

MURDER UPON MURDER. On the 30th of last month a quiet, peaceable young man named M'Arde, went to the funeral of a Mrs. Martin, at Ballyrooney Meeting-house, county Down. From the name mentioned we presume the person buried was a Protestant, and the attendance on his part, a mark of respect, such as frequently occurs. On return, he adjourned with two Protestants, to a public-house, where they had some drink and a quarrel on the way home afterwards. M'Arde was roughly used, and would have been worse treated but for one circumstance, which shows at once the good neighbourhood that usually prevails in Ulster, and the difference between Protestants and Orangemen. Two Protestants interfered and shielded him, preventing Guinn and Foster, his companions, from hurting him. After separating, M'Arde, it is said, went over to Guinn's house in the evening, for the purpose of 'making it up,' that they might dwell in peace. But they quarrelled again. M'Arde, was removed, and Guinn was again prevented from washing on him—the door was closed—alas! the widow was open, and Guinn snatching up a huge pair of tailor's shears rushed after him, vowing his death. He did overtake, and he did stab him. A man named Morgan, another Protestant we hope, prevented a second blow—but, one was fatal. The man died. Ten of the coroner's jury were for a verdict of 'Willful Murder'—two against it—on what principle, we cannot guess.

The friendship shown by several Protestants amply proves that M'Arde was not a bigot, or disliked by his neighbours. He was well liked and deservedly respected, but the demon of Orangemen revels in blood, and will until it be duly and thoroughly exercised.

Twenty-five years ago, in the same locality, another M'Arde was inhumanly butchered by a hideous, horde of Orangemen.

The more they are allowed to go on unchecked, the freer they get, as should be expected.—Dublin Irishman.

We (Sligo Champion) are glad to learn that some of the persons imprisoned in the goal of Sligo, under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, have been liberated by the Irish Executive in compliance with memorials presented on their behalf. We have often had reason to boast of the tranquillity of Sligo, never was it more so than at present; we would, therefore submit to the Viceroy that it would be a gracious recognition of the characteristic peace and good order of this borough, to release the remaining prisoners, and thus permit them to return to their families, who are depending on them for support. In the case of one or two of the prisoners, who happen to be American citizens, Mr. P. MacDonogh, solicitor, has used commendable exertions towards their liberation, in furtherance of which he communicated with the American Consul in Dublin, from whom he has received the following reply:—

U. S. Consulate, Dublin, April 3, 1866. Patrick MacDonogh, Esq., Solicitor, Sligo. Sir—In reply to yours of the 30th ult., I can inform you that this Government will not recognise alienism or American citizenship in any one born in this country, therefore in such a state of international law, if such be its correct interpretation, no application for their discharge on the grounds of their being American citizens would be successful on any terms. I have, however, brought this question of allegiance, in which the views of both countries differ so widely, under the consideration of Mr. Adams, U. S. Minister at London, and also of my government at Washington which I trust will result favourably to our numerous adopted citizens now in the prisons of Ireland. In the meantime, any of these prisoners so imprisoned, are at liberty to present memorials to the Irish Executive for their liberation from prison, on any conditions they may think proper to agree to; but I have no authority, as Consul, and their representative in this country, to compromise their rights of citizenship—I have the honour to remain, yours obediently, WILLIAM B. WEST, U. S. Consul.

THE LAND FOR THE PEOPLE.—(Co-Operative Companies).—This is the great problem of present history in Ireland—how those who make the soil profitable may make it profitable to themselves. They feel they have had sung to them 'Sic vos non vobis' quite long enough.

How it may be done—such is the thought which has shot through millions of minds here and elsewhere impelling numbers to try measures of peaceable persuasion, and others, who saw them fail, to measures of desperate daring. There were no great difficulty in it if the law making power were impartial between landlords and tenants—but, unfortunately whilst the landlords represent themselves the tenant is represented generally by others—lawyers and such like, who, too frequently remembering the sacred cause of self accept a fee from the opposite party. A place for themselves they benignly look upon as something identical with a good measure of tenant-right.

There is, however, a mode of action different from either of those alluded to. Its aim is to use the mercantile means already in our hands, and to turn to good what has so often been availed of for evil.

We have this developed in the Joint-stock Companies recently started, with the object of purchasing land, whenever possible, and selling it again in small lots to suit the small farmers. What would such a Company have done for Ireland, during the last twenty years, had it been in existence! The idea was there, and Charles Gavan Duffy tried with others to reduce it to practical working. Alas, there were some specimens of the lawyer-representative in the camp, and Sadlier's reality wrought more wrong to Ireland than a refusal of Emancipation had done.

From all parts of the country accounts reach us of the continued and increasing emigration. So great has become the rush that the passenger vessels have raised their charges, but even this does not abate it. Should this fleeing of our people continue much longer Ireland will have yet another want—the want of population.—Dublin Irishman.

The long prevailing unfavourable weather has put the farmers to their wits end to know what to do. Barley, potatoes, and oats are still unown and fully a fortnight's fine weather will be necessary to prepare the land for the seed; and in many cases the manure put upon the land has been rendered almost worthless by the flooding rains. Fortunately, no shipping casualties have occurred on the coast during the week, though the weather was very stormy. The wind was so strong against the 'Montagu' steamer on Friday, that the assistance of the 'Ruby' steam tug was necessary to tow her over the bar. A French lugger has been lying here during the past three weeks, waiting for a cargo of oysters but so rough has been the weather, that scarcely any oysters have been dredged.—Wexford People.

SUPPOSED 'FENIAN' PROCLAMATION.—Copies of the following document, written in a bold hand, on slips of paper about the size of an ordinary foolscap page, were found posted, on Monday morning, at the entrance to several of the churches of the city:—

Irishmen—You are earnestly requested not to go to the races, or go to Maying. It is too soon to Forget Those that Sacrificed their Liberty for you, in their endeavor to Right the Wrong. It is those fatigued fellows that getting up the Races for your Oppression. Remember the Banished—John Lynch, Bryan Dillon, O'Donovan Rossa, &c. God Save the Green!

[A sketch of four crows piks crossed.] The police removed the placards immediately on their attention being attracted by them.—Cork Examiner.

FENIAN PRISONERS IN ORAHO GABL.—There are at present thirteen Fenian prisoners in our goal, and, notwithstanding, no additional assistance for their safe keeping has been thought necessary by Mr. McClelland, the governor.—Tyrone Constitution.

STRANGE DOINGS IN BALBRIGGAN.—Recently the peace and harmony which for years have characterized this town have been sadly disturbed, and Balbriggan has now become almost uninhabitable. Personal liberty is not considered to exist within its narrow limits, while business has been frightened from the establishments of its inhabitants. The complaints we have received are numerous and strong, and while they variously describe 'the situation,' they are unanimous in attributing all the present pressing grievances to irresponsible officiousness, which is neither scrupulous nor discriminating in the exercise of the authority with which it has been invested. Some of the cases reported to us are inexplicable, and we have no doubt if they were communicated to the Executive that the culpable would not long enjoy the opportunity of gratifying their small antipathies or personal caprices. The most effective remedy for most of what is complained of would be the immediate appointment of a stipendiary magistrate to administer justice in that locality. When we consider the great and despotic power which is placed within the exercise of the magistracy during the present unfortunate suspension of the constitution, no one will deny that the laws, especially those affecting personal liberty, should be administered by a responsible magistracy, entirely free from local predilections, and beyond the taint of doubt and suspicion. We are sure that if the attention of the Government were directed to the subject there would be an end speedily put to the causes of the complaints to which we have alluded, and to which we trust it will be unnecessary to make further reference.—Freeman.

Members of Parliament will, no doubt, like to know how the matter of mixed education actually stands at present in the Irish National Schools. The Archbishop of Dublin, in his primary charge, stated that 'mixed education exists already much more in name than in reality, however little this may be recognized in England.

It was the hope and expectation of bringing about such a blending together and fusing of all our people which animated the original founders of this system. Despite of limited and partial successes here and there, this grand hope of theirs has been defeated, and every day it is becoming more impossible to conceal the fact of a defeat.

This statement, proceeding ex cathedra from so high an authority, would seem to be decisive. But Dean Atkins has analyzed the returns of the National Board for the last quarter in the past year, and has given the results in an appendix to his sermon on 'The Irish Education Question.' The figures, of the accuracy of which there can be no question, are very remarkable, and will probably lead many persons to modify their views on the subject. The schools are divided into three classes. In the first class is a Protestant, in the second he is a Roman Catholic, and in the third there are two masters, one Protestant and the other Catholic. In 'Class A,' under Protestant masters, there are 1,023 schools with 76,511 Protestant pupils, and 20,163 Roman Catholic pupils. That is, between a third and a fourth of the children in those schools are Roman Catholics, and a case of proselytism has never been heard of. In 'Class B,' under Roman Catholic masters, there are 2,152 schools with 205,934 Roman Catholic pupils, and 17,248 Protestant pupils. In 'Class C,' where there is a teacher of each creed, the number of schools is 209, and of pupils 13,793 Roman Catholics, with 19,824 Protestants. Thus there are 3,384 schools in which united education is going on. In these schools the Roman Catholics are 239,890 and the Protestants 103,593—total, under the influence of united education, 343,483, which shows an increase of over 48,990 in mixed schools since 1859. It is true that nine-tenths of the mixed schools are in Ulster; but it must be remembered that in the other provinces more than nine-tenths of the population are Roman Catholics, and there cannot be Protestant children where there are not Protestant parents. Dean Atkins makes the following reflection on the returns:—

'It does seem strange to hear this result described as 'partial and limited.' 239,820 Roman Catholics mixing every day with 103,593 Protestant children, or, in other words, 343,483 Irish children, having in a greater or less degree, their religious animosities softened, and learning that they are to live in peace and harmony, and to respect mutually their religious opinions. This seems a great and wonderful result to have been produced even by the National Board, with all the opposition it has encountered from contending parties.'—Times Dublin Cor.

The two cannon were brought to Galway in 1857, when Sarsfield Omyra, Esq., D.L., was High Sheriff. That gentleman made application to Lord Annesley, then Secretary of War, for some of the trophies of the Crimean war, and was granted two pieces of ordnance that had been taken by the Russians from the Guards, and recaptured by the 88th Connaught Rangers from the Russians. Therefore it was that the people of this Province held those cannon in such appreciation. The War Department charged Mr. Sarsfield Omyra £35 15s. for the carriage upon which the cannon were mounted. That, together with the cost of conveyance from Woolwich to Galway, which Mr. Sarsfield Omyra paid out of his own pocket, amounted in all to £79. Probably, when the present commotion passes away, the cannon may be left back again; but we only express the universal public opinion to the town and county of Galway when we say that there was not the slightest occasion for the removal of those ornaments from our square. In this locality we have not the slightest apprehensions of any outbreak on the part of the Fenians, so that if the removal of the cannon had any connection with that foolish conspiracy, the military authorities have merely imparted an importance to it which it by no means deserved, so far as Galway is concerned.—Galway Vindicator.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The government measure on the Royal Commissioners report on capital punishment, laid on the table of the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor, has just been issued. It proposes to make murder of 'two degrees.' For murder of the 'first degree' death is to be inflicted, and of the 'second degree' penal servitude. The bill is to give protection to new-born children; rounding a new-born child penal servitude. It will not be necessary to prove that the child was 'completely born alive.' In a trial for murder the jury not to find concealment of birth. In future executions for murder are to be enforced 'within the walls' of a prison, under certain regulations.

A contemporary, a few weeks since, directed very marked attention to the practice of a foreign West-end bookseller in twisting adverse criticisms into favorable ones for advertising purposes—thus deceiving the public, and, as the journal in question stated, 'condemnation into entirely unmerited eulogy.' Another instance has just been pointed out. In a denunciatory review of a work by a new poet, the writer remarked—'And this extraordinary production M.—modestly conceives to be equal to Goethe!' which unsatisfactory opinion was thus served up to the public in next week's advertisement.—Extraordinary production, equal to Goethe!—Guardian.

THE LATE MEETING AT EARL ROSSALL'S.—The Tablet says: 'The statement made at this meeting by Mr. Cogan has been reported by himself in a letter to the Times.' Mr. Cogan has been reported by a large number of members to say that they had determined to support the second reading of the Ministerial Bill. The names of these members have not been published, as far as we know, but we have seen it stated in some newspapers that they were about twenty in number, and had met to consult together at the Reform Club. Mr. Cogan said that these Irish members, as Reformers, supported the English Reform Bill constitutionally, without asking

any pledge with regard to important Irish questions. They considered this the right and constitutional course, rather than to seek for terms, or make bargains for their support.' This is progress; for fourteen years ago it was thought sufficient for Irish members to get into Parliament by swearing to Independent Opposition, and then to ask for places and support the Ministry. But this is now found insufficient, and nothing less will serve their purpose than a gratuitous condemnation of the very principle of Independent Opposition as unconstitutional and wrong. But besides the moral and conscientious objection felt by these high-minded men to seeking for terms or making bargains for their support (terms and bargains, be it remembered, about 'important questions affecting more intimately Irish interests'), they had a further reason for supporting the English Reform Bill, and the confident hope that the English and Scotch Liberals would support those great and pressing measures affecting the interests of the Irish people, which it was unnecessary to allude to, more particularly when they came to be considered as the Irish members doubted not they were thus fairly securing and acquiring new claims, &c., &c., &c., as may be seen in Mr. Cogan's letter.

A metropolitan coroner, of vast experience, gave it as his opinion that an average of one out of every twenty women in London had been guilty of the crime of infanticide. Now, this is a crime which is necessarily the result of widespread social immorality. The wretched woman who murders her helpless offspring at its birth does so because it is the offspring of her sin and shame. She has been loose, corrupt, immoral, and she has fallen. Repentance for her sins is not her feeling, but solely fear of shame; she is ready to sin again, if she could only escape the consequences. Of all the discovered cases of infanticide the perpetrators are, for the most part, servant maids, with a percentage of sempstresses and persons of that class. Now, it would be a dreadful mistake to suppose that 'the wiles of wicked and designing men' were the origin of these crimes. No idea is more delusive. These unhappy females are reared under bad influences from childhood. Empty churches show what the religion of masses of the English population consists in.—Dublin Irishman.

The steady decline of the Cattle Plague continues to justify the legislation of February. The progress of the disease, which up to that time had been constantly maintained, was immediately arrested by the measures adopted, and the return which we published on Saturday last shows only one-sixth of the number of cases reported seven weeks before. In the week ending with the 17th of February upwards of 18,000 cases were found to have occurred. In the week ending with the 7th April the numbers returned were but 3,361, and though some addition must be made for cases not reported in time for publication, the corrected figures are only 4,068. Upon the whole, therefore, we may fairly suppose that a total of 3,500 or 3,700 cases, in place of 18,300, now represents the proportions to which the Plague has been reduced by seven weeks of decisive action.—Five-sixths of the mischief have disappeared.—Times.

The Volunteer Review on Easter Monday is simply a parade of certain divisions of our Volunteer Force, and what that Force is and what it means we conceive this opportunity of explaining. In a few words, then, a certain corps, called the Volunteer Staff Corps, could now in the space of thirty hours place on any given spot in the kingdom 150,000 troops, 60,000 horses, and 100 guns. On the speculation, too, that field works would be required in the operation, the same corps could collect together in 24 hours 80,000 'navvies' to throw up fortifications for defence or support. That is the announcement which, in as many words, was made the other day by Lord Elcho in the House of Commons. That is the state of perfection to which, after eighteen years of alarms or experiments, our national defences have at length been brought. The absolute security which it represents is due, first, to the spirit with which the Volunteer Force has been maintained; and, next, to the successful organization of resources which railway enterprise and experience are now found to suggest. This, indeed, is the true characteristic of our own age. Englishmen were brave and patriotic in all ages, and we could count our Volunteers by hundreds of thousands half a century ago. But nobody half a century ago could have so much as conceived the miracle which Lord Elcho ever hoped to accomplish against an army of 160,000 troops, all trained to the use of the rifle, strong in cavalry and artillery, and presentable at any point of the coast, with a force of 80,000 military artificers to throw up field works at need?—Times.

It is quite needless to inquire what would become of Ireland if left to itself, for it never will be left to itself. What we have to deal with is the actual state of things, and the actual state of things is that England governs Ireland with an overpoweringly strong hand and a bad conscience. Being really not an unconscionable power, or at least suffering a good many internal struggles and conflicting scruples, she finds her arm, strong as it is, and her sense of duty, strong as it is also, continually paralyzed by intrusive misgivings that she is not doing well by Ireland, and certainly has not done well in days gone by, though she may not see her way out of it just now. There is a very old saying that men are disposed to injure those they have already injured; and this can only apply to very bad men, and such, we will hope, is not our case. What we know for certain is that Ireland has not prospered as we have; that Ireland is the younger brother who somehow has come to continual grief, and we cannot be sure we had not a hand in it. He is suffering loss of dignity, loss of privilege, loss of social state, loss of common equality—some loss in everything, and, perhaps, it is our fault. The stronger has always more to answer for than the weaker. Though younger in mere race, England is an older, and stronger, and more experienced member of civilization. She cannot say she is not Ireland's keeper.—It is this irrepressible misgiving and self-reproach that really unnerves England, and makes her cowardly, wavering, irresolute, and unsystematic in her Irish policy. She pities, she relents, she even tricks, and, try as she will, she loses the affection and even the respect of both parties there. She could not even venture to lift a hand against the late atrocious conspiracy till more than half the men in Ireland had become members of it. Even now, with the stigma of tyranny and persecution on her brow, she is forced to pursue a policy of utter inability to the Irish Catholics. Maynooth is an absurdity which can only be defended, like the Protestant Establishment, by the fact that it exists and could not with safety be deprived of its grant. Probably there is no State, and never was, and never will be, so inconsistent as to fill a country with priests and leave them to find their own living.—But this is only one in a series of imbecilities which only bring us contempt. The Queen's Colleges and the National System bring us neither love nor honor from any set or side. For reasons that approve themselves to our own conscience they are the best or the only things that can be done; but their great excuse, and prime necessity, is the weakness of Government; and that is the natural result of a national conscience ill at ease, as it must be in the present state of things in Ireland.—Times.

UNITED STATES.

The Cincinnati Gazette says that pure 'Essence of Coffee' is now made in that city out of the 'cheapest, dirtiest molasses,' which is boiled until it ropes, cooled in pans, and when hard, broken up and pulverized. Ground rye is then mixed with it, after which it is boxed up, each box being sold at eighty cents and labelled 'Pure Essence of Coffee.'

FENIAN ROW.—According to a report in the New York World, there has been what Mr. Punch would call a 'bust' among the Fenians at the grand quarters in Union Square, New York; and President O'Mahony has come to grief. The World report states the real intention of the Eastport expedition was to hinder Confederation in New Brunswick, and make, if possible, difficulty between Britain and the United States. It proceeds:—

For this Killian and O'Mahony have labored assiduously, and all the money which has been subscribed to free Ireland from the shackles of British tyranny has been devoted merely to pay broken-down politicians and one-horse spouters high salaries to plunder the honest men of the organization who have sought to protect their countrymen from being robbed and plundered in the name of patriotism.—During the last few days men left their families and their homes, as they supposed to take shipping for Ireland, Killian having informed the men that Gen. Sweeny was already in the field, and that the movement to Eastport was but a part of the plan of that officer, who was to support them by a diversion on Canada. The men were induced to believe these villainous falsehoods, and left for the frontier in perfect good faith to take shipping at once. But when they arrived at Eastport they found neither transports nor iron-clads; and, as a last resort, the leaders Doring, Sinnott, Killian, and company, wanted their deluded followers to attack Campobello with nothing but their pistols. Col. Walsh, Captain Gaynor, and others, who did not wish to see the men slaughtered by the shells from the British fleet lying off the island, refused to accede to this mad-brained attempt of Killian and his confederates, and the entire scheme fell to the ground. The men had to beg their way back to New York as well as they could, and they are here now to call John O'Mahony to his last account.

Then the dupes who went to Eastport made a demand on the O'Mahony for their expenses, and the following scene ensued:— On Saturday last the Eastport contingent of the grand army of invasion called on John O'Mahony and demanded that they should receive remuneration for the loss of time and employment that they had suffered in the wild goose chase. O'Mahony refused at first, and denounced Killian as a traitor, who had sold the 'cause' to the enemy, Killian having already asserted the same thing of O'Mahony in the streets of Eastport, stating that the reason why his invasion scheme had come to grief was because 'the administration had refused to support him in the field.'—(Meaning John O'Mahony.) This did not satisfy the men, however, and Colonel Walsh and Gaynor, it is understood, presented pistols at the head of the O'Mahony, having previously locked the doors of the mansion to prevent his escape. O'Mahony, after a slight delay to gather his scattered faculties, paid the demands of the men, and they left on their way rejoicing, with \$30 per capita in their pockets.

But further trouble awaited the O'Mahony. A Convention was summoned at the 'Hall of the Department, 814 Broadway' to try him. He at first, it is said, declined to appear, but finally found himself constrained to do so, and the following account of the scene is given:—

When O'Mahony appeared before the Convention the greatest excitement prevailed, and it was almost impossible for the once powerful chieftain who had defied the entire hierarchy of the United States to make himself heard. Cries of 'Imbecile!' 'Spiritualist!' 'Killian's dupe!' 'Where is the invasion of Ireland now?' and other discordant sounds, were heard from all parts of the hall. The partisans of O'Mahony made strong efforts to obtain silence for their chief, and succeeded. O'Mahony was then placed upon the stand, and was subjected for nearly two hours to the most rigid and scrutinizing cross-examination by the delegates, individually and collectively. He was questioned and cross-questioned repeatedly as to how the money of the Brotherhood had been expended, and several members denounced him in the most violent terms. At one time when questioned as to how he came to send Killian on the wild goose chase to Eastport, and not being able to answer the question, he looked around in a supplicating manner and asked of the convention: 'Am I to be destroyed for this, the one great mistake of my life?' But he was met with answers from several delegates who jumped on their feet: 'It is not your first mistake.' 'You are the servant of the Fenian Brotherhood, not the master any longer.' And, 'We have made you, and we will unmake you;' and several other equally determined answers. Captain McMahon, a brave soldier who unmasked a battery during the war in the Second corps, denounced O'Mahony in unmeasured terms as an 'imbecile.' It was proposed to depose him at once by several delegates, when O'Mahony, finding himself driven to the last ditch, produced a letter purporting to be from James Stephens, in which that gentleman stated that he would leave Harris for the United States on the 28th of April, and expected to arrive here on the 10th of May. A compromise was then effected, and a committee was appointed to take charge of the Union Square headquarters, and the books, papers, and rooms therein, until James Stephens arrived for the purpose of making a proper investigation. The Committee is now in charge of the mansion and the valuable, if any remain to be taken care of, which is doubtful. The utmost indignation is felt against Killian, and should the great 'moblizer' return to New York it is probable that he will meet with rough treatment at the hands of the outraged and swindled Fenians. O'Mahony, it is said, is already nearly crazed, and the entire corps of salaried officials at Union Square, who have been swallowing up twelve thousand dollars a month of the funds of the Brotherhood, have been discharged by order of the committee appointed. Crowds of the disaffected yesterday visited the headquarters of President Roberts, and tendered their services, which were accepted with the proviso that they meant fight. And thus is ended the great swindle in Union Square, with its magnificent furniture, its liveried servants, its sumptuous Congress, its salaried officials, and all its other regal appurtenances.

The practical part of this is the stopping of the Union Square establishment. It is certainly a miserable end to the pretensions of the O'Mahony; and it is not likely that he will swindle any more poor dupes out of their hard earnings under the pretence of obtaining funds to invade Ireland, but really for the purpose of enabling him to live in swell style in Union Square.—Montreal Gazette.

The Rochester Union says: 'There are millions of bushels of rotten wheat now lying in the storehouses at Chicago to be shipped when navigation opens.—This grain, in all stages of decomposition, will be put into vessels, sent to Buffalo, put into elevators, thence taken in canal boats to all points where these craft go, chiefly to New York, and thence it will be sent to New England. This wheat is wholly unfit to be eaten, and will breed cholera wherever it is allowed to go.'

EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES.—American papers give a return showing the arrival of emigrants from Europe at the port of New York in the first quarter of the present year; the numbers are 31,673. In the first quarter of 1864 there were only 13,956.

The Washington Chronicle gives the following as a list of votes since the formation of the Government: By George Washington, 2; James Madison, 6; James Monroe, 1; Andrew Jackson, 9; John Tyler, 4; James K. Polk, 3; James Buchanan, 1; Andrew Johnson, 2.

On April 19 a torpedo, which had been sunk for three years and one month in Charleston harbor, exploded off the beach of Sullivan's Island, near battery 'B,' in about eight fathoms of water. It is supposed to have been exploded by the dragging of a vessel's cable. It lifted an immense volume of water, and presented quite a grand appearance.

Perhaps it might be better for all mankind if the heterogeneous legion were to rally round the flag of Father Matthew, and forewear the use of all drinks based upon alcohol. But, as the age of absolute-willness has not yet arrived, (see the police reports), it may be as well for those who will indulge in stimulating beverages to investigate their liquor, and consider calmly the ingredients which they are likely to imbibe with it.

To such an extent has the 'doctoring' of liquors been carried of late years, that it would not be too much to say that all the spirits dispersed over the bars of the public houses are of a deleterious quality, more or less. And the same may be said of the wines. In the city of New York, there are numerous establishments in which the manufacture of spurious brandy is openly carried on, and that to an incredible extent. In a case which lately came before one of the United States District Courts, some curious revelations were made with regard to this. One doctor admitted that he sold immense quantities of a stuff passed off for French brandy. Several cases containing this stuff were seized, and, on examination, it was found that they were of home manufacture, put together after the fashion of French cases, and marked with the foreign brands. It was proved that the contents of these poison-kegs did not comprehend a single drop of brandy. The basis of the stuff was something like what distillers call 'high wines,' the brandy flavor was imparted to it with a deleterious drug called oil of Cognac, and the addition of a sufficient quantity of burnt sugar toned it to the required tint. The peculiar, smoky flavor of Scotch whiskey may be given to any kind of neutral spirit with oil of tar—which might not be a very popular element of the frequent beverage, if people only knew something about its properties. There are manufacturers of 'elegant extracts' whose business it is to supply the trade with the means for imitating all the popular liquors, and there can be no better evidence of the extent to which adulteration has gone, than the fact that these manufacturers have all made a good thing of it.

There can be little doubt that the increase of atrocious crime keeps pace with the adulteration of liquor. The delirium produced by 'doctored' spirits is known to be of a more savage and dangerous kind than the excitement which follows the use of less fiery stimulants. Illustration of this may be taken from the northern nations of Europe, among whom there is a large consumption of alcoholic drinks, accompanied, however, by the exhibition of murderous passion; and if nobody ever hears of a Scottish Highlander getting drunk on his famous 'mountain dew,' and sticking a knife into his compeer while under the influence of it, it might be worth while to inquire whether the quality of the liquor drunk by him has not something to do with the fact.—N. Y. Weekly Register.

DIVORCE MADE EASY.—It is commonly claimed by Protestants that to the liberality of their ideas the world is greatly indebted. Human progress—moral, intellectual and physical—is said to flourish wonderfully under the enervating influence of the manifold sects which make up their substitute for a church. Among their various liberal notions, that upon the subject of marriage is pre-eminent; and their teachings have been received by such apt scholars, that the sacred tie between husband and wife is now looked upon by many as a mere thread, to be snipped asunder at convenience. The only draw-back to a divorce have heretofore been public exposure and expense; and, that the first of these may be avoided, and the second not needlessly incurred, we learn from the following advertisement, which we find in a New York daily paper:—

'Divorces obtained without publicity, and actually without fee till a legal divorce is obtained. Consultations free.'

The Catholic doctrine of the sacredness and inviolability of the marriage vows is evidently behind the age. The modern ideas of Protestantism run far ahead, and slow Christianity cannot keep up with them. Catholic Standard.

It is a singular fact that what were vast treeless prairie in Illinois, twelve years ago are now covered with a dense growth of thirty young forest trees, comprising various species of oak, hickory, cottonwood, ash, &c. So rapid has been the change in many localities, that where some of the earlier settlers located twenty-five years ago they can now out and buy good building timber a foot square. Prairie land, when kept from the annual burning formerly practised by the Indians, rapidly produces a growth of trees. Some of the old citizens, who greedily located the timber land when they came to this country, and were careless about acquiring prairie, now find the latter of more value than the former, their timber having grown faster than they used it.

A CALIFORNIA MYSTERY.—The Santa Cruz (Cal.) Sentinel reports that there was recently discovered in the forest which lies some seven miles north of the town a large board box, six feet long and four feet wide, lined with tin. On opening the box it was found to be closely packed with fine clothes, axes, picks, pans, kettles, &c. The shirts had gold buttons with brass settings so corrupted that the gold rims came off at the slightest touch, and the clothes turned to dust, after a few hours' exposure to the air, so long had been the time they had been deposited. There were also Spanish spears, gold-plated, which were so rusted as to destroy much of the plating.

General Mullen, for a long time connected with the War Department of O'Mahony's paper, Republic, has resigned his position, and is now lecturing on 'Fenianism,' denouncing the whole institution as a humbug.

A clergyman writes to the Independent complaining that there are over seventy vacant pulpits in Connecticut alone, the reason being that there is as great a decline of religious interest that congregations cannot be induced to contribute enough for the support of pastors.

YANKER ANTHROPOLOGY.—It is not many months since a colored gentleman came to this city from abroad. A New York merchant had been in business connection with him for several years, and from that business connection had realized a fortune, and felt that he must treat him kindly. When Sunday came he invited him to go to church with him. He went, and the merchant took him into his house near the pulpit, in a fashionable church. There was a prominent member of the church near the merchant, who saw this with great amazement. He could not be mistaken—it was a genuine 'nigger,' and no counterfeit. Midway in his sermon the minister discovered him, too, and was so confused and astonished by it that he lost his place and almost broke down. After service the man who sat near the merchant went to him, and in great indignation asked— 'What does this mean?' 'What does what mean?' 'That you should bring a nigger into church.' 'It is my pew.' 'Your pew, is it? And because it is your pew you must insult the whole congregation?' 'He is intelligent, and well educated,' answered the merchant. 'What do I care for that, he is a nigger?' 'But he is a friend of mine.' 'What of that? Must you therefore insult the whole congregation?' 'But he is a Christian and belongs to the same denomination.' 'What do I care for that? Let him worship with his nigger brethren!' 'But he is worth five millions of dollars,' said the merchant. 'Worth what?' 'Worth five million dollars.' 'For God's sake introduce me to him,' was the reply.—New York Paper.