benevolent Society, of which there are 150 local organizations in the State, with a membership of about 7,500, has as its fundamental principles the furthering of Catholic interests in general, and of charity and benevolence in particular. The consolidation of all the German Catholic societies of the State under one head was accomplished in 1894, and it has been increasing in membership and standing ever since. NO AIR SPACE.—An American newspaper remarks:—New York's back yards are disappearing with great rapidity and the time has now come when ventilation from rear windows is almost out of the question. The number of houses to which rear extensions have been added has increased greatly during the past few years, and they have left the space between houses so small that light and air are almost as difficult to obtain now in a house as they are in a flat. Houses adjoined by streets that have been converted into business streets have suffered especially, for in stores and offices the extensions not only run the entire length of the lot, but are likely to be several stories high. HEROIC NUSS.—The Galveston calamity affords a new example of the ever heroic devotion to duty of the Catholic Nuss, save the Irish

POLITICS IN ENGLAND.

The London correspondent of the New York "Post" thus summarizes the political situation in England, at present. He writes:—Bustle is everywhere in the British political world. Lord Salisbury's return from the Vosges and Monday's meeting of the Privy Council, taken in conjunction with hints to party catenues throughout the country to get ready for the great fight of the general elections, have convinced the newspaper-reading public that Parliament will be dissolved, and an appeal made to the electorate in October. Meanwhile the South African war, it is hoped, will have been ended, and perhaps Lord Roberts and some of his victorious troops will have paraded the London streets. A wave of vociferous Imperialism in the Salisbury-Chamberlain combination is to receive another seven years' lease of political power. So runs public expectation. But the public does not know that only last week Mr. Chamberlain himself wrote to a political associate telling him not to expect the election before spring, unless, as he put it, some event of the gravest moment in public affairs should arise. That being so, all this ministerial drumbeating in the provinces can only mean that the ministers hope thereby to induce the provincial party leaders to perfect their local electoral organization, and perhaps also to strike dismay into the Liberal ranks, and so lessen the chances of that calm dispassionate survey of the position which must precede the formation of a common plan of campaign among the Liberal leaders; that is to say, between Imperialists and anti-Imperialists, the Roseberys and Harcourtites. There certainly are as yet no signs of any such Liberal consolidation. Had Sir William Harcourt retired from political life, as his ill-health made probable three months ago, Lord Rosebery would doubtless have headed the Liberal party again with a policy of "sane, tolerant, unaggressive Imperialism" abroad and progressive reform at home, but Sir

William Harcourt has regained much of his vigor, and will have nothing to say to Imperialism in any shape or form. Early this week that other staunch anti-Imperialist, Mr. John Morley told his constituents in Montrose that as a voice trouble debars him from public speaking, he left them at liberty to choose another member. No man in British public life is more highly esteemed than Mr. Morley. Tories, no less than Liberals, Imperialist and anti-Imperialist, would lose in him one of its most striking and illustrious figures. Of course, Montrose Liberals have replied that not only will they stand by him, but that they will return him free of every expense and without a single electoral speech. There are few Liberal constituencies in England or Scotland which would not welcome the chance of this preservative for the nation the unbroken services of Mr. Morley in Parliament, but all the same, his practical exclusion from the activities of the campaign is a blow to Liberalism, and anti-Imperialism in particular, for he is a great power on the platform. On the other hand, Lord Rosebery and his following remain quiet, so far as the public knows, inactive. Liberalism, in a word, is still asleep as a political force. "The Spectator" most unkindly, and in its own lordly way, to-day reads out of its own Unionist ranks, in view of the coming campaign, such weakling ministers as Lord Lansdowne, Lord George Hamilton, and Viscount Cross, Messrs. Chaplin, Ritchie, Long, and their political kin. "Dear sandwiches of the Cabinet" is the polite epithet applied to them by their younger and more vigorous colleagues in the ministry. "The Spectator," in a word, calls for an immediate and prelection reconstruction of a Cabinet, under Lord Salisbury, to include Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Balfour, and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and younger men, now under-secretaries, such as Mr. William St. John Brodrick, Lord Selborne, Mr. George Wyndham, and Mr. Gerald Balfour.

IRELAND'S BIG WIND.

The cyclone in Texas is reminding Irishmen of the "big wind" in Ireland, and the tales of its marvellous doings are being retold, says an American Catholic exchange. January 5, was the sixty-first anniversary of the "big wind in Ireland." There have been other big winds, but there never was one that equalled the first one. Births, marriages and deaths are fixed before and after this big wind, and there

never was a true-born Irishman who has not heard of the "night of the big wind." Many tales have been told about this hurricane. According to the recollections it came up about 9 o'clock at night. It came like a summer breeze furious. Some of the simple people of Ireland said it was the work of the fairies, who had become displeased at the people. So they crawled under the bed and lowered

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from this dumbness in the moment of danger, but it is not so. Of course, many persons who start from shore get back without assistance, and will call for help before their energy has been all spent. Possibly they may manage to keep afloat until assistance comes, so when they cry out they are not actually drowning. When it comes to giving up and going under they sink slowly, without a sound. "The more I think of this phase of the drowning question the more remarkable it seems. Boys have been drowned here who would have been rescued had they but called once. They have gone under surrounded by companions and so close to the life-guard that rescue would have been assured had there been any signal whatsoever. "The impression that a drowning person comes to the surface three times is a mistake. In fact, in most cases he goes under once and stays there unless some one goes after him. Ordinarily, a person overboard takes enough water into the body on first sinking to weight it so that it will not rise to the surface, but there seems to be no rule of nature governing this. "I suppose if one goes under with the lungs full of air the body will come to the surface, but usually the first sinking is the last. "This is our experience at the beach. Cases have been quite numerous where good swimmers diver from the raft and failed to come to the surface, going under and staying there until one of the guards went down for them. Of course they were brought up unconscious and could not tell why they did not come up as usual. This is another of the mysteries of drowning. If there are more ways of killing a cat than one, so there are more reasons than one why people drown. Good swimmers, bad swimmers and those who can't swim at all go under and stay from time to time. If people will go in the water people will drown. We guard against accidents to the best of our ability, but occasionally some one goes down never to come up alive. We guards sit here and watch, go in and drag out all who appear in distress, but despite our vigilance suddenly some one will be missed, going down without a word, surrounded by half a hundred persons, any one of whom would possibly have been able to extend a helping hand."—Washington Star.

lected do., boneless, \$19.50 to \$20; heavy Canada short cut clear pork; \$18 to \$18.50; pure Canadian lard 9c to 10c per lb.; compound refined lard, 7 1/2c to 8 1/2c per lb.; hams, 10 1/2c to 14c; bacon, 12c to 14c. BUTTER—The heavy feeling continues, but without quotable change in price, which remains at 20c to 20 1/2c for finest creamery; 19c to 19 1/2c for seconds, and 17 1/2c to 17 3/4c for corresponding period of last year. The price for dairy. The total exports of butter last week were 8,650 packages, against 31,458 packages for the corresponding period of last year. The total shipments since May 1, were 198,658 packages, compared with 320,752 packages for the corresponding period of 1899.

BOYS' Fall Clothing. New Fall Lines NOW IN STOCK. We have just received a full range of the very latest productions in BOYS' FINE CLOTHING. Suits, Pea Jackets, Overcoats. We are making special efforts to do the BOYS' TRADE WELL, and we feel satisfied that our stock will compare favorably with any in Montreal; for good, reliable goods at reasonable prices. WE TAKE THE LEAD. Our new line of BOYS' SUITS, with Fancy Double Breasted Vests, are the latest novelties, copied from the leading American styles. WE INVITE INSPECTION. A Few Lines and Prices: CHILDREN'S MIDDY SUITS, in Navy Serges and Fancy Mixed Tweeds from \$2.75 to \$3.50. BOYS' BROOKLYN SUITS, in Tweeds, silk faced coats and fancy double breasted vests; prices range from \$4.00 to \$8.50. BOYS' SUITS in Brown and Black Velvet, at \$7.50. BOYS' NAVY BLUE SAILOR SUITS, different braidings, from \$2.50 to \$3.50. BOYS' MAN-O-WAR SUITS, long pants, at \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$8.50. BOYS' TWO-PIECE TWEED SUITS, at \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$4.50 to \$6.50. BOYS' SEPARATE BLOUSES, in flannel and serge, from \$1.00 to \$3.50. BOYS' NORFOLK SUITS, with bloomers, in Scotch and Canadian Tweeds; also Serges, from \$3.00 to \$6.75. BOYS' THREE-PIECE SUITS with short Pants, Single and Double breasted Vests, from \$4.00 to \$9.50. YOUTHS' NORFOLK SUITS, with bloomers, in Scotch and Canadian Tweeds; also Serges, from \$5.00 to \$9.50. YOUTHS' SUITS, long pants (latest cut), also Double-breasted Vests and Ties, from \$5.00 to \$10.50. The latest patterns in Tweeds, Worsted and Serges, ranging in price from \$6.50, \$7.50, \$8.00, \$8.50 to \$12.00. Pea Jackets & Overcoats. CHILDREN'S and BOYS' BLUE SERGE REEFERS, suitable for fall wear, at \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3.00 and \$3.50. Also a full range of BOYS' FAWN OVERCOATS, in Whipcord and Venetians from \$5.00 to \$10.50. Heavy weights, suitable for fall and winter wear, ranging in price from \$5.00 to \$10.50. YOUTHS' FALL OVERCOATS, in Whipcord, Herring-bone and Fancy Tweeds, at \$8.00, \$8.50 and \$9.50. We invite inspection, feeling sure that our customers will get the best value here for their money.

AMERICAN.—St. Mary's Orphan Asylum disappeared, leaving only slight traces in the form of ruins. For a time very little of the wreckage was found. It was supposed that the inmates, some ninety-nine Sisters and little children, had been swept out into the Gulf when the waters receded. Bodies of several of the victims at the asylum have since been found. It appeared that when the heroic Sisters found the waters rising all round the asylum they only thought of their little charges. They tied the children in bunches and then each Sister fastened to herself one of these bunches of orphans, determined to save them or die with them. Two of these bunches have been found under wreckage, in each case eight children had been fastened together and then tied to a Sister. St. Patrick's Church, and St. Mary's Cathedral sustained such damages that practically they will have to be rebuilt. THE MINERS' STRIKE.—Referring to the great strike of 140,000 men in the anthracite coal fields in the United States, an American contemporary thus outlines the demands of the miners' previous to the tie up. It says:—The men have asked for the following reforms in their treatment by the operators: Wages to be paid semi-monthly in cash. An advance of 20 per cent. in wages less than \$1.50. An advance of 15 per cent. in wages of \$1.50 and less than \$1.75. An advance of 10 per cent. in wages of \$1.75. Abolition of the sliding scale of wages. Abolition of the company doctor system. Abolition of the company store system. A ton of coal to be actually 2,240 pounds, and not, as now, over 3,000. Price of powder to be \$1.50 a keg, and not, as now, \$2.00, while the company gets it for 90 cents.

LIVE STOCK.—The threatening weather on Friday had a depressing effect upon the business done at the eastern abattoirs. The arrivals were exceedingly large, especially in sheep and lambs. Prices showed a firmness for the best stock, notwithstanding that the arrivals were in excess of the demand. Exporters and local buyers were not out strong, and business all round was on the drag. Much of the stock will remain unsold at close of to-day's market. Following are the quotations: Cattle—Receipts, 500; quality medium to fair. Quotations for best stock on market, 4c to 4 1/2c per pound. Only few sales at the latter price. The medium sold at from 3c to 3 1/2c per pound, while the common and inferior stock were offered at prices ranging from 2c to 2 1/2c per pound. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 1,200; prices firm with fair demand for export. Shippers paid 3 1/2c per pound for good large sheep, or from \$4 to \$6 per head. For local consumption from 3c to 3 1/2c per pound was paid by the butchers. Lambs sold at from 4c to 4 1/2c per pound, or from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per head. GRAIN.—Figures continue nominal, sales being light and enquiry dull. We quote No. 1 spring wheat at 75c to 75 1/2c afloat; old peas, 71c to 71 1/2c; new crop do., 64c to 64 1/2c; new crop rye, 57 1/2c; new crop, No. 2 barley at 47 1/2c; oats, at 29 1/2c to 30c. FLOUR.—A light jobbing business is all that is going forward at present. We quote as follows: Manitoba spring patents, \$4.50; Manitoba strong bakers, \$4 to \$4.20; winter wheat patents, \$3.75 to \$4; straight rollers, \$3.35 to \$3.50. FEED.—There is still a very firm feeling in most lines, consequent on a limited supply. EGGS.—The market continues firm, but quiet. We quote as follows: Straight candled stock at 15c to 16c; No. 2 at 15c to 14c; culls at 10c to 11c per dozen. PROVISIONS.—The local market is quiet, and steady. We quote as follows to-day: Heavy Canada short cut mess port at \$18.50 to \$19; se-

WHOLESALE MARKET REPORTS.

LIFE SAVERS AT THE BEACH. "In all my experience, and I have had considerable at various watering resorts, I have never known of a single instance of a drowning person calling for help," said one of the Washington beach. "It is generally supposed that persons struggling in the water call for assistance, but such is not the case. For some reason, which can hardly be explained, they never signal help. They simply throw up one hand, not both, mind you, and under they go. I have noticed this particularly at the Washington beach. In not a single instance has there been a call for help. I have pulled persons from the water within a few feet of the raft who were struggling for life, and yet who never uttered a single outcry. "It was only that I happened to notice their peculiar actions in the water, and not the noise they made that impelled me to go after them. Time and again I have seen poor swimmers start from the shore and, after paddling a short distance, throw up one hand and go under. It is the most remarkable thing imaginable that they give no signal of distress when help is so near. I have often asked rescued persons why they did not call for help, but they could give no explanation. They knew they were drowning, but the only sign of their peril was the involuntary raising of the arm. I have become so accustomed to this sort of thing—that peculiar manner in which a drowning person throws up his hand—that among a score of bathers diving, ducking and splashing about I can tell the one in danger in an instant. "When he goes down it is with the head thrown far back. As the water washes over the face up comes the hand. Then it slowly disappears, going under inch by inch. "Then if anything is done it must be done quickly. I have heard many stories of a drowning person making a great racket to attract attention, but I do not believe them. When more than one person is in danger I have known of calls, but invariably they came from the one who would swim enough to save himself, but who could not bring the drowning one ashore. The one in immediate peril simply goes under without a sound. I have been with fairly good swimmers who became exhausted, and who, without a word of warning, threw back the head as though about to float or swim on the back and go under. As they sank one arm came up. "One would suppose that a person who could swim would be exempt

Mr. Redmond, if they united in principle, I want there for an Ireland. The people I believe to be the most cordial that, so far as the only thing is that, dead-end which, sprung from disunion and to call the most ant, notes at land) whatever of trouble w come from the known as the the Farnellith laid down it peace with the sake of perfect sincerity, and I from that moment there must be cordial between the tions of the split, were I neltite Party, said to me a dangerous to enter into two sections Party had five quarrels. We danger, but I advised my friend. Having done titled to do it were our op that they siple, and that memory of th, do the same, their quarrel to mar the

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Vol. I. SPEECH. A large stration United Irish in the his recently, at mond, M. P. day. He said After ten elict the Nationalists together in hope, from passed, learn sons. I hope lesson of the herence to s I hope they of the disas I hope they of celebration lieve me, in enemy, it is not to show other, for and for one are ever to tion of pow only be by dual prefer one person uniting as o ance of the to criticisms League, I de first place, tional organ Ireland at the Parliamentar dition to has been fo any single h A Voice— Healy? Mr. Redm trymen, if they united in principle, I want there for an Ireland. The people I believe to be the most cordial that, so far as the only thing is that, dead-end which, sprung from disunion and to call the most ant, notes at land) whatever of trouble w come from the known as the the Farnellith laid down it peace with the sake of perfect sincerity, and I from that moment there must be cordial between the tions of the split, were I neltite Party, said to me a dangerous to enter into two sections Party had five quarrels. We danger, but I advised my friend. Having done titled to do it were our op that they siple, and that memory of th, do the same, their quarrel to mar the NOT THE MAY Sept. 11, the was brought Church of says the "Be result of the august assem the Catholics terest. Its d been signed, copies forwa MS., to Rom Hee Sec. Aft Propaganda, submitted to receiving the Holy Father Ireland for months will the decision. Hierarchy vtoral to the we may be a Past the fort of Their Lov with magnection for th temporal nritual well-bplied themad votion. It usual Octobnry will not REMARKS The "Beltrn loving part death and