

Saturday, May 24th, was indeed a glorious day, and, like loyal subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty, we resolved to celebrate her natal day. When we came up from breakfast, a large poster announced a concert that evening by the "Royal Circassian Opera Troupe." The exercises, in which your correspondent participated, consisted in music on the piano, solos, choruses, readings and a stump speech. The manager of the G.W.R. was our chairman, and he contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening by singing an original song, prepared expressly for the occasion. A collection of over £4 was taken up for seamen's orphans. After the concert, the captain set off a number of rockets from the deck. Fireworks are beautiful on land, but doubly so at sea.—On Sunday, 25th. we had a genuine blow—now we were away up on the top of the waves—now in the hollow of the sea—then the receding waves would rush away, hissing and fizzing and effervescing like a huge Seidlitz powder. The sea remained rough until Wednesday morning, when we entered Loch Foyle. O, what a pleasure it was to see land again, which was increased by knowing that this was "ould Ireland." The first question asked the messenger sent on board was, "Is the Pope dead?" And then we were surprised to hear of the political shuffle in France.

TWIST.

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### Editorial Notes.

MANY friends of the Institute are anxiously looking forward to the time when it shall be in possession of University powers. But does it require them? The best college in the Dominion does not possess such powers. But would it not be well for the Legislature to induce all colleges possessing such powers to surrender them, and establish a University system for the country, with as many teaching institutions as the people may be able to support? The standard of education would then be uniform, and degrees of equal value, and the slightest prejudice could not reasonably exist. Such a system would create a healthy rivalry among the colleges, and under such a stimulus the standard would never be suffered to fall. Under such a *regime* that college which has the best staff of teachers, and can offer the greatest facilities and the most advantages, will be the one which will have the largest patronage and the greatest honour.

If some such scheme as we have hinted at should not be consummated, we hope that the Institute will never ask for University powers until it is able to furnish as thorough and extensive a course as is found in the University of Toronto. If men are to have the honours of Universities conferred upon them, let them earn them by hard labour, and merit them by thorough scholarship.

WHILE some Faculties have altogether abolished prizes, others adhere to the opinion that they are beneficial in other respects, as