

the offence by the law of the country from which his extradition is sought. This being so, it is difficult to see how *under the treaty* Tynan can be extradited. Even were this obstacle overcome, the United States, having refused to extradite Tynan on the ground that his offence was political, would probably use their good offices on his behalf as their citizen to get the French Government to take the same view of the offence. So far as the English reading of the treaty is concerned, the cases of Castioni, François, and Meunier are all against the theory that murder committed with the objects avowed by the Invincibles falls within the category of political crime, and the present relations of France and Russia render it difficult for the former to adopt such a doctrine. The difficulties involved in the definition of political crime will probably lead the French authorities either to expel Tynan or to refuse his surrender on the ground of prescription, without attempting to deal with the political aspect of his supposed offence.—*Law Journal (London)*.

SECRET COMMISSIONS IN TRADE.

Ex-Lord Justice Fry, in his letter to the *Times*, referred to elsewhere, writes:—

The observations made by the Lord Chief Justice in a case a few weeks ago called attention to the evils which flow from secret commissions so often claimed and paid in commercial transactions. I want to ask your leave to make a few observations on this and kindred subjects.

If one inquires whether the morality exercised in the conduct of business in this country is satisfactory or not, and answers this question from the sources of information open to the public, I fear that the answer must be in the negative.

Let me enumerate some well-known facts:—

1. Over-insurance of vessels. We know the efforts which have been made to check this evil, but he would, I fear, be a sanguine and credulous man who believed that the evil had disappeared, and, when one considers how nearly this sin approaches to the crime of murder, this consideration is startling.

2. The bad and lazy work too often done by those in receipt of wages—who give not their best, but as good as they think fit.

3. The adulteration of articles of consumption—to check which a whole army of inspectors and analysts has been called into ex-