

to victory. It may seem strange, to the anti-Irish press, that it is, nevertheless, a fact, that the Home Rulers are in no way disconcerted by the vote often referred to. They indulged in no expectation of having a majority of the House of Commons on that occasion. They did expect to put with them on that occasion, the House, and, by a strong and clear case, before the House, and, by the Country, and that expectation they completely fulfilled. They expected also to have a majority of the House on their side, and their expectation was realized. It is of high importance, to show the world how Ireland votes on such a motion as that brought forward by Mr. Butt, and how the opinion of Ireland, on a purely Irish question is squashed, stamped and overborne by an English and Scotch majority. These objects were attained by the division referred to, which was therefore a useful one for Ireland, and a scandal for the British Government. It neither destroys nor weakens any claim, or any argument of the Home Rule party; on the contrary, it serves to bear out their representations and to strengthen all their pleadings. Other motions will ere long be brought by the same party, before the House of Commons, the rejection of which by an English majority, if that should be their fate, will certainly not tend to make Ireland more contented with British rule, and the acceptance of which would tend to the advantage of the Home Rule movement. It is a consequence of the false position which England occupies towards Ireland that in a matter of this kind any action into which she may be forced results in some moral advantage to our cause. What she would most desire is to be left undisturbed by such motions, such proposed measures, and such interrogations as the Home Rule party have prepared for her. That repose will not be accorded her. She will not be allowed to be silent. She must speak, either to deny justice to the Irish people or to concede it—she must act, either to play the tyrant or to behave as a friend. Into that dilemma the Home Rulers will assuredly force her, and whatever line of conduct she may select, they will know how to shape theirs to meet it. The contest between her obstinacy in wrong and their determination to have the rights of their country may go on for some time; but as to what the ending will be we have no doubt whatever.—Dublin Nation.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

HOME RULE AND EDUCATION.—The London correspondent of the Freeman writes on Monday:—I understand that before the end of the week the Irish members will meet for the purpose of resolving upon the question of submitting to the House a specific proposition on the Home Rule question.

The Hon Mr. O'Callaghan was to have interrogated the Chief Secretary of Ireland to-day, whether it was the intention of the Government to bring forward this session any measure relating to Denominational Education in Ireland. Sir M. H. Beach has not, however, yet returned from his Irish tour, but the notice of this question having been communicated to him this morning, the Chief Secretary telegraphed a request that the question might be postponed until he reaches London, which he will do in the course of a few days. Mr. O'Callaghan accordingly did not put his question, and will wait for an opportunity more likely to lead to definite results. The hon. member has, I understand, entered very warmly into this matter, and determined if any exertion or perseverance on his part can avail, to effect some good on this subject with the least possible delay.

ANOTHER SHIPWRECK OFF KERRY.—On Monday and Tuesday night a fearful storm swept over this district, doing considerable damage. Two ships are ashore in Brandon Bay, one of which is a large barque. The coastguards were on duty there all night. A barque is on shore at Ferret Island; only one man on board saved. The vessel's name is the Glad Tidings. She had sailed from the Shannon. This morning the bodies of the captain, the mate, and one seaman belonging to her were washed ashore. The vessel was laden with timber for Cardiff. Another vessel lies in Ballyheigue Bay in great danger. A herring smack, the Quaker, was wrecked yesterday inside Puffin Island, Valencia. She had a cargo of potatoes from Galway. Crew saved. The ship will become a total loss.

Lord Robert Montagu's question, last night, relative to the Coercion Acts, elicited from Mr. Disraeli only a bantering reply such as those with which the late Lord Palmerston used to put aside the interrogations of troublesome Irish members. He frankly admitted having told his constituents that Ireland was being ruled by coercive legislation of a more severe and stringent kind than existed in any other quarter of the globe, but he jocosely reminded Lord Robert that he was then speaking as the leader of the Opposition, and he declined to say whether he considered it necessary to maintain the Acts in full force at the present period. The bantering tone of the reply appears to have afforded great amusement to the House, and was received with laughter. Lord Robert attempted to elicit a more definite exposition of the Premier's views by asking whether he did not consider it incumbent on him to remove coercive legislation, admitted to be unnecessary, but Mr. Disraeli, again copying Lord Palmerston's methods, did not vouchsafe an answer.—Cork Examiner, 15th April.

SALE OF AN ESTATE.—The Hon. Colonel Charles White, M.P., is reported to have sold to Sir Arthur Guinness, Bart., M.P., for the sum of forty thousand pounds, the Kilkieran portion of his Clare estates. It is matter for some surprise in the locality, as the property lies within earshot of Cahercon, the future residence of the gallant colonel.—Limerick Chronicle.

A return, asked for last Session by Mr. Pim, dealing with the statistics of the Irish Representative system, has just been laid before Parliament. We learn from this interesting return that the 103 Irish members are returned by 32 Irish counties, returning 2 members each—64; a university, returning 2 members; 6 cities or boroughs, returning 2 members each—12; and 25 boroughs, returning one member each. The statistics given with reference to some of these disclosures, display some startling anomalies. For example, Belfast, with fifteen thousand electors, returns two members; while Derry, Galway, Waterford, and Limerick, with a total of some eight thousand electors, return eight members between them. The same remark applies to Dublin; and in any future re-arrangement of seats, Dublin and Belfast would be entitled to a minority member. In passing, it may be said that the 'wealth' of the capital of Ulster is illustrated by the fact, that with a population not two-thirds that of Dublin, it has almost as large an electorate. Some of the Irish towns returning members are very insignificant places. The ridiculous and absurd view of representative anomalies is to be found in the fact that Kingstown, with 16,000 inhabitants, has no member at all, while Downpatrick, Dungannon, Mallow, and Portlinton, with a total population of some 15,000, have four members between them. Kingstown, Queensdown, and Lurgan, are unrepresented towns, well entitled to Parliamentary rank by their importance and population. In the counties, the province of Leitrim, with an electorate of 43,000, returns 24 members; Cork, with 16,000 electors, only two. We are still very far off in Ireland from realising the dream of the philosophic Radical of the Anti-Jacobin, who looked forward to the day when each burgh numerically free should choose its members by the rule of three.

THE DRAINAGE OF THE SHANNON.—The Pall Mall Gazette says:—If Sir Michael Beach deals successfully with the Shannon drainage difficulty, which he is

investigating, in person, he will earn the gratitude of a certain part of the population of Ireland more surely than it could be done by any sensational legislation. The history of this question, affords a striking example of the evil effects of attempting too much for one's means. The original design—a magnificent one in its conception—included not merely the complete drainage of a vast lake district of 200 miles in length, with varying but always considerable breadth, but the making a navigable channel throughout it from Limerick into the heart of the west country that lies between Connacht and Leitrim. Unfortunately, as usually happens in such undertakings, the means originally asked for were largely exceeded by the actual requirements of the work; and those who were responsible for the excess of their estimates do not appear to have had the courage to come forward and demand the additional sum necessary. Hence the design was only in part completed. This happening in pre-railroad days when the free navigation of the district was looked on as the primary object that portion of the plan was carried out after a fashion, but so much at the expense of the other object, that the drainage, which was to have been accomplished simultaneously, was in many portions of the course of the Shannon actually left much worse than before, the embankments raised for canalization purposes being so constructed as to throw back the waters higher up on lands that had hitherto escaped flooding. The unfortunate inhabitants have therefore suffered largely by the economical experiment, while the supposed benefit of improved intercourse by water has been altogether nullified by the advance of better means of communication, chiefly in the form of railroads. The case is one of those which merely requires a thorough looking into to secure justice for the petitioners; and Mr. Gladstone having pronounced himself of this by personal inquiry, announced semi-officially last autumn that a rectification of former blunders in the matter of the Shannon was to form part of the programme of his Administration for this session. Though that Administration is dead, the need of Government intervention is at least as strong as ever, and the result of the Conservative Chief Secretary's visit can hardly fail to be a new act of justice to Ireland, of which all parties, when once informed as to the facts, may be expected to approve.

HEAVY PENALTIES FOR ADULTERATING MILK.—At the Petty Sessions Castlereagh, county Roscommon, on Saturday, the Castlelea Poor Law Guardians prosecuted J. Glover and P. Leitch for supplying the workhouse with adulterated milk. Captain Wynne R.O.M., and Mr. Beckett, R.M., heard the case. The O'Connor Don, M.P., and J. Young Esq. sat on the bench, but, being guardians, did not act magisterially. Mr. Burke, Sessions Crown Solicitor, stated that specimens of milk supplied to the workhouse by Glover and Leitch had been sent to Dr. C. A. Cameron analyst for the county Roscommon, who certified that two samples supplied by Glover were milk which had been adulterated respectively with 33 and 100 per cent. of water. Dr. J. Brodie, Local Government Board Inspector, who had noticed the bad quality of the milk, deposed that it would seriously effect the health of the children, who were fed on it, as it deprived them of half the nutriment which they were supposed to receive. Dr. O'Donoghue testified as to the general bad quality of the milk. It was stated that one of the guardians, who doubted that chemistry could detect adulteration sent up with the contractors samples a pure specimen of milk, and one intentionally mixed with 20 per cent of water, and that Dr. Cameron stated exactly what they were. The defendants were convicted, and Glover was fined £32 1/2, including costs, and Leitch £16 7s. 6d., including costs. The fines are payable into the grand jury fund.

A REFRAGORY JURYMEN.—At an Enniskillen petty sessions P. J. Blake, Chairman, created some surprise by discharging a jury, who had partially tried a case, and empanelling a new one to finish it. Five young men were being tried for riot and assault. One of the jurors kept asking the witnesses for the prosecution a number of questions in rather loud voice some of which questions were hardly pertinent to the case. At last the chairman suddenly said he would take the responsibility on himself of discharging that jury and empanelling another. Another jury was then sworn. An alibi was proved for three prisoners, though some witnesses swore the prisoners were all in the row. The jury found four of the young men guilty, and they were ordered to be imprisoned for one month each, with hard labour, and to go to jail for three months more unless they gave security that they would keep the peace for twelve months.

THE INSPECTION OF THE SHANNON.—On Friday morning week the Chief Secretary continued the inspection (having previously visited the ancient Cathedral of Killaloe), and started from the Pier Head in Captain Ingham's admirable steam yacht. Meelick was then visited, and the third substantial obstruction in the river was the centre of observation. Not satisfied with a casual view of the place, the Chief Secretary got on shore, and proceeded to the bank of the old canal to the mill, where there is a mud embankment or dam across a branch of the former river course. He next went down on the opposite bank by Keelogue Tower and Forts, minutely inspecting every place that complaint was made of, at the same time making some very practical suggestions. From thence he examined all the shoals between Meelick and Shannon Bridge, on the entrance from the Shannon to the River Suck, and thence to Athlone, where the fourth of these artificial obstructions exists, after an inspection of which the Chief Secretary and Major French left for Moydrum, the seat of Lord Castlemaine, where he remained for the night. On Saturday morning he visited the Suck from above the town of Ballinacloe to the junction where it discharges into the Shannon.—Limerick Chronicle.

WRECK IN DUBLIN BAY.—On Monday morning there was a fatal casualty to the brig Hampton, of Dublin, laden with coal. A heavy sea, and the wind blowing more than half a gale, stranded the vessel on the rocks at the North Bull, and she became a total wreck. Owing to the well-timed exertions of Captain Knox Galway, of the Irish Lights Commissioners' steam yacht Princess Alexandra, the crew were saved with the exception of the master and one seaman, who were washed overboard and drowned.

INSANITY IN THE COUNTY CLARE.—Statements which have gained a considerable amount of currency, but no confirmation have prevailed, to the effect that in the western parts of the county Clare several persons have either died suddenly or become violently mad from some disease, the nature or the cure of which the local doctors profess ignorance of. It is believed by the inhabitants that the strange occurrences have been caused by the eating of diseased meat.

A COUNTY CHAIRMAN ON THE IRISH LAND ACT.—At the Enniskillen Quarter Sessions on Friday, Mr. Patrick Blake, Q.C., said, the Irish Land Act had given rise to a vast amount of annoyance and ill-feeling throughout the country. It was extremely difficult to administer it with any certainty, and it was as crooked an Act as was ever passed.

EMIGRATION TO NEW ZEALAND.—The Caroline with the 368 passengers for New Zealand, sailed yesterday.—Cork Examiner, 15th ult.

GREAT BRITAIN. MR. NEWDEGATE AND THE CONVENTS.—The fanatical member for North-Warwickshire, has lost no time in proving to the world that he is still as devoted to his cause as ever, that years have had no softening effect upon his bigotry, that his hatred of monastic institutions is proof against all charitable

influences, and that while he lives he will rave against Convents and the Religious Life. It is his own idea. Only allow him to vilify Monks and Nuns, and to harrow ladies, who have quitted the world for the love of God, and in order, according to their best judgment and calm reflection, to work out their everlasting bliss—let Parliament give him but this one precious privilege, and for him the millennium has come. It is, to be sure, a morose, ungenerous, unfeeling, and unmanly fancy; but Mr Newdegate's mind is constituted, his better nature is so perverted by a gloomy fanaticism, that he is unable to discern the scandalous impropriety of his proceedings in this matter. We do not know him personally, but we accept as true what we have been told as to the goodness of his character and the liberality of his conduct in everything that stands apart from Catholic institutions. But upon that one point he is the victim of the TRITE MALADIE. The disease seems to have acquired fresh strength from the late General Election. Parliament met for the despatch of business only on the 19th instant, and on the fourth working day of the Session he asked leave to bring in a Bill directing the appointment of a commission to inquire respecting monastic and conventual institutions in Great Britain, and for the purposes connected therewith. The terms of the motion are extremely vague; but we have no doubt the clauses of the Bill will remove all doubt respecting the design of its inventor. It can have but one object and one meaning if it have any purpose or meaning at all. Read by the light shed upon it by the anterior conduct of Mr. Newdegate, it must be obvious to all that the intention is to subject the monastic and conventual institutions in Great Britain to inspection by official inquisitors, like lunatic asylums and prisons. In the conception of his diseased mind, Nuns are lunatics or worse or a mixture of both. The public can hardly have forgotten already his charges against certain convents and Nuns in Staffordshire—the terrible stories he told in the House of Commons about dark vaults, and cruel flagellations, and terrible screams of the victims; and how he shrank from the investigations challenged by the Bishop of Birmingham, and how the false charges were blown to atoms by the report of a Protestant nobleman. But this explosion, has had no effect upon Mr. Newdegate, except, perhaps, to rivet in his morbid fancy his hallucination about the Religious Life and the inmates of convents. Granting leave to bring in a Bill upon any subject at all affecting national institutions or interests being almost a matter of course, the permission asked by Mr. Newdegate on Tuesday evening was granted; but, though a Tory Administration is installed in office, and the Tory Minister has at his call a clear majority of fifty-two members in the House of Commons, we do not apprehend that Mr. Newdegate's Bill will become part of this written law of the United Kingdom. It is too great an outrage upon the Catholics of the Empire—home and colonial—too gratuitous an insult to the Catholic nobility and gentry of the United Kingdom, whose sisters, and daughters, and relatives constitute the occupants of the convents against which the measure is aimed to permit its ever passing through the different stages in the two Houses of Parliament. We are well aware that in the present Administration through all its departments there is not one Catholic. We are also conscious of the fact that by the immense majority of the members of the Houses of Lords and Commons the tenets of the Catholic Church are largely rejected, and its religious institutions are wholly disliked. But modern Liberalism has more sympathy than Toryism with Exeter Hall. The Tories are at all events, ambitious of being considered gentlemen; and no gentleman, unless under the influence of a craze, will vote for such a Bill as that proposed by Mr. Newdegate. For what does it imply? Does it not imply plainly and absolutely that the Catholic nobility and gentry of Great Britain are so dead to all the feelings of humanity, so insensible to all the instincts of nature, as to allow the female members of their families to be immured in dungeons against their inclination, and subjected to even physical torture at the caprice of heartless tyrants? Is that credible? Will Mr. Disraeli affirm that proposition? Will the Earl of Derby, or Lord John Manners, or the Duke of Richmond affirm it? That will be seen by the fate of Mr. Newdegate's Bill; and for ourselves we have no hesitation of committing ourselves to the opinion that the Government will not help forward a Bill so wantonly offensive to a very large portion of the Queen's thoroughly loyal subjects, so utterly without justification by circumstances, and so wholly unnecessary and uncalled for. A large proportion of the conventual institutions in this country are educational establishments where young ladies intended for the secular life are educated, and where, consequently, the inner life of the convent is known to the laity. Many of the other religious establishments are homes for the houseless poor, schools for the education of the children of the poor, asylums for servants out of place, and reformatories for fallen women. About these there is no secrecy—nothing which the Religious Sisterhood are afraid should come to light—nothing to be concealed. Go to Blasford-square; go to Nazareth House, near Brook Green; go to the House of the Little Sisters of the Poor—and Mr. Newdegate, without the aid of an Act of Parliament or a police inspector, will find the doors open, and may satisfy his curiosity by inspection and questioning to the top of his bent. Even the cloistered Nuns have free intercourse with their families, to whom they may make known their feelings, and by whom in case of wrong or oppression they would of course be protected by appeal to the Bishop of the Diocese as Visitor-General of all monastic institutions within the scope of his episcopal jurisdiction, or to the Court of Queen's Bench, should the decision of the Bishop be unsatisfactory. There is therefore, no necessity whatever for Parliamentary interference in this matter. In the United Kingdom women become Nuns simply because they wish it, and they remain in their convents solely for the same reason. They cannot be forced into convents to lead a religious life, nor can they be forced to remain there even though their profession was the free act of their own free will. Is not Mr. Newdegate's interference in the matter an impertinent intrusion, to characterise it by the mildest phrase possible? Who asked him—a Protestant bitterly hostile to the Catholic Church—to put forth his protecting hand for the rescue of Catholic ladies whom his Protestant bigotry stimulates to represent as the victims of parental or fraternal baseness and conventual tyranny? Can he name one, even one Catholic, who has besought his interposition? Can he produce one living witness, liable to cross-examination, in support of his imputations, or any one of his gross and reckless imputations upon the monastic institutions of this country? If he can, let him do so; and the opponents of his Bill, whom he necessarily calumniate, will know how to deal with the case. If he cannot, and we are quite sure he cannot, then what justification can there be for allowing this Bill to be even read a second time? Mr. Newdegate professes to call for a Commission of Inquiry; what he wants is a law of inspection; and that really means the suppression of all conventual institutions in Great Britain.—Weekly Register.

A BUDGET OF INTERESTING FACTS.—The sixteenth annual report of the Registrar-General of births, deaths, and marriages in Scotland contains the following interesting facts noticed by the registrars:—During the year, a giant Irishman died at Hawick who was 7 ft. 3 in. in height, measured 54 inches round the chest, and weighed 42 stone. From the imperfect manner in which the old registers were kept, it is often impossible to procure satisfactory evidence of the ages of those who die at the extreme old ages. It is, however, one of the peculiarities of

the Scottish race, that they use every effort to ascertain the exact age of the deceased, so that, as a general rule, the age of death may be relied on as being correct. During the year 1870 there were 9 males 17 females whose ages were entered on the register as being above 100 years of age at death. Of the 9 males, 2 had completed 100 years, 1 was 101 years, 1 was 102 years, 1 was 103 years, 1 was 104 years, 1 was 108 years, and 1 survived to his 110th year. Of the 17 females who died above 100 years, 9 had completed their 100th year, 2 were 101 years of age, 7 were 102 years, 2 were 103 years, 1 was 104 years, 1 was 107 years, 1 was 108 years, 1 was 110 years, and one was reported to be in her 115th year of life.—Lancet.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—Some of the recent despatches from India give an account of the condition of things in the famine stricken districts quite at variance with the painful statements of the correspondent of the Daily News. A telegram in the Standard of Saturday alleges that Mr. Forbes' pictures of the distress are exaggerated, and that the actual scarcity is far below the apprehensions. The famine is described as being everywhere under control, and the relief works exceed what is necessary. Government food accumulations are superabundant, and likely to go to waste. According to the Standard's correspondent there have been a dozen deaths from starvation altogether; the alarming telegrams that have been sent home are laughed at, and the English subscriptions are looked upon as superfluous. A letter in the Spectator, vouched for by the editor as having been written by one of the few Anglo-Indians who know what famine means, describes the general condition of the country as less gloomy than in former years of scarcity, and asserts that up to the 11th of March there had been no real famine.

THE COST OF THE ASHANTER EXPEDITION.—It is stated that the expenditure of the War Office in the current financial year will amount to, say, £260,000, excluding stores of obsolete pattern not requiring to be replaced of the value of £55,000, apart from charges incurred on account of Captain Glover, and leaving nothing chargeable to next year; that the expenditure of the Admiralty in the same period will amount to £280,000, including Captain Glover's charges, but leaving a sum of £70,000 to be paid in 1874-75; that Captain Glover's expedition will cost the Colonial Office (£118,000 to close of January), say, adding an estimate for the ensuing two months, about £150,000—making a total of £690,000.

THE STRIKE OF THE ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.—It appears that there are in England 4,600 agricultural labourers on strike, and the number of strikers is largely on the increase. The Committee of the Union, finding that the funds for the support of these men are entirely inadequate to their support, notify that they are willing to refer the question in dispute to arbitration. But the great majority of farmers affected have engaged other hands, and they can tide over the next two months without serious inconvenience. The Isle of Ely farmers have been solicited by a deputation of labourers to come to a settlement, but the application is rejected.

Major Johnston, the gentleman who created a sensation the other day by sweeping the crossing near the Houses of Parliament, and was arrested by the police, has been discharged on a promise not to repeat his freak. The defendant had certain grievances, and took this singular way of making them known.

OUTBREAK OF FEVER IN LIVERPOOL.—Some alarm has been created in Toxteth Park, the southern suburb of Liverpool, by the outbreak of scarlet fever. It appears that several cases have been traced to the use of milk supplied by dealers whose cows had been allowed to drink of well water into which sewage had filtrated. Efforts are being made to have all such wells closed and to compel the milk dealers to use the ordinary town water.

UNITED STATES.

THE YANKEES USING HARD WORDS.—The New York World says:—"It is the sober, sad truth, that it would be better for South Carolina to-day to be a colony of Great Britain than to be a member of the American Union. She would be as free from the curse of slavery then as she is now; and she would be free also from the curse which now oppresses her of thieves at the seat of Government, and of armed imperial forces supporting those thieves in their thievery. In the British colony the sort of people who are making law to-day in South Carolina would be breaking stones on the highway or picking oakum in the penitentiary."

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.—The following remarks, which we clip from Appleton's Journal, are worthy of attention, as reflecting the sentiment of those in this country who allow experience and common sense, instead of bigotry and prejudice, to influence their thoughts:—"While we have no confidence in any marked advantages resulting from the compulsory system, we also fail to share the confidence felt by many in the moral results of purely secular education. Many of the statistics so freely paraded as to the proportion of ignorance among the criminal classes, need to be read with qualifying reservations. Prison inmates represent only the ruder and grosser forms of sinning. These criminals, moreover, are mainly drawn from that class who have no adroitness, who have no influence or friends to shield them from the consequences of their offenses, who drift into prison because they are ignorant of methods how to keep out of them. Secular education is more successful in teaching men how to escape the consequences of their crimes than it is in teaching men not to commit crimes. There is a very large proportion of illiteracy in our prisons because the illiterate are stupid as well as illiterate, and are victims to their own restlessness. It is only occasionally that a bank defaulter expiates his crime by incarceration; it is comparatively rare that the wretched thief of the pavement escapes his prison-doom. If we could get statistics of all the crimes committed, and not simply of those punished, secular education would not come off so triumphantly as it now does in the criminal records."

One of the most curious cases on record has recently developed itself in New York. Some days ago a rumor became public that the small-pox prevailed to an alarming extent at Blackwell's Island, very naturally the numerous friends of the various parties residing in that flourishing locality became greatly excited at the disagreeable report. It now turns out that the rumor was the result of a deep conspiracy of the admirers of Wm. M. Tweed, and on and off the island, to prevent his being subjected to the ordinary discipline which other convicts are compelled to suffer. In spite of the general belief that there is honor among thieves, two of the convicts have confessed their complicity with the friends of the great criminal, and have admitted that the corruption appearing on their bodies was caused them by the liberal application of croton oil. Of course an investigating committee will be appointed, and as such bodies always throw an enormous quantity of light upon any subject they undertake to investigate, we may naturally expect that very soon we will know all about the alleged conspiracy.

A recent advertisement contains the following startling information:—"If the gentleman who keeps a shoe-store with a red head, will return the umbrella of a young lady with the ivory handle to the slate-roofed grocer's shop; he will hear of something to his advantage, as the same is the gift of a deceased mother, now no more, with the name engraved upon it." The man who would keep an umbrella after such an appeal is unfortunally. We would surrender a circumstantial upon slighter provocation.

years ago a young man came to this State without a dollar in the world. Last week he went out of the State, carrying with him the sum of one dollar and thirty-eight cents, the savings of fifteen years of frugal life. "Come West, young man, come West."

A Danbury man who recently lost his wife was asked by a friend whether she died suddenly. "Indeed she did," he exclaimed, with much feeling; "why, only a week after there was a man around here that wanted to insure her, but I never dreamed of anything happening. And," he added, apologetically "I don't believe anybody would have thought it to look at her."

According to the Lawrence Eagle, a peace-loving husband of that city a few months ago agreed to give his wife three dollars a week to maintain comparative silence, deducting one cent for each superfluous word uttered. She now owes him nearly enough to pay the city debt.

There is a ladies' cooking club in Boston, the members of which aim at proficiency in the management of their kitchens. Meetings are held every week, and the ladies contribute cookery of their own for condemnation or approval. Original dishes are rewarded with official recognition if they are palatable, and the recipes for making them are recorded for general benefit.

It is stated that after leaving Denton, Caroline County, Md., and for eighteen miles below, there is not a licensed liquor saloon in that part of the county, which embraces one-half the territory and population of the county. In all this territory there is not a single criminal indictment against any citizen residing in that section.

WELL ANSWERED.—The other day a country girl was standing in front of a dry-goods store looking at the articles displayed in the window. A high-toned youth who thought himself very smart, stopped at the same window, and, noticing an article of ladies' apparel in the window, asked the girl if she knew what it was. "Well, yes," said the girl, "it's something for impertinent puppies to ask questions about." The high-toned young man suddenly remembered that he had an engagement around the next corner.

PROSPERITY OF BALTIMORE.—Baltimore finds the importation of sugar and molasses increasing from the West Indies at a great rate, and claims that the port transacts more business with Italy than any other in this country, and an increasing amount with Norway. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is taxed to its utmost capacity to bring the grain for vessels recently arrived, and not only were both elevators kept running to make the exchange, but grain was also put on board by hand, and the Patapsco was blocked with accumulated shipping.—This is certainly a cheering state of affairs, even though the Patapsco flows with less volume than the Mississippi. We took with pleasure to the prosperity of our sister city, and hope to parallel that in our record and see the example distributed generally.—Philadelphia North American.

I have heard a great deal about the rise in prices in Paris, and the fact is true as regards provisions, wine, &c., but dresses appear to me stationary at about the same prices as during the last days of the Empire. A very elegant toilette will cost from 700 to 1,000 francs, but very tasteful and handsome costumes may be procured at 400 and 500 francs. Of course, if one adds lace, the prices may be increased indefinitely, as lace may cost any price from \$8 a yard up to \$800, or even more, as witness the celebrated dress of Mrs. Sprague, of Rhode Island, the lace on which was said to be valued at \$7,000, a yard—\$35,000 for the single flounce.—Mrs. Hooper in Philadelphia Press.

Journalistic rivalries are sharp and decisive in Chicago. A young man acting as a reporter of the Chicago Post called to see Mr. Storey of the Times, the other day, and asked him if he had shot Dr. Johnson, as was rumored. The old man immediately pulled out his spectacles, squared round to the reporter, and replied: "Young man, do you think I am fool enough to do it in time for the evening papers?"

Listen to what a Western editor says about this time: "Wood, chips, coke, coal, corn cobs, feathers, rosin, sawdust, shavings, splinters, dry leaves, old rags, fence rails, barn doors, flint, old guns, rabbit traps, cabbages, potatoes, flour barrels, hats, beds, old iron, wire, old gimlets, or anything that can be converted into cash, will be received at this office from delinquent subscribers, as the proprietor contemplates retiring from active life."

There are shrewd boys in Burlington, Vt. On the night of the charter election they got out a drum and file, and went noisily to the house of one of the successful candidates. He thought they were the voters who had supported him, and flung wide his hospitable doors. Before he could get the boys out, they had eaten most of the supper that had been set for the real voters, who had found the table barren when they came.

The Daily Witness one of the most ignorant and bitter of Protestant papers, is regaling its readers with a reprint of Victor Hugo's last novel '93, and in an editorial on the subject informs its readers that Victor Hugo, as a poet, was called the "Byron of France, though he never had anything in common with Byron's licentiousness." The Daily Witness is doubtless not a careful reader of Victor Hugo, or what is still more probable does not understand French. At any rate, we cannot help smiling at the ways of our friends, the Protestants, for assuredly the organs of no other religion would republish the works of this avowedly anti-Christian writer as desirable reading. If Hugo is pure, George Sand and Eugene Sue are moral.—N. Y. Catholic Review.

The Key West (Fla.) Despatch says: "On Cozumel Island are yet to be seen the walls of the first church ever built on the continent of America. Cortez, before his conquest of Mexico—say about three hundred years ago—built his first place of public worship on this beautiful island. The foundation walls are yet partially preserved; each side has an elevation of some ten feet in places. The altar is covered with an almost impenetrable growth of chaparral; and all about and even inside these ruins are ancient and modern tombs, where patriarchy rest. The wild flowers bloom over them in great profusion, and the birds carol sweet songs morning and evening. A paved walk extends from the portal several hundred yards westward, but is now almost buried from sight in the soil. Excavations are seen where searchers after hidden treasures have delved. There is a fine field there for the curious to explore. But the natives of the locality allow it to rest, so quietly that the dense shrubbery almost buries it."

One House of the New York Legislature has passed a compulsory education bill. The first section will show its scope: "Section 1. All parents and those who have the care of children shall instruct them, or cause them to be instructed, in spelling, reading, writing, English grammar, geography, and arithmetic. And every parent, guardian, or other person having control and charge of any child between the age of eight and fifteen years, shall cause such child to attend some public or private day-school at least fourteen weeks in each year in spelling, reading, writing, English grammar, geography, and arithmetic, unless the physical or mental condition of the child is such as to render such attendance or instruction inexpedient and impracticable." The bill passed the Assembly by a vote of sixty-eight to thirty-five. It said that the Senate will probably reject it.

A Vermont newspaper announces that its minimum charge for a first-class marriage notice will be \$410, of dried apples, notices with "poetry" cost 12lb, of onions more.—Land and Water.