

OUR IRISH LETTER.

DUBLIN DEC 29.—You have often heard "A green Christmas" makes a fat churchyard."

Never before perhaps has this old saying been so literally fulfilled in Ireland. In "Degeneration" Max Nordau accuses the do-sleaze writers of distorting nature in order to intermingle her moods, tender or torrid, with the artificial emotions, the neurotic passions of their effete creations.

New Year's day in Dublin is chiefly remarkable for the Lord Mayor's procession. Perhaps no other event of the year demonstrates so vividly how completely the glory of the Mansion House has departed. Time was when the Hall in the Mansion House by a detachment of dragons, followed by the aldermen and corporation in a long line of stylish equipages that would bear comparison with the municipal turn out of any city in the Empire.

The split in politics has practically revolutionized the Dublin Corporation. The Radicals assiduously cultivate the city Radicals, and as the Radical vote preponderates in the majority of the wards, the Town Council has become so very much mixed that it is no longer a political body.

Profession Ireland, a most paying profession in the country. The country is over-run with charitable institutions. There is nothing we do not give the poor except employment. We have an inherent objection to having people to earn a living. We put a shilling in the St. Vincent de Paul box, but we would consider that to purchase any of the odds and ends poor tollers hawk about the streets would be throwing money criminally away.

talk and in a twenty minutes' drive you will learn more about the city than if you were reading the papers for a month and he must be an exception to his class if his opinions on the topics of the hour are not influenced with flashes of genius.

One of the most charming art revivals exhibited at the Arts and Crafts was the hammered metal work. In the Irish section exhibits in this craft were chiefly confined to small trays in beaten copper. The English section there were some beautiful specimens of hammered hollow ware in different metals.

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Tragedy and comedy jostle one another every day in the city, not only precisely once in a century as their close proximity accounts as when St. Stephen's day one half the world was attending inquests at the hospitals and morgues, realizing how truly in the midst of life is death.

The Dublin juries are the best abused class of men in city or country. Endless are the stories of their impudent extortion, of their drunken brutality. You hear so much about their vices that when you come into person to them you find them, it rather surprises you to find that there is really very little if any difference between them and more pretentious citizens.

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