

the opposites in many things of his own character. They were also sober on duty, and married men, who thought of their wives and children in England. They were much older than William, but they were mere sailors, though Harvey had begun instructing them in navigation, at their own request, as his conduct had inspired them with ambition.

They were in another hour close to the shore. It was a beautiful spot. William had made for what looked like the opening of a bay, and scarcely had he placed the schooner's head right for it, when he perceived a crowd of men on the shore, close to some huts, and beheld the carcass of a large brig, quite overgrown by moss and creeping plants.

'My God!' he cried, 'what Providence has brought me thither? But let us be on our guard, boys. These may be Christians like ourselves, or they may be cannibals. Hoist the English flag, Bob, and fire a gun.'

The lad rushed to obey. First, he hauled the ensign to the top of the main juremast, and then rushing to his dear Long Tom, as he called the swivel, he fired it off. Scarcely had the echoes died away, when a boat, manned by eight men, and in which sat also one steering, put off.

'That's an English cutter,' cried William.—'Send the prisoners below instantly, and stand by your arms.'

The schooner was advancing slowly up the bay, within a musket shot of the shore. The cutter was now nearly alongside.

'What ship is that?'—answer, in the name of Heaven! cried one in English, his voice choked with emotion.

'The Georges, bound for Calcutta,' replied William, 'equally moved'; 'putting in for water, and to refit.'

'May I come on board?' continued the other, in so faint a voice he could scarcely be heard.

'Come on board; but until we have had an explanation, if you please, alone.'

'Certainly, sir, certainly,' said the other; and in two minutes more he stood upon the deck.

He was a man of about fifty, whose long beard, white hair, dark features, and strange apparel, with a sword, and pistols, gave him the air of a semi-savage, semi-private.

'Blessed be God!' said he, falling on his knees, 'for ye are the first Christian men I have seen save my companions in misfortune, for seventeen long years.'

'Compose yourself,' replied Harvey gently; 'you are with Englishmen, and therefore with friends. Peters, a glass of wine.'

'I thank you, sir; I needed it. The hope, perhaps vain, of leaving this place, and of once more seeing England, has been too much for me,' he continued.

'I know not what we may do with this poor craft,' said William Harvey; 'but if it be practicable, not one shall remain behind. But you seem numerous.'

'There are eleven Christians, the rest are our good friends the natives, who will, I fancy, be sorry to part with us. You are the captain, sir?' he asked timidly, as if just remarking his youth.

'I am; but pardon me, sir—I must attend to my schooner. Pray bid your friends rejoin us in an hour. We shall then have explained ourselves. In all sail; let go the anchor.'

The poor Englishman gently bade his companions go on shore, and come back in an hour with such fresh provisions as they could muster, as they were with good friends, disposed to do all they could wish. They gave a loud English cheer, and pulled at once for shore.

The schooner being once at anchor, Harvey left Peters in command of the deck, with strict injunctions to keep off all intruders, and to remain armed until he came up again. He then descended to the cabin, caused the stranger to be seated, and bade him tell his story.

(To be Continued.)

ALLOCATION OF HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS IX.

His Holiness Pope Pius IX delivered the following Allocation to their Eminences the Cardinals in Secret Consistory on the 20th December—

VENERABLE BROTHERN.—Our God, rich in mercy, and who comforts us in all our tribulation, mingle joy with sorrow in order that, hoping in Him always and undimmed by all difficulties, we may continue cheerfully to tread the path of justice, fearlessly to defend the cause of His Holy Church, and to devote all our strength to discharge the duties of our Apostolic office. All men surely see what striking proofs of His divine bounty our merciful Lord deigns to afford amid the grave calamities by which, in the great wickedness of these times, the Church is everywhere afflicted and the Apostolic See oppressed, as well as the great dangers which on every side surround us. While Satan and his servants and children cease not horribly to rage and rave against us, and against the Chair of Peter, and to harass the nations of unhappy Italy, far the greater part of whom are most devoted to us, our merciful and compassionate Lord assists His Church with wondrous manifestations, assists us, and lends the help of His omnipotence. All the bishops of the Catholic world, bound in the closest bond of faith and charity to us and the Holy See, cease not with one mind and heart, both by word and writing, to defend the Catholic cause and to help us and the Apostolic See. Laymen at great public meetings throughout Europe uplift their voices to defend the rights of the Catholic Church and of the Holy See, and vindicate our civil sovereignty and that of the Holy See. The cause of our civil sovereignty has been splendidly and magnificently defended amid the applause and exultation of all good men in the Senate and Legislative Chamber at Paris. Catholic nations strongly detesting the abominable perfidy of our enemies rejoice to declare by public and splendid tokens their piety and veneration towards us and this Holy See, and to relieve our and the Holy See's wants by continual offerings. Moreover, the faithful of both sexes, even the poor help us with their money. Both among the clergy and laity, illustrious writers, and eloquent orators, glory in defending, well and wisely, both in their works and at public meetings, the venerable and indestructible rights of justice, of truth, and of the Holy See, and in refuting the falsehoods of our enemies. Very many even of noblest birth, roused by their zeal for religion, and leaving their own families, their wives and children, flock emulously to this city from all quarters, and, disregarding all danger and inconvenience, enlist in our army, and lay down their lives for the defence of our Civil Sovereignty, and that of this Holy See. Even Catholic parents, kindled by the breath of religion, send their sons, only begotten sons to defend the cause of the Holy See, and emulating the illustrious example of the mother of the Macchabees, rejoice and glory that they have shed their blood in this cause.

Moreover, the subjects of our temporal rule, although tormented by abandoned men of every kind of snares, threats, and injuries, remain firm and unmoved in their allegiance to us and the Holy See. Among whom the people of Rome are conspicuously beloved by us, and worthy of the highest praise. Almost all the citizens of every order, rank, and condition of this fair city delight in paying us special affection and obedience in obeying our sway, and that of the Holy See, and in assisting us. You know, Venerable Brethren, what fidelity has been displayed by our soldiers, who deserve every praise, with what admirable valor they have fought against the bands of most wicked men, and with what glory they have died in battle for their Church. You know that the most serene and most powerful Emperor of the noble and generous French nation, considering our extreme danger, sent his valiant soldiers, who with their illustrious generals, rejoiced to give zealous and efficient help to our troops, especially at the battle of Mentana and Monte Rotondo, to fight alongside with them, and to affront death, in the cause of the Holy See with the greatest glory to themselves. You know how, especially in missionary regions, the Divine light of the Gospel shines ever brighter by the help of God, how our holy religion spreads daily, how those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death are enlightened and fly to the bosom of Holy Mother Church, how the pious institution of the greatest use to all classes and wants of the Church and of society, are increasing day by day.

All these things which we have briefly touched upon, and the wondrous manner in which the multiplied intrigues of the wicked have been detected and baffled, clearly shows us how our omnipotent and merciful Lord, in whose hand are the hearts of men, miraculously guards and protects His Church and most evidently confirms His word that the gates of hell shall never prevail against her, even to the consummation of the world. Therefore, Venerable Brethren, let us always give great and never-ending thanks to the most eminent Father of Mercies for these many benefits, and placing all our hope and confidence in Him alone, let us not cease to implore Him with fervent prayers that through the merits of His only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ, he may continue to rescue His Church from all calamities, to liberate us from His and our enemies, and to confound and scatter their impious counsels and desires. Let us beseech Him to deign to lead back to salutary repentance and the right path of justice, even those who, having been captured by our soldiers while fighting against us, and having been treated by us with all charity, persist in their obstinacy. And that God may grant our prayer let us incessantly bring to Him first the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of God, the most loving Mother of us all, the powerful help of Christians, who finds whatever she seeks, and cannot be refused; next, blessed Peter, the Prince of the Apostles and his co-Apostle Paul, and all the Saints who reign with Christ in heaven. Before concluding, we cannot refrain from offering great and deserved praise, and from professing our gratitude to all and each of those who, to their own glory exert themselves in defending, whether by speech, or writing, or money, or in any other way, and even at the peril of their lives our cause the cause of the Holy See, and the cause of the Church. We do not neglect, in every prayer and entreaty with thanksgiving, humbly and earnestly to beseech God, from whom every best gift and every perfect gift descends, to vouchsafe to bestow the richest gifts of His Divine grace and all His heavenly blessings on all these our dear sons of His Church and her valiant champions. —London Tablet.

ULSTER AND ITS DANGER—LANDLORDISM AND FENIANISM IN THE NORTH.

From a remarkably important article in the London Chronicle we take the following extracts:—

There is a mischievous delusion in existence with regard to Irish disaffection on the Land question, which deserves notice at the present time. It has been asserted that in Ulster, the Protestant North as it is sometimes called, the fundamental land theories of the population are totally dissimilar from what they are in the other provinces. This province, it is added, is peopled by a Scottish race, who have no sympathy whatever with the people of the rest of Ireland, and who especially disdain their views on the subject of tenant-right.

It would be difficult to find a specimen of fallacious reasoning which includes so many blunders in so small a compass. The argument as formed in the minds of those who propose the theory must stand somewhat in this fashion:— Scottish (Lithian) farming is conducted on the high culture system, with large capital, costly implements, extensive acreage, and certain lease. Ulster was colonized by immigrants from Scotland. Therefore the tenant-farmers of Ulster, disdaining small farms and the system of petty culture, occupy the same position as their kindred in the parent country, and have no points of contact or grounds of sympathy with the rest of the inhabitants of Ireland. In any one who aspires to legislate for Ireland such a theory evinces a deplorable ignorance of the condition of the country. Mr. Goldwin Smith could hardly find a stronger argument in favor of his proposal to hold a session of Parliament in Dublin than the publication of such opinions. For, as a matter of fact, large farms are far more common in the level grazing lands south of Ulster than among its undulating vales, hillocks, and mountains. The Ulster man is accustomed from his infancy to see the white cottages of the tenant farmers enlivening the varied landscape at no distant intervals; and when he visits the southern provinces, it seems strange to him to look round and see so little sign of life over the level country. Here and there, at wide intervals the house of some gentleman farmer may be observed, and perhaps the smoke drifting from the chimneys of his laborers. 'Nothing here but gentlemen and beggars!' exclaimed one traveller from Ulster. In his disappointment he was not altogether just; but the aspect of the country brought home to him the view put forward by Hugh Miller with respect to large and small farming in Scotland. It was impossible, urged the Scottish geologist, that the farm servant, with his fixed wages of meagre amount, could be made as thoughtful and provident a person as the small farmer, who, thrown on his own resources, had to cultivate his fields, and drive his bargains, with the settlements between him and his landlord full before him; and who, if he succeeded in saving money and in giving a classical education to some promising son or nephew, which enabled the young man to rise to a higher sphere of life. It is with this class of tenant-farmers precisely that we have to deal in Ulster. So far as they came from Scotland, they were transplanted before the large farm system was adopted there. Their sympathies, even as Scots, would not be with those 'lairds sae gear on gear,' who drove out small farmers to make room for large ones, or 'set one millin to another.' On the contrary, they would be as ready as the Scottish poet of the last century to exclaim:—

A burning care light on the heads
O' worthless lairds colleagued together
To drive auld Scotland's hardy clans
Frae their native hills and blooming heather.

The population of Ulster is the densest in Ireland. According to the last census there were, six years ago, 133 persons to the square mile in Downpatrick, 160 in Monaghan, 191 in Leitrim, and 224 in Ulster. This has been attributed to the greater number of manufacturing in the northern province; for if we exclude all towns having a population of 2,000 persons and upwards, the fact remains essentially the same. In that case, Downpatrick will have 124 persons to the square mile, Monaghan 136, Leitrim 129, and Ulster 191. But perhaps the northern province is more generally fertile than the others? Taking the number of persons to the square mile of arable land, the contrast is even plainer. Then Leitrim is

found to have only 154 persons, Monaghan 168, and Downpatrick 195, whilst Ulster has 255. [After showing that the density of the population is greatest in counties such as Down and Armagh, where Protestants and Presbyterians are most numerous, that the small farmers predominate, it proceeds to point out how the various races and religions have been closely blended. Then, referring to the Land question, it adds these important remarks:—]

Ulster demands an equitable arrangement with exceeding urgency; for, whilst hereofore it has been preserved from the sale and restrained from the passions, of the other provinces, by possessing in its 'custom' a traditional tenant-right, there are symptoms of a resolve to destroy this custom. The Ulster tenants, sturdy and resolute men, accustomed to party warfare, and sullen rather than subservient, are not likely to see this done without a determined struggle. Before 1798 there were agrarian insurrections amongst them; and those who emigrated in consequence to America became marked as the fiercest enemies of the British flag in the War of Independence. In 1798 they were organized again, and with more general effect. And the troubles which we may expect if landlords persist in using them as mere southern neighbors have been used may be judged both from the example of the latter and from the testimony of experienced men. The lesson of the evidence given, some twenty two years ago, before the Land Commission, by men intimately conversant with the state of the North, may be summed up in the words of Mr. Hancock, agent to Lord Lurgan in the counties of Armagh, Down, and Antrim. Pointing out the benefits of the 'custom' of tenant right, he says, 'much of our Ulster prosperity has been the result of it.' 'And no measure,' he adds, 'would have a greater effect in improving the state of the South and West than the introduction of the tenant-right as it exists in Ulster.' It is very conducive to the peace of the country; for almost every man has a stake in the community and is therefore opposed to agrarian outrages as well as riotous' And then he says this remarkable and important passage:— 'The landlords are compelled to recognize tenant right, as in several instances in this neighborhood, when they have refused to allow tenant-right, the incoming tenant's house has been burned, his cattle hounded, or his crops trodden down by night. The disallowance of tenant-right, so far as I know is always attended with outrage. A landlord cannot resume possession to himself without paying for it; (buying out the tenant's right). 'In fact, it is one of the sacred rights of the country, which cannot be touched with impunity; and if systematic efforts were made amongst the proprietors of Ulster to invade tenant-right, I do not believe there is a force at the disposal of the Horse Guards sufficient to keep the peace of the province; and when we consider that all the improvements have been effected at the expense of the tenant, it is perfectly right that this tenant-right should exist; his money has been laid out on the faith of compensation in that shape.'

Such efforts to invade the Ulster tenant-right are now being made, and have been in process of execution during the past few years. The consequence is not that the Ulster population has yet broken out into local outrages, but that it is being kneaded to revolution or Fenianism. If the systematic Fenian Revolution were not in existence, it is possible that particular outrages would have occurred. A tourist through some of the most peaceable and industrious parts of Ulster has informed us that on his saying last year to some tenant farmers that he supposed Fenianism was in favor there, he received the reply that the people were not Fenians, but had no abhorrence of those who were so; that they fancied they might be better off if the Fenians should succeed; and that they could not be worse, for that the agent sent round a valuator every fourth year to raise their rents for every improvement effected, and thus made their 'custom' a mockery. If this is the state of feeling where no outrages have taken place, what is it likely to be where evictions and acts such as these which convulsed Munster have commenced? The London Standard, the sober and respectable organ of the Presbyterians of the North-west, in its number of the 27th of November, declared Fenianism to have 'its root and source in Ireland's monstrous land-economy'; and adds: 'Will it be believed that in Ulster there are landlords so demoralized as to pursue, in relation to their tenantry at this very moment, a policy calculated to drive the latter into Fenianism or any other scheme of political madness which may present itself in the shape of a remedial alternative? And it gives this as an example:— A landlord in a populous Ulster county lately wanted a supply of ready money, and having discovered that some of his tenants had, by hard frugality and self-denial, economized small sums, he gave them notice that he would give them leases of 21 years at rents (amounting in reality to the full letting value of the land even without leases), on condition of their paying him fines of ten pounds per acre, or very nearly half the ordinary average value of the fee simple in the public land market! They were informed that if they did not accept these terms, their rents would be raised to an enormous figure, far above their means of payment. Negotiations were tried and found useless. The poor men had eventually to hand over to their landlord the total savings of their lives, in order to purchase leave to toil for a bare subsistence during twenty-one years to come. One of these tenants the industrious cultivator of a patch of ground containing eleven acres, had saved £110 by severe economy, as our agricultural readers may suppose, and this poor man was compelled to hand over to his feudal lord and master every penny of his little store in return for one of the rackrent leases above described.' 'These,' it adds, 'are no solitary instances; and when British law permits and sanctions in Ireland this kind of privileged extortion, can any reasonable man wonder that popular exasperation is the consequence, and that emissaries of revolution should take advantage of it?'

Thus, whilst baseless theories are confidently put forward touching the condition of Ulster, this province, which organized revolt in 1793, 1798, and 1799, and which was the foremost in supporting the Tenant League agitation of some years ago, is now made to ripen into Fenianism by the suppliance of the Legislature. Mr. Goldwin Smith is a truly said that the Orangemen and Ulstermen will be the most earnest of revolutionists, for their interests are most closely bound up with the land; and whilst the traditions of the educated make many of them incline to Republicanism, the spirit of the masses is far more intensely stubborn and democratic than in any of the other provinces.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE SECRET HISTORY OF FENIANISM.—Before us (London Times) lies a pamphlet, the contents of which will be found of interest. It was published with considerable reserve in Philadelphia, and was not easily procurable even in the United States. It is a manifesto of Fenianism at a time when the organization was considered to be in its most hopeful condition, and it introduces us to the history of the conspiracy in 1863 and 1864 and its prospects at the beginning of 1865. Fenianism, though its most active agents appear in the character of disbanded soldiers in the American armies, is of an origin earlier than the civil war in the United States. James Stephens, who assumes the credit of settling the whole movement on foot, began the work in 1858, three years before the Southern States proclaimed their secession. He had been engaged in the rebellion in 1848 with Smith O'Brien, had escaped to the continent, had improved his education in the foreign school, and turned his requirements to account in hatching a new rebellion of his own. The characteristic of this conspiracy consisted in its American domicile. Instead of organizing an insurrection in Ireland, Stephens conceived the idea of establishing it amongst the Irish population of

the States. This was a novelty. It is from Fenianism in America that Fenianism in the British Islands derived such vitality and power as it has displayed. Although, however, Fenians were not called into existence by the military experience of the civil war, it is certain that until the second year of that war the organization had assumed no consistency. Such form as it took was of a military character. The Americans, before the war, were much given to soldiering, and a certain number of American Irish did a little on their own account under the denomination of Fenians. When hostilities commenced, they engaged freely in the strife, sometimes taking service by companies together, and losing, as they tell us, a great many of their members in battle. Such, in fact, was the mortality among them that it was considered in the Federal army 'unlucky to be a Fenian'; but up to the year 1863 Stephens had done little more than supply the American Government with recruits. Very few persons, even in the States, except the Fenians, knew anything about Fenianism; in Ireland, there was no organization at all. In the month of Nov., 1863, a singular resolution was adopted. The 'Fenian Brotherhood,' determined upon giving their body a civil constitution. Instead of being a small private army, they decided upon becoming a species of civil power. Mr. John O'Mahony, if we are to take his word for the fact, was the originator of this idea, which consisted in establishing a Fenian Republic within the republic of the United States. The diadems, says the head centre, of the early military organization of the brotherhood 'were such as to force upon me the conviction that the organization should be reconstituted after the model of the free institutions of this country.' Accordingly the officers of a regular republic were elected, and a 'congress' met at Chicago in Nov. 1863. Fenianism at that moment was so little understood that a declaration of its objects for the information of the American public was the first thing resolved upon, and the Fenians, in congress assembled, professed themselves to be 'for the most part citizens of the United States of America of Irish birth or descent,' though they proclaimed their readiness to welcome the co-operation of other dwellers on the American continent. The object of the association was 'the resurrection of Ireland to independent nationhood.' It is obvious that the Fenians of that day were half afraid of being called to account by the American Government for breaches of international law, and were greatly discouraged by the hostility of the Roman Catholic priesthood. To meet these difficulties, they first passed a resolution of dutiful obedience to the laws of the union—qualified by a second that the effect that they were entitled to do what they chose—and then attempted to disarm the opposition of the clergy by declaring that they were not a secret, oath-bound illegal society. It is remarkable that nothing even now was said about any Fenian organization in Ireland, the whole movement being distinctly identified with the Irish population of America, who, it was said, held at that time 'a more powerful position among the peoples of the earth, in a point of numbers, political privileges, social influence, and military strength, than was ever held before by the exiled portion of any nation in the world. Two years later a second 'national Congress' was held at Cincinnati. This assembly met on the 17th Jan. 1865, and the alteration in its tone is remarkable. The conspirators, though still suspicious of the priests, no longer appear to dread interruption from the Government. On the contrary, they anticipate 'immediate war between Great Britain and America, and reckon confidently on the facilities which would be given for their designs. For the first time, too, they include Ireland itself, and not only Ireland, but England and its dependencies, in the sphere of their operations. Their 'constitution' was amended so as to extend the establishment of the brotherhood, beyond the United States to 'the provinces of the British Empire, wherever situated.' Even at this time, the beginning of the year before last there was no regular organization in Ireland. 'This American institution, called the Fenian Brotherhood, does not exist in Ireland as an organized body.' These are the words of the President to the Congress, and from them we may learn that Fenianism, when we in this country first began to hear of it, was but just beginning to assume a substantive form in Ireland itself. Up to that time it was a purely American creation—a movement set on foot and maintained by Irishmen in the United States. Shortly afterwards came the termination of the civil war, and then the military element of the rebellion appeared in Ireland and Irish Fenianism acquired an active vitality. It had been determined at Cincinnati that what Ireland needed was 'pre-organization,' and that accordingly it should be forthwith 'pre-organized.' The United States, it was assumed, would gladly recognize the Fenian insurgents as 'belligerents,' and proclaim their own 'neutrality'; and, therefore, the Fenian organizers quietly spoke of the 'Irish Republic' virtually established 'at a time when the chief conspirators confess that no Fenian organization in Ireland existed at all.' Mr. Stephens and his friends, however, proceeded to 'organize' with great zeal, and, according to their own belief, with great success. The autumn of 1865 was, we have recently been told, the time when Fenianism in Ireland was strongest, but we now wish to indicate to the public certain facts which have hardly received proper appreciation. In January, 1865, the real substantive organization of Fenianism in Ireland had not commenced, and yet on the 15th of September of that year the first blow was struck at the plot by the arrest of the chief conspirators, including Mr. Stephens himself, in Dublin. There was therefore, very little inactivity to be charged against the Government. It will be seen, too, that the ignominious collapse of that conspiracy is easily accounted for. Fenianism was not a plant of seven years' growth in Ireland though it was in America. In Ireland very little was accomplished except in the dispersed visions of Mr. James Stephens. His paper armies made no show in the field, and were scattered as easily as the 'circle' over which he presided. Whatever substance there was in the conspiracy was imported from abroad.

LEGISLATION FOR FENIANISM.—It is of more importance to enquire what steps shall be taken to separate the Fenian organization from the body of the Irish people. If we can succeed in effecting this, we shall have averted the worst dangers with which Fenianism threatens us; if we fail here, our enemies will have a nation at their back from which to draw fresh recruits as often as the need presents itself. A year ago this separation might still have been an easy task; but an additional twelve months of indolent indifference to Irish needs has worked a very great alteration in this respect. If the English parliament to some of their advisers the warning conveyed by this change will go for nothing. To put down sedition first, and to withhold all remedial legislation until this paramount object has been completely accomplished, is the burden of this counsel now, as it has been on every former occasion when a similar evil has had to be dealt with. It seems strange that experience should not have taught even the dullest politicians that in this instance such a policy is absolutely destitute of every element of permanent success. A policy of promise requires, if it is to have any good effect, a belief in a future performance.—Every trace of such a belief has unhappily died out of the popular mind in Ireland; and in its place has grown up a profound conviction that nothing in the shape of redress or amelioration is to be expected from the action of Parliament. Is there anything wonderful in the existence of such a feeling? For a great part of the last thirty years the Liberal party has been in power, and liberal principles have been supposed to be in the ascendant. At the very beginning of this period the injustice of the Church Establishment was proclaimed as a matter of course by every Liberal statesman. A generation has passed away, and yet nothing has been done. The Irish Church stands where it stood in 1835. Not

one serious attack has ever been made upon its position. After proving to demonstration that it is the great source of disaffection and the chief fosterer of ill will in Ireland, the Liberal party has been satisfied. Let us suppose for a moment the Corn Laws had been dealt with in the same way, that when their impolicy had once been established no further step had been taken, and that Liberal politicians were still quoting Mr. Cobden, and moving an occasional resolution condemnatory of a tax upon bread. In that case would the English people have any more confidence in Parliament than the Irish people have now?—The Chronicle.

Some circumstances of a singular nature which are reported to have occurred off Queenstown on Monday evening seem to give a confirmation of the rumor of a vessel of suspicious appearance, without papers or colours, having shown off the Irish coast. As previously reported, three men-of-war had been sent out westward to look for such a vessel, and a pilot arriving from the westward on Monday said he saw three men-of-war off the coast as he came round, one off Cape Clear and two off the Seven Heads. The occurrence of Monday evening is enveloped in some degree of uncertainty, but as far as careful enquiries have enabled us to ascertain the following appear to be the facts:—The evening was rather thick, but not so thick as to prevent the lookout man on board the Newfoundland bark, Sarah Ann, Captain Lynch, then lying between the forts waiting for orders, seeing between six and seven o'clock about six boats being rowed out of the harbour seaward. They were not whaleboats, and were about the size of men-of-war cutters. One of the boats passed so near the bark that the lookout could see in it a number of armed men, and in the bottom of the boat were some small water casks or breakers. The four or five others were more distant, but all were pulling in the same direction. Very accurate observation was impossible in the fog that prevailed; but it is asserted that when passing the Sarah Ann three gunshots were fired from the boats, with what object does not appear. When the captain, who was in his cabin, came on deck the boats had disappeared, and he returned to the cabin. Meanwhile the British war vessel Research seems to have been in pursuit of some vessel in the offing, for sighting a collier bound to Cork, she fired two or three times across her bows, and when the collier, taking no notice, kept on her course without showing any colours, the Research, it is said, sent a shot through her main-mast, close by the mast. The collier then hoisted her colours and was allowed to proceed without further molestation. The ram, however, followed her into the harbour.

About the same time the captain of the *Merida Octavia*, from Quebec, going off from Queenstown to his ship was for some time dodging about in the fog in search of her. He also reports having heard a gunshot fired at a short distance about the same time, and soon after met the Research coming in. Missing his own vessel he hailed the Sarah Ann, and was invited on board by the captain, whom he had previously known. While they were at tea in the cabin a boat came alongside, from which a naval officer jumped on board and inquired where was the captain? The watch replied he was where he should be. The officer then called for his sword and it was handed him out of the boat. He then repeated his inquiry for the captain of the schooner and the watch called Capt. Lynch on deck. The officer asked him whether he had seen any boats pass out to sea or heard any shots fired? Captain Lynch informed him of what the watch had seen, and the officer then left. He is reported to have been heard seaward during the night. The Research, accompanied by the despatch vessel Helicon, went to sea again early on Tuesday morning. Since then nothing further has transpired.—Cork Examiner.

LIMERICK, SATURDAY.—The night before last the guard on the Castle Barrack was thrown into a state of terror by an alarm given by the sentinel on duty to the rear over the river, eight to Thomond bridge, upon his seeing a boat pulled ashore beneath where he was posted. There is a passage by a flight of steps from the castle of the barrack to the river, and in a minute the whole guard of the 2nd, fully armed, were at the water's edge and had possession of the boat and its occupants, who was only a boy of 16 years. The soldiers hauled the craft on land and led the prisoner to the guard-house, the police being at once sent for, who, on seeing the lad, recognised him as the son of a fisherman who lived at the opposite side of the river. The youth explained that he was preparing the boat for the use of his father, who was going out fishing, and that he pulled ashore to stifle the net. The constabulary found his statement to be correct, and the boy was set at liberty. The fact of suspicious boats having been seen on the river in the same locality, and persons apparently surveying and mapping about a fortnight since, occasioned the military inquiry referred to above and a board of officers will sit on Monday to have the sewers and underground passages carefully examined.

With respect to the Dublin prosecutions, the opinion that they ought not to be pressed against those who only took part in the procession, and were probably misled by the Premier's statement, is not confined to respectable Catholics. The *Cork Constitution*, a Conservative organ, observes:—'Prohibition is one thing, prosecution is another. That the first was right our readers will agree—that the second was right results will scarcely prove. The difficulty of Government is created by themselves. Prevention is better than cure; but they lost time about it. In popular estimation they had virtually legalized the processions before they interposed, and the plan would have been then not to prosecute, but to prohibit. Cork was a precedent for Dublin, and if the procession in Cork and the procession in Middleton were to pass unpunished, why was an exception to be made in the case of that in Dublin? There was an inflammatory speech there; but had there not been inflammatory writings for months previously? . . . We are not for harshness towards any one, but we are for firmness towards all. We are for some rational, intelligible rule—something that will tell people when they are obeying and when they are transgressing, and that will not act as a decoy to draw them into danger. In this we think the Government have been wanting, and they will probably feel the effect of the want should they go before a jury.'

DUBLIN, Dec. 26, evening.—A man passing the sub-post-office in Churchlane this afternoon observed a bright light in the letter receiver, and gave an alarm. On opening the box four tin packages were found about the size of a pen or match box, tied with twine, and having two postage-stamps on each. They were directed to Colonel Lake Police Commissioner Superintendent Ryan, the Hon. G. Dillon, and another member of the Vice-regal Court. The Police were sent for, and one of the packages exploded and burnt his hand. The others were brought to the College-street station, and means taken to prevent explosion. No arrest has been made.

DUBLIN, Jan. 10.—Facts which have come to the knowledge of the authorities lead to the belief that the leader of the rising at Tallaght last spring was not killed, as was reported. A man named Lennox, a prominent Fenian was arrested to-day on a charge of high treason, and it is confidently asserted that he is the person who organized and directed the insurrection on that occasion. His examination will soon take place, when the evidence in the possession of the Government will be brought to light.

The arrests for Fenianism at Mitchellstown, county of Cork, numbered nearly a dozen. Three of those apprehended are named Kelly, Baker, and Killiber. They are shopmen and junior clerks. It was in the trunk of Kelly that the names of the knot of the supposed conspirators were found, and their capture was the result.

Sergeant Kelly, one of the policemen who was shot with a revolver by a Fenian in Buxton-street, has completely recovered from the effects of the wound.