

THE MOTHERLAND.

Latest Malls from England, Ireland and Scotland.

Shocking Evidence of a Care Magistrate—The Mayor of Cork Comes in for a Drubbing—Victory of Irish Foot-Ballers—English and Scottish News.

A resolution of the Banbridge Board of Guardians urging the Local Government Board to sanction the payment of expenses incurred by boards of guardians by sending patients bitten by mad dogs to Mr. M'Govern, of Glan, County O'Connell, having come before the Cavan Board of Guardians, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—That this board having accurate information of complete success attending the ministrations of Mr. Philip M'Govern, of Glan, in all cases sent him of persons bitten by animals infected by rabies, and seeing that in a large number of these sent to the Pastur Institute fatal results ensue, we respectfully urge on the Local Government Board and the Irish Office the wisdom and justice of permitting boards of guardians in Ireland to send the affected poor to him in future.

A profound shock was felt throughout Ennis when the news spread like wildfire that Mr. Bogot Blood, J.P., one of the best known and most popular of the county gentry, had committed suicide in a most determined manner at the Clare County Club. Mr. Blood had been staying at the club since November last, and those who were on the most intimate terms with him profess themselves wholly unable to assign a motive which would impel him to the terrible deed. He was suffering from a sharp bilious attack and remained in bed all day, but seemed recovered next morning. Personally most affable and courteous to all, he was one of the most popular gentlemen in the county, and his terrible end had caused a deep shock throughout the community. Mr. Blood was a widower, having buried his wife—a daughter of Major O. W. Studdert, J.P.—last year. Up to her death he had lived out of Clare for a few years, but had returned again to take up his residence.

The official presence of Mayor Meade at the consecration of the new Protestant Bishop of Cork has made a sensation in the city. A letter from the Right Rev. Monsignor M'Sweeney, Dean of Cork appears in the Cork Examiner.

At St. Patrick's Church Monsignor M'Sweeney, delivered a sermon in which he referred to the Mayor's action. He said that scandal was multiplying more and more every day, and the culmination was the act of a person who held the highest position in the city, when, on Tuesday last, he went amongst the enemies of the Catholic religion and witnessed what they called the consecration of another man by the imposition of empty hands. The citizens of Cork had not yet the courage to express themselves on the greatest outrage, the greatest scandal, and the greatest reproach on our religion that ever was offered in the city of Cork since the days of St. Fin Barre. May God enlighten faith within our breasts, may God teach us the love of the Church first before the love of man, may God give us the grace to defend our faith, as our forefathers did, with our lives. The Catholics of the North of Ireland and those of America were ashamed to have read that the Mayor of Cork went to a Protestant ceremony while his five assistants were outside the door. I have none. I shall only ask you that this, the greatest of all misfortunes, may be taken away from us, that we may not lose our faith, the dearest thing we have on earth next to God Himself; that that faith may be preserved, and by the act of ours will we ever stand by the honour and dignity of that Church which we call our Church, the holy Roman Catholic Church.

Sir Thomas Deane, representing the Board of Works, revisited Kilmallock on Thursday with regard to the proposed demolition of the King's Castle. It appears that the Board of Works are inclined to take over the building for preservation as a national monument, and negotiations regarding the vesting of the building are in progress. He also visited Mr. Townsend, agent to the Coote property, in reference to the procuring of a passage into the Dominican Abbey, which is already vested in the board.

Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., telegraphs to the Press Association from Dublin, denying the Lobby rumour that he had gone to Rome and was likely to have an interview with the Pope.

Once again the flower of Irish footballers have successfully inaugurated their international campaign, for at Lansdowne road on Feb. 9th they gained a notable and decisive victory over the representatives of England. Naturally the result is exceedingly gratifying to Irish supporters of the game, and the fact that this is the third victory gained by the Shamrock over the Rose within the past four years is highly significant of the change that has taken place in the relative strength of the two countries. An undoubted deterioration in the English game, due to some extent to the es-

tablishment of the new semi-professional Northern Union, may in some measure account for the altered condition of affairs, but the fact remains that not so much that English players are any worse as that Irish players are considerably better than they used to be. Saturday's English team was certainly a moderate one, but it must be remembered that those of 1894 and 1896 were in turn dubbed "the best that England ever produced"; yet the Irishmen in both years fairly made "smithering and smothering" of them. Accordingly it is not fair to be robbed of any of her justly-earned laurels; and in dealing with Saturday's engagement it may be said that the English team would have been a very much better one indeed before it could have won the match. Ireland's injury of points, it is true, was not very large, but when added down to work which had always the measure of their opponents, and after a certain point in the game the result was fairly safe, which fact tends to induce a slackening of their efforts towards the close.

The parish priest of Ballinacorney, the Rev. John B. Canning, has, with the approval of the illustrious Archbishop of Tuam, the Most Rev. Dr. MacEvilly, set about the erection of the proposed new convent and schools at Ballinacorney, county Mayo. Although only very slender resources are so far in the hands of Father Canning, he is now relying on the charity of the faithful, Irish people, whether in their own land or in foreign climes.

Mr. John Lacy, who for the past twelve years has been stationmaster at Tralee terminus of the Great Southern and Western Railway, has been transferred to Athlone. During his connection with this town (writes Tralee correspondent) Mr. Lacy at all times proved himself a highly efficient and courteous official, and was held in high esteem by the people in general.

Father J. Mangin parish priest of Kenmare writes a letter to the Free man dealing with Mr. Balfour's answer to Mr. Dillon in the House of Commons concerning the Warden estate. Father Mangin says Mr. Balfour did not tell us how the Wardens have insisted on squeezing the very last penny out of the unfortunate tenants together with the already impossible rent under which they are coerced in better times. He did not inform Mr. Dillon or the public that the Wardens have, moreover, insisted on adding to these already impossible burdens interest on the arrears at the rate of 4 per cent yearly.

Mr. Balfour did admit that the Wardens had recourse to the unheard of practice of licensing these rents, arrears, and interest by securing a mortgage on the little farms. The practical outcome of this is to make it impossible for these tenants ever to avail themselves of the advantages of the Land Act, even if they be able to bear up against a system of rack renting unknown in the worst days of landlordism in Ireland.

The Chief Secretary does not state how many tenants have been evicted because they were unable to comply with these harsh conditions; how many of them have since died paupers. There is not a word of the eviction again and again of these evicted tenants—some of them widows and orphans—from the poorest shelter they could secure.

Mrs. Darby of Leap Castle, Birr, having written a play to be produced in the town in aid of the local hut club, Dr. Hemphill the Protestant rector has denounced it on the ground that the advertisement describes the impersonation of social vice in married life. He says, in a letter to the lady: I am surprised and pained at anyone having a knowledge that divorce is alarmingly on the increase proposing such a collection of expressions as I have quoted from the advertisement for presentation before an audience of my parishioners and fellow citizens.

The Marquis of Londonderry in the House of Lords has drawn attention to a speech delivered by Mr. William O'Brien at Cahir, Aughamore, county Mayo, on January 31st, in which he denounced "landgrabbing," and advocated the boycotting of those persons who availed themselves of their just rights, and whether such a speech was not a breach of the existing law, and if so, having regard to the serious consequences that have resulted from such speeches in the past, if her Majesty's Government are taking any steps in connection with the above-mentioned speech. Lord Ashbourne has replied that the Government will not prosecute Mr. O'Brien.

The following letter has been read at the S'winford Board of Guardians: "House of Commons, London, 29th January, 1897.

"DEAR SIR—I have received your letter of the 27th January, with copy of resolution enclosed. You will see that the condition of the West of Ireland has already been brought up in the House of Commons, both in the debate on the Address and by way of questions. The Attorney-General on behalf of the Government denied the existence of serious distress in the S'winford Union. I shall, of course, bring the matter up again on the first opportunity. Meanwhile I think it would be well for you to get detailed statements prepared as to the condi-

tion of the union; and if you cannot get any satisfaction from the Local Government Board it would be well to hold a representative meeting and pass resolutions demanding that the Government should take whatever steps may be necessary to deal with the distress.—Yours sincerely, JOHN DILLON, Broomknown.

It has been ascertained that the navigation of the Upper Shannon from Killaheo to Carrick is now an almost accomplished fact. The directors of the Development Syndicate which will be subsidized by the Government, include Lord Ardilaun, Lord Leach, Lord Mayo, Mr. Crossley and Colonel Pakenham, secretary. The boats are being built at present to run from ten to twelve miles an hour. For the coming summer the Shannon Development Company find it impossible to have the scheme in full working order, owing to the difficulty of getting large steamers on to the Shannon, as the length on canal locks will not permit. The company hope to begin operations about July 1st, with three small boats that will pass down the locks of the canal. Next autumn it is intended to build at Athlone two powerful steamers of 100 feet long that will have a speed of about 14 miles an hour, and ample accommodation for passengers.

An appeal made by the Very Rev. Canon Sully in the Herberstown estate has met with a most prompt and munificent response from His Grace the Archbishop of Cashel. Canon Sully asks a thousand pounds for the Nationalists of Ireland to save the Herberstown wounded soldiers of the land war from absolute ruin. The Archbishop's letter is as follows:—I have just read the touching appeal made by Canon Sully through your columns to-day, on behalf of the evicted tenants on the O'Grady estate, and subscribe fully to everything that he sets forth in their regard. Indeed, if I thought well of it (and for peace sake as well as for personal considerations I do not) I could not only justify the Canon's admirable statement in all its details, but moreover, let the outward public generally into a secret connected with this whole Herberstown business which would astonish, and, perhaps, disgust them not a little. But there is no good in going back on the dismal past. It is the future that we have now to look to. I ask with all my heart Canon Sully's appeal. I ask all true Nationalists to support it; and I enclose a cheque for £50 towards the contemplated fund.

The interesting ceremonies attendant on two receptions and three professions took place in the chapel attached to the convent of St. John of God, Wexford. The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Lord Bishop of Ferns, presided. Those who were received were Miss Marion Olavin, Kilbirney, Co. Westmeath, and Miss Katie Cunningham, Killeaula, Co. Tipperary.

ENGLAND. Mr. Fitzpatrick died on Feb. 28th. The Hon. Edward Blake, M. P., entertained the Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Attorney-General in the Government of the Dominion of Canada, at dinner on Feb. 11th at the House of Commons, and had among his guests the following members of the Irish Party—Mr. Dillon, Mr. Davitt, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Keble, and Mr. Fynn. Mr. Fitzpatrick subsequently listened to the debate on the Education Bill from the Distinguished Stranger's Gallery.

An appeal to English Catholics Cardinal Vaughan has issued an appeal to the Catholics of the Archdiocese urging them to subscribe towards a special Indian Female Fund in aid of the Catholics who are suffering from its ravages. The Catholic population of India, as his Eminence points out consists almost exclusively of the very poorest classes, and it consequently suffers the most. The total Christian population of the affected Province is about 800,000 Catholics and about 200,000 Protestants.

Rev. Basil Luke, M. A. The Rev. Basil Luke, M. A., who has been appointed to the canonry in the Westminster Chapter, rendered vacant by the death of the Hon. Monsignor Talbot, has labored for some twenty years as rector in the parish of Chiswick, during which period he had not only endeared himself to those of his own communion by his zealous ministrations and his tender sympathy and open-handed generosity towards all in need of counsel or help, but has also gained the goodwill and esteem of men of all creeds by his unvarying courtesy and amiable character. The new canon was formerly a member of the Anglican Church.

SCOTLAND. Connections in Glasgow. On Feb. 12th the natives of Connaught and their friends resident in Glasgow held their annual social reunion. The proceedings took place in the Grand National Hall, which were crowded by men of the West. The Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Aradagh, presided, and additional eclat was given to the gathering by the appearance and speech of Mr. P. A. McHugh, M. P., at present in Glasgow on election work.

A Chat on a Hullohead Steamer.

WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER.

On a fine July morning about six years ago, on the boat from Dublin to Holly Head, England, I chanced to meet with a burly Englishman who was quite a talker and almost exhausted himself in trying to convince me what a curse Home Rule would be to Ireland. Failing to convince me of this, and of the honorable part England always acted in her dealing with Ireland, he immediately turned the conversation by asking: "Are you a minister of the Gospel?"

"No." "Oh, you're a student of Trinity College?" "No." "You're not from Oxford?" "No." "You are not a native born?" "No. Neither of England, Ireland nor Scotland."

"Ab, you are an American?" "No."

It might be felt that my rather too inquisitive friend felt a little annoyed in failing to ascertain who I was or whence I came, for he broke out abruptly: "Well, no matter, I'm a native of old England myself and never ashamed to own up to it."

That was a stunner and he paused to get his effect. I ventured to reply that standing up for one's country showed the true spirit of a patriot, for instance, the loyal Orangemen on the 12th July gave expression to his patriotic sentiments by shouting out: "To — with the Pope." This had a cooling effect on the ardent enthusiasm of my friend, for he blandly smiled and assured me that "Popery had not much of a show in England, it is almost died out."

"It must have had considerable vitality in the beginning," I remarked, "for they have been trying to kill it for these last three hundred years and more and it is not dead yet. They must have a kind of a hankering after it, for to-day it is even stamped on the coin of the united kingdom."

"I doubt it." "Here is an English coin"—taking one from my pocket. "Look at it closely."

"Yes, that's the image of her Majesty, there's no Popery about that."

"Read these letters, 'Victoria'—it's not English."

"No; you see they are so fond of Rome that they have it in Latin."

"Victoria, Dei Gratia Britanniarum Regina: F. D.; and this is the reading in English—Victoria by the grace of God, Queen of England."

"Yes, she is Queen by the grace of God and the power of England; what has the Pope of Rome to do with it?"

"Do you see these two capitals, F. D.?" "Did you ever take the trouble to find out their meaning?"

"No." "Well, they stand for two Latin words—Fidei Defensor, which in English means, Defender of the Faith."

"Well, isn't she the Queen and head of the English Church and prepared to defend the Protestant faith?"

"I don't doubt it, but does it not seem strange that she the Protestant Queen of England and head of the Protestant religion should treasure a title conferred on one of her ancestors, not by any Protestant power, but by the Pope of Rome—a title which means, not a defender of the Protestant religion, but defender of the Roman Catholic faith?"

"The—Queen—of—England—defender—of—the—Roman—Catholic faith!" It almost took my friend's breath away.

"Yes, no king or queen ever received that honored title until the Pope conferred it on an English king many years ago, and how carefully they treasure it when it is handed down from one to another for three centuries or more, and next to her title of Queen of England she prizes most the one conferred on her ancestors by the head of the Catholic Church and stamped on the coin of her realm."

"Who was the first to receive this title from the Pope of Rome?"

"Henry VIII., King of England."

"A Protestant King to receive the title of defender of the Catholic faith?"

"My kind friend, have patience and I will explain. He was not always a Protestant, nor was he one when he became King, nor for years afterwards. In order to make it clear to you it may be well to go back to Luther who was a Roman Catholic monk and priest. Luther, a Roman Catholic priest! Wasn't he the great leader of the Protestant reformation? Pray, dear sir bear with me for a few moments. Like Henry VIII. he was not always a Protestant, and to speak plainly so you may better understand, the reformation which claims him as its acknowledged head is in reality a revolt against the religion in which he was baptized and ordained a Catholic priest. When he rebelled against the church, disgraced the sacred character of the priesthood and threw off all restraint and submission to the church to which he as a priest and monk had solemnly vowed allegiance, the Roman Catholic reil-

igion was then acknowledged through out the civilized world. He came out fully in open revolt against his head and his God, and he did this at the bidding of the man. A cry was raised against him from all parts of the Catholic world. Not only he who sits in the chair of Peter opposed him; not were by the priests of the Church, but conscientious laymen and those of royal blood, rose up against him and with voice and pen denounced him as a false pretender and wicked man, and nobly defended the doctrine and teaching of the Catholic Church against the wild and reckless innovations introduced and waged by Luther.

Among the champions of the Catholic cause none was found more zealous than Henry VIII. in trying to put down Luther's revolt. For this purpose he wrote a book, and with the assistance, it is said of the learned Dr. Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, he drew up a very able document in defence of the Catholic Church against Luther's heretical teaching."

"Well, certainly if you say so, Henry must be at one time a Papist, but tell me how did he come to kick against the Pope afterwards?"

"There are many reasons given but the chief one is that he wished to put away his lawful wife and marry another woman. The Pope would not hear of it and thus he renounced his allegiance to the Catholic Church."

"I think I have made clear to you what I said at the beginning that there is Popery stamped on the coin of England. Those letters (F. D.) dear sir, should remind you and every Englishman of the distant past when England was Catholic and its people from the humblest subject to the King on the throne were faithful adherents of the Roman Catholic faith. May you not be induced, dear friend, to study the history of your country and you would find that Popery, as you call it, is not only stamped on your coin, but is forever engraved on the workmanship of your finest churches which you call Protestant, but built by Catholic hands, paid for with their money, and used for centuries to worship God in the faith of their fathers, until wicked vandals laid their sacrilegious hands on God's altars and substituted another form of worship—let these be our monuments for all time to come 'Atholico England and to the Catholic faith.'"

"Tell me who was the Pope who gave that title to Henry?"

"The title was given to him by Leo X., without the right of transferring it to his successors but some years after his revolt in 1533, Henry passed a law, after being denied the right annexing to the crown both titles—Supreme head of the Church of England and Ireland, and defender of the faith. Thus his successors assume a title to which they have no right and absurdly style themselves Fidei Defensor—Defender of the Faith."

"Where can I get a copy of that book you say Henry wrote when a Catholic?"

"There are copies scattered all over; you will find them in all the courts of the empire and in the libraries in connection with the universities; you will see one in the library of Trinity College, Dublin."

Now we were near the pier at Holly Head, we shook hands, and parted, in all probability, to meet no more in the flesh. I have never heard whether he succeeded or not in procuring a copy about the existence of which he seemed to have considerable doubt. For the benefit of those who, like my friend, may not have seen or read a copy, here is the title of the book and a few quotations: "A Defence of the Seven Sacraments against Martin Luther, by Henry the Eighth of his name, the most potent King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, A. D. 1521."

How eloquently and forcibly he opens out in his introduction—"O what happy times were those when Holy Church wanted no defenders, since she had no enemies to contend with. But, alas! now—days one (Luther) appeared, who, concealing his satanic malice under the cloak of zeal for truth and urged on by hatred and anger, vomited forth his venomous venom against the Church. Would to God that every soul renovated in the life-giving waters of baptism and redeemed by the blood of Christ, the old man and the child, the priest and king, could rise to combat this ungrateful and impious wretch."

Hear him discourse on the authority of the Pope:—"Do you (Luther) dare to deny that Christendom looks on Rome as her common mother? Even to the utmost extremities of the world everyone bearing the name of Christian inclines to humble submission to Rome. If that power which Rome claims for herself came neither from God nor man, did Rome usurp it? Did Rome steal it? When? Tell us if you can. Open the pages of history and consult them. But if that power be so ancient that its beginning is lost in the obscurity of time, then you should know that it is an established axiom of human laws that all possession, the source of which cannot be traced, is legitimate, and that by the unanimous consent of all people it is forbidden to touch that which time has confirmed."

Hear his words in defence of confession to a priest and absolution which Luther had scoffed at: "With regard to the power of the Keys, I take no other argument than

this. Luther asserts that the words of institution (St. Matthew xiii, 19) apply to the laity as well as to the sacerdotal; that is, that those who are of them do you believe? Luther affirms; the Catholic Church denies; what do you believe?"

Here is how he defends the Catholic doctrine that the Bible alone is not the whole rule of faith, but includes also the authority of the Church and tradition: "Without tradition you are not certain that there is one Gospel extant. If the Church had not told us that the Gospel of St. John was the Gospel of St. John we should not have known that it was the work of the apostle, for we were not standing by his side when he wrote it. Why, then, do you not believe the Church when she tells you this is what Jesus Christ has done; these are the sacraments He has instituted; this is what the apostles have handed down to us, as you believe her when she says, as you say, that St. Matthew or St. Mark has related?"

He goes on to describe Luther as "an audacious writer who puts himself above all law, despises our doctors and from the pinnacle of his greatness laughs at the lights of our Church and insults the majesty of our pontiffs, traditions, dogmas, morals, canons, the faith and even the Church herself."

Thus he concludes his work against Luther in defence of the Catholic faith which he himself, afterwards openly denied and became a violent persecutor of that Church which he here so nobly defends, and abandons her to lead a life of apostasy steeped in sin and crime. "All other Christians, I beseech by the bowels of Christ, whose faith we profess, I entreat to turn their ears from his impious words not to nourish scoldings and strife, especially at this time, when Christians ought especially to be united against the enemies of Christ. Let them not listen to the insults and detractions against the Vicar of Christ (the Pope) which the rage of this friar pours out. Let them not stain with impious heresies the hearts that are consecrated to Christ."

The work is dedicated to the Pope as is shown on the last page from two lines in Latin to wit:—"Henry, King of England, sends thee, Leo X., this his work, as a pledge of fidelity and friendship." Henry also sent a letter accompanying the work, written with his own hand in Latin, which can also be seen in the Vatican library. In this letter he tells how incensed he was against Luther's rebellious conduct, that he was moved out of love for the Holy Apostle See to do all in his power to prevent so great an evil, and how he had implored the German Sovereigns to unite with him in crushing this revolt against the church, then he concludes:—"But not satisfied with these proofs of zeal for the Catholic Faith and our doctrine to the Apostle See, we resolved to show by our own written words what we thought of Luther and his detestable books, thus to make it clear to all that we would be ever ready to defend and protect, as well with the pen as with the sword, the Holy Roman Church. Moreover, we thought that this first effort of ours should be dedicated and consecrated to none other than to your Holiness . . . and we shall consider its value greatly increased if it meets with your Holiness' approval. Your Holiness' most devoted and obedient son, by the grace of God, Henry, King of England and France and Lord of Ireland."

From our Palace at Greenwich, May 21st, 1521."

Dr. Johnson.

DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION is occasioned by the want of action in the biliary ducts, loss of vitality in the stomach to secrete the gastric juices, without which digestion cannot go on; also, being the principal cause of indigestion, the vegetable Pills taken before going to bed, for a while, never fail to give relief and effect a cure. Mr. F. W. Ashdown, Ashdown, Ont., writes: "Parmelee's Pills are taking the lead against sea other makes which I have in stock."

A Dead, Run-down Planet.

Perceval Lowell in The March Atlantic says: "In Venus, then, we gaze upon a world which as a world has run its course. Beautiful as she appears to us, as she glows and sparkles on the twilight sky, it is distance alone that gives her her seeming loveliness; and ends her with eternal youth. In truth she is far otherwise. All the comeliness she may have had in the morning of her prime, when the solar system itself was young, has gone from her never to return. As the Japanese prettily put it of a woman, the cherry blossom has passed into the leaf. For she is no longer young; she is old, wrinkled, dead. Or shall we not better say she sleeps, though it be with the sleep from which there is no awakening? For it is fitting that she should still seem so fair to us, when she glows against the gloaming in the slowly fading sky; fitting that the planet of love should seem lovely to the end."

The blue-bird is hailed as a harbinger of Spring. It is also a reminder that a blood-purifier is needed to prepare the system for the debilitating weather to come. Little's Liver will treat the bird's ailment; "Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla in March, April, May."