

prebated; but we may here remark that the best defence of India in a purely military sense, is the railway, by which soldiers, fresh and untrained, could be rapidly transported to any menaced point, of which the electric telegraph would give instantaneous information.

The important question to answer is, whether the canal would return a remunerating dividend on the capital invested, which we have already stated to be £6,400,000? In a memorial presented by M. de Lesseps to the Viceroy of Egypt, that gentleman states that the European and American navigation, by the Cape of Good Hope and Cape Horn, has been computed at an annual traffic of 6,000,000 tons; and assuming that only one half, or 3,000,000 tons, passed through the Suez Canal, paying a toll of 10s. per ton, the revenue to the company would be 150,000,000. If experience proved the very superior advantages of this route, this estimate would, no doubt, be exceeded; when the toll might be reduced. Indeed the success of the experiment would give a stimulus to trade and navigation, the extent of which no one can predict, as it would open up the countries on the coasts of the Red Sea, and the Gulf of Persia, the eastern coast of Africa, India, the kingdom of Siam, Cochinchina, Japan, China Proper, with its 350,000,000 of inhabitants, the Philippine Islands, Australia, and Polynesia, which would be brought so many thousands of miles nearer to the Mediterranean and the north of Europe. Such are the leading facts connected with this proposed gigantic undertaking.—*Ibid.*

MAYO ELECTION.

In continuation of the evidence before the Mayo committee, on Wednesday, Mr. McLoughlin stated what took place at Father Ryan's chapel, Kilmenu: "Father Ryan said the little baronet (Sir Richard O'Donnell) was out on his canvass. He desired the people to hunt the dogs at him, and slap their doors in his face. On the following Sunday Mr. Ryan said the curse of God would come on any one who voted against his country and his country's cause, and that he would not give the rites of the Church to any person dying who voted for Higgins; they should go to the Bishop. He said it was the Bishop's own parish, and that he (the Bishop) expected the men would do their duty. The Bishop alluded to was Archbishop McHale. Mr. Ryan also said he should have a separate place in the chapel for those who voted for Higgins, and that the congregation should not speak to them. On the Sunday after the election Father Ryan desired that the 'black sheep' should not give him any Easter dues, as they had voted for Higgins. On the Sunday following Father Ryan read out a list of places for stations (places where the priest attends to hear confessions). When he came to the name of one Patrick Brown, he said he should not go to his house, as he had voted for Higgins."

Mr. Peter Burrows, Sheriff, stated that he had acted as deputy sheriff at the election. In the polling booths he had to threaten to take three priests into custody for suggesting the names of candidates to, and shaking their fists at, voters.

Sir Richard O'Donnell, who canvassed for Colonel Higgins, gave other particulars of the priests' conduct: "At a town called Ballyhanniss he saw six or eight Roman Catholic priests on a platform erected in the streets, one of whom was addressing a mob. He told them that Colonel Higgins had broken his pledges, that he was a traitor and a disgrace to his religion, and he called upon them to support Mr. Moore, as if they voted for Colonel Higgins they would vote against their religion. On the 1st of April, as Col. Higgins was addressing a body of voters in another town, two priests arrived, one on horseback with a thick whip in his hand, and the other on foot, and told the people that Higgins was a traitor, and desired them to disperse. He saw Father Curly with a bravery in his hand, and other priests leading on and exciting mobs to the attack of Colonel Higgins's supporters. Witness proposed, and Dean Burke (the only Roman Catholic priest in the county on their side) seconded Colonel Higgins. On the Sunday before the election he saw the Rev. Luke Ryan standing at the door of a public house serving out whiskey to a mob, and winners, with the assistance of the police, addressed and dispersed them."

Archbishop McHale was the next witness. The committee room was thronged with listeners during his examination. In reply to the first question—what position he held in the Roman Catholic Church—he said "I am the Archbishop of Tuam."

The Chairman—The committee are perfectly willing to recognise your title of Archbishop, but you are

aware that we cannot recognise you by the territorial title of Archbishop of Tuam.

Dr. McHale—I believe I am certain that I am the Archbishop of Tuam, but I do not wish to do anything that may be offensive to the committee, and if that is not my legal identification I shall be perfectly satisfied with the title of Archbishop.

His Grace proceeded:—

I have no recollection that Mr. Moore said that the clergy, under the advice of the great Archbishop of the west, would decide upon the way in which the people ought to vote. I will neither negative nor affirm that I heard such an expression. It is very unlikely that I should have heard and acquiesced in it, as I am neither the Archbishop of the west nor a great Archbishop. A meeting of the Bishops and several of the clergy connected with the county of Mayo was held at Tuam in my house. It was a casual meeting, not a meeting convened by requisition. It took place on the occasion of the consecration of the Bishop of Galway.

Mr. E. James—Did you sign a resolution to the effect that all the energies of the meeting should be directed to promote the rejection of Colonel Higgins, who had been found unfaithful to his promises, and the return of Mr. Moore, who had been honest and faithful?

Witness—Give me the document, and I will tell you whether it bears my signature.

Mr. M. Smith objected to the question. His learned friend could not ask the witness whether he had signed any document without producing that document.

Witness—If a document is shown to me I will tell the committee whether I signed. I don't wish to shrink from the responsibility of anything that I have done, but I do not feel called upon to answer from memory a question as to my signature to a document containing a great many words, all of which I am unable to remember. I did sign a resolution at that meeting, but I will not say whether I signed that resolution (looking at a newspaper). I do not know where the document is that I did sign. It strikes me that you have not stated the purport of the resolution we adopted. I don't know whether I read the newspaper containing this resolution after the meeting. I am not conscious of ever having written an article in the *Tuam Herald*, although I have sent my pastoral letters to the office. I don't really know what became of the resolution after I had signed it; probably I left it on the table. I had signed it in order to convey my sentiments to the electors with regard to the merits and demerits of the candidates for Mayo. I did not know whether it was to be published or not. I did not direct its publication.

Mr. E. James—Did you intend it as a direction to the parish priests?—There were no directions given to the parish priests. I last saw the resolution on the table of the room where the meeting was held.

Is this the first time you have seen it published?—I do not remember whether or not I have seen it published before.

Do you not know that it was given to Mr. Kelly, the proprietor of the *Tuam Herald*, for publication?—Possibly it was. I may have read it in the *Tuam Herald*, but I have no recollection of having done so.

Have you a right to suspend a priest who denounces a candidate from the altar?—Denounces! What do you mean by that?

Do you call it a denunciation when a priest says from the altar, "The curse of God will come down upon any one who votes against his country and for Colonel Higgins?"—I will give my opinion on that case when it comes before me in my judicial capacity. I beg leave to decline giving my opinion on it now, because it may be hereafter brought before me for my decision as Archbishop. It is not right for a priest to denounce any one from the altar on political grounds. It has not come to my knowledge in my official capacity that Colonel Higgins had been denounced from the altar of my diocese. No complaint has been made on the subject, and I have not, therefore, suspended any priest on account of what he did at the election. I do not listen in such cases to mere rumours. Since the election I have subscribed £10 to the "Moore Indemnity Fund," for the purpose of defending the return of Mr. Moore. I may have mentioned the subscription as a very proper one to my clergy at my visitation. They have taken it up without any suggestion of mine. I think there are laymen in Mayo who have subscribed to the fund. I can't give you the name of one of those laymen—that shows how little conversant I am with these matters. (Laughter.) I do not keep (he continued) an electioneering office. I never gained a sixpence-halfpenny by any election. I am brought here because I am supposed to be implicated in various political proceedings, but I have been a loser rather than a gainer by my connection with elections. I can clear myself before the committee now that I am on my oath, from the imputation of ever having gained anything directly or indirectly in the way either of patronage or of money, from any election. In all that I have done I have been prompted by no other feeling than that of a deep sense of duty. I am not aware that I applied to a gentleman to start for the county, and told him that I would adopt and return him. I do not remember whether I did or not. I think that is a just and right answer. I will not say that I did not, but it is very improbable that I should do such a thing. Although I hold the office of Archbishop, I certainly think I have a right—nay, that it is my duty—to express my sentiments on the merits and demerits of the different candidates for Mayo. In my opinion that is a question of morality as well as of politics. I know no persons who have more important duties to

discharge than legislators, members of Parliament, as on them it depends whether the country is to be governed by wise and beneficial laws, or by such a penal code as that with which Ireland was lately afflicted; and therefore it is essential that none but good men should be returned to Parliament.

But do you think that you have any right to make use of violent means to enforce your opinions?—No.

To be continued.

The sudden death of the Earl of Mornington was the subject of an inquest on Saturday. Edward King, valet to the deceased, said that he had complained for some days of severe indisposition and pain in the chest. About 7 o'clock on Wednesday evening, while at dinner, he suddenly exclaimed "Good God! whatever ails me?" and his head dropped on his chest. Dr. Probert, the earl's medical attendant, was sent for, but he was dead in twenty minutes. In answer to questions from the coroner, the witness said the late earl had been very badly off so far as pecuniary matters were concerned, and until the last two years had wanted the necessaries of life. Major W. J. Richardson, a friend of the deceased, said he did not consider that he had been lately in pecuniary want, for his cousin, the Duke of Wellington, allowed him £10 a week. This was, however, a comparatively small sum for a man who once had £100,000 a year. Mr. J. Proctor, surgeon, proved having examined the body, and that death had occurred from the rupture of the left ventricle of the heart, causing an extensive flow of blood into the pericardium. The jury returned a verdict "That the deceased, William Pole Tinley Long Wellesley, Earl of Mornington, died from a natural disease."

Lieut. Willoughby, of the Bengal Artillery, has been saved for the present, and if the injuries he sustained by the explosion of the powder magazine do not ultimately prove fatal, he will, we hope, receive some marked tribute to his courage from the Government he serves. We believe that Lieutenant Willoughby owed his cadetship—or rather, as we should now write, the East India Company are indebted for his services—to the late Sir Charles Napier. The mother of Lieut. Willoughby, a most exemplary and energetic person, was left with four fatherless children to struggle with a hard world. In the zenith of Sir Charles' popularity, after his return to England, subsequent to the conquest of Scinde, she sought the General, told her tale, and entreated his aid in putting her sons forward. Sir Charles, though a perfect stranger to Mrs. Willoughby, immediately applied for Addiscombe cadetships for the two Messrs. Willoughby, and obtained them.—They have done honor to the General's kindness and their mother's solicitude. Each officer stands high in the estimation of the service, and one of them is now becoming celebrated for rare valor and disinterestedness.—*United Service Gazette.*

It is already known that the water used at the christening of the Princess Beatrice was brought from the river Jordan. It appears that Captain Geoffrey Nightingale, Hyderabad Cavalry, when travelling some time since in the Holy Land, visited the River Jordan, and had some of the water put into bottles, which, being hermetically sealed, the Captain brought to England; and, upon the birth of the Princess Beatrice, he placed at the disposal of the Queen a quantity of the water sufficient for the baptismal ceremony. Capt. Nightingale's offer was accepted by her Majesty, and the Jordan water was accordingly placed in the royal font and used in the ceremony.—*Observer.*

It is stated, and has been confirmed by a communication made to us within the last few days by a friend of the family, that during his late illness, which terminated fatally, the Rev. G. G. Gorham "sought reconciliation with the Bishop of Exeter, and the most kind, friendly, and Christian letters passed between them." On the other hand there is no truth whatever in the statement that up to the last moment the deceased gentleman protested against reconciliation with his parishioners.—*Exeter Gazette.*

WHICH IS THE HAPPIEST SEASON?—At a festive party of old and young, the question was asked, "Which season of life is the most happy?" After being freely discussed by the guests, it was referred for answer to the host, upon whom was the burden of fourscore years. He asked if they had noticed a grove of trees before the dwelling, and said, "When the spring comes, and in the soft air the buds are breaking on the trees, and they are covered with blossoms; I think, *How beautiful is Spring!* And when the summer comes, and covers the trees with its heavy foliage, and singing birds are among the branches, I think, *How beautiful is Summer!* When the autumn loads them with golden fruit, and their leaves bear the gorgeous tint of frost, I think, *How beautiful is Autumn!* And when it is