

REQUIEM ETERNAM.

[To the memory of the late lamented Bernard Devlin, Esq., Advocate, ex-M.P. for Montreal Centre, as a humble tribute to one whose name is so connected with the history of Montreal, and whose talents and good qualities deserve to remain fresh in the minds of his fellow-countrymen.]

Marching slowly, reading slowly thro' Mount Royal's snow-clad streets; Wending onward solemnly gathering of the clerical college-mates, Sady moving, turn the mourners towards St. Patrick's holy face Through the doorway of that temple, now, he enters once again. Rising voices swell the chorus, requiem masses now are said— While the perfumed censers' wreatnings 'wrap the remnant of the dead; Many eyes are dimmed with weeping—many hearts are beating slow; Thousand phantoms of his memory 'in the sombre drapings glow.

Is a hero lying low? Why this warlike grand array? Why these plumed and harness'd swordsmen kneeling 'round the shrine to pray? Why this music loudly pealing in its mournful funeral notes? Why this wall of grief that swelling thro' St. Patrick's temple's portals? Why these throngs coming, going as in almost regal mien. Sleeps the one, now old and lifeless, for whose loss is heard the keening? He is gone, and others would divide them at his death. And whose sentiments united by the awful hand of Death.

On Mount Royal's rough and rugged, tempest-beaten rocky state, With the dear ones—children sleeping—by his young heart's loving braid; Loud the streams of water wildly lash the mountain's hoary breast, In the home of youth and aged from their fathers may be rest! Catch the summer sun at even on Mount Royal sheds a ray. Lifting up the crimson beauty towards the closing of the day. He will need no more the splendor of that golden setting sun. Like to it, in death's dark gloaming, his own earthly course is run.

"Ah! the nunquam non paratus"—Is the motto of the great. All must know that same dread highway, all must know that same dread fate; As the millions of the ages now are sleeping in the grave, the true, the holy, as the fervent and the brave. As the wicked and the pious, all are now beneath the same, the same dread fate. All have known the dreadful secret of the justice of their God. If, perchance, their faults are open—hide them from the eyes of men, and others would divide them; And their goodness, let us tell to the listening world around!

In his duties ever faithful, to his people, to their cause; When their voice was raised unto him, did he hesitate or pause? He would for his other dearest—hand the warmest for a friend; Little know we all the beauties in that spirit world to blend. Down within the deepest recess of that warm beating heart. For his God and for his country, for his friends, for all a part. Thousand tears stole to that spirit, thousand tempt, loud and strong. But that spirit, now, is vanished, fled that strife so fiercely long!

He has sought beyond the portals of the dread and chilly grave. Rest and peace with Him whose merits are sufficient to save— He has fled this world of sorrow, where each misery is a lord. He is now in the joy eternal with the Co-Eternal Word. Rest his debt, then, in the tomb-yard on his loved St. Patrick's holy face; Rest his spirit far beyond it where the just and best abide! Green above him grow the daisies from our fair Canadian soil. All his friends, who knew him, is to pray for him to God!

JOSEPH K. FORAN. Laval University, Quebec, 10th February, 1880.

Life and Works of Washington Irving.

We have received from Mr. James Bergen, 32 St. Lambert hill, Montreal, a magnificent bound volume containing the complete works of Washington Irving (Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.). The works of Irving are acknowledged to be among the finest in the English language, ranking, as they do, among the standard productions of the age. For purity of style, elegance of diction, chastity and general usefulness they are unsurpassed. They are peculiarly useful for family and domestic reading, they are entirely free from any blemishes that would prevent them being read by the most refined and fastidious lady in the land.

The Life and Works of Washington Irving—A new edition, printed from the original and early issues, embracing the following books, completed and unabridged:—The Sketch Book, The Alhambra, The Conquest of Granada, The Legends of the Conquest of Spain, Tales of a Traveller, Bracebridge Hall; or, The Humourists, Knickerbocker's History of New York, Salmagundi, Wolfert's Roost, Legend of Sleepy Hollow, The Voyages of the Companions of Columbus, and Miscellanies from the Knickerbocker Magazine.

The above works are preceded with a Life of Washington Irving, written expressly for the edition by Richard Henry Stoddard. The above works, unaltered and unabridged, are complete in one Imperial Octavo volume of nearly nine hundred pages, are embellished with a finely engraved portrait in line (of Washington Irving, drawn and engraved on steel, expressly for this edition, and handsomely bound in the best English cloth, the covers being ornamented with designs in gold, silver and ink, from a drawing made expressly for this work by D. B. Siskles. Gilt edges, price only five dollars.

Every family desires the works of Washington Irving, those charming writings, pure, elevating, entertaining, the pride of our literature. They have, unfortunately, hitherto been issued at prices that made it impossible for most readers to obtain them. In offering to the public in a single volume the principal works of this admirable author, produced with all the resources of modern improvement in bookmaking, clear, distinct, legible type, paper of the very best material and superior finish, presswork even and uniform, substantial in binding and illustrated by a steel portrait of unsurpassed beauty, we feel confident that we present a volume that every family will at once desire and resolve to possess.

The price, marvelously low in itself, places this edition of Washington Irving within the reach of the workman, the struggling scholar, the tolling clerk, and yet secures a book that every gentleman will show with pride among the gems of a costly library. These statements involve no exaggeration; a specimen page is given, and it will guarantee the excellence that will be carried out in every department of the manufacture.

An original biography of Washington Irving, from the pen of Richard Henry Stoddard, one of the most widely known literary men and critics of the country, has been prepared expressly for this edition. Sold only by subscription. Pollard & Moss, publishers, 47 John street, New York. James Bergen, 32 St. Lambert Hill, Montreal, general agent for Dominion of Canada.

Although the freedom of every club in Canada; the Marquis of Lorne has not yet honored any by his presence.

LETTER FROM LACHINE.

THE OPINION OF MR. MYLES O'REGAN, ESQUIRE.

MR. EDITOR.—I suppose I may now consider myself one of your staff, as being a kind of recognized outside contributor. I fervently hope that my position will not make me vain or imperil my immortal soul—I know it will not make me wealthy—newspaper men have not a brilliant reputation either for being strictly virtuous or for being miserably opulent in the common acceptance of the terms. It is not every ink-blinger who can in a moment of self-abnegation fling down one hundred thousand dollars like James Gordon Bennett, though, to give them their due, they are not close-fisted when in possession of dollars, a phenomenon which is, however, of rare occurrence. I fancy if I were in Bennett's place I would give double the amount, but then circumstances alter cases, and perhaps I would not. Mike Dempsey and I came out to America together and became close friends en voyage. We differed on some questions, but what we cordially agreed upon was that if ever we became wealthy we would give half our money to charitable institutions. This is how we argued:—If a man is worth \$200,000 and distributes \$100,000 among the poor he will have still enough left to live and be comfortable. Singularly enough, Mike, who went to Sacramento, Cal., realized a fortune by strict attention to business, and now this is how he views the matter: "If I give away half my property what will become of the other half? Is it not better to keep it together and make a conscientious distribution of it among my poor children before I die?" We therefore must not be too severe on the rich who give little or nothing to the Irish famine. We should remember that there is none so recklessly generous as an individual who has nothing to give away. Talking of filthy lucre reminds me that the idea of making poverty a crime is not so great a hardship as the mere superficial may suppose. It is in the power of every man to make a fortune if he be industriously inclined and moderately honest. Look at all the self-made men of our time who realized fortunes by spending within their incomes, practicing the virtue of temperance, sticking to what they had, and getting more, always getting more. That was their grand central idea. When they saved a dollar they put it in the savings bank, or lent it out at compound interest, collected their debts, forgot their creditors in the hurry of business, and glided into insolvency at the proper time. It is not necessary to have brains to make a fortune; if it were half our millionaires would be poor as church mice, and not half so respectable.

I see by the papers that the Rev. J. Cumming MacDove has presented the Princess Louise with a dog called "Blucher." Now, I would like to know why it is that some benevolent individual does not present me with a dog, even a much truceful yellow pup. I am badly in want of such an animal to keep me company in the silent watches of the night. I like to hear its cheerful bark awake my sleeping comrades from their slumbers, and yet no one advances and says: "Here, Myles, is a dog for you," accompanied by an address to which I could make a suitable reply and be at the same time profoundly affected by the unexpected mark of esteem from the donors. The reason I don't get one is because human nature is perverse and gives to those only who do not want. I remember when moving around Montreal two years ago, with my back bone and my breast bone grating against each other for sympathy, that none offered me a dinner, while now, when I am enjoying the lucrative situation of laborer on the canal, invitations to dine are actually forced upon me. I have little doubt, when I climb still higher on the ladder of prosperity, people will be coming to me from all quarters with dogs for my acceptance. Such is life—tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.

As you may easily suppose I have become popular in Lachine since it has been known to an correspondent for the Post. Every one asks me for a puff. Even Ned Mahoney, who is a mere dregdeman, requested me to slip his name in somewhere, and when I inquired in the name of heaven how he answered, "Just say I can handle a shovel as well as any boy on the canal." Alas for poor human nature. I had the honor of being invited to dine last night at the house of a gentleman who has lately been left a fortune. He formerly worked on the blasting gang, but is now one of the best families in the country. I like to see a man of talent rising in the world, were he worth \$20,000 more I would term him a man of genius. But whether or no he sent for me in advance and said, "Now Myles, I have invited you to dinner with the local aristocracy, but I would like to give you a lesson on etiquette before the affair comes off, for they are unco particular. Nay, dimes and shillings, you need no be so proud (mine host is a Scotchman) I ken you are descended from the kings of Ireland, but nevertheless you may want a little instruction as regards dining out." He then told me that I should not speak across the table, that I should take soup off the side of the spoon instead of ramming it down my throat with the top, that I should not drink anything white eating, and many other singular things which read as strange as the adventures of Sinbad the sailor. When I arrived the daughter of the house was making frightful noises on the piano, which her hands nearly covered. I could certainly not see more than one key at a time. Everyone seemed struck with admiration at the music, as for me, I wept, for the noise reminded me of the thunderbolts that killed my poor grandfather in the year '98. After grinding away a considerable time and growing redder and redder in the face until she was like to burst, Miss Mayrone was then asked to sing, but she positively asserted she had a cold. After repeating she had a cold about thirty-three times, coughing as many more, and hemming at least a hundred, she hesitated no longer, but launched forth into a poem of sixty verses. It was a lovely song and divinely chanted. I never heard anything like it before. I cannot now recollect the air and only fragments of the words, but the melody was translated from the Italian. The fourteenth verse commenced:—

Oh, Johnny, dear, don't murder me, For, if you do, I'll die.

This sentiment caused great sensation, but when, in the twenty-third stanza, the hero of the tale, refusing to take his sweetheart, distinguished in male attire, out to India with him, says:—

For, on the plains of India, you could not stand At all. And your delicate constitution could not stop a cannon ball.

signal. I am ashamed to say that the first soup I attempted to take off the edge of the spoon missed its way and ran along my beautiful shirt front. The perspiration took a corresponding direction down my back, and I cursed etiquette from the bottom of my heart. In order to avoid like accidents in future I pinned the tablecloth to my vest (I have since learned we should have been provided with things called napkins) and soon finished the soup. A large fish—I think it was a whale—was next brought in, and after polishing off my share I found I had enough, as, indeed, had everybody else but the host, who thought it his duty to go through all the courses like a bona fide aristocrat. In the middle of the breathless silence that prevailed, I, hearing a terrible noise outside, and forgetting that my vest was pinned to the tablecloth, rose to see what was the matter, and, in doing so, drew the whole affair, including knives, spoons, glasses and decanters, after me. The confusion was immense, and I felt as if I could open and swallow the ground. I could not speak to apologize to save my life, but Mr. Montague O'Brien, a countryman of my own, who speaks with a fine English accent he picked up while reaping the harvest in Lincolnshire, took my part, by explaining that I was not accustomed to high society, and should, therefore, be excused. After this there was dancing and more singing, but my little *contercours* had put a damper on the festivities, and one of the grandest parties of the season broke up at two o'clock in the morning. Before I left Mr. Smith Jones requested me not to make a report of the affair as he did not believe in that kind of thing, but if I was tempted to do so I should not forget that his name was Smith Jones, and that his wife wore diamond ornaments.

Yours, very respectfully, MYLES O'REGAN, ESQUIRE.

THE APPARITIONS AT KNOCK

[From the Mayo Examiner of Jan. 17.]

On Tuesday last we paid a visit to the Catholic church at Knock, that we might gain all the information possible about the wonderful apparitions which, first beheld on the 21st of August last (within the octave of the Assumption), have since been repeated, though in somewhat less remarkable degree, up to the present week. The parish priest of Knock is the venerable Archdeacon Cavanagh, a clergyman remarkable for his great piety and the austerity of his life. The church itself is a commodious one, of cruciform shape, and its site being elevated it can be seen from a great distance on all sides. Knock is situated equidistant from Claremorris and Ballyhaunis, and about fourteen miles from Castlebar. We shall now proceed to detail the facts as we learned them from the people on the spot who had the great happiness of witnessing the beautiful apparition—respectable, intelligent, pious people, who have ever been known among their neighbors for their probity and truth. These people may be seen and spoken to by any persons visiting Knock, for they live conscientiously to the church. The apparition was seen for the first time on the evening of the 21st of August, the eve of the octave of the Assumption of our Blessed Lady. At about 7:30 p.m. (the sun having set at that evening at 7:18 p.m.) a white light was observed at the gable of the church—or rather the gable of the sacristy (for the sacristy occupies the upper shaft and is separated from the church by a main wall)—by one of the parishioners who had just been closing the chapel for the night. No notice was taken of the light then. In half an hour after, the attention of the same person was called to the occurrence by the voice of another parishioner, who called out that the Blessed Virgin and two saints were standing at the south gable of the chapel—the same place that the bright light had been first manifested. There were several persons, men, women and children, now gathered at the place, gazing rapturously on the heavenly sight which met their view. They beheld the Blessed Virgin with a beautiful crown of dazzling brightness on her head, and wearing a white cloak, her hands uplifted and eyes raised to heaven, as if in prayer. On her right hand and with his head inclined towards the Virgin Mother, stood St. Joseph, and so distinct was the apparition of the holy saint that even his whiskers of grey were observed by the wondering and awe-stricken people. There also appeared an altar surrounded by a most brilliant light, and on the altar a snow-white lamb, a cross reclining on the back of the lamb. To the right of the altar, and on the Blessed Virgin's left, appeared St. John the Evangelist, a book in his left hand, his right raised, as if reading or preaching from the book, and on his head a mitre which the people describe as being like that worn by the Archbishop. The altar and the figures were surrounded by a bright light, while over all there seemed like stars twinkling. The night was both dark and rainy, and notwithstanding that the people present got drenched with the rain that fell during the two hours the apparition was visible, the figures were not touched or affected by the rain or darkness, and the portion of the gable before which the apparition was remained perfectly dry as if there had not been a drop of rain. It may be said how did the people know the statues of St. Joseph and St. John. Catholics will easily understand as to St. Joseph, whose statue is almost to be seen in every Catholic Church; and as to St. John, one of those present on the occasion, when asked as to how they knew it was St. John, said they had seen a statue of that saint in Lecanvay church. On the 8th of October, three canons of the Chapter of Tuam, and seven other clergy of Claremorris deanery, held an investigation into the circumstances attending the apparition, and took the depositions of no less than fourteen persons who had witnessed it. These depositions were taken by Archdeacon Cavanagh, Very Rev. Canon Waldron, and Very Rev. Canon U. Bourke. The witnesses were examined and cross-examined most exactly, and the evidence was unshaken, all testifying to the same facts most accurately. More remarkable still, inasmuch as it was seen by four persons in the broad light of the day, was that beheld on Friday, the 2nd January. On that day, at twelve o'clock noon, on the spot opposite that portion of the gable where the apparition of the Blessed Virgin stood, arose a graceful column of exquisite workmanship, having at its base two beautifully carved figures; at a height of about eighteen inches, or two feet from the ground, there was a rich cap or moulding from which the column tapered to a considerable height, and all was surmounted by a statue. Beyond this and at regular distances were three smaller columns of equally beautiful workmanship, and then an altar, while the continuation of the gable, beyond the altar seemed as if variegated with light and shade. Again on the Epiphany, at 11 o'clock at night, was observed, at a great number of persons, a bright light at the same portion of the gable where the apparition had already been witnessed there appeared in the light like a statue of the Blessed Virgin, and

around the spot appeared stars and moving bodies as of angels hovering above. All that we have written we have heard on the spot, and anyone and everyone has the same opportunity of seeing the people and hearing for themselves. When we arrived there on Tuesday a number of people were at the church, and praying on the spot now rendered sacred by the apparitions. Already have the lame and the blind made pilgrimages to Knock, and evidence of their presence, and the effect of their visit, may be seen in at least one crutch, a number of sticks, staves, and vases, as offerings of the pious faithful. One young man who had been for nine years the victim of hip disease, who had lost the use of his leg from the hip down, and during that long time could only go along with the use of a crutch and a stick, came, and his crutch may now be seen there, he having no longer any use for it. This poor fellow has written to Father Cavanagh, telling him of his miraculous cure, and stating that he is the wonder of his own neighborhood since he returned and walked amongst his friends. A little girl, ten years of age, who had been blind from her birth, was brought to Knock by her father and mother, and recovered her sight before she left, the dust of the cement of the gable having been rubbed to her eyes. Several other miraculous cures have been effected by the application of the cement, which has been taken away in great quantities by pilgrims. To a height of nearly ten feet the cement has been scraped off the gable by pious visitors whose faith in its miraculous effects is most confident. Crowds of people from the surrounding country and the neighboring counties daily visit the spot, which has now become famous, and is certain to become more and more so every day. The evidence is before the authorities of the Church, who have not yet pronounced on the matter.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, February 10.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Mr. Shaw's amendment to the address was rejected by a vote of 216 against 66. The address was then agreed to. A number of leading Liberals, including the Marquis of Hartington, voted with the Government.

LONDON, February 10.—In the House of Lords to-night, Lord Granville, leader of the Opposition in the Lords, arose to put to Her Majesty's Government what he said, was a very grave and serious question, to which he hoped to receive a full and candid reply. The question was based upon rumors now in circulation to the effect that Her Majesty's Government had abandoned that portion of the Anglo-Persian treaty which bound Persia to take no steps toward the conquest of Herat, and thus had virtually incited Russia to avail herself of the recent disturbed condition of affairs in Afghanistan, and to possess herself of this key to the country. His Lordship asked the noble Earl at the head of the Government to state whether these reports were true. Earl Beaconsfield, in replying, manifested real or affected hesitancy; he declared emphatically, however, that there was no foundation for the rumors as Lord Granville had stated them. Persia had made a communication referring to the rectification of her northeastern frontier, and only this letter had passed between the Persian Premier and the English Government, but nothing had been concluded, and the matter was still in process of negotiation. In concluding his remarks, Earl Beaconsfield asked Lord Granville not to press for further and more explicit statement at the present moment, as it could not be given without injury to the interests of the Empire. The matter then dropped. It is believed in well informed quarters that Earl Beaconsfield has carried on negotiations with the Shah, which will, when developed, give another brilliant surprise to the country.

LONDON, February 10.—Lord Hartington, Liberal leader in the Commons, last night said, though he did not think a large measure of emigration from Ireland necessary, there ought to be a distribution of population. He protested against the presumption that the present distress was due to the Land Act, and defended himself against the imputations in connection with the Home Rule and Liverpool election. Though he would not have supported Parnell's candidature for the Commons, he had declared himself a Home Ruler, he regarded his pledge to vote for a Committee of Enquiry as a difference of opinion as to the manner in which certain demands should be met.

Mr. O'Donnell, Home Ruler, said the colleagues and friends of Parnell are thoroughly resolved to have an opportunity of convicting the Government of their misrepresentations concerning them. LONDON, February 11.—Upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer promising to bring the question of the expenditure in Afghanistan before the House, Mr. Fawcett withdrew his amendment on the subject to the report on the address in reply to the Queen's speech.

Mr. O'Donnell (Home Ruler) moved his amendment, calling attention to the systematic neglect of Irish affairs, and also to the factitious misrepresentation of the acts of the Irish members of Parliament by the Government and their agents, the concluding words of which stigmatize the abuses practised by the Government as worse than treason. Mr. O'Donnell having prolonged his speech, the debate stood adjourned till to-morrow. Mr. O'Donnell became very excited, and wept when describing Parnell's services to his country. He denied that Parnell and his followers had intended to promote agitation. "Their object was to call notice to the miseries of the starving people, to which the Government was then apparently utterly indifferent. There was, he said, a natural law which overrode legal rights. They only protested against the exaction of rents by threats of ejection, when the people must perish if they paid them. He believed the advice not to obey the law which strangled them had saved the lives of hundreds of thousands.

LONDON, February 12.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer denied the truth of a despatch stating that a treaty had been signed by which Persia would be permitted to occupy Herat in return for her engagement to assist England in Afghanistan. He said he could add nothing to his recent reply on the subject, which was that communications on the subject relating Persia from her treaty obligations not to take possession of Herat had been under consideration, but an understanding with Persia had not yet been reached, and it was, therefore, inconvenient to make any statement.

Mr. Bourke, Under-Secretary of the Foreign Department, replying to a question as to the claims of the United States for damages alleged to have been done by Newfoundland fishermen in Fortune Bay to the Massachusetts fishing fleet, said no measure had been taken relative to the pecuniary claim, which was still under the Government's consideration. No measure had been taken for abolishing or amending clause 33 of the Treaty of Washington relative to the Canadian and Newfoundland fisheries, and it was not thought necessary to make any communication for ascertaining the purport of the proviso of the Convention of 1818.

Mr. Henry gave notice he would introduce a resolution declaring the famiae due to the undeveloped condition of the resources of Ireland, which should be developed from Imperial resources. He also gave notice, if his resolution is adopted, that he will move that an Industrial Commission be appointed and entrusted with twenty millions sterling as half gift and half loan for public works.

Mr. Bourke, in the course of his reply to Mr. Gourley's inquiry in regard to the Fisheries Question and Treaty of Washington, declared that there was no idea of abrogating or amending clause 33 of that treaty. Mr. O'Donnell this evening resumed his speech on his amendment to the address, whereupon the House suddenly became empty, especially the Government benches. O'Donnell inveighed against the brutal conduct of the police during the process-serving. He reprobated for himself and for the rest of the Home Rulers the idea that they wished to abolish rent. He condemned the arbitrary arrests made in Ireland. Mr. Biggar (Home Ruler) seconded and Mr. Finnigan (Liberal) supported Mr. O'Donnell's amendment. The amendment was rejected by 118 to 12 and the report of the Address agreed to.

In a speech on a motion for the second reading of the Irish Distress Bill, Mr. Synan (Home Ruler) moved an amendment objecting to use the Church Surplus Fund for Irish relief. He urged that the advances should come from Imperial sources. Mr. O'Shaughnessy (Home Ruler) seconded the amendment. Sir George Colthurst (Home Ruler) urged the Government to institute works other than sanitary.

Sir S. Northcote concurred in the opinion that the nature of the works should not be restricted. The Government had already appointed three inspectors, and had authorized the appointment of three more to superintend works authorized under the bill. He pointed out that the Irish Church Fund had benefited the Irish people, and the distress only affected the Irish people. It was not proposed to appropriate any portion of the fund, but merely to make advances therefrom. No fund could be better used for the relief of distress than the church surplus fund. It would, of course, be necessary hereafter to consider what should be done to meet a recurrence of such an emergency.

After some remarks from several Irish members, Mr. Lowther, Chief Secretary for Ireland, denied that the Government had any idea of protecting the Consolidated Fund at the expense of the Church surplus. Mr. Shaw (Home Ruler) hoped the amendment would not be pressed, as Irish members feared, if assistance was given to the landlords, it might lead to the increase of their rents. He hoped some words would be introduced into the Bill to prevent such a result. He urged the Government to offer a grant similar to that made in 1847.

Mr. Synan withdrew his amendment, stating he should introduce the substance thereof in committee. The motion for the second reading of the Bill was adopted.

For some time past reports have been in circulation in Ireland to the effect that in consequence of sympathy expressed by certain members of the Honorable Privy Council with the Home Rule movement, it was Government's intention to remove them from the Council. Among the more prominent names mentioned in this connection have been those of Lord Howard of Glasgow, Lord Emily and Lord Robert Montague, the latter of whom sits for Westmeath. Similar rumors were circulated with reference to several members of the commission of the peace, and for the same cause. In consequence of these reports, and with a view to ascertaining the facts, Mr. A. M. Sullivan, Home Rule member for Louth, in pursuance of a notice given on Friday, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether there was any foundation for them. In reply, Sir Stafford Northcote said that he was not aware that there was any intention on the part of the Government to remove any one from the Privy Council or from the Peace Commission.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, February 10.—An enormous league meeting was held in St. James' Hall, in this city, this evening, which was presided over by the Mayor of Northampton. The object of the meeting was to advocate reform in the English land laws. A resolution of sympathy and in support of the Irish land agitation was unanimously adopted. Mr. M. Davitt, who was present, was most enthusiastically received, and made a lengthy speech, in which he reiterated his remarks at Sligo, denouncing the House of Commons as an assembly of land sharks. Messrs. Bradlugh, Besant, O'Sullivan, member of Parliament, Biggar and others also spoke, and warmly advocated a union of English and Irish democracy. Repeated cheers were given for Mr. Parnell.

DUBLIN, February 10.—A despatch from Galway states that for some time past suspicions had been entertained by the local authorities that farmers in the southern portion of that county were preparing to arm themselves, and to make common cause against any process-servers who might come into the neighborhood for the purpose of ejecting any of the tenantry from their holdings. Having traced certain rumors to a reliable source, the constabulary seized a quantity of concealed arms and ammunition in a farmer's house in the hamlet of Esker, in the Parish of Loughrea, Galway County. Arrests are said to be imminent, under the provisions of the Peace Preservation Act, which makes it illegal for any one to bear arms on his person, or to have them in his residence, without first obtaining a special license from the County Bench Magistrates.

Davitt and Killen, the Irish agitators, will visit France and Belgium to collect information in regard to the land systems of those countries. In a month the deputation from the Irish Land League, including Davitt, will visit the chief places of France, Germany, Belgium, Italy and Spain, where committees are being organized to receive them, to enlist support for the land movement, and relief for the distress of Ireland. A deputation from the League have held a conference with the leading Irish and English members of the popular organizations, when negotiations were entered into for a series of popular demonstrations throughout Great Britain on the Land Question.

Nolan's Seed Potato Bill passed the House of Commons to-day. The Standard announces that a deputation, consisting of Mr. Shaw and other members of Parliament representing constituencies in the south of Ireland, will wait to-morrow on Mr. Ibbotson, Joint Secretary of the Treasury, to solicit a grant for the prosecution of public works in connection with the improvement of some harbors on the south coast.

The Home Rule members meet to-morrow to consider the Distress Bill, and the advisability of prolonging the debate. The Post gave the announcement of the donation from Baroness Burdett-Coutts was exaggerated. Only £5,000 were given, with

the promise of other beneficial acts if relief were necessary. The Post asserts that the Home Rulers do not intend to challenge the second reading of the Irish Relief Bill, but will reserve their criticism for Committee.

LONDON, February 10.—The Times says:—"We shall learn with pleasure that the permission to Persia to occupy Herat does not involve guarantee of secure possession. If England is to be liable for what may happen in the direction of Herat, there seems to be almost an endless vista of responsibility opening out more and more widely at each remove. The demonstration by Russia, which would have had little or no meaning before, might be a ground of very grave suspicion in view of the possible effect on the state of affairs at Herat." In the concluding portion of the Times article it refers to the Tekke-Turcoman expedition.

LONDON, February 13.—The Daily News despatch from Dublin states that the proposed land meeting in Phoenix Park, Dublin, on Sunday next, is likely to be postponed for some weeks, owing to the arrangements being incomplete. DUBLIN, February 13.—A large meeting of unemployed workmen was held at Harold's Cross Green, in this city, to-day. The deepest interest in their position was manifested by all present. Addresses were made by prominent citizens, setting forth the causes and facts of the situation, and resolutions were adopted urging the Government not to delay taking action upon the case, stating that workmen do not ask charity, but work. The meeting was perfectly orderly throughout, and, on separating, several of the men expressed to representatives of the press the hope that public works promised by the Ministry would at once be begun, thus enabling thousands of able-bodied men to gain their bread without the humiliation and disgrace of beggary.

LONDON, February 13.—It is reported in Parliamentary circles that Sir Henry W. Peck, member of the House for Mid-Surrey, will propose a resolution providing that all those members of the House who voted with willful obstructions during the last session shall, by a three-fourths vote of the House in each case, be debarred from speaking on any subject during the present session, but shall not be deprived of the privilege of voting. The Home Rule members and their sympathizers denounce Sir Henry Peck's proposed rule as a gross attempt to manufacture an *ex parte* law, and claim that, although they have no form of its being adopted by the House, it shows the apprehensions felt by the Ministry and Conservatives concerning the result of a debate on any and all measures affecting the Government's foreign policy and the Irish question.

LONDON, February 14.—It is reported that the Government has decided to abandon the policy of retreat in Afghanistan, and to attempt the experiment of fully reinforcing the army, and holding Cabul for another year, in expectation that within that period Russia will be likely to show her hand. In the meantime, the army, under careful manipulation by the home and India Governments, is to assume the task of restoring peace to the country, and preparing for further movements on the part of Russia. It is understood that the Ministerial decision against abandoning the country this spring is founded on the conviction that such a course would involve the loss of what has been gained at so great expense, and leave the door open to an expedition from Russia.

LONDON, February 16.—A Calcutta despatch states that the Pioneer says the Russian papers recently found at Cabul include a complete scheme for the invasion of Northern India. Fifty important chiefs have surrendered in the Highman valley. It is reported that Ayoub Khan, with 60,000 men, has left Herat to join Mahomed Jan at Ghuznee. The Heratians are erecting an entrenched camp on the Teheran road. The British Candahar army will advance on Ghuznee early in March. General Roberts is negotiating with Mahomed Jan. General Roberts has been reinforced, and will co-operate in the attack on Ghuznee.

CALCUTTA, February 17.—The Pioneer states that the Russian papers recently found at Cabul included a complete scheme for the invasion of India. Fifty leading chiefs in the Luchman valley have surrendered to the British. It is reported Khoo Khan, with 6,000 men, left Herat to join Mahomed Jan at Ghuznee. The Heratians are erecting an entrenched camp on the Teheran road. Gen. Roberts has been reinforced, and will co-operate in an attack on Ghuznee. It is reported the Russian Ambassador at Teheran is prepared to leave the Persian Court at a moment's notice. Twelve thousand Persians are concentrating at Khorassan.

MAYOR RIVARD'S REFUSAL.

The promise given by His Worship Mayor Rivard, some weeks ago, in regard to the Parnell reception, and which has occasioned so much comment in the local press, as well as great discussion in public circles, reached a climax this morning by the issue of the Mayor's refusal as well as written refusal to receive Mr. Parnell, in his official capacity. The deputation appointed by the meeting of the Irish citizens to wait upon the Mayor in regard to the Parnell reception received from the meeting the following instructions:—

"The delegation will call upon the Mayor on Saturday, 14th February, 1880, and request His Worship to give an answer in writing as to whether he, in his official capacity, would receive Mr. Parnell or not. The reading of the address not to form a part of the reception."

"Signed on behalf of the Society, H. J. CLONAN, Secretary."

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL. At the second interview that I had with your deputation, I endeavored, for the sake of peace, conciliation and good harmony, to persuade the gentlemen composing that deputation to forego the presentation of the address to Mr. Parnell by the civic authorities, as desired by the Irish societies; and if I did, it was because I felt that public opinion was strongly against giving that gentleman a public and official reception on the occasion of his intended visit to this city.

When at a subsequent interview I was informed that the wish of the societies had decided to relieve the Mayor of the responsibility of presenting the address on the occasion in question, I must say I was much pleased, and when the fact was made known to them the Council, as well as the public at large, seemed also to be satisfied. I was prepared, when the proper time came, to meet the Irish societies at the station, as previously intimated, and there officially to welcome your distinguished countryman to this city.

It is to be regretted, however, that you should have thought fit to reopen the question by still insisting in the newspapers, and at an interview this morning, upon an official reception, I am sorry to have to inform you that after having taken all the circumstances of the case into consideration, I do not feel justified in acceding to your wishes.

(Signed) S. RIVARD, Mayor.