

you would be prudent, and yet you went straight from me to poor Ashton's house, the last place you should have gone to, and you attached to the court."

Fearing the effect it might have on her uncle, Florence did not tell him of the visit she had paid to Ashton himself. Moreover in case of harm happening to her, she judged it best that he should be able, if questioned, to declare, with a safe conscience, that he did not know what her movements had been during her absence from his house.

At length she rewarded his care and solicitude by brightening up a little, ate her dinner with composure, took wine with him, and sang him one or two favorite songs, and when she took leave of him late in the evening he was gratified at seeing her as cheerful apparently, as when she came to visit him in the morning.

CHAPTER XX.—THE QUEEN'S ESCAPE.

Though possessing some strength of mind and courage in no small degree at the same time I do not want it to be inferred that the heiress of the O'Neills was what the world terms a strong-minded woman. For instance, she could not resist the wish of seeing poor Ashton once more, though at the same time she incurred the chance of putting her own head in the halter by so doing. She was naturally timid, and, like many of her sex nowadays, with not much of the cardinal virtue of prudence; and when she had committed an imprudent action, a corresponding fear followed, as a matter of course. Disguised as Mrs. Ashton, she had obtained access to the dreary prison, had bade him a last farewell, had passed the warden of the goal without, apparently, attracting observation; had returned to Mrs. Ashton in the chair which had carried her to the prison, and in the privacy of her hapless hostess' house had changed her dress, and then returned to her uncle, and from his mansion to the palace, without let or hindrance from any person whatsoever.

Yet a strange, indefinable fear that her footsteps had been dogged, and her visit to the prison consequently detected, filled her mind. There was a constraint about the queen, too, on the following day, such as she had not previously observed. Perhaps the idea was born out of her own fear, but her impression was that she was exerting herself to refrain from some severe exercise of power or manifestation of anger.

Nevertheless the queen, whom indisposition confined to her room, dismissed all her ladies but Florence, and on this evening was more particular than ever in her enquiries about the court at St. Germans, asking questions which Florence found it very difficult to answer truthfully, and fail to discover matters which it was not well should be known at the English court.

After she had retired to her chamber for the night, she revolved in her mind for a long time the horrors attendant on poor Ashton's execution, on the next morning, and the grief of his wife, and at the same time an intense feeling of disgust and aversion stronger, if possible, than she had yet felt took possession of her soul for William and Mary.

Casting herself on her knees, she prayed long and earnestly that the merciful God would support Ashton in his last moments, and open some avenue by which she might be restored to her friends, also for him still so dear to her, to whom she was betrothed, for the court at St. Germans, and that God would touch the heart of queen Mary. Then feeling more calm and collected, she prepared herself for rest. But the excitement of the previous week, and the harrowing scene at the prison still so vividly in her recollection, did not by any means pave the way for a quiet, peaceful night.

Ashton was still present in her sleeping hours, the scene of his trial enacted over again; Ashton as she had last seen him, subdued and sorrowful, and full of a holy resignation. Anon the scene changed, but it was still Ashton. This time he is going to pay the last penalty of the law. The terrible gibbet is before her eyes, the gallows is erected, she hears the noise of the hammers as the workmen adjust the dreadful apparatus, and she started up in her bed, the horror of dream awaking her. Her face was bathed in a cold perspiration, and she glanced half in fear around her spacious chamber, almost trembling lest she should be confronted by some spectral vision of Ashton's pale thin face, which had haunted her ever since she had seen him in prison.

But, no; the silvery moon-beams light up the room, and though there is nothing extraordinary to be seen, still another sense, that of hearing, is now painfully on the alert, for she hears a noise from which was doubtless born that which had haunted her troubled slumbers.

(To be Continued.)

THE PENAL LAWS.

Mr. Lecky's object in issuing an enlarged edition of his work is, apparently, for he does not say so formally—to recommend in principle Home Rule for Ireland. He pours traits and discusses the characters of Dean Swift, Henry Flood, Henry Grattan, and Daniel O'Connell, especially in their influence on public opinion. While avowed to every idea of separating Ireland from the British Empire, Mr. Lecky is decidedly an advocate of a large share of local government being placed in the hands of the Irish themselves. But, an author who raises the question as to whatever O'Connell's life "was a blessing or a curse" to Ireland, can be hardly said to be in accord with the sentiments either of the great Liberator's countrymen, or English Catholics who recognise what they also owe to the zeal and devotion of Daniel O'Connell. Nevertheless as such a writer, if not impartial, can hardly be designated "too Irish" or apologist for English misrule, he deserves a hearing. Telling once more the old story of the evil days, when the legitimate sovereign of England, abandoned by nearly all but his Irish subjects, was defeated by the usurper at the Boyne; and summarising the action of these penal laws which would have been impossible but for that defeat, Mr. Lecky says—"The last great Protestant ruler of England was William III., who is identified in Ireland with the humiliation of the Boyne, and the destruction of Irish trade, and with the broken treaty of Limerick. The ceaseless exertions of the extreme Protestant party have made him

"The Leaders of Public Opinion in Ireland." By W. E. A. Lecky, M.A. London: Longmans, Green and Co.

more odious in the eyes of the people than he deserves to be; for he was personally far more tolerant than the great majority of his contemporaries, and the penal code was chiefly enacted under his successors. It required, indeed, four or five reigns to elaborate a system so ingeniously contrived to demoralise, to degrade, and to impoverish the people of Ireland. By this code the Roman Catholics were absolutely excluded from the Parliament, from the magistracy, from the corporations, from the bench, and from the bar. They could not vote at Parliamentary elections nor at vestries. They could not act as constables, or sheriffs, or jurymen, or serve in the army or navy, or become solicitors, or even hold the positions of gamekeeper or watchman. Schools were established to bring up their children as Protestants; and if they refused to avail themselves of these, they were deliberately consigned to hopeless ignorance, being excluded from the University, and debared, under crushing penalties, from acting as schoolmasters, as ushers, or as private tutors, or from sending their children abroad to obtain the instruction they were refused at home. They could not marry Protestants; and if such a marriage were celebrated it was annulled by law, and the priest who officiated might be hung. They could not buy land, nor inherit or receive it as a gift from Protestants, or hold life annuities, or lease for more than thirty-one years, or any lease on such terms that the profits of the land exceeded one-third of the rent. If any Catholic leaseholder by his industry so increased his profits that they exceeded this proportion, and did not immediately make a corresponding increase in his payments, any Protestant who gave the information could enter into possession of his farm. If any Catholic had secretly purchased either his old forfeited estate, or any other land, any Protestant who informed against him might become the proprietor. The few Catholic landholders who remained were deprived of the right which all other classes possessed of bequeathing their lands as they pleased. If their sons continued Catholics, it was divided equally between them. If, however, the eldest son consented to apostatise, the estate was settled upon him. The father from that hour became only a life tenant, and lost all power of selling, mortgaging, or otherwise disposing of it. If the wife of a Catholic abandoned the religion of her husband, she was immediately free from his control, and the Chancellor was empowered to assign to her a certain proportion of her husband's property. If any child, however young, professed itself a Protestant, it was at once taken from the father's care, and the Chancellor could oblige the father to declare upon oath the value of his property, both real and personal, and could assign for the present maintenance and future portion of the converted child such proportion of that property as the court might decree. No Catholic could be guardian either to his own children or to those of another person; and therefore a Catholic who died while his children were minors had the bitterness of reflecting upon his death-bed that they must pass into the hands of Protestants. An annuity of from twenty to forty pounds was provided as a bribe for every priest who would become a Protestant. To convert a Protestant to Catholicity was a capital offence. In every walk of life the Catholic was pursued by persecution or restriction. Except in the linen trade, he could not have more than two apprentices. He could not possess a horse of the value of more than five pounds, and any Protestant, on giving him five pounds, could take his horse. He was compelled to pay double to the militia. He was forbidden, except under particular conditions, to live in Galway or Limerick. In case of war with a Catholic power, the Catholics were obliged to reimburse the damage done by the enemy's privateers. The legislature, it is true, did not venture absolutely to suppress their worship, but it existed only by a doubtful connivance—stigmatised, as if it were a species of licensed prostitution, and subject to conditions which, if they had been enforced, would have rendered its continuance impossible. An old law which prohibited it, and others which enjoined attendance at the Anglican worship, remained unrevoked, and might at any time be revived; and the former was, in fact, enforced during the Scotch rebellion of 1715. The parish priests, who alone were allowed to officiate, were compelled to be registered, and were forbidden to keep curates, or to officiate anywhere except in their own parishes. The chapel might not have bells or steeples. No crosses might be publicly erected. Pilgrimages to the holy wells were forbidden. Not only all monks and friars, but also all Catholic archbishops, bishops, deacons, and other dignitaries, were ordered by a certain day to leave the country; and if after that date they were found in Ireland, they were liable to be first imprisoned and then banished; and if after that banishment they returned to discharge their duty in their dioceses, they were liable to the punishment of death. To facilitate the discovery of offences against the code, two justices of the peace might at any time compel any Catholic of eighteen years of age to declare when and where he last heard Mass, what persons were present, and who officiated; and if he refused to give evidence they might imprison him for twelve months, or until he paid a fine of £20. Anyone who harboured ecclesiastics from beyond the seas was subject to fines which for the third offence amounted to the confiscation of all his goods. A graduated scale of rewards was offered for the discovery of Catholic bishops, priests, and schoolmasters; and a resolution of the House of Commons pronounced "the prosecuting and informing against Papists an honourable service to the Government."

What does this man leave behind him to justify the seventy years of his life? In his early youth, gifted by God with a quick mind, a high aspiration, and a remarkable personal beauty, he inhaled the poisonous vapor of carbonari; and when the French revolution of 1830 burst upon Europe, he dropped the pen with which he had been flashing sedition over Italy, and assumed the dagger of the conspirator. Mazzini believed, or pretended to believe, that all existing governments were devices of Satan; and that in their place should be erected what was in truth a bloody banditry. He first declared that "Young Italy" was not a political association at all; that it was religious. "Political parties," said he, "die; but religious parties, never." The religion of his party consisted in three general principles.—Hatred of the Catholic Church; secret assassination of all Kings and other minor enemies of the League; God worked out through humanity. We abandon the attempt to explain the meaning of the last or to reconcile it with the preceding, but Mazzini's religion is not the only inexplicable feature of Italian politics, present and past.

The association began working out God through humanity by stabbing two members, and the wife of one, for the suspicion of being "friendly to the Papal See;" and when the death sentence of the man was discovered by the French government signed by Mazzini, that worker out of God through humanity, was invited to quit France. He went first to Switzerland; then to London, the asylum in which all men may plot against every government except the government of England. Here he became the lion of the radicals, and Carlyle found him "a man of heavenly character, humanity, and integrity; a martyr, doing a martyr's beatitude in a

pastor of the Archbishop of Dublin.—The Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin has addressed a Pastoral to the clergy and laity of the diocese of Dublin in view of the approaching anniversary of the death of St. Patrick. He enumerates the advantages which, he says, St. Patrick conferred on the people of Ireland, and extols the virtues of the patron saint. He quotes what purports to be a passage from the writings of St. Patrick, in which the latter, lamenting the exile of himself and others, adds that it was deserved, inasmuch as they had been "disobedient to their priests." St. Patrick, he adds, "did not seek to win over our fathers to the sacred truths of the Gospel by brilliancy of reasoning, by the attractions of worldly wealth, or by other vain allurements to which sectaries of our days so often have recourse." Having compared the times of Leo, with those of the present Pope, he described the latter as standing alone in the endeavour to stem "the torrent of infidelity and Communism which threatens to submerge once more the world."

His Eminence then alluded to the question of Education, he admonished the clergy and the laity that they can never be sufficiently earnest on this point:—"All parents will have to render a dreadful account of the souls of their children if they allow them to be poisoned by error or corrupted by immorality; all the pastors of the Church have also a sacred duty to discharge, and they are under a strict obligation of protecting the lambs of the fold against the assaults of rapacious wolves, and of leading them to wholesome pastures. In our days State education, compulsory education, non-sectarian and mixed education, and other educational plans, are freely proffered to youth, and are extolled as being calculated to raise mankind, and to serve as a panacea for all the evils of the world. Do not listen to the promoters of such dangerous systems, or to the false philosophers who wish to make experiments of newfangled and perverse theories on the souls of children who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Let it be your determination to provide a Catholic education for Catholic children, and to resist every system of instruction which ignores God, banishes Him from the school, neglects His revelations, promotes intellectual pride, and excludes all those safeguards and restraints which are necessary for the regulation and control of the appetites and passions of youth."

DEATHS, March 8.—The evidence which has been recently given from different sources as to the remarkable prosperity of the country was corroborated yesterday at the half-yearly meeting of the Midland Great Western Railway, which, except the Great Southern, is the most important of the Irish lines, and offers an unerring test of social improvement. It was stated that the receipts had increased in the six months £14,194, and the Board were enabled to recommend a dividend of 4½ per cent., while reserving a considerable sum. In 1866 they were able to pay only 2½ per cent., in 1867 they increased the dividend to 2½ per cent., in 1868 to 3 per cent., in 1869 to 3½ per cent., in 1870 to 4 per cent., and in 1871 to 4½ per cent. Mr. Cusack, the chairman, expressed a confident belief that they would soon be able to pay 5 per cent., or even more. When it is remembered that this line runs through districts of the country which in former years suffered most severely from poverty and neglect, and presented a very cheerless prospect, the change of circumstances will appear the more encouraging.—Times Cor.

One of the Ritual newspapers says it grieves to say that it has heard what it considers bad news of the Irish Church; and it states this to be that the Revision Committee have cut out of the Ordinal the solemn words, "Receive the Holy Ghost for the office and work of a priest," &c. The bishops were unanimously opposed to this proposal, but it was carried by 24 to 21.

The magnificent estate of Saunderscourt has been purchased by Mr. Revington, of Limerick, from Major Gyles, for a large sum. This seat is in the County of Wexford, near the historical landing place of Henry II., close by Fitzstephen's tower, and within two hours sail of England. It is thought that it will be purchased for a "Royal Residence."

An admirable illustration of the value of tenant-right, has just occurred near the village of Restrevor, in the county Down. A Widow McGovern was tenant of a small farm of eight acres, held at will, at 27s. 6d. per acre, under Mr. McCartan. She was in a declining state of health, and made a will directing her executors, after her death, to sell her interest in her holding by auction or otherwise, for the benefit of her children. After her interment the landlord intimated his wish to take the land into his own hands, and offered to leave the value of the tenant-right to arbitration. This the executors at once agreed to, and two farmers, one chosen by the landlord, and one by the executors, with the assistance of an umpire, awarded, on the 2d inst., the sum of £21 per acre.

The late tenants of the Marquis of Waterford, misinterpreting a clause of the Irish Landlord and Tenant Act, applied to the Board of Works for money to complete their bargains, which they had made on the faith of that Act, and were refused the loan, because the application was made after the arrangement of terms. The case has been brought under the notice of the House of Commons by Sir H. Bruce, replying to whom Mr. Gladstone said that no doubt, in consequence of the forms that were issued by the Board of Works in Ireland, some tenants were misled into the belief that they could obtain advances even if they made no application until after they had made their offers, and had concluded their transactions. The government had had occasion to consider the matter, and they were decidedly of opinion that it would not be expedient, nor would it be according to the intention with which the Act was proposed and; he believed, adopted, that they should recognise as a rule for the future, the right of the tenants to apply for loans after the completion of their purchases, not on the ground of a desire to narrow or cripple their operations, but because it would be for the advantage of

the tenants that their applications should be made for loans prior to the purchase. With respect to those who had acted on the faith of the notice of the Metropolitan Board of Works, it was proposed to bring in a bill to meet their case, because the Government thought they ought to be borne harmless from any inconvenience arising from what they thought a reasonable construction of the notice. So the seeming grievance in the present instance will be met by a special Bill, but in all future cases acquisitive tenants must proceed *Pro forma*.—Catholic Opinion.

ASCENDANCY IN LOUTH.—The formation of the grand jury at the recent assizes displayed more of the Protestant Ascendancy visible in this county. The grand panel was read over, and we saw plainly how it was constituted. Nearly all the Catholics were "left out in the cold," and Protestants, inferior in station and intelligence, had their names placed on the list of those summoned. We do not like to mention names, but we can state that the whole affair has given much dissatisfaction. We have seen it stated somewhere—we think in some of the evidence given at a trial in Dublin—that there was not, properly speaking, any legal qualification for a grand juror. But his position and intelligence were looked upon as qualifying him for the reception of the honour. If this be the case, we are bound to state that several Catholics in the county Louth have not been well treated, as although they possess wealth and superior intelligence, they have never received a summons to attend and act as grand jurors. In fact the system of to-day is about the same as was visible a quarter of a century ago.—Dundalk Democrat.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

HOME RULE.—Although we doubt the expediency of bringing the matter forward at present before the House of Commons, we are glad that action is about being taken to ascertain the feeling of the Irish members on the subject of Home Rule. A meeting of some was held on Friday night, and it was resolved to convene by requisition a meeting of all members from Ireland favourable to self-government at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on April 9, to consider the expediency of bringing the question before Parliament. The circular convening this meeting issued by Sir R. Blennerhasset, Mr. Blennerhasset, Mr. McCarthy Downing, Mr. Henry Mitchell, Mr. Maguire, Mr. Nolan and Mr. Smyth. We will now know those of our representatives who are in favor of, and those opposed to the question and regard this as the most important demonstration of the year.—Galway Press.

The Home Government Association, by way of set-off against the Kerry Election Petition, have passed the following resolution:—"That this association, having been made aware of several instances in which landlords, agents, bailiffs, and other persons in Kerry have, in flagrant violation of the law, during, before, and since the late election, exercised and practised threats, coercion, and terrorism upon electors of that county, in order to intimidate them into voting against the National candidate, or to punish them for having voted for him, resolved that, in order to vindicate freedom of election, and to protect the people in the free exercise of the franchise, the necessary steps be forthwith taken to prosecute, at our expense, all such parties with the utmost rigour of the law. Resolved, further, that in order to carry out the foregoing resolution, a special fund be raised, to which we invite the contribution of all persons favourable to freedom of election, and protection of humble voters against tyranny and coercion." The resolution was proposed by Mr. A. M. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. L. Waldron. The association has resolved to open a subscription to defray the cost of defending the seat. The *Nation* professes to be greatly gratified at the fact that a petition has been presented, because it will elicit revelations as to the influences used against Mr. Blennerhasset.

The *Fleming of Ireland* suggests that as the artisans are encouraged by philanthropists to emigrate to a better market when work gets short at home, the same rule should be applied to the Judges and lawyers, and they should be sent to England, where they would find plenty to do. It says:—"Thither let them go, on a mission to civilize and punish—and let them take with them again of their attendants who idle in Ireland; and let them take with them the Coercion Acts and the Algerine laws which are but insults to the virtuous people of Ireland, while in England they might serve as proper engines of repression and correction. For, since they were forged, fashioned, and contrived by England, they must be well adapted to the climate, manners, and customs of England; they suit us not.—Away with them to their native land! Enforce the Curfew law there, as in old times—that law which now rules our midland counties as with a red iron. It may stay robbery, stop plundering, and hold fast the uplifted hand of the murderous paricide.—Go forth also, a share of the Judges of Ireland who have no cause to judge here, and judge that nation which has fallen into iniquity, and whose cities reek with crimes as hideous as those which brought down a rain of fire on the Cities of the Plain."

A father and son were sentenced at Limerick Assizes to 20 years' penal servitude for beating a man to death.

An application was made to-day to Mr. Justice Keogh by Mr. McDonough, Q.C., on behalf of Captain Nolan, M.P., for particulars of the occasions and persons when and by whom the spiritual influence, intimidation, and other corrupt practices alleged in the petition were committed. Counsel relied on the affidavit denying the charges. Strong affidavits in reply were made by Sir Thomas Burke, Lord Westmeath, and others, to the effect that if the information were now given witnesses would be spirited away or tampered with, and that spiritual influence and intimidation were still practised. The Court refused to expose the witnesses to the consequences stated in the affidavits against the motion, and refused it except as to the charge of treating, but said care would be taken that the petition should not be taken by surprise when the petition came on for hearing.—Times Dublin Cor 13th.

England, Ireland, and Scotland are so united together geographically, commercially, and by all manner of ties arising out of amalgamation of race and of interests that it is plainly vital to the three to be united in one Empire. A separation would be ruin to all three. But they are still distinct nationalities, and each has its own individuality, and only its own representatives in Parliament have any right to direct the action of the Executive in its regard. At a time when the national Parliament was not as yet so much the sovereign power as the Sovereign's council, Scotland and Ireland, no less than England, had each its independent Parliament. Scotland was induced, sore against her will, to swamp her own representation in that of the larger nation, and so lose her autonomy, but she has always managed to get, by a side wind, all she needed for practical purposes, having obtained a tacit understanding that English representatives should not interfere in Scotch questions. Ireland at a later period lost her Parliament through the shameless bribery of English, and more shameless venality of Irish statesmen, and ever since she has lost her autonomy, without any tacit understanding of non-interference with national concerns which Scotland found it her wisest course to accept. The result has been complete centralization of rule for Ireland. She has been ruled by England as completely as if she had no place in a constitution based on government by national representation. She has been ruled from England, and has been helpless under the dominion of overwhelming English and Scotch majorities whenever her interests did not happen to coincide with those of the other two kingdoms.—

STATISTICS.—Of the one thousand and one young ladies who fainted last year, 998 fell into the arms of gentlemen, two fell on the floor, and one into a water-butt.

Carry a pot of paint in each hand, and you will command respect and plenty of room in a crowd.

The only course for her representative men has been to quote the words of Mr. Mac Carthy, "to chaffer with successive ministries, buying concessions at one time for votes given at another." One result of all this is that Ireland is, and who saw wonder at it, disaffected to the heart's core, not so much with Imperial rule in itself, as with Imperial rule interfering in purely national questions. Another result is that the Imperial Parliament is overwhelmed with so much more business than it can get through that complaints long and loud arising up from all parts of the three kingdoms, and public and private bills have come to a dead lock, like to nothing except the commissariat department at Sebastopol of happy memory. The remedy proposed for this state of things is that "Home Rule," which Ireland demands as her right, and we ask can anything be more loyal or more reasonable?—Catholic Opinion.

By our assize intelligence it will be seen that the city of Kilkenny enjoys, on the present occasion, the proud distinction of what is known as "a maiden assize." The right hon. and learned judge who presided in the City Court had the satisfaction of informing the gentlemen summoned on the grand jury that they were empanelled merely *pro forma*, as there was not a single bill of indictment to be sent before them. This happy circumstance, it is fair to observe, did not arise either from the fact of undetected crime or that offenders had been disposed of by the local and minor tribunals. The simple truth is, there was a total absence of the commission of crime since the last assizes, a fact testified to in the most conclusive manner by the constabulary report which was submitted to the presiding judge. Therefore, in accordance with the time-honoured custom, his lordship was presented by the High Sheriff with a pair of white gloves. These are facts highly creditable to the citizens of Kilkenny, and speak with marvellous eloquence of their peaceable and moral conduct. Since July last, that is during a period of eight months, not one crime, to the knowledge of a large and efficient police force, has been perpetrated within the limits of the city of Kilkenny. This is a circumstance which redounds to the honour of the people and upon which they are entitled to hearty congratulations.—Dublin Freeman.

April 2.—While the races at Lurgan, Ireland, were in progress a stand crowded with spectators gave way, and about 200 persons were precipitated to the ground amid a confused mass of broken timbers; 29 were injured, some of whom cannot recover.

AN ORANGE GATHERING.—The "Sandy-row True Blues"—need we say a Belfast Orange Lodge?—held their annual soiree on Friday evening. The proceedings were rather tame for Sandy-row, but we may call a few rhetorical flowers which go to form a fine bouquet of the true colour and flavour. Thus Mr. James Hart was good enough to announce that "The bulwark of the Throne at the present time, as it had always been, was the Orange Society."—"As it had always been." Poor Mr. Hart evidently forgets that the only really dangerous conspiracy ever planned against our present gracious Queen was the notable one hatched by Orangemen for placing the Queen's uncle on her Majesty's throne. The Rev. Mr. Crawley was her first clerical speaker, and of course threw a fair amount of the *odium theologium* into his harangue. He said—"He thought they had all reason to thank God for the recovery of the Prince of Wales, and that that which the enemy doubtless desired had not come to pass.—They were all aware with what anxiety and eagerness people took up the papers of the day to see the progress and prospective termination of the disease with which he was afflicted; but, contrary to the expectations and hopes of many, God graciously heard the prayers of the Christian people in the land, and had he not been spared, an effort would at no distant date have been made to set aside Royalty in this land." The meaning of all this is that the Irish Catholics were anxious for the death of the Prince—one of the most impudent falsehoods ever ventilated even in an Orange Lodge. The Rev. Mr. Hartwick, who followed, talked in the same *issimo* key. He said that—"A falling in Orangism that he would like to see remedied was that it had hitherto acted too much on the defensive, and had been losing ground, not so much in numbers or principles, but in preserving the institutions of the country. They ought to go in for repeal of the Emancipation Bill, for the restoration of the Protestant Established Church, for the restoration of the bulwarks of the Constitution that had been thrown down, and by these means they would gain something worthy, and do great good to Protestantism." We hope the Rev. Mr. Hartwick will live till he sees his legislative programme adopted.—Dublin Freeman.

After nine long months the judges are now engaged in disposing of the accumulation of crime for that period. And what is the condition of things which is everwhither presented? Why in this still thickly populated country, with its five or six millions of inhabitants, with its unfortunately considerable amount of poverty and destitution, in almost every county in the island the Judges find awaiting trial a few of the pettiest of petty larceny rogues, a couple of sheep-stealers, and no one else. Agrarian offences have almost disappeared from the calendar, and in the few counties where they do appear are represented by a few threatening letters—compositions which are generally the offspring of mischief and folly rather than deliberate crime. Two or three remarkable and heinous offences have, it is true, occurred, but they are the emanations of individual depravity, not of any general unsoundness of the public mind; and, curiously enough, in the two most important of these offences a police officer and an ex-policeman are the parties charged with the crime. Under these circumstances, seeing the profound and general tranquillity which prevails, we think it is high time that the Government should definitely put an end to the state of siege in Ireland—should at once restore to this country the full benefit of the Constitution, which is now partially suspended.—Dublin Freeman.

THE JELLY FISH.—So large a portion of its bulk consists of water that one of no less than thirty-four pounds weight, being left to dry in the sun for some days, was found to have lost ninety-nine per cent. of its original weight. Writing of the very attractive appearance of the huge jelly fish, Agassiz observes that "to form an idea of his true appearance, one must meet him as he swims along at mid-day, rather lazily within his huge semitransparent disk, with his flexible-lobed margin glittering in the sun, and his tentacles floating a distance of several yards behind him. Encountering one of these huge jelly fishes, when out in a row-boat, we attempted to make a rough measurement of his dimensions upon the spot. He was lying quietly near the surface, and did not seem in the least disturbed by our proceeding, but allowed the oar, eight feet in length, to be laid across the disk, which proved to be seven feet in diameter. Backing the boat slowly along the line of the tentacles, which were floating at their utmost extension behind him, we measured there in the same manner, and found them to be rather more than fourteen times the length of the oar, thus covering a space of some hundred and twelve feet." This huge mass is produced by a hydroid measuring not more than half an inch in length when fully grown.—Scientific American.

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