

THE WEATHER.—Sept. 16.—During the early part of last week the weather was very fine; but since Wednesday last the equinoctial gales have visited us, and swept with great violence round the coast, causing some lamentable shipping disasters. The Scotia steamer, proceeding from Kingstown to Holyhead on Friday morning, a fresh gale blowing from the south-west, and a heavy sea running in mid-channel, fortunately came to the rescue of a crew of a vessel in a sinking condition. The sea was too rough to launch a boat, but Captain Beaumont, with the aid of lines and life buoys, succeeded in getting the men, four in number, hauled on board his steamer. As they were in an exhausted state, Captain Beaumont directed them to be rubbed with brandy and rolled in blankets; with hot water to their feet; by which means they were restored, all except the captain, Riddle, who remained very weak. A subscription for their relief was raised among the passengers on board the Scotia. The abandoned craft laden with iron ore was still filling with water. But for the humane and energetic efforts of Captain Beaumont, the crew must have perished. Another steamer from Dublin was not so fortunate. The Admiral Moorsom left the North Wall on Friday evening for Holyhead, and had a stormy passage all the way across. A large number of vessels were lying in the harbour and roadstead, windbound; a strong gale blowing from S. W. When nearing the breakwater the steamer came in contact with the sloop Alma, from Liverpool, with a cargo of wheat and sunk her, when two out of three persons on board were drowned, notwithstanding the prompt exertions of all hands on board the steamer to save them. The third man escaped by clinging to the topmast. The steamer, in backing to get clear of the sloop, got foul of the brig Jane, laden with copper ore, and carried away her bowsprit, cutwater, and some of her spars. Her crew left her and were picked up by a yacht, which brought them to Holyhead. On Thursday night a fierce gale beat upon the Western coast. Two fishing boats were driven on shore at Galway. On Friday morning a large bark was seen under the lighthouse of Arran; the sea running mountains high. No person was seen on board, and it is supposed the crew had either abandoned the vessel or had been washed into the sea. The Galway Express says that a gunboat had proceeded to the place on Saturday morning in order to rescue the crew, if they still survived. Mr. Thomas G. Butler, in a letter to the *Carlow Sentinel*, describes an extraordinary phenomenon which he witnessed in Connemara. About 4 o'clock on the 11th an awfully black cloud appeared from the south-west and an hour later a sudden gust of wind came "with a noise like suppressed thunder," when the water in a small river was raised several feet in the air, leaving the bed almost dry; calves which were grazing near it were carried off several hundred yards, till stopped by the road wall. Some haystacks were carried away in the same manner; the stacks in an outfield were all either laid prostrate or carried off to a great distance. The hurricane swept on and plunged into an inlet of the sea, which instantly rose hundreds of feet, dashing itself with great violence on the opposite shore. This extraordinary tornado came from south to north.

THE RESULTS OF THE HARVEST.—We have had what may be called a supplement to the previously interrupted harvest. In that time much has been done towards clearing the fields and securing the produce in the haggard. But favourable though the weather has been in which this part of the harvest work has been performed, we can say but little for the grain and hay which have been secured. Of the corn which had been cut, and stood or lay waiting for a glimpse of favourable weather, nothing encouraging can be said. It had suffered both before and after being cut; much of the hay which has been secured has more the appearance of manure than of food for cattle. Late patches of oats and barley, and the second crop of hay, are being cut. The latter will be a great help to make up for the injury done to the first crop of hay; but the oats and barley now cutting look anything but rich. They are stunted and thin, and the grain saved will be but small in quantity, and inferior in quality. The accounts of the potatoes are bad, and our own observation over a very considerable extent of the country during the last few days, confirms those accounts. Not only has the disease destroyed a very large proportion of the tubers, but those not tainted are very bad otherwise. It is painful to know that matters are as we assert, and it is anything but pleasing to have to record that the harvest of 1861 will do very little, if anything, to make up for the shortcomings of 1860; but it is a duty to state the truth, and to call upon all who are interested, and who have it in their power, to take such precautions as are suggested by the state of matters. Our farming friends will draw their own conclusions from what we have said, and exercise what economy they can. Consumers will have to look before them; unless largely aided from abroad, they will have to pay smartly for their supplies; and men engaged in commercial and manufacturing pursuits will have to partake still more largely of the wrong end of the stick. "Prosperity" which is so much the talk of the day.—*Morning News.*

DISCOVERY OF THE RETREAT OF ANCIENT IRISH KINGS.—BALINASCLOE, SEPT. 13.—In the month of July last I sent you the particulars of some ancient regal ornaments, which had been found by a countryman, and purchased from him by Messrs. Hynes, of this town. The notice I then wrote attracted general attention throughout the country, and several parties expressed an anxiety to obtain the ornaments, which were of pure gold, and consisted of a crown and collar. An intimation was even sent through the authorities, under the regulations of Treasure Trove, demanding the ornaments, of course at their proper value. They have since been publicly exhibited in the collection of the Dublin Society, and much admired by those who relish antiquarian researches. The Messrs. Hynes offered the countryman a handsome douceur if he would point out where he found the relics, but this the wily native knowingly declined to do, no doubt expecting that other articles of value might yet be discovered in the same locality. He has, however, at length divulged the particulars. The man resides at a place called Skea, near the celebrated ruins of Clonmacnoise, on the brink of the Shannon. In the course of some agricultural operations he removed a large flag, which opened the passage to a spacious cavern, in which were found the crown and collar, together with some ancient bronze weapons, and several utensils used for culinary purposes. The discoverer of this singular labyrinth kept it concealed from the knowledge of any one for a considerable length of time; but at length he has been induced to show it to a very few individuals under a promise of secrecy; and as he is about to leave this country for Australia, he intends for a consideration to lead the way to this curious subterranean chamber, evidently the retreat of the ancient monarchs who reigned in the locality. A friend of mine, who has been in the cavern, says that he was so fortunate as to have unveiled to his astonished view the intricacies of this hidden apartment, and many singular vestiges of a defunct race. It was, no doubt, at once a fortalice and residence. The hard-pressed chieftain and his followers found in its recesses the most perfect security and concealment, for if any pursuers had the temerity to tread the tortuous windings of the entrance, certain destruction was sure to reach them ere they reached the apartments; several feet below the surface of what appears to be a limestone crag. I forgot to say that among other relics of bygone days are ten elaborately ornamented slabs, of an octagonal form, and bearing long inscriptions in the Ogham character. There are few who will be able to unravel the story which these venerable records display to the eye of the curious. No doubt they will yet form the subject of study and research to the antiquary and the learned. The discovery of this wonderful cavern throws much light on the legends of Bryan O'Donoghue; and to this means of retreat from his enemies is no doubt due the story of his compact with the Evil One, from the consequences of which the Abbot of St. Kieran is said to have released him. I intend to explore this retreat of the ancient chieftains of this neighborhood on an early day, and to supply you with a description in detail.—*Saunders's Correspondent.*

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A GOOD PROCEEDING.—The evils of the infamous pauper-deportation law are every day becoming unbearable to the Irish people, of all classes and denominations. The harrowing cases which, time after time, have come to light, have branded the act as one which should at once be erased from the statute book. A gross case of this kind, perpetrated by the Guardians of the Preston Union, has just been investigated by the Dundalk Board of Guardians, who are gratified to learn that the Dundalk Board of Guardians have directed their solicitor, Mr. Byrne, to take proceedings against the English Board. The facts of the case are simply these:—About twenty years ago a young girl, a native of this town, was taken by her parents to Preston, where she had resided ever since, the parents having died a few years after leaving Ireland. About eight years ago she married an Englishman named Planigan, a mill-grinder by trade, who, from want of work, and other causes, enlisted in a regiment of Good Hope. The poor woman having applied for relief to the Preston Guardians last week, she and her three children were immediately taken in charge, and against her will she was shipped for Dundalk, forced to leave Preston for the sin of applying for relief, and because the guardians there did not consider her chargeable on the union! On arriving in Dundalk the poor creature was in a state of destitution, and, as might be expected, at once made application for admission into the Dundalk Workhouse. She was at once admitted, and the case was brought before the guardians on next day of meeting, which was last Thursday. After a lengthened investigation, the Dundalk board pronounced the conduct of the English board to be both illegal and inhuman, and the board unanimously agreed to have such legal proceedings at once instituted by their solicitor, Mr. Byrne, as he should consider fit under the circumstances.—*Newry Telegraph.*

RECRUITING IN IRELAND.—AMERICA.—We understand that there are at present in this country, agents from America who are endeavouring to enlist men for service in the Federal army. How far this may be in consonance with international law we shall not now undertake to determine; but it is certain that there are many persons belonging to the disbanded Irish militia regiments, not at present employed, who we believe, would not object to any tempting offers that might be made them in order to secure their services for the government of the union in the deadly warfare which it is now waging with the Southern Confederacy.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

COCKNEY IMPUDENCE.—In the absence of more important subjects for discussion, the *Times* and many other London journals have betaken themselves to writing patronising articles on Ireland, congratulating her people upon the "vast improvements" everywhere perceptible, and indulging in a series of platitudes, intended, as the Telegraph said on Friday, "to be complimentary." But, for cock impudence, we think we seldom read anything surpassing a leader which was published in Friday's *Times*. We will extract simply the concluding paragraph, allowing the reader to form an opinion of the component parts of a production which the cockney writer thus sums up:—"Ireland is a country to live in. But the other day a man could not live there except in some manner of life that was bad in itself and most soon work itself to a bad end—either in ruinous hospitality or in miserable seclusion; in borrowing from extortioners or lending to the penniless; in criminal conspiracy or in constant fear of outrage; in riot or dirt; in waste or in beggary; in stupid routine or in rash speculation; in Protestant pride or Popish bigotry; in one excess or another. You may now go to Ireland and live like a reasonable man. In many places you may forget that you are out of England. The Irish of all classes must admit this to be an improvement, for attached as they are to their own country, England, with all her faults, they love the better." A good deal of the assertions put forward in this paragraph will be new indeed to the people of this country; but the *Times* is the great public instructor, and if the Irish are not now actually "beholden," it is very probable that the inspirers of the Printing-House square oracle take credit to themselves for the fact. It must be news indeed to hear that "the Irish of all classes, attached as they are to their own country, love England the better;" but they must not inquire why or wherefore this love has arisen. It is quite enough for them that the *Times* has made the announcement; so if there should chance to be any refractory individual, who prefers Celtic feelings to West Briton sensibilities, he had better at once get rid of the old fashioned notion that nationality is a sacred fire which the patriot must cherish and keep animate, and substitute in its stead the principle that he must love better than his own old country the nation whose rulers have oppressed and enslaved her, through many a tear-fraught year. But, seriously speaking, the sheer impudence of those writers should be rebuked and repelled by the national journals of Ireland. They write lies for a purpose, as we have often learned to our cost, and the sooner their falsehoods are strangled publicly, the better it will be for a people who have hitherto despised the threats of the "great organ of public opinion" in England, and who now reject its insulting patronage with equal disdain.—*Tipperary Free Press.*

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CONFESSION.—Sept. 16.—During the early part of last week the weather was very fine; but since Wednesday last the equinoctial gales have visited us, and swept with great violence round the coast, causing some lamentable shipping disasters. The Scotia steamer, proceeding from Kingstown to Holyhead on Friday morning, a fresh gale blowing from the south-west, and a heavy sea running in mid-channel, fortunately came to the rescue of a crew of a vessel in a sinking condition. The sea was too rough to launch a boat, but Captain Beaumont, with the aid of lines and life buoys, succeeded in getting the men, four in number, hauled on board his steamer. As they were in an exhausted state, Captain Beaumont directed them to be rubbed with brandy and rolled in blankets; with hot water to their feet; by which means they were restored, all except the captain, Riddle, who remained very weak. A subscription for their relief was raised among the passengers on board the Scotia. The abandoned craft laden with iron ore was still filling with water. But for the humane and energetic efforts of Captain Beaumont, the crew must have perished. Another steamer from Dublin was not so fortunate. The Admiral Moorsom left the North Wall on Friday evening for Holyhead, and had a stormy passage all the way across. A large number of vessels were lying in the harbour and roadstead, windbound; a strong gale blowing from S. W. When nearing the breakwater the steamer came in contact with the sloop Alma, from Liverpool, with a cargo of wheat and sunk her, when two out of three persons on board were drowned, notwithstanding the prompt exertions of all hands on board the steamer to save them. The third man escaped by clinging to the topmast. The steamer, in backing to get clear of the sloop, got foul of the brig Jane, laden with copper ore, and carried away her bowsprit, cutwater, and some of her spars. Her crew left her and were picked up by a yacht, which brought them to Holyhead. On Thursday night a fierce gale beat upon the Western coast. Two fishing boats were driven on shore at Galway. On Friday morning a large bark was seen under the lighthouse of Arran; the sea running mountains high. No person was seen on board, and it is supposed the crew had either abandoned the vessel or had been washed into the sea. The Galway Express says that a gunboat had proceeded to the place on Saturday morning in order to rescue the crew, if they still survived. Mr. Thomas G. Butler, in a letter to the *Carlow Sentinel*, describes an extraordinary phenomenon which he witnessed in Connemara. About 4 o'clock on the 11th an awfully black cloud appeared from the south-west and an hour later a sudden gust of wind came "with a noise like suppressed thunder," when the water in a small river was raised several feet in the air, leaving the bed almost dry; calves which were grazing near it were carried off several hundred yards, till stopped by the road wall. Some haystacks were carried away in the same manner; the stacks in an outfield were all either laid prostrate or carried off to a great distance. The hurricane swept on and plunged into an inlet of the sea, which instantly rose hundreds of feet, dashing itself with great violence on the opposite shore. This extraordinary tornado came from south to north.

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