

ACROSTIC.

Go sons of Erin proclaim your devotion
O'er to the centre of faith, love and hope,
Dare every danger o'er land and o'er ocean,
Solace the heart of our suffering Pope.
Assure him that you and millions of others
Vie with each other to bring him relief,
Ere the while her own sorrow smother
To serve and to succour our God given Chief.
Hail then the Chief of the Church of all ages,
Empires have crumbled and gone to decay,
Peoples and Kingdoms at different stages
Invariably perished and hence passed away.
Lo! there is one with banners unfurled,
God in His wisdom keeps fresh and green,
Renowned for her conquests all over the world,
Immutable now as she ever hath been,
Mourning and sorrow, may oft times o'er take her,
Sedition may bring to her bosom great pain,
Though men may betray God will not forsake her,
Onward she marches new trophies to gain,
Repair then to Rome she who first gave us
Our Apostles St. Patrick to enlighten our land,
May the faith he thus brought, continue to save us
Ever the same as it came from His hand.
M. BERGIN.
April 19.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

SPREAD OF CATHOLICITY.—Five years ago was here no Catholic in the vicinity of McComb City, Miss.; now there are more Catholics than members of any one sect. Recently Rev. Fathers Enright and Lamy gave a mission there, with abundant fruit.

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO.—The priests and laity of Buffalo have each adopted an address, congratulating the Holy Father on the celebration of his golden jubilee, and tendering him the pledge of unswerving and heartfelt fealty.

FRANKFURT.—The Catholic teachers in the communal schools have been called upon to sign an agreement, obliging them to teach on all Catholic holidays with the single exception of Corpus Christi.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION AMONG NEGROES.—Forty Catholic schools have recently been opened in Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana, at which colored children who wish to be educated are to receive education free. This is a small part only of the work going on to bring the negro children under Catholic influence.

LIMBURG.—The Holy Father has addressed to Mgr. Blum, the venerable Bishop of Limburg in Nassau, a Brief full of sympathy for his afflictions and enforced exile from his see. The Pope speaks in the warmest terms of his merits, prays that God will console him, and that the clergy and people of the bereaved diocese will follow his admirable example of fidelity and constancy.

A GOOD ASSOCIATION.—An association has lately been formed in London under the title of the "Society for the Relief of Discharged Catholic Prisoners," the twofold object being to afford laundry or other work for women immediately on their release from imprisonment, and to assist liberated male prisoners with grants of money or clothes, on its being satisfactorily shown that these persons have no resources of their own.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

THE MARONITE CATHOLICS OF THE LEBANON.—At the request of his Grace the Maronite Archbishop of Beyrouth (Syria), His Holiness has been pleased to grant his paternal and Apostolic blessing to the work of the Maronites, who alone, in those far distant countries, have heroically, through centuries, maintained the Catholic faith in the midst of various persecutions. But surrounded by difficulties and bereft of means, they are now making an urgent appeal to their Catholic brethren of England to assist them in the foundation of schools and colleges, which are greatly needed, in order to elevate the youth of their country and to maintain their faith.—*Catholic Times.*

ENILED PRUSSIAN BISHOPS.—The following is a list of the Prussian Bishops now in exile:—1. The Archbishop of Gneen and Posen, his Eminence Cardinal Ledochowsky; 2.—The Archbishop of Cologne, Most Rev. Paulus Melchers; 3.—The Bishop of Paderborn, Rt. Rev. Conrad Martin; 4.—The Prince Bishop of Breslau, Rt. Rev. Henry Foerster; 5.—The Bishop of Munster, Rt. Rev. Bernard Brinkman; 6.—The Bishop of Limburg, Rt. Rev. Peter Joseph Blum. Two other Metropolitan Sees, Fulda and Trier, are vacant by the death of their incumbents and only four, Ermeland, Culm, Osnaburg and Hildesheim, are still in possession of their rightful incumbents.

PERSECUTION OF CATHOLICS IN CHINA.—A letter of Monsignor Pinchu, Vicar-Apostolic of Western Szechuan, China, says, that persecution is raging in his district, especially in the section near the mission of Monsignor des Fleches. Nearly forty persons have been murdered. All the houses of the Christians were pillaged and afterwards burned. The poor victims of this persecution cannot even return to the ruins of their houses, since to approach them would be certain death. In several provinces the pagans have risen in a body against the Christians, and put them to the sword wherever they find them. It seems that a general conspiracy has been organized against the Catholics.

UNPREJUDICED TESTIMONY.—The leading Berlin Protestant paper, the *Kreuzzeitung*, gives a most interesting account of the public examinations on Monday, March 12, of the young ladies who were being educated at the Ursuline convent school in the *Lindenstrasse*. The results showed that the system followed by the nuns was of the highest and most excellent kind. The proceedings were closed by a speech from the Provost of the good nuns for 22 years, on the admirable results they had secured, and on the gratitude which they deserved for their services. The establishment will now be broken up, and the nuns will have to seek in other lands a sphere for their pious activity. These are the admirable fruits of *Kulturkampf* legislation.

PILGRIMS.—The Holy Father (says the *Bien Public* of Ghent) has fixed upon May 23 as the day on which he will give audience to the Belgian deputation, in which all Belgian Catholics are invited to take a part. The Spanish Catholics are making extensive preparations to visit Rome, and the Archbishop of Granada has issued a pastoral urging his flock to organize a pilgrimage. The bishops of Badajoz and Oviedo have written similar pastorals. The deputation from Savoy will be one of the earliest to arrive in Rome, its departure being fixed for April 23. The bishops of Tarantasia and St. Giovanni di Moriana will head the pilgrimage. It is stated that many of the Austrian bishops have already signified their intention of visiting Rome next May, among them being Cardinals Simor and Schwarzenberg.

PILGRIMAGES.—In all parts of Germany great preparations are being made for the worthy celebration of the approaching Jubilee of the Holy Father. Besides the great demonstrations which the inhabitants of Westphalia contemplate, the ladies of that loyal province wish to express their love and attachment to the Vicar of Christ by presenting him with a number of useful church articles for missions and poor churches. Nor will the Catholics of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and the South generally, remain behind their Prussian brethren. Manifestoes and addresses concerning the coming feast have already appeared in several papers, and large meetings were held in Munich, Stuttgart, and other towns, in which the warmest love and highest admiration for the Holy Father were ex-

pressed, with a desire that their feelings should come to his knowledge on his day of honor.

THE FRENCH RESPONSE TO THE ALLOCATION.—The following note appeared in the *Paris Univers* of March 26th:—"The Catholics of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies have shared the painful and respectful emotion excited in every Catholic heart by the solemn Allocation of the Sovereign Pontiff. Some of them, mouthpieces of that feeling, deemed it their urgent duty before their separation to communicate the expression of it to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and to call his special attention to the aggravation of the position created for the Papacy. It results from the replies made by the Minister that his solicitude had been constantly awakened, and that the cause of the independence of the Holy See has now and will always have a serious place in his efforts." As long as the Senate and Chamber contains men like the Count de Mun, M. de Belcastel, and M. Chesnelong, there can be little fear of the claims of the Holy See being ignored.

OLD CATHOLICISM DYING OUT.—The present condition of the Catholic Church in Switzerland is most encouraging. Old Catholicism is dying out as fast as it can, and its ministers would soon return to their respective native countries if they could do so with perfect safety to their skins and their freedom. There is an Old Catholic bishop in the diocese of Basle who is trying as hard as he can to take the place of the lawful bishop, Mgr. Lachat, who was unlawfully expelled his diocese three years ago. But Olten, the very place in which this new fangled bishop, Herzog by name, used to reside, will have none of him now, so he has had to emigrate to Zurich, where the State Secretary, Herr Keller, inaugurated him. In the Canton of Ticino, on the other hand, the "Liberals" have of late been driven from power, and justice is now at last likely to be meted out to the Catholics. So, on the whole it may be said that the cause of the Church is making headway in Switzerland.

THE RECENT ALLOCATION.—The line taken by the *Saturday Review* and *Spectator* on the Allocation is worthy of note. The former says: "The language of the last Papal Allocation bears a favourable comparison... with some of the speeches recently delivered in the Italian Parliament... Its author has a really strong case against the Italian Government which has openly interfered with the ordinary working of the Roman Catholic Church. The Clerical Abuses Bill is designed to make the ordinary administration of Roman Catholic ecclesiastical discipline impossible, except in the continued prospect of fines and imprisonments." The *Spectator* thinks that "if the Clerical Abuses Bill is to pass in anything like its original form, it is quite clear that Cavours theory of a Free Church in a Free State would have to be completely abandoned by Italy, and there would be the gravest justice in the Pope's complaint that the liberty of the Church is a fiction, and the usurpation of the State a fact." Again, "if the Bill were to become law there would be a fair excuse for any Catholic Government which proposed to interfere in Italy for the purpose of redeeming the Roman Church from its state of vassalage."

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL CATEROL.—On Thursday, 22nd March, the newly made French Cardinal Priest, who is also Archbishop of Lyons, received the red biretta from the hands of the Marshal President of the Republic. The ceremony took place at the Elysee, where his Eminence was attended by Mgr. Francesco Nava di Bontife, the Ablegate, by the Count Ciampelletti of his Holiness's Noble Guard, and by a number of other dignitaries and laymen of distinction. The Marshal President was attended by M. Martel, Keeper of the Seals, the Duc Decazes, and the officers of his household. The Ablegate delivered an address in Latin, and then presented to the Marshal the Pontifical Brief by which he was accredited to the President of the French Republic, and the Marshal complimented him on his selection thereto by his Holiness, and assured him of his good will. The distinguished assemblage then repaired to the chapel of the Palace, where mass was celebrated by the Cure of St. Clotilde, the Cardinal Archbishop, with his attendants, taking his place on the left hand of the Marshal-President. Mass being concluded, the Ablegate read the Pontifical Brief, and then presented the biretta, which the Marshal-President placed on the head of the new Cardinal. His Eminence then returned thanks in a speech, in which he said:—"Monsieur le Marechal,—In delivering to me the insignia of the highest dignity in the Church, next to the Sovereign Pontificate itself, your Excellency has completed my elevation to an honour which I feel I am far from having merited. I may, however, be allowed to say, and I say it with all sincerity, that I am less concerned about the honour itself than about the arduous duties which it imposes on me. To be associated to a certain extent in the government of the Universal Church, to enter into the counsels of the Pontiff who rules over it, to defend the sacred rights of that august head, and when it may please Almighty God to call him to Himself, to participate in the election of the successor, and, lastly, to maintain those high prerogatives by the orthodoxy of his teaching, the firmness of his character, and the ascendancy of his virtues—such is an outline, and most imperfect one, of the duties incumbent on a member of the Sacred College. Now if, even in times when the Church enjoyed profound peace, these obligations were regarded by men of faith and conscience with feelings approaching to terror, they certainly receive from existing circumstances a character of gravity which they perhaps never possessed before; and woe to myself, did not the thought of them cause me deep anxiety! To yourself, M. le Marechal, more than any other man, I may look for an example of heroism in the discharge of duty. I therefore feel myself highly honoured to receive from your hands this purple, which reminds me of the extent of mine; 'Usque ad effusionem sanguinis inclusive.' Having nobly shed your own blood for the defence of our country you have the right to admonish me not to be sparing of mine if over the glory and service of God, the manacled rights of the Church, the salvation of my people, and I will add, the honour and interest of France should demand it of me. Those men are assuredly wrong who cast on the Catholic clergy a reproach, than which none can be more undeserved; who assert that their deep devotion to the interests of religion weakens their devotion to their country." The remainder of the Cardinal Archbishop's speech was occupied with an eloquent assertion of the patriotism of the clergy, and a humble disavowal of any merits of his own in reference to his elevation to the Cardinalate, which was to be borne by him rather as an honour done to the ancient church and glorious see of Lyons which has been filled by so many learned and saintly prelates. The Marshal President replied as follows:—"My Lord Cardinal,—When I requested of the Holy Father that he would be pleased to elevate you to the high dignity of which I have just delivered to you the insignia, I did not alone desire to claim for the representative of the ancient and honourable clergy of Lyons the august favours of his Holiness. I thought at the same time that the Holy Father would be happy to reward those Christian virtues which you have always so well copied, and of which you yourself during the last thirty years have given an example in your episcopate; and I also knew that, clad in the Roman purple, you would continue to sustain with the same firmness the sacred cause of religion without ever neglecting the interests of your country." On the conclusion of the ceremony the Cardinal Archbishop, robed in the habit of his dignity, was received at a private audience by the Marshal-President.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE

ASSIZES.—The assizes have closed without even one capital conviction in Ireland, amongst a population of over five millions of people.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A SOLICITOR.—Mr. Wm. Poole Hena, a Dublin solicitor, died on the 21st ult., in the Cork court, suddenly. Disease of the heart was the cause.

REN OVER.—A surface man, named John Browne, was run over by a train, at the Dunlary station, on the Northern Counties Railway, on March 16th and died in the hospital of the Antrim Workhouse, on the following day from the effects of his injuries.

VALUE OF LAND IN CORK.—On Saturday, the 17th ult., was sold the interest in part of the lands of Oldcastle, near Coeshford, containing sixty-six acres, held by lease for a term of three lives, at the yearly rent of £16. The farm was bought in by the vendor, for £400.

A CASE OF PROSELYTISM.—On the 23rd ult., in the Court of Queen's Bench, a writ of *habeas corpus* was applied for, to compel Rev. G. S. Cotton, of Caragh Orphanage, near Naas, to bring into court a boy named James Moore. The Orphanage is a branch of the notorious "Birds' Nest."

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.—Sir Robert Kane has been elected President of the Royal Irish Academy for the ensuing year. Dr. Haughton and he were placed in competition for the position, and the voting was—for Sir R. Kane, 54; Dr. Haughton, 32. Sir R. Kane is the first Catholic that has ever filled the position.

POOR LAW ELECTION.—The apathy of Catholics in Dublin to secure proper representation at the Poor Law boards is a disgrace and a scandal. No doubt the law is against us in various ways, but why not make the best of it—or why indulge in senseless chimeras and utopias and not concentrate our energies to secure a radical reform in the Poor Law?

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN ENNIS.—The anniversary was observed in Ennis very quietly and decorously. The weather was beautifully fine, and large numbers of the country people flocked into town, and admired the music of the County Militia Fife and Drum Band to their hearts' content. When evening arrived all separated quietly to their homes, and not a single case of drunkenness could be seen.

SUPPOSED CASE OF DROWNING.—A man named John Kehoe has been missing from his home, at Tomand, for some weeks. He attended the fair of Kilkenny, on the 14th ult., and on his way came home on to Carlow instead of getting out at Milford, it is supposed that he was making his way home, and that the night being dark, he must have fallen into the Barrow, which has since been dragged without any result. The missing man was a road contractor, and was in pretty good circumstances.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN LIMERICK.—An unusually large number of people visited the city of Limerick on St. Patrick's Day; all wore the green immortal shamrock. The day was fine, and the country folk appeared to enjoy it heartily. In all the churches there were celebrations of the Divine Mysteries; and at St. Patrick's Church there was a special celebration *Coram Episcopo*, the Most Rev. Dr. Butler, presiding. The anniversary passed off in the utmost peacefulness.

CLOSE OF THE ASSIZES IN CORK.—The criminal business of the Cork Assizes closed the 20th ult. In the case of Michael Cronin, who was indicted before Mr. Justice Keogh for burning his house in the North Main Street, witnesses were produced to contradict the testimony given for the Crown upon several points, and the accused was acquitted. The fisherman charged with stealing oysters from Mr. Smith Barry's beds, at Fota, were tried before Mr. Robinson, and this case also resulted in an acquittal.

IMPURE WATER IN ENNIS.—At the Ennis Petty Sessions on March 23d, Mr. Bunton, solicitor, applied to the bench, at the suit of Mr. Daniel Tuohy, Town Clerk, and urban sanitary authority under the Public Health Act, for a summons against Mr. Thomas Greene, J.P., chairman of the Ennis Town Commissioners to compel him to close the public pumps from which the inhabitants draw their supplies of water, as analysis of the water had shown it to be utterly unfit for domestic purposes. The application was granted.

CULTIVATION OF THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—In view of the preservation of the Irish language, the Rev. P. O'Leary, Rathcormack, Cork, writes as follows: "I have access to MSS. which contain a large stock of Munster lyrical poetry, ranging as to dates over the last two centuries. Some of these lyrics I have seen in print, with English versions annexed. As a general rule these versions, especially the poetical ones, are frightful caricatures of the originals. I am convinced that a great part of the prejudice which outsiders feel against our language has been produced by the sight of these caricatures."

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN CORK.—St. Patrick's day was celebrated in Cork with the comparative absence of display so often remarked. The weather was extremely fine, and it being Saturday as well as a holiday, the city was crowded with country people. Business went on as usual, but the churches had large congregations, and comparatively few indulged in the excess called "moistening the shamrock." At the church of St. Patrick the feast was celebrated with the customary solemnity. High Mass was celebrated in the presence of the Bishop.

DEATH OF A WATERLOO VETERAN.—On March 16th John McCourt, aged ninety-four years, died at his residence in Crevo, parish of Donaghmore. He was a corporal in the 27th Regiment, and under the Duke of Wellington fought at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. In the latter battle he received a very dangerous wound in the heat of the contest. He was treated in the hospital for a year, when he recovered, and has since received £1,670 in pension. The funeral took place on the following day, and he was interred in the old graveyard of Donaghmore.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A married woman named Elizabeth Burns, was accidentally knocked down and killed by a horse and cart on the road near Bushmills, on March 21st. Mrs. Burns and her son were proceeding home, when she sat down on the roadside to rest. A man named McLoughlin came up the road with a horse and cart at a quick pace, and before McLoughlin had time to rein in the horse the shaft of the cart struck the woman, knocking her down, and the cart passed over her body, killing her instantaneously. A verdict of accidental death was returned at the inquest.

DEATH OF A 98 MAN.—A Kilpatrick, Westmeath, correspondent of the *Weekly News* writes to say that on March 8th, in that locality, there died one Daniel Broughan in the hundredth year of his age. The venerable man was "out in '98," serving his local insurgent leaders in the capacity of scout and messenger, and he always bore himself as a brave and devoted patriot. In 1782, his patriotic feeling was no doubt nourished by the sight of a review of Volunteers near Derravarah Lake, not far from the spot where he was born and died. Up to the last day of his life he was remarkably free from disease and illness of any kind and he passed away fortified by the rites of the Church.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

SALT IN INDIA.—The deposits of salt in the Salt Range Mountains, running through the provinces of Jhansi and Shalpur, in the Panjab, are equalled by none in the world for extent and purity.

BIRDS RESTING UPON THE WING.—The theory that whenever a bird remains at rest upon the wing it does so by taking advantage of an upward current of air has been advanced by Mr. Froude, and is supported by Sir William Thomson, who thinks he has seen soaring birds near a vessel at sea upheld by the wind which swerves upward after passing the mainsail. Evidence to sustain Mr. Froude's view is found in the case of the albatross, a bird which flies long distances without any motion of its wings. It keeps near and follows the form of the waves, as it to avail itself of the current of air rising from them.

FRANCE AT WILL.—Colonel Townsend possessed the remarkable faculty of throwing himself into a trance at pleasure. The heart ceased apparently to throbb at his bidding; respiration seemed at an end; his whole frame assumed the icy chill and rigidity of death; while his face became colorless and shrunk, his eyes fixed, glazed, and ghastly.—His mind itself ceased to manifest itself, for during the trance it was utterly devoid of consciousness as his body of animation. In this state he would remain for hours, when these singular phenomena wore away, and he returned to his usual condition. Medical annals furnish no parallel to this extraordinary case. Considered whether in physiological or metaphysical point of view it is equally astonishing and inexplicable.

THE "NOBLE" NEWFOUNDLAND AGAIN.—Everything is degenerate now-a-days except the noble Newfoundland dog. He is just as reliable now as he was when white men first brought him from his native land and discovered his wonderful life-saving qualities. But he does not confine himself to the rescuing of human beings. The other day a Newfoundland dog and an English terrier, playing on the ice near Washington Village, Massachusetts, fell into an air-hole leaving another Newfoundland on the ice. Knowing that a dog is more helpless than a man in such a predicament, a gentleman went to help them, but before he reached them the second Newfoundland dog had dragged the terrier out by the collar, and, after several successful attempts upon the other dog, coaxed him to the other side of the open space, where an accumulation of snow made a better footing, and then got him out.

WHAT THE BIRDS ACCOMPLISH.—The swallow, swift, and night hawk are the guardians of the atmosphere. They check the increase of insects that otherwise would overload it. Woodpeckers, creepers, and chickadees are the guardians of the trunks of trees. Warblers and flycatchers protect the foliage. Blackbirds, crows, thrushes, and larks protect the surface of the soil. Salpe and woodcock protect the soil under the surface. Each tribe has its respective duties to perform in the economy of nature; and it is an undoubted fact that, if the birds were all swept off the face of the earth, man could not live upon it; vegetation would wither and die; insects would become so numerous that no living thing could withstand their attacks. The wholesale destruction occasioned by grasshoppers, which have lately devastated the West of the United States, is undoubtedly caused by the thinning out of the birds, such as grouse, prairie hens, etc., which feed upon them.

ST. GEORGE'S CAVERN.—Near a town of Moldavia, on the Danube, is shown the cavern where St. George slew the dragon, and from this cavern, at certain periods, issue myriads of small flies, which tradition reports to proceed from the carcass of the dragon. These flies respect neither man nor beast, and are so destructive that oxen and horses have been killed by them. They are called the "Gobusac's fly." It is thought that when the Danube rises, as it does in the early part of summer the caverns are flooded, and the water remaining in them, becoming putrid, produces this noxious fly. But this supposition appears to be worthless, because, some years ago, the natives closed up these caverns, and still they were annoyed with the flies. They closely resemble mosquitos. In summer they appear in such swarms, as to look like a volume of smoke, and they sometimes cover a space of six or seven miles. Covered with these insects, horses not unfrequently gallop about until death puts an end to their sufferings. Shepherds anoint their hands with a decoction of wormwood, and keep large fires burning, to protect themselves from these pests. Upon any material change in the weather the whole swarm is destroyed thereby.

PINE FORESTS.—Some interesting observations have lately been made by M. Faural on the influence of pine forests on the quantity of rain received by a country, the hygrometric state of the air, and the state of the ground. It is proved that pines have the property of condensing vapour, and that in much higher degree than leafy woods. Thus the quantity of rain which fell over a pine forest during fourteen months was 840.70 mm. against 757.75 mm. on the open ground 300 metres off, showing a difference in favour of the forest of more than 10 per cent. of the latter quantity. (In the case of oaks and witch-elds the difference was only 5 per cent. The mean saturation of the air above the forest was ten-hundredths more than at the other station—(sixty-three against fifty-three). The quantity of rain received by the forest ground was 471 mm. while 369 mm. was intercepted by the trees—i. e., 0.43 of the water precipitated. Though the open (sandy) ground received 757 mm., there is reason to believe that the forest ground really conserves more water. These data show what services may be rendered by pine forests on burning, sandy, or chalky plains, which the want of water renders unproductive. Such forests, too, are a powerful remedy against inundation.

NEST-BUILDING FISH.—Our feathered friends have long been noted for their ability in the nest-building line, but fish have never been credited with giving much attention to this species of architecture. One of the most common, however, of British fish, the little stickleback, is an ingenious builder of nests. The stickleback's nest consists of extremely minute pieces of straw and sticks, selected to resemble the colour of the ground at the bottom of the water. Its circumference is rather more than that of a shilling, and it has a top, or cover, with a hole in the centre, about the size of a small nut, in which are deposited the eggs or spawn. This opening is frequently concealed by drawing little fragments of straw over it, but this is not always done. On some banks the stickleback gets into the pools at the highest water-mark of the tide, and builds its nest there. These pools being unconnected with the sea, except at spring tides, the young fish get the full benefit of the heat of the sun. When the young are hatched, they form the sole care of the male fish, who looks well after his juvenile sticklebacks, till they are grown up and able to shift for themselves. But let no one, after reading these particulars, carry away the impression that the stickleback is nothing but an amiable housekeeper and watchful father. Far from that; a more vicious, irritable little creature does not exist in any pond, river, or ocean under the sun. He is much given to fighting, and his battles are sometimes in defence of home, but most often, they are only to indulge a disposition which is pugnacious in the highest degree.

BELFAST ASSIZES.—At the Belfast Assizes, on March 19th, in an action against the Great Northern Railway, Ireland, John Dillon, farmer, Belfast, claimed £1,600 damages, for injuries received while travelling from Belfast to Lisburn, in the company's carriages, on the 15th of November last. The train had stopped on its arrival at Lisburn, and plaintiff rose to get out, when the train moved off again, and plaintiff was knocked violently against the carriage, receiving serious injuries. A spinal shock super-vened, and his ultimate recovery is considered doubtful. It was alleged on behalf of the company that the train had not come to a stand-still, and the steam was put on to bring the rear carriages up to the platform. The jury found for the plaintiff, awarding him £400 damages and 6d costs.

COMPLIMENT TO A CLERGYMAN.—The inhabitants of Spike Island did not permit the Rev. John Murphy, when recently promoted to the important pastorate of East Schull, to leave without presenting him with a substantial testimonial. During his Missionary career of nearly five years amongst them, he, from his constant care and zealous devotion to the duties of his sacred calling, endeared himself to all. He was ever ready to afford the consolations of holy religion to the sick, with whom he daily spent a considerable time. His attendance in the confessional, and his earnest, forcible, and instructive lectures from the altar, together with his amiable and courteous manner, attracted much admiration, and caused his removal to be regretted.—*Cork Herald.*

THE LATE PROFESSOR ROBERTSON.—The following becoming tribute to the distinguished scholar has been published. At a meeting of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the Catholic University, held March 21st, it was moved by Professor Stewart, seconded by Professor Kavanagh, and passed unanimously—"This being the first meeting of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters held since the lamented death, last month, of our late colleague, James Burton Robertson, Ph.D., who had filled a chair in the Catholic University since its foundation in 1854-5, the Faculty records its deep regret at the loss sustained by the University in his demise, and the sincere respect and personal regard which were ever felt towards our distinguished colleague by every member of the Faculty, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his relatives."

NEW CHURCH SPIRE.—Considerable employment in the building trade is now being given in Limerick, and its neighbourhood. The Rev. T. R. Shanahan, P.P., Ballingarry, is about contracting for a tower and spire to his new church; the works connected with the building of the tower and spire to the Redemptorist Church have been resumed, and will be vigorously pushed forward, as stone-dressers have been engaged all the winter preparing stone for it. A large addition to the Mount St. Vincent Orphanage, which will cost about £4,000, was commenced about four months ago, and is being vigorously carried on. In addition to these works there are some being carried on at the Lunatic Asylum, at Clare st., and Courtback. The work on the great sewers, being constructed by Messrs. Banks and MacMahon, has now reached Victoria Terrace, so that branch sewers from Laurel Hill Convent and Avenue, and the residences in their neighbourhood can be immediately commenced. The cutting has to be made from the terrace through a hard rock, a depth of 23 feet, thereby requiring a great deal of blasting. The contractors hope to have them completed by the close of the summer.

THE O'DONOGHUE, M.P., ON THE LAND QUESTION.—The weekly meeting of the Kerry Tenants' Defence Association was held recently. Mr. J. Flaherty, President, occupied the chair. The Secretary, (Mr. O'Rourke) said he had received the following letter from The O'Donoghue, M.P., in reply to a copy of a resolution forwarded to him with reference to the Grand Jury Laws:—"House of Commons, London, March 22, 1877. My Dear Mr. O'Rourke—I believe it is very probable that in the course of the session a resolution will be proposed affirming the necessity of substituting a really representative body for the Grand Jury. My voting for that resolution will be the best answer I can give to your last letter. The debate and division on the Land Tenure Bill took place yesterday. Our cause was well sustained in debate, especially by Mr. Blennerhasset, and the division certainly cannot be regarded as unsatisfactory when compared with the divisions of former years. I do not remember the Land Question, as it is understood by the people of Ireland, to have received such large and influential support. Amongst the 81 who went with us into the lobby were men truly representative of the growing Democratic spirit of England, such as Mr. Chamberlain, of Birmingham; Mr. Cowen, of Newcastle; Sir Charles Dilke, of Chelsea; and Mr. Potter, of Rochdale. Mr. Courtenay, an English member and political writer of great eminence, rendered valuable assistance by taking the high and broad ground that the farmers of Ireland believe it to be their undoubted right to hold the soil in perpetuity, subject to the payment of a fair rent. While he sustained the justice of this view, the House—a full one—listened with an attention I have never seen surpassed; and when Mr. Courtenay sat down I felt for him a sentiment of brotherhood such as years of intimacy do not often produce. You will recollect that I have constantly pointed out that the right of the farmer to hold the soil is the *Land Question*, and is not to be settled by arriving at a conclusion as to how Mr. A. or Mr. B. deals with his tenants. The ascertaining of facts bearing upon this point is surrounded with the greatest difficulties. There are statements and counter-statements, and in the end the public does not know what to believe. I have always thought it sufficient to know that the man who can ask for whatever rent he likes to have, and who can evict whenever the whim seizes him, is armed with a power which as long as human nature is human nature will be used for evil. To me it seems perfectly clear that the landlords ought not to be allowed to retain this power. I want the farmers to stand up and boldly declare that they will no longer endure to live in Ireland only by blind permission of the landlord. You will have seen that the proceedings of Tenants' Defence Associations are carefully scanned, and how necessary it is that the members should avoid saying what may be used to weaken and embarrass the efforts of those who are fighting for the cause, or to invest its enemies with a character they do not in truth deserve. I think the puffing of landlords is a thing that ought to be absolutely discontinued by every tenants' defence association. The proof of a landlord's goodness is his assent to a law which will take from bad men the power of doing wrong. The really good landlord will not feel himself aggrieved by being deprived of this power. I regret I had not an opportunity of speaking yesterday, but I send you for the information of the club the division list where my name appears among the names of those who seek to make the Irish farmer a perfect freeman. Let me impress upon you the necessity of telling those who, having been imposed upon by landlords or agents, or bailiffs, may say we are looking for an impossibility—that nothing is impossible to those who have the representation of the county in their hands.—I am, dear Mr. O'Rourke, 'O'DONOGHUE."

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DEATH OF A WATERLOO VETERAN.—On March 16th John McCourt, aged ninety-four years, died at his residence in Crevo, parish of Donaghmore. He was a corporal in the 27th Regiment, and under the Duke of Wellington fought at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. In the latter battle he received a very dangerous wound in the heat of the contest. He was treated in the hospital for a year, when he recovered, and has since received £1,670 in pension. The funeral took place on the following day, and he was interred in the old graveyard of Donaghmore.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A married woman named Elizabeth Burns, was accidentally knocked down and killed by a horse and cart on the road near Bushmills, on March 21st. Mrs. Burns and her son were proceeding home, when she sat down on the roadside to rest. A man named McLoughlin came up the road with a horse and cart at a quick pace, and before McLoughlin had time to rein in the horse the shaft of the cart struck the woman, knocking her down, and the cart passed over her body, killing her instantaneously. A verdict of accidental death was returned at the inquest.

DEATH OF A 98 MAN.—A Kilpatrick, Westmeath, correspondent of the *Weekly News* writes to say that on March 8th, in that locality, there died one Daniel Broughan in the hundredth year of his age. The venerable man was "out in '98," serving his local insurgent leaders in the capacity of scout and messenger, and he always bore himself as a brave and devoted patriot. In 1782, his patriotic feeling was no doubt nourished by the sight of a review of Volunteers near Derravarah Lake, not far from the spot where he was born and died. Up to the last day of his life he was remarkably free from disease and illness of any kind and he passed away fortified by the rites of the Church.

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