

organization in Ireland; that, in fact, such privacy, infrequency of meeting, and absence of active work, which so much is claimed to be done, are unattainable to the habits and genius of the people.

DEATHS OF THE VERY REV. JOHN SHEEHAN, P.P., V.G., ENGLISHMAN.—After a protracted illness, full of years and honorable service as a zealous and indefatigable pastor of souls, the Very Rev. John Sheehan, P.P., Englishman, has been called to his rest, amid the deep regrets of sorrowing parishioners and of all of his own sacred order.

THE EXHIBIT OF TO-DAY.—The Town Hall is yet in an unfinished state. Latterly the upper room has been considerably improved for the purpose of public entertainments, and the lower apartment is about being put in order for letting purposes.

THE PRIESTHOOD IN IRISH POLITICS.—It is almost unnecessary to say that in our recent articles on the right of the Priesthood to interfere in politics on proper occasions, we did not affect to pass any opinion which might be supposed to defend or condone the notorious judgment of Mr. Justice Keogh.

THE NEW YEAR, according to official reports, finds Ireland in the enjoyment of a large share of the general prosperity. Though 1872 was not a good year for farming operations, the trade of the port of Dublin has shown considerable increase.

PEAT-FUEL.—In 1872 the price of coals rose suddenly to a price which checked industry and caused a wide-spread alarm. Thoughtful people at once began to consider the best means of meeting the difficulty.

ribenced both in Belfast and Holywood when it became known on Saturday-afternoon that Charlotte Rea had been discovered. Since the arrest of Mary Rea the most vigilant search had been going on for her sister, but despite the exertions of the constabulary, it was not until between 1 and 2 o'clock on Saturday that she was apprehended.

On Monday afternoon a private magisterial inquiry was held in reference to Charlotte Rea, whom the police succeeded in arresting on Saturday. The result was the identification of the prisoner by six witnesses out of eight who were produced.

The Middlesex sessions have just been opened by the county court judge, and the "little bill" reflects in some sort the condition of the little county.—There are 121 prisoners committed for trial, besides several cases in which the persons charged have been admitted to bail.

The Temporaries Commissioners (Ireland) have "struck off" very considerable value. The surplus of Church funds amounts to five millions of money. What will they do with it? is the question at present agitating the bosoms of our friends over the water.

THE LATE REV. WILLIAM VERNER, M.P.—Sir William Verner, M.P. for the county of Armagh, whose death was briefly noticed in our obituary column yesterday, was the eldest son of the late Sir William Verner, who was member for the same county for 36 years, and who died in 1871.

A goose hatching eggs in the pulpit of a parish church is not a strong proof of religious zeal among the parishioners. The story comes from England, and can be no invention of Popery, since it finds ventilation in the leading columns of a local Protestant contemporary.

a blessed thing it must be for such places as Ingoldmells—and they are numerous—to enjoy the advantages of the parish pulpit to bring forth their broods of goslings.—[Litter Examiner.

THE SAINTS OF IRELAND.—Father O'Hanlon's noble work, in twelve royal octavo volumes, on the "Lives and Times of our Country's Saints," is a literary work of great ability. It travels back over periods filled with overflowing with records of unsurpassing interest and abounding with all the evidences for proving how gloriously won and how rightfully borne has been Ireland's olden title to the Island of Saints and Scholars.

TENANT DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.—A Tenant Farmers Defence Association for the county of Dublin was formed on Thursday, at a meeting held in the European Hotel.

THE GALWAY ERECTION PETITION.—The costs of the petitioner (Captain Trench) have been drawn, and are ready for judgment in the Common Pleas Office. The total amount is stated to be £12,345 3s 4d.

THREATENED EVICTIONS.—Considerable excitement has been occasioned in the county Kildare within the past few days, on account of some dozen notices to quit having been served on tenants who hold under trustees, and whose leases expired recently.

THE LATE CORK ELECTION.—The Attorney-General has given instructions to the local Crown Solicitor to institute proceedings against Henry Uinkles, J.P., for having, while acting as personation agent for the Conservative candidate in the recent election, disclosed how an illiterate elector voted.

THE GRAND JURY OF FERRAGH.—The Grand Jury of Ferragh have been congratulated by the presiding magistrate on the peaceful and orderly state of the county.

GREAT BRITAIN

PROTESTANT PLEAS AGAINST AUTHORITY.—The speech of the Bishop of Salford at the Manchester Catholic Academy seems to have excited a good deal of attention. The Standard observes that it comes to this, that "there are matters of public but strictly domestic and internal policy upon which Roman Catholics in every country must take their orders from Rome," and adds that "this is the perennial difficulty with which statesmen have to deal, and with which Prince Bismarck is now attempting to grapple."

HOW GOSSIP INCREASES.—How gossip increases and grows until it gets into a genuine scandal, and is entirely different from the original story, is told by a letter-writer. He says that he was told that if he ever took a house in a terrace in a little way out of town, to be very careful that it was the centre one.

that lived at No. 1 for killing his poor dear wife with arsenic, and that it was hoped and expected that he would be executed.

ONE ASPECT OF THE ENGLISH REFORMATION.—It is one of the common fallacies that the Reformation tended to the advantage of civil and political freedom. Previous to that happy time the European nations groined under the two-fold despotism of the king and the priest, but in the sixteenth century the nations shook off the yoke of slavery and advanced in the path of freedom.

The Protestant Bishop of Manchester, a Sunday or two ago, administered a severe rebuke to one of his clergy. His lordship said he had heard with shame and confusion of face of a church in the diocese in which there had been carried a banner on which was emblazoned the name of "the Queen of Heaven," and he remarked that though he was glad to see a revival of reverence, devotion, and piety, it must not be forgotten that there was a limit beyond which they must not go in imitating the practices of the thirteenth century.

The principal indictment against the "Claimant" is laid, covers a roll of parchment several feet in length, and would occupy many columns of small print in a newspaper. There are three indictments in all. One is for perjury in the Courts of Common Pleas and Chancery, and another for perjury in Chancery, and a third for forgery.

The proprietors of several collieries in the south of Wales, who have announced their intention to import Chinamen from California to take the places of the men now on the strike, have received anonymous letters threatening them with assassination, should they carry out their intention.

Coal has become so scarce in Kinross and its neighbourhood that the mills and factories have suspended work, and it is feared that the gas supply will shortly cease.

The weather has been so cold in England that in three days, one hundred persons are reported to have perished from its effects.

Rev. Vyvyan Henry Moyle, vicar of Eston, England, is on trial for an alleged forgery of paper representing \$110,000.

UNITED STATES

FATHER BURKE ON WASHINGTON.—On the evening of Washington's birthday, Feb. 22d, the illustrious and eloquent Dominican Father Burke, will deliver a lecture at our Academy of Music on "George Washington, his Times and Character." The lecture will be a complimentary benefit to the great Dominican. This announcement should, and we doubt not will, fill every seat in the Academy. This champion of our Holy Faith will receive an endorsement and patronage from our people unequalled and unusual.

Mr. J. M. Bellew, the well-known elocutionist, is to pay a visit to the United States, under the management of the Boston Lyceum Bureau. John Montague Bellew is the grandson of John Bellew, Esq., of Castle Bellew, Galway, cousin of the late Lord Bellew, whose daughter (and co-heiress under the will of her uncle, Major-Gen. Patrick Bellew, governor of Quebec, and heir-at-law of the O'Brien, earls of Thomond), married Captain Robert Higgins brother of the Bishop of Derry. In 1858 he retired from his duties as a Protestant clergyman, and joined the Catholic Church, to which communion his mother belonged. Since then he has entirely devoted himself to his readings and to literature.

J. M. BELLEW.—This gentleman made his first appearance before an American audience, at Association Hall, on Friday evening, January 30th. His fame as an elocutionist had preceded him to these shores; and such was the anxiety to test the value of European praise by the standard of American judgment, that the hall was filled to repletion with one of the most fashionable and intellectual audiences ever assembled within its walls. In the course of a very eulogistic critique on the performance, the Herald says:—

"We cannot speak too highly of Mr. Bellew's first effort before an American audience. His manner is perfection itself. He galvanizes, with a throbbing life, expressions of the poet and the dramatist dead to us from our familiarity with them or indifference towards them. His interpretation of Hood's most touching lines, 'One more unfortunate, stamps him as an artist of the first rank. All lovers of genuine art will quickly recognize in this gentleman's method something as rare as it is admirable.'"

This is, certainly, praise without stint; and, where criticism is so completely disarmed, the conclusion is inevitable that the artist must indeed have reached into region of perfection.

who is said to be in accord with our people's views of Irish Nationalism, such a compliment to him would be both appropriate and well bestowed.—[Irish American.

General Robert E. Lee's birthday was celebrated with great éclat at Savannah, Ga., on January the 20th, on which occasion the first parade of the military since the war took place. The First Georgia Volunteers, the Eighteenth Battalion, the Cleithrum Artillery Battery, and the Georgia Hussars paraded in uniform. General Wade Hampton delivered an address. The day was generally held as a holiday, and resembled the 4th of July, before the war.

FERRY BOAT PILOTS.—A New York paper says of the pilots in that vicinity: Take the Hoboken Ferry, which runs three boats from Barclay street and two from Christopher street. Thus, Pilot A takes charge of the boat at 9 and runs her till half-past seven, p.m., when she will be docked for the night. At 5 o'clock on the following morning Mr. A takes her out and runs her steadily to nine, when Pilot B steps into the pilot-house and runs her to 11 p.m., to be relieved by Mr. A, who retains his command to six o'clock on the following morning.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—A dispatch from Minneapolis, Minn., says the storm on the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad was the severest ever known. At a station called Kirkhaven, there were several farmers in town when the storm first burst upon them. They left for home with their teams, and very few have been heard from since. One wagon was found containing a Mrs. Poland and a boy, both of whom were frozen to death. Many teams, both oxen and horses, are found frozen in the drifts, and the fate of their owners is unknown.

A solicitor who had recently been engaged by a prominent life insurance firm, returned to the office of his employers, the other day, and complained that he had been snubbed by a gentleman on whom he called. "Snubbed?" cried the manager, "snubbed? Why what did you do that he should have snubbed you? I have solicited life insurance from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and have never yet been snubbed. I have been kicked down stairs, beaten over the head with chairs, and thrown out of windows, but snubbed I never have been." The solicitor is driving a coal wagon.

A Chinaman who had become snow-blind while working on the Central Pacific Railway applied at a San Francisco police station for official permission to have himself shot.

A St. Louis paper laments because of the prevalence of the idea that it is more genteel to sell shoes for \$10 a week than to make them for \$25.

A young couple in Wisconsin were so thoroughly bent on matrimony that they rode twenty-three miles in an open wagon when the mercury stood seventeen degrees below zero to obtain a certificate. They froze ears, hands and feet. Still they joined their frozen hands.

The Mississippi basin, which has but one natural outlet—that by the mouths of the Mississippi—is a great fertile region of 2,670,254 square miles and a population of 22,654,211. It produced in 1871, 1,035,094,584 bushels of grain, 3,011,995 bales of cotton, 228,713,844 pounds of tobacco, and contained 68,917,071 head of live stock.

A Boston gentleman who could not wait offered a young lady \$100 if she would allow him to hug her just as much as the man did who had just walked with her. It was a good offer, and showed that money was no object to him, but they put him out of the house so hard that his eyes were quite black.

The confession of Mrs. Sherman, who was sentenced to State prison for life for the murder of H. N. Sherman, admits the poisoning of eight persons.

A prominent member of the Virginia Legislature has offered the sum of \$100,000 annually for the exclusive privilege of gathering oysters in Virginia waters. The revenue heretofore derived from this source is only \$50,000 annually, while the cost of collection is \$30,000, leaving the net revenue only \$20,000.

"Murder is a very serious thing, sir," said an Arkansas judge to a convicted prisoner. "It is next to stealing a horse or a mule, sir, and I shall send you to State Prison for six years, sir."

Sergeant Bates is now called the "international idiot."

A country paper in Minnesota wants to know who availed the Indians out of "such an infernal cold country as Minnesota is, and who deluded the white people into it."

Wholesome herds of cattle were caught in the storm in Minnesota, and were frozen to death.

A young lady has just been fined \$200 in Chicago for calling her lover into the kitchen and throwing some boiling lye upon him. This mode of giving the lye direct was highly resented by the lover, who concluded that the warmth of the maiden's affection was too much for him and had her arrested.

An Ohio pedestrian recently advertised that he would walk a hundred miles in a hundred hours, and a large number of persons paid their half-dollars to see him do it; but as he had not specified precisely where the feat was to be accomplished, he walked directly away from his starting-point with all the money that had been collected.

ORIGIN OF FAMILIAR WORDS.—The word "quiz," to make fun of, or poke fun at, a person, was the coinage of a theatrical manager in Dublin, who, at a drinking party with his friends one Saturday night, when the conversation turned upon the subject of words, offered to bet the wine that he could then and there coin a word which would be in the mouths of all Dublin the next day. The bet being taken and the party dispersed, the manager called up his call-boys and runners, gave them pieces of chalk and ordered them to run all over the city, chalking the word "quiz" on every door and shutter, and fence they came to. This was done, and, as a matter of course, the new word was in everybody's mouth the next day. The manager won his bet; and his word is now in all respectable dictionaries. The slang expression for death, "kicking the bucket," had its origin from one Bolsover, who, in England, a great while ago, committed suicide by standing on a bucket till he kicked the bucket from under him. The word "bumper" meaning a full drink when friends are drinking, is a corruption of the toast offered in French to the Pope, when the Catholic religion was in the ascendancy in England—au bon pers. To "dun" to press for money due, comes from one Joe Dunn, a famous bailiff of Lincoln in England, during the reign of Henry VII. He was so uncommonly successful in collecting money that when a man refused to pay, the creditor was asked why he didn't dun him. "Humbug" is a corruption of the Irish word humbug, pronounced humbug, signifying soft copper, or pewter, or brass; or worth less money, such as was made by James II., at the Dublin mint, twenty shillings of which was worth only two pence sterling. At first applied to worthless coin, the words became the general title of anything false or counterfeit.

A Parisian landlady requested a Christmas party on the third floor to cease dancing, as a man below was "dying." The guests acquiesced. Returning an hour later—"My dear children," she exclaimed, "with the most benevolent hearts, you may begin again—he's dead."