

READ! READ! READ! THE POST and TRUE WITNESS

Premium to Old and New Subscribers.

A Magnificent Lithograph Picture, size 18x24, grouping four of the leading HOME RULERS of the present age.

Wm. E. Gladstone, Chas. Stewart Parnell, William O'Brien, Michael Davitt.

Will be mailed FREE to every new subscriber to either THE POST or THE TRUE WITNESS, and to every old subscriber who will pay subscription in advance and send in one new subscriber to either paper.

The work has been pronounced one of great merit and worthy of a prominent place in the household of those in sympathy with Ireland.

THE POST contains all the latest news of the day up to the hour of going to press. It is printed at 12 o'clock noon, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., and despatched in due time to meet outgoing mails.

Special attention is devoted to Financial and Commercial Reports, the latest and most reliable being furnished daily.

Subscription rate, THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. Special rates to Clergymen, School Teachers, Postmasters—ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

THE TRUE WITNESS, the weekly edition of THE POST, printed every Wednesday morning, is now in its 37th year of existence, and is a welcome visitor in thousands of families.

It contains weekly the latest news, the most interesting selections, sermons and lectures delivered by eminent scholars, lay and clerical, weekly letters from special correspondents.

A special feature is our Commercial Review for the week, furnishing the latest quotations and market reports.

The subscription rate is only ONE DOLLAR in advance.

Every new Subscriber will receive papers the balance of this year FREE.

Subscribers will date from January, 1888.

Address: THE POST PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., 761 Craig Street, Montreal.

WEDNESDAY.....DECEMBER 28, 1887

HONORABLE GREENE'S dislike for tobacco was one of his strong characteristics. It is related of him that once, when he was offered a cigar, he said: "No, I drink, I steal, I lie, but I don't smoke." This is just like the Witness. It can enjoy the practice of all the vices because it does not drink.

A CABLE despatch says the Duke of Norfolk has failed in his mission to Rome, and that the Pope will not take sides with the Tory Government against the Nationalists of Ireland. This is what we expected, for His Holiness must have known that to do so would cost him the allegiance of the Irish people throughout the world. Mr. Dillon's frank declaration exactly expresses Irish feeling.

WOMAN suffragists have received a setback in the State of New York. One woman residing at Alfred Centre has been sentenced to jail for twenty-four hours for voting at the State election. Nine other ladies were indicted at the same time, but it is to be presumed that they will not be tried, as this was made a test case, and nothing more than a court decision was desired.

REV. MAURICE O'SHEA has just been appointed post chaplain in the U. S. Army, his commission dating from November 21. Father O'Shea is the post Catholic chaplain out of thirty-four post chaplains in the army. In view of the very large percentage of American soldiers who are Catholics, this is surely not distributive justice.

RESOLUTIONS have been passed by seventeen Women's Liberal Associations in England, emphatically condemning the treatment of political prisoners by the Irish Executive, and expressing sympathy with Mr. O'Brien and his fellow sufferers. The resolutions represent the opinions of 6,000 women, members of Liberal and Radical associations.

If our city fathers desired to perpetuate the memory of His Ex. in a befitting manner, they would, when changing the name of Sussex avenue, have called it Luggacurran avenue, not Lansdowne. We can console ourselves with the reflection, however, that the name of Lansdowne was made honorable in literature long before it was appropriated by the Petya. George Granville, Baron Lansdowne, a Catholic nobleman, poet and statesman, born in 1667 and died in 1735 shed lustre upon a title that is now smirched by the hideous cruelties of the Luggacurran evictions.

THERE appears very little necessity for warlike appliances in America. The whole military defences of the United States are not equal to one European garrison. The report of the U. S. Secretary for War says that of the 143 rifle guns that are now to be found at various points along the 3,000 miles of sea coast and the 2,500 miles of frontier, 116 are of obsolete pattern, and of the remaining 26 there are only a few that are mounted in a manner to perform effective service. This is about the condition of Canadian defences. With the exception of Halifax, which is an imperial station, all our fortifications are in a state of more or less dilapidation. The old-fashioned forts of Quebec and Kingston are of no account now. It is well that we have but little military armaments. No

power on earth dare attack America. The Dominion alone on this continent is now open to assault, and that only from Russia, in case of a war with England. The United States and England have, we believe, fought their last fight.

THE COMMISSION appointed by the New York State Legislature to enquire as to a more humane method of inflicting capital punishment, has reached the conclusion that "electricity ought to be substituted for the hangman's rope. It is understood that a report to that purport will be made to the Legislature about to convene at Albany, which will, no doubt, for the sake of humanity and in the name of enlightenment, legislate accordingly.

THE Halifax Recorder, commenting on the suggestion of the St. John Globe, as to how the fishery and kindred disputed questions can be settled at one fell swoop, says annexation will meet with much approval among the rank and file of Halifax Toryism. Our contemporary adds:—"At election times, when the canvass is being vigorously proceeded with, it has always been surprising to note the amount of annexation feeling there is in the Tory ranks. We believe that to-morrow, if a vote were taken, three out of every four ballots cast for annexation would be by Tories. The 'loyalty' of that party has always been a delusion and a sham."

THE beauties of the divorce laws in the neighboring republic are well shown up by the N. Y. Sun which tells an extraordinary tale of the vagaries of conjugal severance in New York and of the ease and expense with which one may put away the wife one never had, and repudiate the husband one never knew. It is the most extraordinary story of the kind that has ever been told; and it demonstrates not only the facility of sham divorces, but the ease with which people who are really married and want to get unmarried may be deluded with the idea that they are legally divorced when they are not.

MR. ELLIS, M. P., in his paper the St. John Globe, came out a few days ago squarely in favor of annexation as the only true solution of all our Dominion difficulties. It is wonderful with what mildness he has been treated by the ultra loyal Tory press. The fact is that annexation every day becomes more and more apparent as the ultimate destiny of Canada, and the continuance of Sir John Macdonald in power is hastening the event with increasing rapidity. He probably sees it, and is determined to make the most of the chances for himself and friends before the change comes.

A BUFFALO, N. Y., secular journal of high character and far-reaching influence in Northern New York, the Commercial Advertiser, pays the following tribute to Bishop S. V. Ryan, on the occasion of his departure to participate in the jubilee of Pope Leo XIII:—

"The good Bishop of the diocese of Buffalo, the Right Rev. Dr. Ryan, has left for Rome, in company with Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia. Our esteemed fellow-citizen takes with him the best wishes of all classes of this community. A man of his purity of character, modesty of demeanor, and unwavering independence in all matters of public morality, commands a respect and influence that are not limited by any sectarian prejudices or affiliations. That Bishop Ryan may have a good voyage, a good time, and a safe return is our sincere hope!"

THE Waterloo Advertiser, after sizing up Mr. McShane's traducers, concludes with the following:—

His enemies cry bribery for the purpose of trying to destroy public confidence in him and cripple his usefulness as a minister. The Conservative papers have hounded Mr. McShane ever since he took office. They have done everything in their power to drive him from public life. But he is there to stay. The charges of bribery are as absurd as they are infamous. Mr. McShane is not a bold, bad briber, and his traducers know it. His success as a minister has intensified the hatred of a set of editors who never liked him because he has usually been too much for them at the game of politics.

To say that the Irish people of Montreal felt disgusted and humiliated when they read in the city papers that the Brummagen Screw-driver was waited upon and toadied by an Irish Catholic when he was here on his way to Ottawa, would but faintly express their sentiments. Here is a man who comes to America hot from a tour in Ulster, where he did all he could to incite Orange animosity against the Catholic people of Ireland, and who has done all that lay in his power to aid the bloody Balfour in his brutal persecutions of O'Brien, Sullivan, and now Father Ryan, and he is met by an official Irishman who is glad to be permitted to trot at his heels in the sight of his outraged countrymen, Enough said.

BALFOUR'S conduct towards Mr. Sullivan, Lord Mayor of Dublin, has justly aroused the indignation of the English Liberal press. The Dublin Nation gives the following account of the base and mean treatment to which Mr. Sullivan has been subjected:—

The Lord Mayor had been committed to Richmond Bridewell as a first-class misdemeanant. This prison was conveniently situated for the Lord Mayor on the outskirts of the city of which he is Chief Magistrate, and in the neighborhood of the residence of the Lady Mayress and his children, and other near relatives, from whom, under the terms of his committal, he would be entitled to receive visits. It was impossible for Mr. Balfour to alter the sentence passed by Mr. O'Donell; but he could change him to a more distant or more uncomfortable prison. This Mr. Balfour had the meanness to do by an order under his own hand. The Lord Mayor has been removed suddenly and secretly to the gloomy fortress in Tullamore in which Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Mandeville, Mr. Hayden, and the other political prisoners are incarcerated.

Mr. Balfour must have been well aware that there was no accommodation in Tullamore jail for first-class misdemeanants, and from early morning till night his lordship was left without food in the tiled cell in which he was placed.

TO-DAY'S cables bring us news of more outrages by the minions of Dublin Castle on the Nationalist leaders. This sort of thing is getting monotonous and may meet a reply one of these days that will astonish the wretches who are heaping indignities on a long suffering people, for it is not in human nature to stand such outrages. All the world knows that these infamies are perpetrated with the purpose of exasperating the Irish, and it will be wonderful indeed if the infernal policy does not succeed.

ALDERMAN JOHN HENRY, of Ottawa, who has represented By Ward for the last thirty-two years, and whose long services have earned for him the title of "Father of the Council," is now on the eve of retiring into private life. Mr. Henry is one of the oldest residents of Ottawa, and is justly held in the highest esteem by all classes. We hope he may live long to enjoy well-earned repose after a long, honorable and successful career.

The Liverpool Catholic Times thanks God that the good, honest working classes of England did not produce this mean creature called Mr. Balfour. He was brought up in a "high" social sphere where idleness and callousness were the two things in life most admired. He is not of the people and has no sympathy with them. They are warm-hearted; he is heartless. They are frank and straightforward; he is an equivocator. They are generous even to their foes; he is brutal when he obtains the opportunity of gratifying his spite against an enemy. No, the workmen of Great Britain have not to bear the disgrace of having given to the world such a political scoundrel, and they will in due time prove to him and all who sympathize with his methods of misgovernment that they will not allow the name of their country to be brought into discredit, and their Irish brethren, who are flesh and blood like themselves, to be treated as helots in their own land.

If any other government in the world arrested, imprisoned and tortured political leaders guilty of any crime, what a roar of indignation and denunciation would arise from the press of England. But when Irishmen, acknowledged by all to be men of blameless lives, high character, the chosen representatives of the people in Parliament and the faithful exponents of their opinions in the press, are arrested and treated like common felons, the Tories of England see nothing wrong in such proceedings. Mr. Hooper, of the Cork Herald, is the latest victim to Balfour's malignity. A few days ago a man was arrested in an out-of-the-way village for selling the Herald containing reports of League meetings, whereupon Mr. Hooper editorially challenged the Castle authorities to strike at the paper itself, not at a poor news vendor. Mr. Hooper's arrest now is doubtless in response to that defiance. But the Herald will continue to publish the League meetings, though the editor be in prison, as the Nation continues to do although Mr. Sullivan is confined in a cell at Tullamore. Contempt in the eyes of the world, execration by the people of Ireland, defiance by the press and the League, all to end in the discomfiture of the Government, are the only results of a policy as stupid as it is inhuman.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY. The article in the London Financial News, which has caused so much comment in railway circles on both sides of the water, is as follows:—"Our special New York correspondent recently referred to a current report that the Canadian Government is about to take over the Canadian Pacific Railway, giving as a return a perpetual guarantee of 3 per cent. The proposal has been mentioned in the Times, and is the subject of a pamphlet just issued by an 'Anglo-Canadian,' [this writer strongly supports the suggestion that the line should be acquired by the Dominion, the Government obtaining six distinct privileges in exchange for the guarantee. These are the 15,000,000 of selected land along the line; the railway monopoly rights; the free use of the telegraphs; the right to transport troops and stores at working cost; one-half of the profits beyond 3 per cent. and control of the route.] 'Anglo-Canadian' maintains strongly that both the shareholders and the community would make an excellent bargain on these terms. No doubt, but it occurs to us that these six concessions are an extreme price to pay for a perpetual three per cent guarantee. The risk to the Dominion Government is infinitesimal, and the return certain and rich. It must be borne in mind that such risk as there is to the Dominion would not come into operation for six years because the present guarantee has that period to run. Consequently the line to be required would, in point of fact, not be the Canadian Pacific Railway of to-day, but the undertaking as after six years' further development. 'The surrender of the monopoly rights in the Northwest and the opening of the whole country to railroad enterprise would alone almost compensate the Dominion for a 3 per cent. guarantee, entailing, as it would, an immediate and extensive growth of trade and industry in Manitoba and the Northwest, and, in a second degree, in Eastern Canada. Moreover, it would put an end to such serious complications as that which recently threatened the peace of the Northwest. Add to this the enormous advantages of the Government control of the rates, which would be an essential feature of any purchase scheme. 'Anglo-Canadian' points out in his pamphlet that any preliminary loss imposed by a general reduction of rates to a low level would be more than recovered by the relief to the pockets of every one using that railway and by an instantaneous growth of the traffic, but 'Anglo-Canadian' leaves this portion of his argument incomplete, omitting to consider that low rates would thus be forced upon the whole railway system of Canada, thus greatly increasing the value of the bargain to the community. No doubt investors in Grand Trunk would have cause for complaint; but this would probably give additional zest to the enjoyment of the Canadians. The G.T.R. is not popular in the Dominion because of its fostering its United States through business to the detriment of Canadian shippers; and because of its determined opposition to the construction of the Canadian Pacific line. 'While touching on the Grand Trunk it may be noted that 'Anglo-Canadian' deals shortly with the possibility that the Grand Trunk might be sold to the Dominion, and that the pamphlet discusses of on the simple ground that the Grand Trunk begins and ends in the United States; that its capital per mile is three times that of the Canadian Pacific; that it has no great privilege to exchanges for a guarantee, and that it is a developed line; in a word, the writer sums up, there is no parallelism between the two cases. 'What we would suggest as a fair price for a perpetual guarantee would be the last five of the concessions already named, that is to say, the shareholders should retain the land rights, giving up to the Government the railway monopoly, the telegraphs, the right to transport troops, also, the control of rates and one-half of the profits beyond the 3 per cent. On these terms the bargain would be quite fair to the Government and not too hard for the shareholders. The lands would remain to be disposed of as a bonus to the shareholders after being put into a marketable form to tempt present and prospective settlers to purchase even a valuation of one dollar per acre instead of from three to eight dollars, at which sales are actually being made. The land warrants would give a bonus of twenty shillings per acre. This would probably be realized in a few years. Were this done shareholders might fairly estimate the present market value of a 3 per cent. perpetual guarantee at \$5, surplus rights, stock issued separately at 15 and land warrants at 20 or 20 shillings in all per share."

cause of its determined opposition to the construction of the Canadian Pacific line. 'While touching on the Grand Trunk it may be noted that 'Anglo-Canadian' deals shortly with the possibility that the Grand Trunk might be sold to the Dominion, and that the pamphlet discusses of on the simple ground that the Grand Trunk begins and ends in the United States; that its capital per mile is three times that of the Canadian Pacific; that it has no great privilege to exchanges for a guarantee, and that it is a developed line; in a word, the writer sums up, there is no parallelism between the two cases. 'What we would suggest as a fair price for a perpetual guarantee would be the last five of the concessions already named, that is to say, the shareholders should retain the land rights, giving up to the Government the railway monopoly, the telegraphs, the right to transport troops, also, the control of rates and one-half of the profits beyond the 3 per cent. On these terms the bargain would be quite fair to the Government and not too hard for the shareholders. The lands would remain to be disposed of as a bonus to the shareholders after being put into a marketable form to tempt present and prospective settlers to purchase even a valuation of one dollar per acre instead of from three to eight dollars, at which sales are actually being made. The land warrants would give a bonus of twenty shillings per acre. This would probably be realized in a few years. Were this done shareholders might fairly estimate the present market value of a 3 per cent. perpetual guarantee at \$5, surplus rights, stock issued separately at 15 and land warrants at 20 or 20 shillings in all per share."

ENGLAND AND THE VATICAN. Should Lord Salisbury signalize his administration by resuming diplomatic relations with the Vatican, he will take a step, the prudence of which has already been demonstrated by Bismarck. Whatever may be the feelings of European statesmen, outside Russia, they have been gradually forced by the logic of events to admit that, around the Chair of St. Peter are concentrated the forces of order and stability in government. In spite of themselves they have been compelled to look to the Pope for that assistance in their tribulations which the Divinely Appointed alone can give. The secular power of the Papacy is a great fact which British statesmen will have to acknowledge sooner or later. But if Salisbury imagined he could dictate terms to the Holy See, he made a profound mistake. None but a Tory, and a very stupid one at that, could have deceived himself with the notion that he could bring the Pope as an auxiliary to the Orangemen for the suppression of the national aspirations of the Irish people. When the Duke of Norfolk's mission was first mooted it was not supposed that His Holiness and the sagacious men by whom he is surrounded were likely, even for the sake of having an accredited Nuncio at London, to commit a blunder so pregnant with far-reaching consequences as a declaration in favor of Balfourian methods of government.

THE FESTIVAL OF FESTIVALS. All nations that have accepted the Christian faith will to-morrow celebrate the festival of the nativity of the Savior of the World. Apart from the religious character of the day, it has been noted through all time as a season of festivity and joy. On this day the family ties are drawn closer together, and in the name of the Divine Child born upon this day we implore the blessing of peace from the Most High. In the year in which our Lord was born there was universal peace. The Temple of Janus at Rome was closed, and the nations, as if aware of the coming of the Anointed, had ceased from their wars and struggles. As Wilton's Hymn on the Nativity says—

"No war or battle sound; Was heard the world around; The trumpet and the drum were high uphanging; The hooped chariot stood; Unstirred with hostile blood; The trumpet and the drum were high uphanging; And Kings sat still with awful eyes, As if they knew their foreign Lord was by."

Christmas is the greatest of all festivals in the recurring years. The word, in its literal signification, is derived from the Greek word *christos* (anointed) and the Saxon *maessa* (holiday or festival). Ages before the Christian era, indeed, it may be said with certainty, ages before even the Jewish Chronology was compiled, the prophecy of the Virgin Paritura was an accepted belief among Eastern nations.

It may be consoling, as it is, no doubt, a wonderful coincidence to believing Christians, to find that the whole mime of the separation of a Divine Redeemer was anticipated in the books of the learned of other peoples besides the Jews; though we are used, by the bent of that education given us by our fathers, to know but one version of the story of this most marvelous event. Let us take for instance the words of the Arabian astronomer, Al-Boszar, who thus presents us with the aspect of the material heavens:—"The whole scene of the life of Jesus is to be found in the adjacent part of the heavens. The stable in the constellation of the Chariot and the Goat." Now take the horoscope, cast up by the Persian Magi, which shows that the sun at the summer solstice "found itself in the bosom of the Virgin," and is represented by the picture of the Virgin suckling an infant; and at the vernal Equinox by the Ram or the Lamb Conqueror of the constellation of the Serpent. Now follows, again, to prove the beautiful continuity of the story, as displayed in the heavenly signs, the words of the Arabian Al-Boszar:—"In the first decan of the sign of the Virgin, following the most ancient tradition of the Persians, the Chaldeans, the Egyptians, Hermes and Esculapius, a young woman, called in the Persian language Selenides do Darzama, in the Arabic Adreudea, that is to say—a chaste, pure, and immaculate Virgin, suckling an infant which some nations call Jesus but in Greek is called Christ."

By retifying the celestial globe, says a recent writer, we find that at midnight between the 24th and 25th December, the constellation of the stable (augens) will be found in which Christ was born; while the constellation of the Virgin (which brings him forth) is at that moment in the eastern line of the horizon, with the great star, *Vindematrix*, at her elbow. At no great distance is the *Ass of Typhon* (the great she Bear), and the *Ox*, or Bull, the ancient attendants of the Manger. Here those that have been able to read the mysteries of the heavens have laid before them a secret as profound as was ever doubted. Reading, as men do to-day, in the doubtful mazes of unbelief, it is comforting to know that the story of the God that rules our earth is written in the heavens above us, known in untold ages ago, and plainly visible to us as it was to the Chaldeans, written by the Incomprehensible in words, the letters of which are worlds and systems of worlds. This terrible fact, and we dare the most skeptical to disprove it, is given in all humbleness to those, who in these latter days are prone to quarrelling about dogmas. Let them go out one of those still, cold, starry nights and look up into the eternal heavens, bring what little schoolboy learning is left them by the schools and read what is there written.

By turning to Milman's History of Christianity, page 54, we find this sentence:—"The Jesuits in China were appalled at finding in the mythology of that country the counterpart of the Virgo Despara." Amongst the Egyptians, the Hindus and the Chinese this belief was held and taught long anterior to the Christian era. All merely the remnants of that faith and language which, once taught to man, was lost amidst the warring of nations and creeds. Now, did we want to know our children what they should believe as Christians, we would not

quarrel with science or its expounders because they differed with the phraseology of an ancient book. We would teach them astronomy and show them where the signs of the zodiac, give a confirmation of their faith and fulfilled prophecies with a distinctness that the boldest dare not gainsay. Thus we find that it is not in the Bible alone that the coming of the Messiah is told. It was part of the faith of the most ancient nations, written in their books of old and handed down by tradition from the remotest times. All these confirm the prophecies of men, and, as it is to fix it forever, it was written in characters of fire in the heavens. Thus we have the teachings of more than one book or one set of men to confirm us in our belief.

ENGLAND AND THE VATICAN. Should Lord Salisbury signalize his administration by resuming diplomatic relations with the Vatican, he will take a step, the prudence of which has already been demonstrated by Bismarck. Whatever may be the feelings of European statesmen, outside Russia, they have been gradually forced by the logic of events to admit that, around the Chair of St. Peter are concentrated the forces of order and stability in government. In spite of themselves they have been compelled to look to the Pope for that assistance in their tribulations which the Divinely Appointed alone can give. The secular power of the Papacy is a great fact which British statesmen will have to acknowledge sooner or later. But if Salisbury imagined he could dictate terms to the Holy See, he made a profound mistake. None but a Tory, and a very stupid one at that, could have deceived himself with the notion that he could bring the Pope as an auxiliary to the Orangemen for the suppression of the national aspirations of the Irish people. When the Duke of Norfolk's mission was first mooted it was not supposed that His Holiness and the sagacious men by whom he is surrounded were likely, even for the sake of having an accredited Nuncio at London, to commit a blunder so pregnant with far-reaching consequences as a declaration in favor of Balfourian methods of government.

But the fact that Salisbury has made a movement towards the resumption of diplomatic relations with the Vatican, and the warm advocacy thereof by the leading organ of British Toryism, the Standard, show conclusively how completely coercion has failed. Even should the Pope have consented to enter into the Tory plan, the effect would be a decrease of the influence of Rome in Irish affairs, without strengthening the Salisbury Government. For His Holiness to side with their oppressors at a moment when all indications point to the speedy fruition of hopes cherished through centuries of superhuman suffering, would shake the foundations of opinion among the Catholics of Ireland. The effect upon the British masses would have been instantaneous. The whole character of the struggle would have instantly undergone a transformation, and the Vatican would have found itself allied with a remnant of a decaying aristocracy and opposed to an irresistible political movement of the masses, which even it could not hope to overcome. It is satisfactory, however, to know that Lord Salisbury has failed to establish diplomatic relations with the Head of the Church on such terms.

But that these relations will be established before very long we do believe, because they are more necessary to the government of England than they are to the Vatican, which can well afford to bide its time. A survey of the political and social situation of Europe must convince the most careless observer that the time for quarrelling with and opposing the Catholic Church has passed away. The last wave of Luther's reformation has reached the utmost limit of the ocean of religious thought. Protestant christianity has ceased its once seemingly endless process of subdivision into sects. The Lutheran anarchy can no longer supply living nuclei. On the contrary the sects are shrinking into themselves more and more every day, and combination, not separation, is the order of their growth. In this they do but follow the now recognized law of life. When differentiation from homogeneity to complexity ceases, the opposite process begins: A few years ago the various sects of Presbyterians dropped their difference and united in one body. Their example was followed by the several sectaries of Methodism. And now a movement is on foot to bring Presbyterians, Methodists, even Baptists, into one common form of evangelical Protestantism. Following this natural process, the time must come when all professing Christians will be absorbed into the ancient fold of Catholicity, acknowledging one God, one Church, one faith, one baptism. Many will struggle fiercely against this inevitable consummation, and here and there for a long time little conventicles will be seen, like islands that are but the summits of disintegrating mountains in the deeps of the sea of Christianity.

Outside and beyond will rise the crags of the continent into which the islanders have for long been immigrating. The day is not distant when Protestants will have to fight for their faith, not against, but in defence of the Church of Rome. As with the religious world, so also must it be with the political. The progress of the nations is towards a new and universal order. The struggle for what men call liberty, which a century ago was content with dynastic and administrative reforms, has developed into a deep, sudden movement of masses of men for the establishment on earth of a social system, which the idea of reform has given place to that of eradication. The new Goddess of Liberty does not come heralded by the torch of Revolution and the strain of the Marseillaise, but with the electric light of evolution and the crash of a million presses. America has shown Europe what she might be were she united states. Bismarck in his policy has

shown that he rightly estimates the danger that menaces the dynastic system, and seeks to make friends with powers he knows are not to be subdued by the ordinary means known to government. Therefore he turns to the Pope as the central source of authority, and who alone can wield an influence commensurate with that volcanic power which, in a voice more imperious than that of any emperor, tells kings to vacate their thrones, and who alone can wield an influence commensurate with that volcanic power which, in a voice more imperious than that of any emperor, tells kings to vacate their thrones. But Bismarck knows another menace. Scythia still exists. The fruitful plains, the sunny valleys of southern and western Europe invite the hordes of a new Attila. The rampart of bayonets alone keeps them back, and he wisely employs those energies which, if left free would run into revolution, in preparing for a conflict which, even as we write, appears imminent. Thus, the Governments of Europe have to face foes within and without; but were these within brought under subjection, they could defy those without. Hence the forces of European law and order as they now exist are compelled to seek the aid of the Pope. Amid the storm he alone stands tranquil, secure in an uncircumscribed allegiance, confident where all others are quaking with fear.

Thus it comes about at last that the nations, like the churches, have to gather, in obedience to the first law of nature, self-preservation, around the Chair of St. Peter, for that alone in all the earth gives reliable promise of peace and security yet awhile to an order of things which must cease to be, but which can only hope for a quiet departure in obtaining the rights of the Church.

HORRORS OF TORY TYRANNY. The combined horrors of Tory and landlord tyranny and oppression in Ireland have been fearfully exposed in the libel suit brought against the Most Noble (Ye gods!) Marquis of Clanricarde by his agent, Francis J. Joyce. The action was based on a lying letter by the Marquis to the London Times, in which he declared that Mr. Joyce had warned him against a no-rent conspiracy on the part of his tenants at the very moment that Mr. Joyce was earnestly entreating him to secure the prompt payment of his rents by a moderate reduction. The sting of the libel consisted in this, that by a similar calumny the Most Noble had secured the murder of his former agent, Mr. Blake, and gagged his wife with an injunction from the Court of Chancery when she attempted, by publication of his letters, to vindicate the character of her dead husband. The sensation of the trial was the appearance of the Most Noble Miser himself in the libel. He slipped into the witness box dressed like an old old man, and calmly declared that he drew an annual income of £24,000 a year from a country which had not visited for eleven years, even to attend his mother's funeral.

"There was not a man in court," says United Ireland, "but appreciated the grotesque horror of the situation. Armies have marched and counter-marched, public money has been lavished like water, justice perverted and degraded, honest homes made desolate, half a hundred humble peasants clapped into jail, one poor lad done to death in his lonely cell in Kilkenny, that this worthless and despicable old miser might add a few thousands more to his countless hoards."

Another curious incident of this trial was the denial of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach that he had hampered evictions by refusal of the forces of the Crown to assist them, when it was shown that he did so refuse to assist Clanricarde unless he offered a reasonable reduction of rents. The Most Noble waited, however, till Balfour, who had no scruples about unjust, inhuman, wholesale evictions came into office then he got all the forces he wanted to wreak his devilish purpose on the poor tenants. Lord Chief Baron Palfes, who presided at the trial of the Woodford prisoners, and savagely sentenced them to a long term of imprisonment for resisting the evicting forces of Clanricarde, also presided at the trial for libel at which a verdict of £2,500 was given against the most noble rascal. In this case his lordship delivered a scathing charge. Among other things he said:—

"He was not sure, having regard to the circumstances disclosed in the hearing of the case, that Lord Clanricarde was in the habit of looking at affairs of mankind as other people, or as most people, did. It appeared to him that Lord Clanricarde took a more exaggerated view of his own rights than other people, and sensible people, did, and perhaps took a more erroneous view than others did of the moral, though not legal, duties arising between himself and his tenants."

He also spoke of the "unhappy tenants" whose misery and suffering "have roused the indignation of the empire." He described the evictions as "Devil's work," and said the tenants were only defending "their little homes." Yet this is the same judge who, to use the words of United Ireland,— "Put the unspeakable rackrenter, whom he now withers with his holy wrath, in the right before the world; he put the 'unhappy tenants' for whom he now bespeaks universal sympathy, in the wrong, and confided a band of their wretched children to death and torture, for a moment stretched forth to protect them, to strike at these helpless victims of oppression and at all who strove to help them, and to perpetrate all the savagery which was devastated the region for a twelvemonth, and which Mr. Balfour has been duplicating ever since all over Ireland wherever he got the chance, while Lord Chief Baron Palfes was uttering this memorable and touching passage. 'What would have been the result of granting a reasonable reduction?' It would have avoided eviction from their little homes; it would have avoided unfortunate and painful prosecutions of these unhappy tenants; it would have saved the whole of these lamentable proceedings"—while Chief Baron Palfes was speaking there were a number of the sons of 'unhappy tenants,' their servants' frames 'mangled' their health impaired, were picked up, arrayed in criminal suits, in Kilkenny