THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.—AUG. 11, 1871.

sewed, the Government having occupied the interrai by redoubled exertions to corrupt and overawe. they contrived to pack the Parliament, so as to genre the success of their measure. O'Connell, whose statue now looks down on us, made his first public speech against it in this hall where we are ssembled. Grattan, who had quitted Parliament a lew years previously, now returned to the scene of his noble labors; and if truth, genius, and eloquence could have saved the Constitution, Grattan would have saved it. The Union was accomplished, although 707,000 persons petitioned against it, while only 5,000 could, by all the influence of Government, be induced to petition in its favor. Irishmen regard it as a crime clothed with the garb of law. If it were designed by Pitt to make Ireland hate England, it is not possible that he could have devised any measure better fitted to accomplish that end (applause). I now proceed to consider the results which it has produced in this kingdom. Those results were pure, unmitigated evil. Any benefit of whatsoever sort that Ireland has obtained since 1800 has been gained in spite of the Union, not because of it. When Mr. Spring Rice was appointed by the Government to defend the Union against O'Connell in 1834, he worked hard to show the vast advantages that Ireland derived from the Union. At that very time it was shown by official returns that 2,385,000 human beings, or more than one-fourth of the then population of Ireland, were destitute paupers for thirty weeks in every year. They were paupers, precisely because the Union had denuded the country of its wealth, had almost destroyed our manufactures, and thrown the people wholly for support upon the soil, had drawn off the rich aristocracy to England, and had, by abstracting the private incomes and public revenue of this kingdom, to the annual amount of many millions, reduced vast masses of the people to a state of abject wretchedness. After thirty-four years' union with the wealthiest country in the world, we were stripped so bare that more than every fourth indiridual among us was a pauper for thirty weeks in every year (hear, hear.) What a contrast between such a condition and the great national prosperity which, as Mr. Secretary Cooke said, was universally admitted to exist under the Constitution of 1782 (loud cheers.) In allusion to the "fiscal injustice" which Ireland sustained by the Union, the speaker observed-One or Lord Castlereagh's engagements was that Ireland was to be taxed on a strict measure of relative ability, and making that admission without the slightest idea of removing the injustice. The people are driven into exile by the execrable system that plunders their country of the means of supporting them at home (hear.) In the last ten years Ireland has lost nearly 400,000 inhabitants, and the exodus is going on, and will go on so long as the Union enables English rapacity to despoil the country (hear, hear.) Is Ireland doomed to submit for ever to this bondage? (cries of No) My lord, I do not believe she is so doomed, for I see that men heretofore estranged from each other are banding together for the liberation of their country (cheers.) It is strange that I should have some Catholic apprehensions to allay, whilst my reverend friend here has some Protestant doubts to remove (hear, hear.) Mr. Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, ascribes our society to the machinations of the Jesuits. A priest has attacked us in a very long letter, the drift of which seems in the whole to be, that our Association is somehow or other opposed to the Catholic Church. My lord, it is not opposed to any church (hear,) and I beg to say that while, in my opinion, it has very strong claims on the support of every Irishman, its claims on the support of the Catholic priesthood and people are exceptionally strong (hear, hear). My reason is this—the Union operates, as we have seen, to depopulate the country, and Home Government is the only thing that can check the progress of de-population. Now, the exodus tells against the Catholics in a far larger proportion than it does against the Protestants. We have lost since 1846 more than three millions of all creeds. But what I want to point out now is this-by the recent census it is shown that in the last ten years the Irish population has diminished by very nearly 400,000 souls.-In 1861 the Catholies were to the Episcopal Protestants as seven to one. But, mark! while the comparative numbers were then seven to one, the decrease of Catholics has been to that of the Protestants during the subsequent ten years, as thirty-six to one. Here are the figures of the censu

DECREASE.

363,332 Catholics. Episcopal Protestants...... 10,062 Again, in 1861, Ireland contained nearly eight Catholies for one Protestant of the non-Established Churches. But in the subsequent decade the Catholics have lost within a fraction of sixteen mem-

bers for every one the Dissenters have lost. I give you the figures :--

> DECREASE. Catholics 363,332 Dissenting Protestants..... 22,916

In conclusion, Mr. Daunt said-Shall a nation gifted with the mental and physical elements of greatness and prosperity, consent to remain for ever the degraded, plundered, trampled, depopulated, tributary province of another? No! a million times no! (vehement cheering). Montesquieu says truly that no nation ever rose to durable greatness but by institutions in harmony with its national spirit. Our national spirit is in strong revolt against foreign legislation. How was it imposed on us, and how perpetuated? By our own division. Our divisions artfully fomented, lent strength to Pitt to crush our freedom. Our union will enable us to recover it. Here we are, Catholic, Presbyterian, Protestant-a true Irish shamrock—the three leaves of our national emblem, conscientiously differing in creed, but growing together on the same footstalk-fidelity to the constitutional rights of our country (enthusiastic and long-continued cheering).

At the conclusion of O'Neill Daunt's speech, Mr. John Martin, M.P., addressed the assembly in an able speech and was followed as ably by Professor Galbraith, F.T.C.D. The Corporation then adjourned until Thursday, 20th ult., when in a solemn manner the Municipal Council of Dublin, the highest legislative body in Ireland, pledged itself to sustain by carnest and legitimate action the movement for a constitutional adjustment of the Irish question on the basis of a federal arrangement between Great Britain and Ireland.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

The Community of the Presentation Convent, Wexford, acknowledge with sincere thanks, the recept of £1 from the Very Rev. Canon Lacy, P.P., V.F., Gorey, for the benefit of the poor children at tending their Schools.

The Home Government Association have issued an address in support of Mr. Madden's candidature for the county of Monaghan. It is signed by Mr. A. M. Sullivan, of the Nation nowspaper; the Rev. T. A. Galbraith, F.T.C.D.; an alderman of the city of Dublin, of Nationalist opinions; and Mr. John Martin. They call on the electors to make this election as conspicuous as was the Clare election of 1828—as a pronouncement for Home Rule.—Catholic

CATTLE BISEASE.—The lung distemper has broken out in the neighbourhood of Kilmacon and Mooncoin, county Kilkenny. One farmer lost three fine cows, valued at £15 each; and nearly every farmer in the district has suffered loss.

Mr. Justice O'Brien congratulated the Grand Jury

of Drogheda upon the state of the district. There are only two cases for trial. Only three outrages had been reported by the police since the last Assizes, and in one of them the person accused was acquitted upon evidence which showed that the offence charged-incendiarism-had not been committed .-Catholic Times.

They were prescient men in the days of Edward III. Even at that early period they saw how auxious "Men of Law" would be to use the representation of counties as a stepping stone to preferment. Hence, they forbade that a man of law. following his business in the King's Courts, should be returned or accepted as a Knight of the Shire. Strange to say, this old statute is still in force, although obselete in practice, and frequently violated Colonel Tomline, however, may have done good service by disinterring it; for if there are certain men of law seeking the suffrages of county constituencies, the provisions of the ordinance may be enforced against them on petition, brought in opposition to their return within the legitimate time. Irish Times.

Mr. Thomas Devlin has been called upon by a number of influential electors in Meath to stand for the vacant office of Coroner in that county. As their reasons for making an effort to elect him they state that he is under "notice to quit" his holding in Newrath on the 1st of next November; that his father, during the last fifty years, never ceased making suitable and permanent improvements on said holding; that he was encouraged to do so by assurances from his landlords that neither he, during his life, nor his family, after his death, would be disturbed; that Thomas, during the protracted illness of his father, and since his father's death, continued to improve said lands; that Thomas, by his upright and honourable conduct through life, has won the respect and esteem of all who know him; that they have no doubt of his fitness to discharge the duties of Coroner with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the public; and that, under these circumstances, they feel it to be their duty and their interest to manifest their sympathy for him and their devotion to the cause of Tenant-right by an carnest endeavour on their part to place his name at the head of the poll at the approaching election for the Coronership.—Wexford People.

At the usual quarterly meeting of the county Wexford Independent Club, held at Fitzpatrick's Hotel, Enniscorthy, T. B. Rossiter, Esq., in the chair, the attendance of priests and influential laymen was large. A long conversation took place on the recent evictions at Mullagh and in other places, and on the merits of the Land Act generally. Some cases of hardship in the county of Wexford were referred to, and it was stated that in one locality notices to quit had been served on some tenants because they declined to commit themselves to promise to pay an impossible rent. The following resolutions were passed unanimously :-Proposed by Mr. P. R. Rowe, and seconded by Mr. J. A Ennis.—"That we once more declare Mr. Gladstone's Land Bill not to be a satisfactory settlement of the Irish land question, and we see with sorrow that even to-day the notices to quit in various parts of Ireland are falling like snowflakes on industrious improving tenants, whose rents are paid up ; and since, as Mr. Gladstone himself admits, eviction is the parent of agrarian crime, we, in the interests of our own country, must raise our voice against any attempt made by a landlord who, himself a member of Parliament, has served notices to quit on his tenants in the north of this county, because they are unwilling to pay an addition of 40 per cent. to their present rent." Proposed by Dr. W. Keating; seconded by Mr. James Downes:-

"That we express our strong condemnation of the system by which landlords compel their tenantry to purchase new leases by the payment of exorbitant fines, and also that by which they send valuators on their property to increase their rent rolls, without allowing the tenant to be represented by a valuator, we consider such a system arbitrary on the part of the landlord and unjust towards the tenant, and altogether contrary to the spirit and intention of the Land Act .- Dublin Freeman.

Mrs. Johnston and her family have undertaken to supply the deficiency which recent secessions have effected for Mr. Johnston. The lady and her children lett Belfast on Wednesday at the head of a huge procession en route for the town of Comber. They sat in a carriage which was bedizened paraphernalia, lilies in the horses' heads, drums and fifes in full party cry, and a couple of miles' length of men marching in open defiance of the law. These are the gentlemen who love Ireland with a love unspeakable, and whose affection for their Catholic countrymen is the boast of all their orators. Our correspondent telegraphs that this mob has held Belfast since dawn, that business is suspended, and that never was their a grosser violation of that trumpery law which successive Governments have never ventured to vindicate. We may well demand what has become of the drafting and marching and whirling and careering of police and military from every station in the country? Doubtless they are actively engaged in doing nothing; doubtless they are passively engaged in lending eclat to the procession. The annual pusillanimity of the Executive in this business has well-nigh exhausted the forin this business has well-nigh exhausted the forin this business has well-nigh exhausted the forbearance and spent the patience of the majority of fortunately for his dignity "brother" Sambo, during the people of Ulster; and it is to be hoped that the day, indulged in rather deep potations-toasting, when action is taken the overthrow of Government no doubt, the "glorious memory," and strayed from will not signalise the expression of a people's conhis party, unconscious the while that in cursing tempt. In 1865 when Sir Robert Peel was dashing about London, and the Lord Lieutenant was ambling in the Ladies' Mile, the town of Belfast was held for cleven days by a mob of armed Orangemen, who shot down the populace with the impunity only accorded to actual warfare. There was a great deal of talk in the Commons; and there was a lawyer's commission; and one set of police were substituted for another; and the celebrations were resumed next year with undiminished vigour. Ever since then Belfast, and Londonderry, and Monaghan, and Lisburn, and Portadown, and all the abodes of historic ruffianism, have been the scenes of July riot

"That this house do resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the expediency of instituting such a federal arrangement between the different portions of the United Kingdom as would enable Ireland, through an Irish Parliament, to of Lancashire, which is very much to its credit, runs legislate upon all matters of a purely Irish nature, as follows,;—"The rule of the clergy has been exlegislate upon all matters of a purely Irish nature, while reserving to the Imperial Parliament complete control over all legislation of an Imperial charac-

At the annual distribution of prizes at the Dublin Catholic University School on Tuesday last, there was a distinguished attendance, including Cardinal Cullen and the Lord Mayor. An address to his Eminence was presented from the pupils. The premiums having been distributed, His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop rose amidst loud applause. He said that it afforded him great pleasure to preside over the distribution of prizes of the Catholic University School, and he heartily congratulated the pupils on their success, and on the care and dili-gence with which they had applied themselves to gence with which they had applied themselves to their studies throughout the past year. He had proclaimed, but it is well known that liberty their studies throughout the past year. He had been delighted to hear from their superiors and others the very best account of them, and to be told of their ardour, perseverance in learning, and, above of the Pope's Government, but to make up for it the all, their attention to religious instruction, and the attmost laxity of morals is permitted. The infamous practice of their Christian duties. The Catholics of "comic" papers of Italy are openly sold in the Dublin ought to be thankful to the Almighty for the streets. Photographs of the most revelting kind Dublin ought to be thankful to the Almignty for the advantage of having such a school among them; a are offered for sale in the cases by girls of tender the time of the explosion—which he fixed as 1:27 the time of the explosion and the explosion are the explosion and the

which an excellent education, both secular and reli- permitted to what is cuphemistically called the was approaching the bow when the explosion took gious, could be imparted to their okildren. Education was becoming more and more indispensable every day; a liberal education was necessary to enable men to run in the race of life with any fair chance of success; and they who neglected to acquire it, when an opportunity was afforded them, were wilfully putting themselves in the impossibility of coping, with any hope of success, with their more accomplished opponents. A happy change had come over the country of late; liberal careers were now open to Catholics of all classes, and it was their duty to fit themselves for the stations they were called to hold. He congratulated the pupils, therefore, on their success in every department of learning, but above all, on their excellent religious training. The

history of the last year showed most eloquently the absolute necessity of religion for society. All had read the terrific events which had happened in What was their cause? Irreligion, unbelief, religious indifference. And what had happened in France might befall every other nation which departed from the principles of religion. Thanks to Heaven, Ireland had been so far spared such calamities; we were comparatively free from infidelity, and it depended on Catholics to be so for ever, provided they were faithful to send their children to good Catholic schools. He said, moreover, that this school was the gate to the Catholic University, in which they might be trained up to every grade of knowledge required for the discharge of their duties as citizens and Christians. Hitherto Catholic education had enjoyed no assistance from the State, but he trusted the time was now come, or not far distant, when they would have a Catholic University of their own (loud applause), in which they could acquire science without danger to their faith. In a few days a great deputation was to wait on the Prime Minister to urge upon the Government the necessity of giving the Catholics of Ireland a Catholic University (applause.) It would be headed by the Chief Mugistrate of the city (loud cheers) and many other influential gentlemen, and he hoped that other mayors throughout the country would follow so good an example. Catholies had now to make a stand against the pretentions of Trinity College, that stronghold of Protestantism. It was trying to entrap them, but he trusted they would not fall into the snare. What! Their forefathers suffered every species of woe for the sake of their faith, and would they, for a paltry temporal advantage, endanger the everlasting welfare of their sons? (applause.) He once more congratulated the pupils on their success, and concluded by expressing the hope that they would, ere long, be able to finish their studies in a Catholic University well endowed by the State and holding the high rank to which it was entitled in this old Catholic land (loud and prolonged cheering) .- Catholic · Times.

Baron Fitzgerald opened the Commsssion for Westmeath on Thursday at Mullingar. This county having recently been made to occupy a large share of Parliamentary attention, and its alleged criminality having been made the pretext for the enactment of the severest Coercion Bill ever presented to Ireland by the English Parliament, much interest was naturally felt at the next " jail delivery" for the shire. That event has arrived, and if the state of the calendar, the address of the learned judge to the grand jury, and the returns of the Constabulary, constitute a fair criterion by which the crime of a county may be estimated. Westmeath at this moment holds, in this respect, an enviable position. The calendar exhibits six cases for trial-while the police reports state that but thirty-four offences were committed, the perpetrators of which have not been made amendable in the county since the last assizes. These thirty-four constitute very little more than one-half of the number of crimes returned at the last assizes as having been perpetrated in the interval between it and the preceding of delivery. The principal indictment for trial at the present assizes is one wherein the prisoner is charged with having sent a threatening letter. Of murder-of grievious assault-of firing at with intent-or of any of the other ordinary crimes, we might call them, incident to a large population, we have a most gratifying blank. When we remember that the inhabitants of Westmeath number something over 78,000 we think that one offender in every 13,000 of its people speaks well for their orderly and peaceable character. Even the undetected thirty-four wrongdoers give us but one offender, supposing each crime represented one perpetrator, to every 2,300 inhabitants. Why such a county should be the subject of special repressive legislation it is difficult to understand,-Freeman.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The latest accession to the ranks of Orangeism of which we are cognisant is a true born son of Africa—a genuine nigger. On Wednesday last this "true blue" appeared in Shiel Park, Liverpool, as gaudily bedizened with the July colours as any Orangeman of them all. Than "brother" Sambo none wore his lily more gracefully, or flaunted his colours with an air of greater bravado. He joined the Pope he might be in close proximity to those who might take exception to his rather strong expressions on that head. Alas for Sambo! this was the thing which exactly happened. After shouting to h-1 with the Pope rather louder than usual, he was pounced upon by a few women and pummelled not black, that being his natural colour-but blue and every other colour in the rainbow. His lilies were given to the winds, and his scarves, upon which he had evidently set great value, torn to ribbons. The result was in the end a free fight and the last we believe seen of "brother" Sambo was a race for dear life from the grip of a policeman and the disgrace of a whole province.—Dublin Freeman.

Mr. Maguire, M.P., Cork, has given notice of the
following motion in the House of Commons:—

other notorieties for this latest accession to their runks .- Catholic Times.

A CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER ON THE STATE OF ROME,—An article on the State of Rome in the Manchester Courier, the lending Conservative journal charged for the rule of men who openly boast their atheism and who do everything in their power to monifest their contempt for roligion. At the present moment the Italian army is the supreme power in the Eternal City and what that army is likely to be may be guessed from the fact that a recent decree has abolished army chaplains, and prohibited the celebration of divine service amongst the soldiers. It is not merely the presence of this large body of irreligious and immoral men in Rome which is to be deplored, but also the general decadence of morals under the civil governments of Italy. Outwardly the Romans are at least decent. does not extend to political matters. In them there is as much restraint as under the censorship

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uberant manifestations of joy over the present condition of the Papacy."

Too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of Catholics refusing to believe all "news" from Rome, all telegrams concerning the Holy Father and the acts of the Italian Government, until confirmed from genuine Catholic sources. Bigotry and Subsidy are, between them, using the telegraph wires, and the correspondence columns of the daily press, to aid the cause of the father of lies; the cause of the revolution against the Vicar of Christ. A few cases in point, for which we are indebted to the latest number of the Roman News Letter, will prove we are not exaggerating one whit. Our contemporary says: -Some half-dozen years back, the Italian Premier of the time was forced to own in his place in the House that an incredible amount of what is called secret service money in the budget, went to salary or pay for articles in some of the most important newspapers in Europe. Some five years back, the Holy Father paid a high compliment to the English nation by laying the foundation-stone of the new church attached to the English college. The correspondent of a very important English paper asked leave to be present, and was put in a foremost place. The scene was one that will never be forgotten by those-ourselves amongst the rest-who assisted at it. When the ceremony was over, this gentlemanwe use the name under protest-expressed himself as deeply grateful for the courtesy which had allowed him to be present at a scene he had felt more than anything he had ever witnessed. It was remarked, Then you will give a good account of it when you write?" And this was his answer-we youch for it on no idle hearsay-"Ah! that's quite another matter; it is more than my place is worth. I am furbidden to say anything favourable to the Pope or his Government,"-Catholic Opinion.

UNITED STATES.

APPALLING DISASTER AT NEW YORK.—EXPLOSION OF STATEN ISLAND FERRY-BOAT BOILER. - New York city, which has lately supped so full of horrors, has never been afflicted with a tragedy so appalling as that which burst upon it at 1:30 o'clock on Sunday, 30th ult, when the boiler of the Staten Island ferryboat "Westfield" exploded, while the vessel lay in her slip, alongside of South Ferry, off the Battery .-In an instant of time hundreds of human beings were killed, or maimed, or scalded. The ferry-boat Westfield, belonging to the Staten Island Railroad Company, was built in Brooklyn in 1862, and was then furnished with a low-pressure boiler, 24 feet in length, 10 feet diameter, with 12 feet front, constructed in New York of return fine iron of varying thickness, and allowed to carry a pressure of twentyfive pounds to the square inch. This boiler was in the boat continuously, and subjected to the examination from time to time required by the law of the United States. The last inspection was made on the 15th of June, by John K. Mathews, Inspector of Boilers, and the certificate that this boiler had been then subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of 34 pounds to the square inch, and certifying to the trustworthiness of the craft in every respect, was registered in the Custom-house on the 15th of July. and a copy of this certificate furnished to the boat hung in mockery to a portion of the timbers of the vessel left intact but overhanging the awful wreck. The boat thus stamped with official approval had a crew considered to be fully equal to the duty of managing her with safety to her human freight and profit to her owners. Thus manned this vessel was to make what was known as the extra trip. The regular boats leave at each hour, but Sunday afternoon it has been the custom of the Company to start a boat each half hour. The Westfield was selected for this duty, and went over into her slip and was made fast about 1:10 o'clock to receive passengers and be in readiness to leave at the half hour.

HER DOOMED PASSENGERS.

As soon as she was made fast people began to go on board. Being an extra boat, however, and the fact of her departure not being so widely known as that of the regular hour boats, there was fortunately not an extraordinary rush of passengers. It is impossible to say precisely what number were on board, but it is certain there was not the large number named rumor. The ticket-taker stated that he had taken a few over 200 tickets, and Captain Vreeland, who was not aware of this fact at the time he made the statement, said that he thought there was about 250 persons on board when the disaster occurred. Almost every nationality and grade of society was represented, but the poorer classes, snatching a brief espite from toil, and the Irish race, predominated. There were, however, in the crowd some Americans, a few Germans, French and Italians, and a few who seemed from their appearance to be lifted by fortune out of the ranks of labor.

A DEADLY SOUND IN THE HOLD.

All being in readiness, and the hour for departure arrived, the assistant pilot, James McGee, went into the pilot-house furthest from the dock, and Captain Vreeland into the one nearest it. The latter delayed giving the orders to cast off until he could see the incoming boat appear in the bay below. That short delay was of inestimable value. Terrible as was the loss of life, awful as was the impending calamity in every aspect, it would have been much worse had the boat loosened from her moorings and got out into the bay. While Captain Vreeland was thus waiting, and just about 11/2. o'clock, the engineer tried the water and found it above the stop-cock. The Government steam guage on the bont was fixed and locked at twentyseven pounds, and she was carrying that amount, as she was blowing off steam. At this moment the fireman Carreson heard a peculiar hissing sound, as if made by the escape of steam from the torward end of the boiler. He listened for a moment; it was an ominious sound, full of peril. No such noise could be heard from that portion of the boiler consistent with safety. He started forward to investigate the matter, and had taken but a few steps when he encountered a dense volume of steam. At that instant something struck him in the face and

he became insensible.

The boiler exploded with terrific power, the whole end of the boat on which the people were gathered was torn to tatters; fragments went upward and outward. The shrick of agony that came simultaneously from hundreds of lips, mingled with the deafening crash of timbers, and with that most appalling of earthly sounds, the shrick of a horse in terror and pain, for one of these animals attached to a carriage in which were several persons, was enveloped in the deadly folds of steam and tumbled into the crater made by the explosion. Scores of people were upon the edge of the disaster only, and escaped with only slight scalds and bruises by rushing forward and jumping from the upper deck, on which nearly all the passengers were gathered, to the main deck.

THE CAUSE OF THE DISASTER.

The engineer of the Westfield is Henry Robinson, a colored man, who has been thirteen years in the employ of the Ferry Company, and is stated by the Superintendent, Captain James W. Braisted, to be a very competent and trustworthy person. He has been the engineer or the Westfield for about nine years.

He says that until within about three minutes of

social evil is simply appalling. The existence of place. As he was going forward he saw one of his this state of things is attested by parties of every themen (Patrick Finnegan) standing in the door of shade of political view, and it will probably be held the engine room. Robinson states complatically by most people to be something of a check on ex- that before he went off the beat, about five minutes before the explosion, he tried the gauge-cocks in the boiler, and found them all full, showing-if his statement is true-that there was plenty of water in the boiler. As he passed the engine-room, on the way off the boat, he observed the steam-gauge, and noticed that there were twenty-seven pounds of steam, and the steam was blowing off from the safety-valve at the time. The boiler was inspected on the 15th of June, when a pressure of thirty-five pounds hydraulic was applied. The steamboat Inspector gave a certificate permitting twenty-seven pounds of steam to be earried, and the safety-valve was weighed and locked at that point. The engineer states that no water was supplied to the boiler after the bont left Quarantine Landing, on the way up; that he commenced to feed the boiler on leaving the lower landing, and shut off the water after leaving Quarantine. The reason assigned for so much steam being in the boiler is that when lying in the slip steam makes very rapidly. The engineer further states that the boiler was repaired and thoroughly overhauled last winter by Cobanks and Theall, who put in new "legs" and patched it on the bottom. He being off the boat just before the explosion, can give no positive information as to the premonitory symptoms, and can only give his opinion as to the cause. He thinks that the plate which patched the boiler on the bottom became loosened, and finally gave way. The theory is supported by the statement of one of the firemen.

One of the two firemen on board the Westfield named Robert Carresan, was in the fireroom at the time of the explosion. He says that fifteen minutes before the accident he was on the head of the cylinder, wiping it off; then he went into one of the cabins for a drink of water, and thence into the fireroom. While here he heard a hissing noise proceeding from the rear of the boiler and went to see the cause. He had gone but about half way the length of the boiler when he found the steam so dense that he could proceed no further, and turned to come back, when he was struck in the face by a flying splinter and knocked down. He made his way to the deck as fast as possible. This hissing noise which Carresan heard must have been the starting of the plate, patching the boiler, and the first premonition of the impending disaster.

A cursory examination of the boiler as it rested in the bottom of the boat, revealed the fact that the explosion occurred at the rear, and that a piece about four feet long and two feet wide was forn out of the jacket and thrown a distance of about one hundred feet on the dock at the barge office. Another, a larger portion of the boiler, was thrown directly forward into the bow of the boat.

ENAMINATION BY THE INSPECTOR.

Inspector Jameson made a thorough examination of the wreck, and, after listening to the statement of the engineer, Robinson, made a personal examination of the piece of the boiler which was landed on the Custom-house Pier, and sent it to Police Headpairters. After looking carefully at the remains of the boiler in the hold of the boat, he found one of the old deck hands of the Westfield, who stated that the engine room had been without an attendant for fifteen minutes prior to the explosion, and the Inspector found other parties who corroborated this statement. The Inspector is of the impression that the piece of "jacket" found on the dock came from the top of the boiler, and the force with which it was tern from its place must have been terrific, for it was completely doubled up. If the statement is correct that the boiler was without an attendant for fifteen minutes before the explosion, the cause of the disaster is evident. The immense accumulation of steam having reached the full limit allowed by the Inspectors, could not find egress with sufficient rapidity by means of the safety-valve, and therefore burst its iron confines and dealt death, and destruction all around. If the engineer is false in his statement to our reporter—that he tried the cocks and found plenty of water—it is more than probable that there was a deficiency of water in the boiler. It is more than probable, in the estimation of Inspector Jameson, that the accident was due to the excessive accumulation of steam during the absence of the engineer.

The exact number of the injured is not yet ascertained. The Covernment ordered an inquiry as to the cause of the disaster, and on Tuesday, the 1st inst., it commenced its labors.

Wm. A. Lightfoot commissioned as a supervising inspector to examine the engine; he discovered an eighteen inch rent between the upper and lower flues on the port side where it could not be seen, and could scarcely be touched. This must have exploded some time, otherwise the engine was as good as ever. The rent did not go right through the middle of the sheet, but was covered outside by good iron. It ought to have borne 30 pounds. The attachments of the guage were not as he would have them. The valve was oxydized in unworkmanlike order, in a shocking state, and would bear 60 pounds without blowing. The accident was caused by over pressure, and was not an explosion but a rupture.

After adjournment for half an hour Lightfoot volunteered the explanation that what he said in reference to the the valve applied to its condition as he saw it yesterday. After exposure to the rain and wind he could not tell but it might have been in good order before the explosion. The work of dragging the ferry slip and its

neighbourhood was continued this morning, but no more bodies had been recovered up to a late hour this afternoon. It would be premature to offer an opinion before

the official investigation is concluded. Fault there was somewhere, and lives have been lost thereby. Who has been at fault is the question for the investigators.

New York, August 3rd .- One by one the inured by the disaster are dying off. The fireman died last night, and two other victims died this morning. The official investigation was continued to-day. Henry Robinson, engineer of the Westfield, sworn :- Am an engineer for nearly fifteen years ; was engineer of the Westfield at the time of the explosion; came into the New York slip and saw that there was 20 pounds of steam, and then went out and the fireman shut off the water. I then saw the fireman coming out of the fire-room, and asked him if all was right, and he said yes. I then returned to the engine, and saw 27 pounds of steam, then walked slowly off towards the bow, and saw the captain with his hand on the wheel; then returned towards the engine-room, and when within 10 or 15 feet, heard the explosion. I rushed from the engine-room door and stopped and lifted the trap, when the fireman came up so badly injured that he died immediately. Was not absent four minutes after noticing 27 pounds on the gauge. Don't know whether the gauge was correct or not. The valve was set at 27, so as to give the stem a chance to blow off, and keep it at 25. When the gauge showed 27 in the slip the safety valve was just simmering. There were sometimes little pinhole leaks in the engine, and there was a patch on the saddle, put on last fall, which was blown of at the explosion. (Witness produced an engineer's license, procured in 1869.) If the gauge was out of order and he wanted to measure the valve, he would, he said, get some one to figure it up for him. He could neither read nor write, though on four occasions he passed examinations as an engineer.

A man on trial for murder, in Alabama, went to