## THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, AUGUST 19, 1891.

# A DISCOVERY

## AT THE "RATH OF BORRISMORE."

New Subterranean Chambers Discover ed-Mysterious Construction.

Recent excavations of the old " Rath of Borrismore " have led to the discovery of three *souterrain* chambers of dimen-sions and architectural character suffi-iont to invest the place, with an autinance Survey in 1840 remarks-

burgess.

÷ There are four large ancient " raths " in the townland, one of them having cham-bers or passages covered over with large bers or passages covered over with large fags, but the opening to them is choked up with earth, which prevents minute inspectsion" (Survey Letters, Kilkenny, vol. I, p. 109-Royal Irish Academy). My friend, Mr. DeCourcy, in whose dememe the rath is, expressed to me some meene the rath is, expressed to me some two years ago his desire to have it ex-plored. At last I resolved to do so, and on the 9th of June ult, we employed two men, Laurence Wholan and Daniel Maker, to commence operations Maher, to commence operations. Of Maher, to commence operations. Of course I need not say that it is always difficult to get the peasantry to annoy the homes of the 'good people,' and fairy stories are ever ventilated to dispirit and date mortals from doing so. In this in storics are ever ventilated to dispirit and deter mortals from doing so. In this in-stance we had to encounter the same difficulty, and our two excavators must have felt uncomfortable as some stroller occasionally approached and invariably complimented them on their "great out-rage." In two days the first chamber was cleared. It was packed from floor to roof with sand and stones, also two addi-tional chambers, of which presently. tional chambers, of which presently. The entrance to this first chamber is a The entrance to this first chamber is a square passage four feet six inches long, by three feet in width. It is prolonged by a smaller one 2½ feet long by 1 foot 11 inches wide. The front gate of the chamber is totally broken away, and respected proprietor.

#### IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY

whether the entrance was by the door such as exsts between the first and second chamber, or by a rough month covered with inclined dags after the manner of a of the roof varies from 5 feet 3 inches to and covered overhead with massive flags. There is not the slightest evidence of any mortar or coment having been used. The entrance to the second chamber is by a door 24 feet high, by 16 inches wide. It is also 24 feet deep, or the thickness of the dividing wall or gable. The jambs are of single blcks, and appear somewhat inclined. Through this door somewhat inclined. Through this door you enter on hands and feet into the second chamber. It is 11 feet long, and varies from 5 feet 1 inch to 5 feet 10 inches wile. The roof is 6 feet 3 inches is not sufficient evidence to convict." in height. The arches in this and the thind chamber spring not from the carth as in the first, but from the sides of the prependicular masonry. The door to the third chamber is 2 feet 6 inches high, 18 inches wide at top, and 19 inches at bottom. It is 3 feet 10 inches deep. The third chamber is 11 feet four inches long by 7 feet wide. On the north side we foud a door 24 feet high by 17 inches. On its first appearance, on clearing the debris, we imagined we had found the entrance to the second row of chambers running at right angles, or at least some underground passage connected with the existing ones; but, after careful experiment, we found nothing whatever to warrant the supposition. The door must accordingly have been intended as an entrance to future constructions, which were never after carried out. The roof of this third or last chamber is GREATLY BROKEN AWAY. Some Kilkenny men, it is said, came here to dig for gold, over S0 years ago, and as a result came upon the covering flags at a depth of 7 feet, breaking them in. At some unknown time those chambers must have been filled as they were with sand and stones to prevent them from sheltering robbers. There seems no other reason why they should have been packed so closely. We discovered as relic of antiquity in them. It may be that there are other souterrains connected with this rath; but such as it is, it fully deserves a foremost place among the remarkable ones, including Abbey in the County Clare, Doon in the King's County and Clady in Meath. The rath itself is circular and about 36 yards in diameter, with the entrance on the east. The opening to the chambers is in the centre and in line with the entrance. The fosse surrounding the rath is 10 yards wide, and the outward rampart on the south side is about 10 foet above the level of the adjoining field, but gradually diminishes on the west and north to a level with the entrance on the east. This latter peculiarity is most likely due to agricultural encroachments, and ori-ginally the rampart must have been taised equally all round. The inner rampart is about 13 to 15 feet high. There are different opinions both as to age and use of those subterraneous chambers. Molyneux, in his "Danish Mounds and Forts in Ireland," says they are of Danish origin, and adds—"Those close and bollow parsers lying underclose and hollow passages lying under-ground, so straight and small, without light, could never be designed to accommodate men, nor can we any way supthey must have been contrived for the Convenient disposal only of their stores, from that organization as I had in my

their arms, provisions and such like war-

of three souterrain character suffi-ients and architectural character suffi-ients and architectural character suffi-ients interest fully equal to others of quarian interest fully equal to other of quarian interest fully equares. Not for generations among the local inhabi-for generations among the local inhabi-tants, and the massive flag — covering tants, and burning than constructing. Walker, pointed out as the entrance to the hid-pointed out as the entrance to the hid-in releand," says: "They were the secret in Ireland," says: "They were the secret his letters in connection with the Ord-bis letters in 240 remarks his letters in connections of the nance Survey in 1840 remarks— "The inhabitants call this place (Bor-rismore) Buirghais Mhuar, i.e., the great subtore nounced daingcan or securities, and enus talmhan or carth habitations, being subterraneous retreats after the manner of the Britons and Germans, and indeed of most other nations of remote antiquity." Some of those that have been discovered are of bee-hive shape, fur-nished with niches, while others contained with niches, while others con-tained urns, showing clearly that they were of a sepulchral character, as well as retreats of safety. To ascribe then to the Danes is only to follow the mis-taken notion of the peasantry, who give the Danes credit or every piece of anti-to utty of the country. quity of the country, especially objects their tantrums were speedily put a stop which baffle speculation. There can be no doubt but that such of them as are built like Borrismore, in the Cyclopean fashion, without mortar, mud or cement of any kind, and in total ignorance of the use of the arch must be ascribed to a very remote age, conval with the raths themselves in their earliest construction, and accordingly of the Belgic or Tuath-de-Danan periods, twelve to fourteen hundred years at least before the Christian era. There is also convenient to this interesting chambered rath of Borris-more, and in the same demesne of Mr. DeCourcy, a very fine Cromlech. All persons interested in antiquities, and wishing to inspect them, can have free access by the well-known kindness of the

#### The Toronto Mystery.

TORONTO, August 13.-Edward Hand-

cock, who is accused of murdering his daughter Sophia, appeared again to-day in Magistrate Denison's court. Medical examination was nade on the point of the prisoner's deatness and whether it would be likely that he would not hear with inclined dags after the manner of a hipped roof. The entrance passage has from 2 to 3 feet of an incline to the menth of the chamber, and suggests the idea that when a person descended from the upper surface he managed to slide himself through it into the spacious roam. We now deal with the dimen-sions of the first chamber. It is 103 feet long and over 5 feet wide. The height of the roof varies from 5 feet 3 inches to a leaden missile. We're looked for corroa leaden missile. We've looked for corro-borative evidenecand found that the wound in the scalp had evidently been caused 6 feet 3 inclus, the floor following the in-borative evidence and found that the wound arching springs from the ground, and is constructed with a mixture of blocks and tion. In the house we found a dent m fags projecting a little one over another the upper part of the door at the lack of the passage-way. In this dent we also found particles of lead." Drs. Aikins and Wright were also quite agreed that the wound had been caused by a bullet. "Taking all the circumstances into consideration the bullet was likely shot from within the house." The magistrate said : "From the evidence there is noth-

their arms, provisions and source from like necessaries that here lay secure from weather and at hand, still ready for their orange lodges or any secret societies. It is the duty of adjutants and sergeantweather and at hand, still ready for their use, and under such a guard that kept them safe from thieves or enemies." Others are of opinion that they are of Belgic origin, but TOO NARROW AND LOW TOO NARROW AND LOW TOO NARROW AND LOW TOO NARROW AND LOW to have been used as hubitations. Their I had not the sign of one. I was in a

to have been used as mantations. Their style of architecture—Cyclopean—with-out mortar of any kind—seems most favorable to this option, and if we are to ascribe them therefore to the Firbolgs they date back to nigh 5,000 years be-fore the birth of Christ, according to the he called me the Croppy Boy. In 1839, when we were on the march through the jungle near Mysore, this man took the cholera and called out for a priest. No priest was to be had. There were no Roman Catholic chaplains in the service then, as there are now, thanks be to God. He died, but before he breathed his last he sent for me and craved forgiveness for all that he had ever done to me. I saw him buried, and bushed his grave corpse. This was in the 15th Hussars. In the 17th Lancers, where I subsequent-ly served, there were a few Irishmen, but

#### Mutual Compliments.

Possibly it may interest Irishmen to hear what Professor Huxley thinks of them and his candid estimate of their national disposition copied from a recent letter ·

They are the most charming people in the world to have to do with in business, the transaction of which requires neither punctuality, accuracy, nor moral courage, and with all their surface bonhommie they have as keen an eye to the main chance as the children of Israel. The Irish difficulty lies in the nature of the people and the physical character of the country, plus the operations for the Papacy to make Ireland the base of operations for the religious reconquest of Britain. The last is probably the key to The the present position of affairs. Bishops want to use Home Rule for their own purposes, and the price, I take it, is the endowment of their churches and schools, and it would not surprise me if the Assisted Education Act just passed through the House of Commons-were made a precedent for legislation on that subject before we are much older.

In other words, the Irish would be per-fect but that they are dilattory, false, weak, hypocritical, and covetous-and they are all this because they are Papists. Pessibly it may interest Professor Huxley to hear what at least one Irishman thinks of him, and probably it may not, but he is welcome to the certificate of character all the same. He would be a charming arrant, conceited, underbred, insolent, lying prig. Ireland will accept no edu-cational form in exchange for Home Rule.

### Sad Drowning Accident.

BOWMANVILLE, August 12 .- This town was thrown into exitement this morning by the news that the daughter of Jonathan Stephens, one of the oldest and most respected citizens, was drowned at

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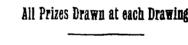
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For \$1.00 you can draw...... 5,000 ALEX. MILLOY, JULIEN OHABOT, Traffic Manager. General Manager.

Magistrate Denison then committed Handcock for trial.

#### Forewarned is Forearmed.

Many of the worst attacks of cholera morbus, cramps, dysentery, colic, etc., come suddenly in the night and speedy and prompt means must be used against them. Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is the remedy. Keep it at hand for emergencies. It never juils to cure or relieve.

#### Executions in India.

SIMLA, Aug. 13 .- Two of the leaders of the massacre of British officials in March last were hanged to-day at the gates of Manipur. The two men were members of the reigning family of Man-ipur. Both had appealed from the senipur. Both had appealed from the sen-tence imposed upon them by the military court, but the Viceroy of India decided that they should die. The principal act-or was the senaputy or commander-in chief of the Manipur army. He was a younger brother of the Rajah of Manipur, and some years are he drawe the Rajah in and some years ago he drove the Rajah into exile and placed another brother on throne. The Senaputty instigated the massacre of Chief Commissioner Quinton, Political A ent Grimwood and the others who lost their lives at the durbar held at Manipur, the natives firing upon the flag of truce which the Englishmen were carrying from the house which they had s) gallantly defended. An immense crowd of natives witnessed the execution. There was no sign of any disturbance, for large detachments of troops were present. The Jubasja (Regent) of Manipur and the Prince Angoazena. whose sentences of death were commuted by the viceroy to transportation for life and forfciture of their property, will shortly be taken from the country.

## Stick to the Right.

Right actions spring from right principles. In cases of diarrhoa, dysentery, cramps, colic, summer complaint, cholera morbus, ctc., the right remedy is Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, -an unfail-ing cure-made on the principle that nature's remedies are best. Never travel without it.

#### Orangeism in the Army.

From a quiet street in Chelsea a gallant old soldier, who signs himself by the name he went under in his regiment, "The Croppy Boy," sends us a letter ex-pressing his horror at the existence of Orangeism in the army, in which, by the bye, he has two sons serving at present :

boat, but, Mr. Hawkins noticing that his wife had not hold of the boat, tried to save her, but he went down, together with Mrs. Hawkins and Miss Maybee. The remainder were rescued.

#### To Be Divided.

QUEBEC, August 13 .- It is proposed, at the next session of the Legislature, to divide the county of Temisconata into two for judicial and registration purposes. The new division, to which is to be annexed a portion of Rimouski, is to be called Riouxville, on account of the number of families there named Rioux. The court house for this division is to be built at Trois Pistoles.

#### What Was It.

La Justice says that a document of the gravest importance and establishing grave facts in connection with the events if 1857-38 has been stolen from the Montreal Court house by a high official of the Government, whose name it offers to supply to the Attorney-General. The document, it says, was found while the Court house was being repaired, and placed in charge of the Clerk of the Peace.

#### For Thirty Years.

Johnstown, N. B., March 11, 1889. " Iwas troubled for thirty years with pains in my side, which increased and became very bad. I used St. Jacobs Oil and it completely cured. I give it all praise."

#### When the good man dies the tears are shed which in life he prevented from flowing.

Will positively cure sick headache and prevent its return. Carter's Little Liver Pills. This is not talk, but truth. One pill a dose. Sce advertisement. Small pill. Small dose. Small price.

Mr. Maxim says: "Give me time and I will show you a flying machine." Are we to understand that Mr.Maxim means to utilize the old principle involved in the discovery that time flics?

The pugilist makes his money "hand over fist."

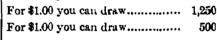


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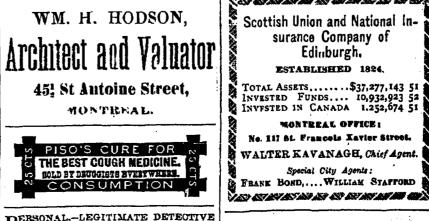
There is also a great many prizes of 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 and 250 dollars.

Don't forget that with the very same ticket you can draw more than one prize. For instance, you can draw one of the prizes drawn one by one. and it may happen in the meantime that the same number is in the series drawing approximation prizes of \$25.00, \$15.00 and \$10.00, besides terminating with the two terminal figures of the first or second capital prizes and thus drawing two or three prizes.

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