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"AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK.

What An Eminent English Writer and Anglieau Canon Thinks of " A bitrary Covernment oa Parliameatary Principle."

The well known English writer, Canon Malzon MacCall, writes to the Later Legiator as fullows :--

"Tuttach no imperance to Me. Dukinson's reference to any entrine language used by Irish Nationalist leaders, for the following

"I, In heated controversy of this kin! hen tro upt to use language which run-shead of their souer thoughts. Keisuch inther Bung rion leaders not only claimed entire separation from the Austrian Empire. but raised an army and waged a great was to establish there claim. Yet they accepted flome Rule to be a of Separation. Guillaldi and other Itali h Nationalists intrigued, and and other than it Automates intrigued, and argued, and tement for the c-tubishment of im Italian Republic. Yet they incepted a Constitutional Montreby when the question came le tore them for practical de el sion. There were leaders of public opin.on in Canada before the grant of Canadian Home Rule, who agitated for complete separation from Great B-itain and aunexation to the United States. Those contribugal tendoucies have been completely cured by Rome Rule. Examples might be multiplied but these will suffice. On the other hand, the policy which Mr. Dickinson advocates jost us our American Colonies.

42. The equitable rule in controversy is to accept a man's interpretation of his own words. The Irish leaders have declared that they never used language inconsistent with their acceptance of Parliamentary Home Rule their acceptance of Farhamentary Home Rule as a final settlement of the Irish question. Mr. Parnell's denial of language attributed to him has been denounced as a lie. This does not seem to one a wise thing. But assume that Mr. Parnell did use the language attributed to him. What there's Ha is wearened. butted to him. What then ! He is reported to have a id that he would not rest till he had 'severed the last link' of connecti n cott. for in Ireland has a link of the British chain clanking to his rags. Yet everylady knows that the unity of the Empire, with Ireland as an integral to a of it, had no more strenuous champion Com Grattan at the very moment when he was using the language which I quoted. Why should not Mr Parnell's alanct identical language, even if he used it, he capable of a like int rpretation?

3. The extreme claims of the Nationalist leaders, taken at the worst, have been advanced as an alternative to the present system, not as an altern tive to Home Rule.

Principle that strengthen the foundations of social order, and make the State possible and lared publicly and repeatedly, without a word of dissent from Ireland, that they accepted Mr. Gladstone's scheme as a final settlement of the question.

part of the Irish people makes against Seraration. To suppose that the Irish would agitate for Separation after they got Home fule, is to suppose that the Irish area nation of incurable idiots. Individuals here and there may, like the swine of Gadars, rush headlong to destruction; but nations are not capable of wholesale suicide. The Irish persont has an acate sense of his own interest, and is not at all likely to ruin himself without a motive.

" I have known Ireland, more or less, for twenty years. I have taken the trouble to learn to speak the vernacular -- a wonderful key to the confidence of the Irish. I have talked to mea and women in all classes, and I have been connected for many yours with lrish land. I should not be surprised if I knew quite as much about Ireland as Mr. Dickinson does; and my opinion is that the cry of 'Separation' is too shadowy a phantom to merit serious discussion. " But Mr. Dickinson oites against me the

convictions of the wisest, strongest, most

serious, most statesmanlike minds in Great Britain.' Assuming, for the sake of argument, the strict accuracy of his modest estimate, I reply that, in cases of great reforms and constitutional changes, the intellectual of the day have been almost invariably on the wrong side. In the controversy with Amerien, the educated society of that generation denounced Burke as 'a man of disordered intellect.' Now we know who are the 'Separatists, and who was the one pre-eminently wise man and true Unionist. But we have paid doarly for our knowledge. Absit omen " If I am wrong in thinking that 'the only alternative to the present system of governing Ireland is llome Rule, will Mr. Dickinson show me any better system on which the opponents of Home Rule will unite? If you ould transport Ireland two thousand miles from the British shore, it might be possible to govern it, much more satisfactorily than it is governed now, and on the Indian system. But we are at present attempting an impossi-

erument on Parliamentary principles. "Mr. Dickinson charges against me the oft-repeated falloy that I am 'prepared to hand over the government of Ireland' to the present Irish members. I am prepared to hand over the government of Ireland, under proper Constitutional safeguards, to the people of Ireland, who will be free to elect own representatives, and who, under Mr. Gladstone's bill, would have been obliged to elect a large number of men of property. I am, Sir, etc.,

MALCOLM MACCOLL."

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ON LAND

OWNERSHIP. In a pastoral letter on the occasion of the

fourth synod of the clergy of the diocese of Vincennes, Bishop Chatard writes:— "In these days especially, when so many talse notions are spread about concerning not only the doggras of faith, but also the Chrisdanger of even Catholics being infected with to the Smithsonian institute,

the errors in which men of talent and position cutside of the Church find themselves entangled.

Jast new looms up, in a way to alarm, the throat ning cloud of Socialism and anarch; that may burst upon the country. Conservative non-Catholics are locking to the Catholic Church for protection and safety; for she is the only church that can teach with authoritv,' and has influence with the masses. They know her principles are fixed, that she does not deny her past. In the weighty question of the ownership of land, her great theolo-

gians have spok in.
The greatest of these, St. Thomas Aquinas. D cior of the Church, tells us in exact words "Ownership of property follows from the nature of the thing itself." He says the awardship of property is a deduction of rec--he jus gentium, or law of nations; and this law, quoting from the words of the Jarisconsult Clus, he says, is what natural reason has constituted among ali He gives also practical motives eu-6. for the judgment regarding the ownership of land—me greater interest a man takes in timuse the Marquis, "we have arrived at working for himself then for the community; the necessity of order in taking care of and the Government would be able by referring our Most Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII., has reputation for courtesy. "After which," he named, in these days of cloudy ideas, the added, "we shall be able to deal with the theologian of the Church.

You see, therefore, dearly beloved breof lan 1. When, in addition to such oategorie teaching, you how the Sovernigh Pontiff poak as he does in his Rocyclical letters on the question of Socialism, the cardinal prinassertion that I and is common property, you

have sure guidance to keep you from erring.
In his Encyclical Letter, so indorsed, of December 28, 1878, beginning, Quad Apostolici muncris, he speaks of Socialists, Corumunists and Nihilista, condemns them, and vision goes on to say: 'Allured by cupidity of the land, goods of the present, which is the root of all evil, which some seeking have erred from is have said case he walled one rest till he evil, which some seeking have erred from had 'severed the last link' of connecting the faith (i Tim. vi., 10), they attack the with England. Grattan declared: 'I will right of owning property, which right never rest content so long as the meanest the natural law sauctions; and by an enomous crime, while they seem to consult the needs and desires of all men, they strive to seize and hold in common whatever has been acquired by title of legitimate inheritance, by mental or manual labor, or by frugality of life.'

Such grave words need no comment : they are, too, the words of the Vicar of Christ instructing his flock. Not only should you he grateful for such admonition, but society everywhere owes the Sovereign Pontiff a debt of gratifude for thus speaking to the

OLD EXECUTIONS.

bratal. tened round the criminal's neck, the cartman state of Ireland was certainly serious, and it gave the horse a list, and the poor wretch was also novel. There a rebellion was carried agony by hanging on to his legs and beating the people. In such a state of things they his breast, a shocking sight. But hanging must be prepared to apply remedies exitable then was looked upon as a holiday spectacle. in that we lind the lower class took great interest and evinced much sympathy with the doceased. Fer instance, Claude du Val, thecelebrated highwayman, lov in state at the "Tau gier" Tayern in St. Giles' in a room hung was disposed of the Government deal with with black cloth, the bier covered with the firmest hand with Irish malcontents. escutcheon, and with eight wax candles burn ing around. He was buried by torchlight, and was followed to Covent Garden Church by a numerous train of mourners, mostly women. Misson, a French writer, who visited England in the reign of William III . says: "He that is hang'd or otherwise executed, first takes care to get himself shav'd and handsomely drest, either in mourning, or in the dress of a bride-groom. This done, he sets his friends a work to get him leave to be bury'd, and to carry his cossion with him, which is easily obtain'd. When his suit of clothes, or night gown, his gloves, het, perriwig, nosegay, coffin, flaunel dress for his corps, and all those things are brought and prepar'd, the main point is taken care of-his mind is at peace, and then he thinks of his conscience. Generally, he studies a speech, which ho pronounces under the gallows and gives in writing to the sheriff or the minister that attends him in his last moments, desiring that it may be printed. Sometimes the girls dress in white with great silk scarves, and carry baskets full of flowers and cranges, scattering these favors all the way they go. But to represent things as they really are, I must needs own that, if a pretty many of these people dress thus gayly and go to it with such an air of indifference, there ble task in Ireland-namely, arbitrary govare many others that go slovenly enough, and with very dismal phizzes. I remember, one day, I saw in the park a handsome girl very well dressed, that was then in mourning for her tather, who had been hanged but a month before at Tyburn for false colnage. So many countries so many fashious."-John Ashton, in the Gentleman's Magazine.

A WITHERED FAMILY.

FIVE PERSONS FOUND IN DAKOTA UNDER PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 21.—The bodies of five persons—a man, woman and three children—were taken from a cave in the Badlands of Dakota by a miner, and were forwarded here, arriving to day. The bodies are simply dried up, are not petrified, and are in a remarkable state of preservation. Scientific men say they belong to a race which existed two thousand tian morality of social life, there is very great | years ago. The withered family will be sent

CONSERVATIVES IN COUNCIL.

Lord Sallshury Outlines His Pacliamentary Policy - Coercion More Than Minted At -The Debate on the Procedure Bules Begun-Great Britain's Polley

in Egypt.

Lexion, Feb. 21 -A conference of the Upon what principle was the Speaker to pro Conservative party was held to-day at the cood in giving or withholding his consent to Fore gn Office and was largely attended The Marquis of Salisbary and Mr. Goschen were cheered heartily when they entered the building. The Premier, in his address, referred tealingly to the late Earl of Iddesleigh and the loss the Government had incurred by reason of his death. The Marquis also dwelt on the severale a from the Government of Lord Raudelph Caurchill, which he discribed as "a considerable long to the party." Mr. Goschen's acceptance of this under the present Government, Lord Salisbury add, and secenthened the Generative party. "After marking time for a month," conusing things; finally, peace among men the rules of procedure, to restore to the House requires it. Thus speaks the teacher whom of Commons its espacity for work and its question of local government in Ireland and with other measures," (Loud cheers.) "T three, what you are to held as correct with hope, 'he said, "that the proceed law will regard to this right of individual ownership be sufficient to could the authorities to cope successfully with disorder in Ireland. In any case all bills will be postponed until after the conclusion of proceedings for the reform of the procedure rules and action on the ciple of which is community of goods, the estimates. The Government expect to pre-denial of the right to own property, and the sent the budget during the first week in April. The Marquis predicted a long lease of office for the Conservatives. Several members urged that the Government introduce in Parliament a focat povernment bill for England, Scotland and Vales, the pro-

visions of which should be extended to tre-

ENGLISH CATHOLICS AS 6 TOR. CHOKE. Mr. Edwin Delisle, Conservative membe, for Mildle Leicestershire, spoke, saying that as a Roman Catholic Conservative, he do nounced the conduct of Archbichep Croke, of Cashel, in openly encouraging the conduct of the Irish National League, and said he would like to have the archbishop tried for this conduct by a jury of Luglish Catholic in Loudon. This statement provoked gre enthusiasın.

COESSION MORE THAT HINDED AT

Lord Salisbury, in his official report to the conference referring to Iroland, said they were told they ought to preclaim the National debt of gratitude for thus speaking to the strength of the str Government had a law to offerce it the pro-clamation would be perfectly ineffective, When the Gladstone Government proclaimed the Land League the habeas corpus act was suspensied and the Covernment had power to In the seventeenth and righteenth cen- imprison any one disc saying its commands. turies our method of executious was most The present Government had no such power; There was the long ride of the it must act within the law of the United criminal in an open cort, with his coffin by Kingdom, and at present there was no offihis side, either to Tyburn or to the spat eight instrument with which to deal with where he committed the murder, the cart was veiled rebellion. Their first Irish business stopped under the gallows, the rope was fast would be to strengthen the present law. The was left swaying to and fro, kicking. If he out by means of systematized funds, recomhad friends they would try to shorten his mended by the highest religious teachers of

dence in the Prime Minister. He urged that as soon as the question of the procedure rules Other members spoke to the same effect.

CHARGE AL SINTERS.

Loxbon, Feb. 21.-Sir James Rerguen stated in the House of Commons this evan-ing that the proposals hid before the Peste by Sir Henry Drummond Wolff did not involve the withdrawal of the English troops from Egypt so long as there was any fear that the Government of Egypt would be unable to maintain order in that country. He added that Her Majesty's Government never proposed anything tending to renounce the right of Lingland to protect Egypt from internal or external disturbances. (Cheers.) There was no foundation either for the impression that the Government looked upon the neutrality of Belgium as a precedent for a similar state of affairs desirable to establish in Egypt.

THE PROCEDURE DEBATE.

Mr. W. II. Smith, in moving the first of the procedure resolutions, appealed to the house o maintain the diguity of Parliament and to vindicate the authority of its own proceedings. The new rules, he said, would make the authority of the Speaker absolute. He believed the house had full confidence in the discretion and judgment of the speaker. In the judicial position which he occupied he would safely guard the interests of minorities | tion and it reduces temperature, and preserve the rights of majorities. Unless | years ago three French chemists-Lallemand, the first resolution-conferring upon the Perrin, and Durop-conducted a series of Speaker the power of cloture-was passed, it experiments which upheld, so they averred, would be impossible to obtain reforms. The conclusions identical with Dr. Richardson's. Speaker had at present only the power of expressing an opinion as to the time a debate should terminate. What the Government now proposed was that when any member moved cleture the Speaker should be empowered to take the vois of the house. The experimenters, have since proved the French appointment of standing committees to deal chemists were wrong, and it is now recog-with special business, and the conferring of nized as an established scientific fact that increased power upon the Speaker with reference to questions of adjournment, were also among the proposed reforms.

MR. GLADSTONE'S OPINION.

Mr. Gladstone said the matter of procedure reforms should not be treated as a party question. He doubted the wisdom of placing the subject of procedure in the van of all business. doses, impairs digestion, and that it is injuri-He doubted also whether the house would get our when taken during long continued through with the procedure rules without exposure to cold, although beneficial when

modifying the Speaker's recent ruling, that after the exposure is over." This provise an surject could no discussed if there was a made, be invisted that alcohol (in mode rate notice on the paper of a motion relating to the same subject. (Irish cheers.) It was iole to expect to assist the progress of business by means of merely penal restriction. The proposal of the Government practically amounted to nothing. Mr. Smith had failed to explain the deliente and deflicat function saigued to the Speaker under the first rule.

A SIDE DESCRIPTION.

In reply to Mr. Paracll, the Speaker said that memors who spoke before on the gen eral character of the rules would not be ea titled aft rward to move amendments.

Mr. T. P O'Connor thereupon moved to adjours, on ! a debite ensued as to how to disquera whole subject without the Speaker forfesting the right to move amendments. Upon the suggestion of Mr. Smith, it was

agreed that posters on the main question should to be debarred from proposing aniencim nie. Mr. Para il, resuming the debate, contended dies the new rules proposed would not-facility: the transaction of business, but

Soon the Conservatives would bitterly regret having introduced their present proposals. GOSCHEN AND MARCOURT.

would preduce irritation and exasperations

Mr. Goschen said if Mr. Gladetone had boox in the House during the past formight he would have recognized the necessity of the new rules. Although the Parnellites were disinglified to believe in the Government's fair play, he (Mr. Goschen) doubted whether they would receive equal fair play in any legislative assembly in Europe or America. Sir Wm. Fernon Harcourt said he could not support a proposal to rul absolute power into the hands of the Speaker, instead of leaving it with the majority.

TRAINING YOUTH.

spirits an outlet, need the noise always know from St. Paul, who thus describes it be hushed? Is not their happiness as important as some older body's petted zervbusness . As cach one develops reek out and encourage the tastes and qualities that vary the gospel of peace. In all things taking the so indefinitely in each young character, shield of faith. This unto you the holmet though all be the children of the same purents. Allow them, as they grow older, to which is the word of God." The very prince ing from a few hours to several conjuries, have opicions of their own and to express of the apostles, too, addresses these solumn them; what need that they should be mere words to us: "Christ having suffered in the gular law, and in mother they are irregular and apassmodic. To the latter class prohably wenton wites as well as the "node and penance. We shall not turn cowards, if our flashing into prominence. A most remarkable, becks and wreathed smiles." The older souls can be but impressed by the conviction now star was seen, in 1572, by Tycho Jeahe, members of the family are largely responsible for the circumstances that develop the inberited character; have patience. Oh! that beautiful patience of metherhood, with their faults and failings. It cannot be impressed too early on the infant mind that each fault, each naughty action, must have its effect on the future. They cannot escape consequences, even by being sorry, when they have acted wrongly. Each child should be cultivated separately; what reason in expecting them to grow up like so many wheat stalks, all in a row, and cutting them by

machinery : There is no need that they should grow, Major Sunderson expressed, on behalf of through the different phases of childhood and the Loyalists of Ireland, anbounded confi- youth, blinded by rose colored spectacles, through the different phases of childhood and only to have the storms of life come upon them with unexpected fory as they reach mature years. Let them know the actual facts of living as soon as they are old enough to understand; give them the sense of respensibility, and that without saidening. It is wrong to deprose them because old hearts have suffered. Let the converse. tion and loving warning be always tempered with hope; epoak cheerfully of all, the possibilities lying before each active mind. Keep up a high standard of principle; never forget that in versa to come the children will be the judges of the parents' actions. Give them reason to soy, " And their children shall rise and call than blessed."

DOES MICOHOL POSSESS FOOD PRO-PERTIES ?

Does alsohol possess any food properties.

the word food being here used to include both

the means of nourishment proper and a heat-producing tower? This broad application of the term reems justifiable, because if alcohol can be shown to furnish the fuel which would otherwise be drawn from the adipone tissue, it may fairly enough be credited with the amount of tissue which it thus saves from consumption. On the negative side of this question a well-known English physician, Dr. IR W. Richardson, contends that alcohol " neither applies matter for construction nor heat. On the contrary, it injures construc-They declared that "all alcohol taken into the system left it unshanged through the various secretions and excretions." But according to the author of this book, Drs. Austie, alcohol given in small and moderate doses is almost wholly consumed within the organism, and that only a trifling portion passes out of the body in the secretions. The judgment Lander Brunton, was set forth at length in a paper read before the Medical Society of London. He admitted that alcohol, "in large

dose.) increases the scoretion of gastrie julou and the movements of the stanach, thus aiding digestion; it dilates the blood vessels, increases the force and frequency of the heart's action, imparts a feeling of comfort, and facilitates hodily or mental labor. It undergoes combustion in the body, maintains or increases the bedily weight, and prolongs life on an ineutheight diet, and is, therefore, entitled to be reckeded as a food." Two years after the reading of this paper Dr. R. Brudenell Carter gave in a letter to the Lan cet on indepenting account of his personal experience. He had tried, howaid, "the experiment of total abstinence at three different periods of his professional life with the re suit of breaking down in his work on each occasion and being restored to menal and bodily vigor on reasoning the use of a small tury. In the royal aquarizm at St. Petersdaily allowance of alcohol." The adds that burg there are fish that invo been there 140 years. speeches of many total abstainers that, even in cases where abstinence appears to be succossful, the nutrition of the centres which are subscribent to the higher operations of the mind is less perfect than it might be; and I think it very possible that I might myself exist without alread, if I could be content to let my besin lie follow and to limit my vital activity to a moderate amount of physical exertion. When I am told," he ecucludes, 'as a result of laboratory work, that alcohol is not food, I reply that the statement is a mistake. I care nothing for the Liberatory work which is exposed to countless sources of error, and I have seen iff sustained upon alcohol for menths together.'

ASH WEDNESDAY.

The solemn announcement spokes of by the Prophet has been proclaimed in Sion :-- the solome fast of Lent, the season of expiation, the approach of the solomin great anniversar-les of our redemption. Let us, then, rouse ourselves, and prepare for the spiritual combat.

As the boys grow older why let them seek But in this battling of the spirit against empanionship away from home? With the tesh we need good armore. Our holy rather their best friend-father a companion mother, the church, knows how much we in youthful meas, rone others will be loand need it; and therefore does the summon us to necessary to contentment. If children-girls enter the house of God that she may arm as and boys alika -must give their overflowing for the hely contest. What this armour is we "Have your loins girt about with trath, and baying on the breast-plate of justice. And your fact shod with the preparation of of salvation, and the sword of the spirit. that the battle and the penemes must be gone throng's with. Let us lieten to the eloquence of the selemen rise which opens in Lent, Let us go whither car Mother leads us that is to been mouths after it was first observed. the scane of the fall.

The enemies we have to fight with are of

first one our "fassione," the second one the ' Lievil." Both were brought on us by pride, and man's pride began when he refused to obey God. God forgave him biasin, but II a punished him. The punishment was death, and this was the form of the divine sentence: God forgave him bissein, but Ila Thou art dust, and into dust thou shalt return." O that we had remembered this The recollection of what we are now and what we are to be would have checked that haughty rebellion which has so often led us so break the law of God. And If, for the time to come, we would persevere in logalty to him, we must humble ourseives, accept the sentence and look on this present life as a path to the grave. The path may be long or short but to the tomb it must lead us. Remembering this we shall see all things in their true light. We shall love that God, who has designed to set his heart on us, notwithstanding our being creatures of death. We shall have with the despest contrition the insolence and ingratitude wherewith we have spent so many of our few days of life, that is, in sinning against our Heavenly Pather, and wa shall be not only willing but eager to undergo these days of penance, which He so mercifully gives us for making reparation to his offended justice.

This was the motive the Caurch had in enriching her Liturgy with the solemn rite, at which we are to assist this morning. When upwards of a thousand years ago she decreed the anticipation of the Lenten fast by the last four days of Quinquagesima week; she instituted this impressive ceremony of sign ing the forehead of her children with ashes, whilst saying to them those awful words: "Remember, O Man, that thou art dust, and into dust thou shalt return !" the making use of ashes as a symbol of humiliation and penance is of a much earlier date than the institution we allude to. We find frequent mention of it in the Old Testament. Job, though a Gentile, sprinkled his fiesh with ashes, that, thus humbled, he might propitiate the divine mercy; and this was two thousand years before the coming of Our Saviour. The Royal Prophet tells as of himself that he mingled ashes with his bread, because of the divine arger and indignation. Many such examples are to be met with in the sacred scriptures; but so obvious is the analogy between the sinner who thus signifies his grisf, and the object whereby he signifies it, that we read such in-mances without the attention of surprise, When fallen man would humble himself hefore the Divine Justice, which has sentenced his body to turn again into dust, how could the body in the secretions. The judgment he more aptly express his contrite acceptance arrived at by one of these investigators, Dr. of the sentence than by sprinkling himself or his food with ashes, which is the dust of wood consumed by fire. This earnest ac-knowledgment of his being bimself but dust

POPULAR SCIENCE NOTES,

Scientists state that water once contamidated by sewage never becomes purified by natural menus.

The eyes of poisonous anakes have been found by Dr. Benjamin Sharp to have eliptical pupils, waits in the harmless species they are circular.

Prof. Ordway recommends that water pipes exposed to freezing be covered with glazed cotton batting. It is easily applied, and should be put on to the thickness of one to three inches, according to expense, being would around leasely with twine.

Prot. Baird says that as a fish has no maturity there is nothing to privent it from living inicinitely and growing continually. He cites in proof a pike living in Russia whose age dated back to the filterath con-

The tensile strength of ice is given by Frubling, of Kouigeberg, as between 142 and 233 pounds per uptaro inch, at 22 degrees fab. Its compressive atrength, found by cabes of over two inches at the same temperature, is ascertained to vary between sixty-one and 205 pounds, mean being 148 pounds per square inch.

Recent observations are said to indicate the existence of a submarine volcanic crater between the Canary Islands and the count of Pertugal. From a cable-laying steamer in laticude 30 degrees 25 minutes north, longitride 9 degree 54 minutes west, the water was found to measure 1,300 fathoun under the bow and 500 fathoms under the stern. showing the ship to be over the edite of a deep depression in the ocean bestom. It is well known that great inequalities are found in the hed of the sea of Lishon, and these are thought to be due to a submarine chain of mountains.

A member of the Royal Society of Takmanisticds that, as compared with Mars, Jupiter's surface brightness is twenty-two times as great as it ought to be it all its light is reflected sunshine; and as compared with the meen about thateen times. That the brilliancy was remarkable has long been known, and the themy of this observer, that the giont planet of our system has not yet so couled as to cease to be self-luminous, is by no means new. A more generally accepted explanation, however, is that dupiter is cov ered with a highly reflective material, which absorbs much less solar light than Mars sad the moon.

Over 160 stars are known to vary in brightness, a very few strikingly, in periods reng who reported that it became suddenly so beilliant as to be seen at noon, then gradually faded away and war lost to view in about six.

The system of communication by such flashes from mirrors has been lately two kinds-"internal and external"-the with marked success by Lieut. A. M. Fuller, the United States signal officer on special service in Arizona. Signals were lashed by mirrors for distances ranging from five toforty miles. A trial message of twenty lives words was sent over a line 20 miles its length, and an answer of the same length roceived at the charting point in twenty minutes. Another test which resulted very satisf factorily was signalling 300 words twenty-fine miles in a short space of time. A message , f twonty-five words was recently signalled free a Gra. Miles, at Tubac, A. T., to Lake Valle f, 400 miles distant, and an answer to twent y seven words returned in four hours and I en

THE CROFTERS IN PARLIAMENT !

LONDON, Heb. 15. - In the House of Clommone this evening. Mr. Cameron moved an enquiry into "the harsh and unjust" administration of the law in the crofter districes. The Lord Advocato of Scritland denied the truth of the charges that had been made against the Scotch executive. He con-tended that the crotters had been treated as leniently as possible in the face of the agitation against the payment of rent. The Goverament refused to grant any further enquiry in the matter.

PARNELL ALL RIGHT.

SENSATIONAL STORIES CONTRADICTED- THE IRISH LEADER GOING TO ALGIERS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 .- A London de' match to the Herald says the alarming news sent to America about the alleged serious ill ness of Parnell has excited amazement there. John Brady, secretary of the Irish Land League, said, yesterday, there was scarcely: a world of truth in these sensational statement s. As for Parnoll having bronchitis, Bright a discusse. eto., the statements are utterly wr ang. I believe he is certainly going to take a rest, like Churchill, Gladatone and other is who have been overworked, but we will never allow him to resign the leadership of the Irish

party. LONDON, Feb. 16 .- The I mily Telegraph says, after the debate on the address, Parnell will go to Algiers for the benefit of his hoalth.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 71.—Jno. A. Sutton, secretary of the Irish National League of America, has informed the branch at Nashville, Tenn., that a ratification of the extradition treaty with Great Britain should be opposed by every possible means.

Some Western papers look with horror on and ashes is an act of humility, and humility the use of the word "woman" in respectable ever gives him confidence in that God who society. One of them recently chronicled the results the proud and pardons the humble, finding of a "lady's akeleton."