

survivors of the wreck, and found they had departed in a vessel bound for Montreal. Mr. Ferguson, therefore, as soon as he was recovered, having become strongly attached to the little waifs, brought them to us, that they might be where they could sometimes see them.

The little girl recovered but slowly. Her sleep was for a long time broken by dreams of agonizing struggles, from which she would awake screaming, and so terrified that it required our most anxious and tender efforts to soothe and quiet her. During the first of her lucid intervals, she told her name and what she could of her parents.

While the good sister was reciting this little history, I stood like one in a maze, the conviction stealing over me that these were two of the children whose loss my poor friends, the Macphersons, were bemoaning; and when at length she closed the narrative by saying that the child revealed her name, I seized her arm with a sudden grasp, and whispered huskily, 'What did she say her name was?'

'Maggie Lander Macpherson.' I tottered to the nearest seat, almost fainting under the intense excitement. She hastened for restoratives, after taking which I explained to her the cause of my agitation. I drew little Maggie to my side, and whispered fondly and gently, 'My dear little lassie, I knew and loved your mother.'

'Looking up most wistfully in my face, she asked, 'Where?'

'Here, in Montreal,' I replied. 'That cannot be,' she murmured with plaintive softness, as if half musing, while the very expression of her mother's own serene resignation mingled with a shade of disappointment, passed over her lovely features.

'That cannot be, gentle lady, for my mother (and she shuddered as she uttered it) was buried in the cold waves!'

'No! my child,' I said softly; 'your father and mother both escaped, and are living, though a great way from here.'

'It would be useless for me to attempt a description of what followed, as the truth of my assurance took possession of her mind; but the excitement of the sudden and joyful surprise—which we feared might injure her—seemed to restore the elasticity of her youthful spirits, a result that all other appliances had failed to secure. It was then discovered that the depressing consciousness of their orphan and destitute condition had so weighed upon her sensitive young heart as to affect her delicate frame, and prevent her restoration to health.

'I immediately sought my friends and told them of the discovery, after which we went to see Mr. Ferguson. It was agreed that I should accompany the children to Upper Canada, and deliver them to their parents, they furnishing all necessary means for defraying the expenses of the journey.

'I set out with my little treasures the next morning, under charge of an old gentleman who was going to that vicinity on business. The second day we stopped at a rude log cabin, that aspired to the dignity of an inn. While the gentleman who had charge of us was out looking for a carriage, I heard a familiar voice outside, and looked from the window just in time to see Donald Macpherson himself, in the very act of driving away from the door. I tapped loudly on the window. He saw me, and came into the room just as I had hidden the children in an adjoining bedroom.

'Is it possible, then,' said he, 'that it is indeed yourself! What in the name of goodness could have brought you to this awful region!'

'I came,' I replied as calmly as I could, 'on business that nearly concerns you and Maggie. I am sure Providence must have sent you here, for I have been trying all the way to think how I could manage the business on which I came, without being able to settle on any plan.—Breathe a prayer to Heaven, Donald Macpherson, for strength to bear your joy, as fervently as I have heard you utter under the pressure of crushing griefs, while I tell you that Almighty God has sent two of your lost children back to you—little Maggie and your baby boy!'

'Never can I forget the expression that stole over his features as I finished. He lifted his hands and eyes reverently to heaven, and murmured a prayer in his native dialect. Then looking at me, as if awe struck, he exclaimed, 'Can it be that heaven has again employed you, the former messenger of its mercies to us, to bring this crowning one to our stricken hearts and desolated hearths? It is not possible—it must be some wild dream!'

'I drew him gently to the door of the bedroom, opened it, and rushed from the room.—After some time I went back to the happy group, but it was long before we could speak. Such joy seemed so sacred for words. When we had sufficiently recovered from the blissful agitation of the scene, we set about concerting measures for breaking the joyful news to his wife. He decided that he would go home and bring her with him in a double wagon to accompany me to their home, pleading my fatigue after my journey as the reason why I did not go with him at once. On the way he was to prepare her as well as he could.

'I will not dwell upon the raptures of the young mother when she received her children, who had been dead, but were alive again; had been lost, but were found!—only to remark that she who had borne grief so calmly and patiently met the elevation also of this sudden transport in the same edifying spirit, and with many soft and tender ejaculations of the gratitude with which her heart was overflowing.

'The possibility of their children's escape had never for one moment occurred to the minds of the parents, and in the confusion and darkness of the shipwreck scene on the coast, their recovery was unnoticed. Their condition and that of Mr. Ferguson, their being consequently hurried away so suddenly from the vicinity, and remaining so long unconscious, together with the absence of the physician, had prevented any communications of a kind which might have led to the disclosure of their escape.

'The glad tidings soon spread through all the settlements, and the house was thronged early

and late, with people of high and low degree, who came to offer their congratulations over the Lost and Found.

'I formed many agreeable acquaintances, the few weeks I was persuaded to prolong my visit in that part of the country, but the lapse of forty years have not been able to obliterate my fond recollections of the Macphersons, and have only served to engrave more deeply on my heart the lessons I learned from them; and my conviction that those upon whom God designs to bestow his richest spiritual gifts must go up, as did Moses of old, to meet Him in the cloud.'

We sat for some time in silence after she closed, and then I asked, 'Did you ever see or hear from them after your departure?'

'I never saw them again,' she replied, 'but we kept up a correspondence for a long time. Some years after the events I have related, a large estate in Scotland was left to them from a distant relative, and they returned to that country, and I have heard that they have been active in advancing every good work, both in their Canadian home and in that to which they have returned.'

The accident to the train being remedied we resumed our journey, and I parted from my new friend at Toronto with sincere regret. Her way-side story had so impressed me that I transcribe it, hoping it may interest others as it did me, in which event my labor will be amply rewarded.

BISHOP MCINTYRE'S JOURNEY.

The Examiner continues:—As noticed in our last, the Right Rev. Dr. McIntyre, Bishop of Charlotte town, selected for his return to Italy a different route from that by which he left. The following are particulars on his journey from Jaffa to Constantinople.

'We arrived from Jerusalem at Jaffa on the 28th of October, and secured a passage in one of the coasting steamers belonging to the Messagerie Imperiale. We sailed all night and arrived on the following day at Beyrout. Its population is about 80,000, composed of Arabs, Turks, Maltese, Armenians, and English. It is the seaport of Damascus, which lies at the distance of a five hours' drive. Goods are conveyed from one city to the other on the backs of camels and asses. Strange to say that with all its commerce and population, Beyrout has no wharf at which even a coasting schooner can moor. Turkish rule is not favorable to the development of the resources of such places. Unscrupulous Pachas levy immense taxes for local improvements, but the improvements are nowhere to be seen. On Sunday and on the Feast of All Saints, we went ashore to hear Mass, and made the acquaintance of the Jesuit and Lazarist Fathers, who have communities here. The churches are small, and in no way remarkable. The streets are narrow and very unclean, while the people we saw were, besides being ragged and slovenly, imbued with an unconquerable mania for begging. The Sisters of Charity have a house here, and are doing much good.

On the evening of All Saints we set sail, and came on the next morning to Tripoli, a small place about half the size of Charlotte town. Like Beyrout, Tripoli is only a shipping port of a large Arab town which lies inland. The products of the country, or rather such of them as were shipped with us, consisted of cotton, wool, grain, and dye-stuffs. In all the villages along the Syrian coast, and in many parts of the interior, American Methodists have stations, and a sordid indifference in establishing schools, and a sordid indifference in this little place, and we stayed eight hours only in this little place, and arrived next at the ancient Ladoicea. The same routine of taking in merchandise had to be gone through here as at the other towns. It is the sea port of Aleppo on the west side, as Alexandria is on the east. The ruins of a triumphal arch are to be seen on shore. It was erected by Septimus Severus, and is adorned with armorial representations in basso relievo. On a lofty hill not far from the shore, we saw the remains of what had once been a very large castle—its towers and battlements were still clearly traceable. It is said to have been built by the Crusaders. Some hundreds of Arabs here joined us as deck passengers. Their habits rendered them by no means agreeable companions.

Two hours steaming brought us to Alexandria. The shore is studded with ruins. Now and then you perceive the massive proportions of marble pillars rising up boldly from the debris around them. Two large pillars standing on a lonely portion of the coast were pointed out as marking the spot where the whale put Jonah safely ashore. The last place we visited on the Syrian shore was Merisus, a small but rich town whose traders are chiefly Europeans and Greeks. In its immediate vicinity are the ruins of Tarsus, so celebrated for its connection with St. Paul. From the ship's deck we could distinctly see the ruins of many places, which, in their day, were cities of importance in history; but now they are almost embedded in sand. No one on board seemed to know even their names. It is a melancholy moral to write over the proudest of man's works, and even over himself—Oblivion Rhodes was our next place to call. In the Days of the Crusaders it was famous and the city still bears many traces which serve to revive the memory of those christian knights. The most remarkable is 'La rue des Chevaliers,' along which on lofty pillars are carved the shields and escutcheons of the principal families of the old Crusaders. The town is surrounded by a strong wall washed by the deep sea, and still without a wharf. Greeks in their 'caïques' come alongside offering for sale fruits, wine, milk, etc. They are an athletic, intelligent looking race of men; but they have, even at the present day, the character of being altogether untrustworthy, verifying, you would almost say, the virgilian axiom 'timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.'

From Rhodes our route lay through the Grecian Archipelago to Smyrna. On either hand lay famous islands celebrated in history from their connection with statesmen, warriors, poets and learned men.—Almost direct in our course lay Patmos, where St. John wrote the Apocalypse. It is now deserted and uninhabited.

On arriving at Smyrna, we visited the Ecclesiastical authorities. The Bishop had taken his departure for Rome. Smyrna differs in this respect from other oriental cities, that it is clean and its inhabitants both in dress and address bear marks of high culture. The bazaars are all under one roof, and there are offered for sale all kinds of merchandise that can be desired.—The harbor is a natural basin or cove.—We here left the steamer which had brought us from Joppa, and embarked on another belonging to the same company, bound for Constantinople. During the night we past many islands, and at day-light sighted Lemnos, and in an hour after Tenedos rose on our right, to our left lay the coast of Troy. I leave you to fancy how the sight of these places called up reminiscences of by-gone days, when our greatest 'care and woe' was the preparation of our tasks in Homer and Virgil. At four o'clock, of the afternoon, we were sailing through the Dardanelles, and arrived at Gallipoli with day-light sufficient to observe its magnitude. It owes its importance almost wholly to the Crimean War. The country round about it is insufficient to afford it either nerve or sinew. We left it during night, and sailing through the sea of Marmora arrived at Constantinople in the morning.

This Marmora of the Turks is certainly a great city. Its commerce must be vast. Upwards of one hundred steamers belonging to all nations lay in the harbor, besides other ships of heavy tonnage;

with all this there are no wharves. Loading and unloading has also to be done by means of boats. We visited the Armenian Patriarch, and the Latin Bishop and were cordially welcomed. We also stopped at the Bosphorus to the entrance of the Black Sea. As far as the depth of the water and the lay of the land are concerned, the Bosphorus resembles much the Gulf of Canada, but with this difference on the shores, that on either side rises a town about sixteen miles long. As you sail along you see palaces and private dwellings of the most magnificent description. The view brought to my recollection the lower town of Quebec and Sillery Cove. In Constantinople itself the Franciscan, Lazarist and Jesuit Fathers have Churches. On the most elevated parts stand the Mosques. Among these St. Sophia, which if you except St. Peter's and St. Paul's Churches in Rome, is certainly the grandest temple that I have ever seen. The Turks were at their worship when we visited it. The commerce of the city seems flourishing, but the streets are very narrow and very dirty.

Among the clergymen here, we met Monsignor Aratan and some others of your old college friends in Rome, who made the kindest enquiries regarding you. These, however, were not the first of your old friends we met. At Tripoli we met with M. Chourti, who accompanied Sir Robert Peel in his travels through the East. He is unquestionably a man of rare accomplishments. Everybody seemed to know him and to be known everybody. He is master of the Hebrew, Syriac, Chaldean, Arabic, Turkish and English languages. His enquiries after you were most kind. Again, at Smyrna, a most accomplished clergyman gave in his card, with the request that I would present it to you. His name is Timoti, and I cannot help congratulating you on your choice of companions in your college days, for a more perfect set of gentlemen I have seldom met.

On the thirteenth we propose visiting Scutari and Chalcedon, both famous places in their way, and on the following day we start for Rome via Athens, Messina, and Naples.

THE LAND QUESTION OF IRELAND.

(FROM TIMES SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

No. 24.

BELFAST, Nov. 27.

The railway from Londonderry to Coleraine skirts the shores of Lough Foyle for a considerable distance and runs along a narrow belt of land at the foot of ranges which at one time were evidently cliffs that overlooked the sea. Here, as at many points on the coast of England, the gradual receding of the waters has left a tract open to the industry of man, and farms and enclosures, with villages between, rise on spots that had once been wastes of the ocean. The husbandry along these reclaimed spaces, though good on the whole, was not remarkable, and certainly would not bear comparison with that of the Lincolnshire Fens—a district not alto- gether dissimilar. Before reaching Coleraine we lost sight of the sea, and, printing southwards, made for the borderland which, watered by the stream of the Bann, the great boundary between Eastern and Western Ulster, divides the counties of Londonderry and Antrim. We soon passed into a pleasant country of low eminences and undulating plains. This seems rather a feature of Ulster; and the landscape began by degrees to improve and to wear a rich and more fruitful aspect as we advanced further into the interior. I saw very few country seats; but, in several places, extensive fields, clean cut hedgerows, and fine meadows showed that the land had been thrown into large farms and here and there small tracts re- manded you of the agriculture general in the Scottish Lowlands. This was, in a special manner, the case in the neighbourhood of one or two of the thriving towns which we sped by rapidly on our way; the diffusion of capital from these centres has evidently had the effect in some measure of breaking up the system of petty holdings. Yet seven-eighths of the country, probably, I went through is still occupied in this way; and, though I saw many ill drained fields, and irregular fences were conspicuous, the farming was, on the whole, good, and neat dwell- ings, well-white-washed walls, and, occasionally, trim plots and gardens marked the presence of a flourishing peasantry. Arthur Young, the advocate of the large farm school, condemned in emphatic terms the agriculture of this part of Ulster in his time; but probably even that bandit writer was not altogether free from prejudice; nor can it be doubted that it has not only improved enormously since his day, but that it is still one of the mainstays of the comparative opulence of the province. After passing through many miles of this scenery, we came once more on the line of the sea, and, hurrying along a tract covered with villas, and other evidences of wealth, between Belfast Lough and the ridge of Divis, we were soon within the capital of Ulster.

Belfast, the centre of the linen trade of Ulster, and the chief place for the export of the manufac- ture, is the most flourishing town I have seen in Ireland. Dublin, half a capital and half a seat of commerce, has a magnificent yet rather a slovenly appearance; Cork has a look of long settled wealth, but not of daring and brilliant industry. Compared with either, Belfast is what Glasgow and Greenock are to Edinburgh, what Leeds and Birmingham are to Bristol—a spot where new wealth and enterprise have rapidly made a noble creation, and are eclipsing the more stationary growths of older and more slow civilization. The town, built on the banks of the Lagan, where it opens into its fine estuary, was possibly of very ancient origin, but it owes its first rise to a Huguenot colony, which, after the Revoca- tion of the Edict of Nantes, planted on what was then a desolate morass the germs of a manufacture that had thriven in their hands along the slopes of the Loire and the Seine. The settlement of the exiles was not very successful; and Belfast in the days of Arthur Young was a town of some 15,000 souls only, which, though known for its linen fabrics, and already possessing an increasing trade, was prob- ably not a third the size of Cork. A circumstance not without interest to a student of the Land Question of Ireland is said to have afterwards given a sudden impulse to the prosperity of the place, and to have launched it upon the path of progress. Belfast had previously been under the tutelage of the Donegal family, but towards the close of the last century it was emancipated from the restraints of short leases, the Lord Donegal of that generation having granted a number of perpetuities, and what hitherto had been a mere county town grew speedily into the capital of a province. The rest was done by the gradual concentration of the linen manufacture into a few spots, and by the improvements made in the machinery; and at present Belfast is not only the second city in Ireland in population, but it excels all the cities of the island in the signs of flourishing wealth and industry. The architecture of the houses in the principal streets is particularly good, and even attractive; the markets and shops are well laid out and gay; and the busy haunts of the citizens' toil lead to retired terraces and villas, occasionally admirably planned and decorated. The chief features of Belfast, however, are the rows of shipping that throng the quays, and the chimneys towering from the factories below—the material proofs of the energy and skill which have given the place its deserved renown. A few of the churches are not without beauty; but you miss, as usually is the case in these modern centres of civilized life, the glory of the medieval city, the spire high above the square massive tower, and commanding the landscape on every side.

Belfast is situated on the confines of Antrim and Down, which almost separated into a distinct county by Lough Neagh and the line of the Bann, form the eastern division of the province of Ulster. This magnificent tract, in ancient times the land of the O'Neills and other Celtic tribes, was subjugated and came under the power of the Crown in the reigns of

Elizabeth and James I. Down having been colonized under the first Governor, and Antrim under the second. The English and Scotch settlers took possession of the conquered ter- ritory, the Plantation, however, effected by the King being more methodical and regular, society, and in a great degree upon the same type as that found in Fermanagh and Londonderry. In Antrim and Down the invading colonists became a class of prop- ertiers and occupiers, established in the land as landlords and tenants. They have shaped the for- tunes of the whole community, and here, as else where, they gradually extended to the vanquished aboriginal race the benefits of the kindly progress which had been formed in their mutual relations. The result has been considerable social progress; the diffusion of civilization and wealth, and with rare exceptions, general tranquillity. The domination of Protestant ascendancy, though as evident here as in the south of Ireland, has been less pernicious in its effects; and industry, comparatively protected and secure, has reaped successfully its accumulated harvests, and covered the land with the sign of pro- sperity. In one particular Antrim and Down are to be distinguished from the rest of the province—they are the Lancashire and Yorkshire of Ireland; in these parts of the island alone manufactures have really thriven and expanded. This potent influence has, of course, had an effect on the agriculture of the counties, which in some places is exceedingly fine; yet, strange to say, that effect has not corresponded to what has occurred in England. Manufacturing capital has only slightly disturbed the system of small farm husbandry which still prevails in Antrim and Down, and though it has led to the creation of some large farms; its principal operation as yet, has been to cause the prices of small holdings, protected by the custom of Ulster, to rise considerably through the growth of general opulence. As might have been expected, Antrim and Down are in a special manner progressive counties; the agricultural area of both has enlarged, unlike what has usually hap- pened in Ireland, and the value of their live stock has been greatly augmented; and this, too, coincides with a decline of population, exceedingly small, if both the counties are taken together, and with a system of relatively small farms though for obvious reasons, I do not lay much stress on the fact in these instances. The wages of agricultural labour as was to be supposed, are high in these counties—5s from 7s. to 10s. a week; and the rent of land, if we consider only the return that accrues to the landlord and exclude the burden of the Tenant Right, ap- peared to me to be at a low average—say from 15s to 40s. the Irish acre. It may be observed that in these counties, regard being had to their great pro- sperity, rents have advanced comparatively less since the days of Arthur Young than they have in many other parts of the island; and the same observation, as far as I can judge applies to most of the districts of Ulster. I cannot doubt that this slow increase is connected with the usage of Tenant Right, which practically creates a second rent on land, though it is surprising how much less the effect of the usage in this respect is than pure political economy would conceive.

The land system of Antrim and Down, considered on the side of the occupiers only, resembles that of Fermanagh and Londonderry, and, indeed, of almost the whole of Ulster. Exactly as is the case in the South, the tenants are, for the most part, at will, and, with honourable exceptions, what has been done on the land, has been done by the tenants, not by their lords; but, differing from the South, a powerful custom usually asserts the tenant's claims, and gives him a real interest in his holding, entirely distinct from the precarious possession, depending merely upon acquiescence, which alone protects the tenant of the South, apart from agrarian terrorism and crime, considerable as may be his moral rights. It is, however, perhaps a distinctive feature of the land system of Antrim and Down that, in consequence probably of their comparative wealth, which still runs mainly into the land, the average value of the Tenant Right in these counties is exceedingly great; it is seldom less than seven or eight years' rent, and I have heard of instances in which it has risen to 20 and 25 years' rent—from 30l. to 40l. the Irish acre. Yet though the Right has thus encroached on the fee simple in this serious manner, and has eaten it out in several estates, whatever their owners may imagine, here, as elsewhere, landlords as a rule endeav- our to set restrictions on it, and, notwithstanding its enormous value I am disposed to think that the general tendency of society is to impair and curtail it. Nevertheless, the custom is still extremely stro- g and, in spite of the extraordinary confusion of inter- ests in the ownership of land which is its result, and of the misunderstandings, jars, and conflicts which we might suppose would flow from this, it still prac- tically works tolerably well; still, in an overwhelming majority of instances, has all the force of a local law; still usually gives the tenant security, and usually maintains his fair rights of property. I pro- ceed to add something to previous remarks on the Right sustained by this singular custom, which, as I have said corresponds singularly with the unprotected equities of the tenant of the South, in nature, charac- teristics, and existing status. Even when the Right is not actually infringed, the circumstance that it is not sanctioned by law has a marked effect on land- lord relations, and if it gives the tenant security, it also tends to make him somewhat dependent. Law being wholly on the side of the landlord, it being in his power, in a legal point of view, to abridge and even extinguish the Right, the tenant, however pro- tected by the custom, feels that he is in some mea- sure at the mercy of his superior; and this sentiment increases in proportion to the interest assured by the Right in his holding. A man who has paid 20l. an acre for a farm legally a mere tenancy at will has bound himself in a heavy recognition to obey the injunctions of a landlord, who can, if he pleases, destroy his property; he is pledged more or less to submission from the consciousness of what authority may inflict. And though the custom is strong enough to secure the tenant in the great mass of cases, and though it has made him a free man compared to his fellow in the South, it does not save him from his sense of subjection; and Tenant Right, unrecognized by law, has been found to be a powerful instrument to uphold the landlord's influence. This has repeatedly been shown in elections and other political con- tests; and though I would not exaggerate the mat- ter, for the legitimate power of landed property is still exceedingly great in Ulster, and the position of the tenant farmer of the North is not that of a mere dependant, it may be said that Tenant Right as it is, although not under the protection of the State, has affected thousands of Ulster votes.

It is obvious, too, that Tenant Right in its exist- ing state contains the germs of serious and even perilous dissension, though the custom usually pre- vents their appearance. A landlord, influenced by the law and its interests, is apt to consider the Right as a parasite from which his estate ought to be set free; a tenant, looking from an opposite point of view, thinks of the Right as of a most sacred prop- erty—in all respects a part ownership in the soil. Their notions accordingly may conflict, and law be- ing on the side of the landlord, he is tempted to carry out his ideas, and to assail or weaken the tenant's position, though, as I have said, as a general rule, the custom prevents injustice or discord. Occasion- ally, however, some wrongheaded person will violate the usage even directly; and I have been informed of instances within Antrim and Down in which Tenant Right has been practically annulled, by a raising of rent inconsistent with it, or by eviction without compensation. When such cases occur, the serious mischief of leaving the Right in its actual condition becomes strikingly and painfully apparent. The tenant's property is inevitably confiscated, for his Right—which is the opinion of the country, is a valuable interest, and, in numerous instances, has been made a subject of lawful disposition—is destroyed by a perversion of law; and all the improvements

he may have added to the land, which the Right alone, as a rule, would have secured to the tenant, is thereby lost. The general dis- tribution of the Right in the South, inas- much as the tenants of the Northern tenant exceed in number those of his Southern fellow, and if, fortu- nately, agrarian crime has not followed in recent years, this, because such things are so rare, and because general opinion so condemns them, that their evil in- fluence has not been developed. Moreover, two or three cases of this kind, nay, even the rumour of such cases, have the effect of creating great discon- tent; and had I not witnessed such things in the South; I should have been surprised at the evidence I have met of dissatisfaction among Northern farm- ers who actually had little or nothing to complain of yet felt themselves injured because the Tenant Right of some distant equal may have been invaded. Not a few of these men have declared to me that they felt insecure, that their Tenant Right was an inadequate protection—that they, too, had a real grievance; and differing, as the great majority do from the corresponding class in the South, they sym- pathize with them on the Land Question. Nay, have, I think, a kind of idea that indirectly they profit by it; nor can it be forgotten with reference to this, that this part of Ulster has been the scene of one of the worst outbreaks of agrarian crime that ever has been witnessed in Ireland. A direct vio- lation of Tenant Right caused the 'Hearts of Oak' and the 'Harts of Steel' to spring up in hundreds in Antrim and Down; and many competent persons have declared that the spirit then roused could be aw- kened again.

It is evident, therefore, that Tenant Right, the grand security of the tenant of Ulster, and the only guarantee of rights and property supposed to be worth 20,000,000l., cannot be allowed to remain as it is, repudiated by law, and upheld only by strong yet not invincible custom and that to do so would be fraught with mischief. How to reconcile the claims created by the Right with the maintenance of the just rights of ownership will certainly be a not easy task. One obvious solution would be to em- power the occupiers of estates bound by the Right to purchase the absolute fee-simple, and the experi- ment might be fairly tried in cases where it could be effected by mutual agreement between the parties interested; but as it would be unjust in the extreme to make such a proceeding compulsory, the remedy could be only partial, and one more general must be devised. Another suggestion would assimilate estates bound by the Right to manors subject to copy- hold tenures, and would declare that, wherever the Right existed, a tenant should be entitled to hold his land according to the conditions of the custom. This, it will be observed, would amount only to a distinct legal recognition of the custom, and would have no analogy to 'Fixity of Tenure'; it would re- strict the dominion of the landlord only where usage and justice restrict it now; and it would leave him the right of raising rent and of evicting a tenant be- sides, save only where the custom now intervenes. This scheme, however, would generally be too ad- vantageous to the tenant, for it would give the sanc- tion of positive law to claims now very differently upheld; and as the custom is very varying, and, perhaps, in some cases, is so very old, it would involve perplexing inquiries, and in some cases might prove very detrimental. Another proposal would com- pute the value of the Right into less for terms equivalent to its worth, thus, in part, following the copyhold ac- tual, yet gradually getting rid of the custom, and bringing the land under common law tenures. This scheme is also liable to objections; but I am bound to say that, although in Fermanagh, where the value of the Tenant Right is not great, I found opinions occur in its favour, it is otherwise in Londonderry, Down and Antrim, where the value of the Tenant Right is sometimes enormous. In Down and Antrim several farmers assured me they would not exchange their Tenant Right for a lease less than a perpetuity in substance; and if you reflect that these men felt that they had an interest in their holdings that would sell for, perhaps, 20 years' purchase, their professions are not wholly extravagant, even though they will admit that the force of the custom does not give them complete security.

The landed system of Down and Antrim, and, indeed, of the greater part of Ulster, considered upon the side of ownership, corresponds in most impor- tant points with that of the other three provinces. The owners are for the most part Protestants; there is a good deal of absenteeism, and, with con- siderable and brilliant exceptions, the improve- ments effected upon the soil, as is natural under the small farm system, have been made by the tenants, not the landlords. This state of things has not been altogether unattended by mischief, but, owing to the existence of Tenant Right and the moral sympathy that still knits the landed classes largely together, this has been little to what is to be found in the South. No all spreading line of demarcation runs between the owners and occupiers of the soil; there is little perilous clashing of interests; and though Tenant Right is not thought secure, and a Land Question has grown up, there is an absence of grave social disorder, and landed property still has im- mense influence. In one particular I have been struck by a distinction of no little significance. In going through the North I heard some complaints of a preference shown to Protestant tenants as such, compared to Roman Catholics; but this did not seem to provoke the irritation that a few similar instances did in the South. Nor is the reason difficult to discover. As a rule the Roman Catholic tenant of Ulster has precisely the same customary rights in point of tenure as the Protestant, and this very cir- cumstance largely excuses what is usually a mere social predilection, felt to be in some measure reason- able. In the second place, what is more important, the Roman Catholic tenant of the North knows that he belongs to an order inferior in power; and he does not resent any slight as keenly as his equal in the rest of Ireland does where Catholicism pre- dominates among the occupiers of the soil. Just in the same way, the Roman Catholics of England are not really hostile to the English Church; the Irish Roman Catholics united to a man to overthrow the Irish Establishment.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

GOVERNMENT.—Captain D. J. Birkey was received into the Catholic Church on Wednesday, the 23rd ult. by the Rev. Michael Gogarty, Administrator of Mullingar.

On Sunday the Rev. Thomas Quin, the parish priest of Inagh and Kilmacoma, in Clare, nine miles from Ennis, went into his garden after mass and was observed by the clerk to fall suddenly. Instant assistance was given, but the rev. gentleman was found insensible. He was at once brought into the society which he had only left a few minutes before, and expired almost immediately, to the con- sternation of numbers who were present to witness the sad scene.

THE IMPRISONED FENIANS.—Mr. O'Callan, the member of Parliament for Dundalk, announces his inten- tion of demanding a Parliamentary investigation into the condition of the imprisoned Fenians.

The 'Sligo Champion' of a late date says:—At a time when the London Journals and their Irish cor- respondents are representing this country to be in a most lawless state, it is gratifying to hear from the Chairman of this county—who ought to be a good authority upon the subject—that the calendar for this district of the county presents no cases of importance.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.—THE QUEEN VS. BAR- NARD.—The hearing of the arguments for and against the motion to change the venue for the trial of the