

of Kerry, preached the sermon. A splendid banquet was given by the President and Superiors in the evening.

AN ANCIENT MARRIAGE.—On Wednesday, the Rev. Father Sheridan, P. P., of Mullagh, married, in the bonds of matrimony, an ancient pair named Thomas Foster, and his spinster named Bridget Scully, whose united ages amounted to 139 years, the bridegroom being 79 and the bride 66 years of age.

We are glad to see, says the Freeman, from the proceedings of the meeting at Navan, that the patriotic priests and people of Meath are about to take steps to forward the Butt Testimonial. On Sunday week next, the Rev. Mr. Behem, Adm., will make a collection at the chapel doors in Navan, in aid of the movement.

The Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland met on the 14th ult., in the University Buildings, Stephen's Green, and were engaged for several hours in important business connected with the University; his Grace the Primate in the chair. The following prelates were also present:—The Most Rev. Dr. Crooke, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly; the Bishop of Derry, the Coadjutor-Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, the Bishop of Elphin, the Bishop of Ferns, the Bishop of Galway, the Bishop of Down and Connor, the Bishop of Limerick, the Bishop of Kilmore, the Bishop of Clogher, and the Bishop of Clonfert.

The Bishop of Killaloe, Most Rev. Dr. Ryan, recently visited the Very Rev. Dr. Dinan, P. F., V. G., Kilmab, and made the following changes in that and the adjoining deaneries:—The Rev. Jos. Purcell, P. P., Kilmurry McMahon is superannuated and replaced by the Rev. Michael P. P., Killmer; the Rev. Patrick Crowe, C. C., Roscrea, replaces Father Pyle, as P. P., of Kilmurry; the Rev. Mr. Corry, C. C., Ruau, Ennis, is removed to Coolmeash and replaces the Rev. Daniel Courtney, C. C., in that parish, who is removed to Kilmurry McMahon. The Rev. Michael Carey, C. O., Kilmurry McMahon, is transferred to Mullagh; the Rev. Patrick Kelly, C. C., Kilmish (lately ordained), is to be stationed at Ruau, in the room of the Rev. Mr. Corry.

A fire of a very serious nature broke out on the 10th ult., at the residence of Colonel Bull, Newpark, near Kilkenny. Information of the occurrence was at once conveyed to the police, when Sub-Inspector O'Brien and a party of men arrived at the scene with the Corporation fire engine, but Mr. Green, Mr. Deery, and a few gentlemen of the locality, who had been prompt in rendering assistance, had ere their arrival almost succeeded in completely getting the fire under control. Before the fire was put out the drawing-room was gutted, and the plate and furniture consumed, and the amount of damage done is considered to reach a high figure. The cause of the fire is believed to have been a paraffin lamp which burst.

A CASE FOR FURTHER INQUIRY.—Under the title "Found dead," the following paragraph appears in the Galway Express:—"An old woman named Julia Toole, a native of Claddagh, was found dead in her bed on yesterday morning. It was rumored through town that she had been murdered, but the report is utterly false, for there are no marks of violence on her person. She and her family had a slight wrangling during the week, caused from indulgence in intoxicating liquor, and this probably accounts for the impression outside regarding her death. Robert Stephens, Esq., city coroner, held an inquest in view of the body, but no evidence of any importance was given. One of the eyes was swollen and black, as if from a fall, and she seemed to have bled from one of the ears. The coroner has ordered a post mortem examination of the body, and the inquest stands adjourned.

On the 9th ult., Dr. N. C. Whyte, Dublin, city coroner, held an inquest at the morgue, Marlborough street, upon the remains of a man named Christopher Kavanagh, which had been found in the river on that morning. From the evidence adduced at the inquiry it would appear that the deceased was last seen alive about eight o'clock on the previous evening by a night watchman employed by the London North-Western Railway Company at the North-wall. He was then lying in his cab, and in about an hour and a half afterwards he observed the cab moving away from the place where it had been standing. The body of the deceased was found the next morning in the river, and his cab and horse were also discovered in the water near Ringsend. The jury found that death had resulted from drowning, and added to their finding a strong recommendation to the Port and Docks Board on behalf of the deceased's family, the jury believing that there was not sufficient protection along the wall.

THE END OF THE FARSE.—The Freeman announces that, as the discussion raised by the Lord Mayor's case has now lasted three weeks and dwindled into side issues, it is time there was an end of it. The country, it adds, has pronounced its verdict, and nobly vindicated itself. Peter Paul McSwiney has filled the place during the dull season which journalists, hard up for matter, usually devote to abnormal, animal, and vegetable productions, and that is all the harm that has been done. The good consists in the atmosphere being cooler and clearer after the mimic storm; and in the fact that it has been proved that novel nostrums in politics will not be tolerated by the Irish people, and that all who dare to raise the cry of disunion will be scouted as traitors to the nation. Limerick, Wexford, and Meath have unequivocally attested this, and so we are well assured would every national constituency in Ireland, were they similarly tested. A curious feature in the whole case is that the man regarded as the chief mover in the petty broil, has never come to the front. Did P. J. Smyth only push on the Lord Mayor as a feeler, and then leave him to his fate? On this point, the surplus scanda, and the threatened paper, the public are still curious; but, except as regards these, all interests in the Lord Mayor and his vagaries has ceased.

bles Courtney and O'Brien, were located at Ballybricken to prevent him from speaking. At about three o'clock Mr. Sargent, decorated with a green sash and belt trimmed with orange, and holding in his right hand a jug, and in his left hand a bouquet, and under his left arm a bundle of papers, took up his station at the Bull-Post. On doing so, Head-constables Courtney and O'Brien addressed him amidst a scene of the greatest excitement, and intimated to him that informations were sworn against him, and that he could not speak there. The uproar was so dreadful that the police-force was immediately sent for. There was no actual breach of the peace, but the proceedings were of a riotous nature throughout. The same gentleman was brought up in the Waterford Police Court on the next day, charged with having been drunk and disorderly the previous night in Manor street. When arrested, Mr. Sargent had a large crowd before his own door. He was fined one pound, with the alternative of seven days imprisonment. Mr. Sargent refused to pay the fine.

THE LATE SIR JOHN GRAY, M.P.—There have been few Irishmen of recent years who have deserved better of their fellow countrymen, than the late Sir John Gray, M.P. A man of high principle, of marked talent, and blessed with a persistent force of character not granted to many, he worked for his native land with an energy that achieved marked success, and his name will go down to posterity on the great roll of honored names of which Ireland has so much reason to be proud. Though he differed from us and from the majority of his co-laborers in creed, there was in Sir John Gray a marked absence of even the slightest shade of hostility to our Faith, but, on the contrary, his most intimate friends—social, political, and religious—were Catholics; and with Catholics he ever laboured to the very best of his abilities. He was uncompromising in working for us, in working for Ireland, and we should be basely ungrateful were we to allow with his death the glorious memory of his good work to pass away. The Irish people have determined not so to forget him, they have determined to erect a monument in the scene of his most constant labour, in Dublin as a memento to his worth; and from all parts of the Kingdom, from men of all shades of belief, and even from men of very varied politics, letters of sympathy with the efforts of those who are engaged on the task of devising a suitable memorial to Sir John Gray are pouring in—and with them are also pouring in the useful subscriptions. It is fitting that all Ireland should unite in thus doing honour to one of her most distinguished citizens, and it is especially fitting that Irish Catholics, wherever they are to be found, should hasten to support the movement by every means in their power.—Ib.

MEATH PRONOUNCES FOR NATIONAL UNITY.—The men of Boyal Meath have, in public meeting assembled, met their representative, and pronounced most emphatically on the question of union or disunion in national politics. In every instance in which the issue has been raised in Ireland the priests, we are glad to see, have been foremost and strongest in denouncing the mischievous machinations of those who, on the pretext of faith, would destroy that cordial co-operation of creeds, so necessary for the salvation of Fatheland. On this point the priests of Meath were quite as emphatic as their brethren in Wexford, and with still more significant effect, as they and the Catholic laymen of the county testified by their presence, beside the Protestant chosen to be their parliamentary mouthpiece, their repudiation of a "temporal and eternal" political doctrine, and their resolution to maintain and foster union. Meath has done well in recording this protest of its priests and people against the evil spirit of disunion. Indeed, we fancy that after the evidences of public opinion, evoked by the now notorious "secret circular," no man will have the temerity to come forward and proclaim that "Ireland, a nation," means Ireland for a sect, and not the inheritance of the whole Irish people without distinction of creed or class. This, if not understood before, should be understood now, and should promote concord and trust, where before prevailed discord and suspicion.—United Irishman.

HOME RULE CONFERENCE, LONDON.—The London correspondence of the Freeman's Journal (Oct. 9) has the following:—"An influential meeting was held in London on Friday night, for the purpose of consolidating in one body the various Metropolitan Home Rule Associations, by framing regulations and appointing officers, and so on. The meeting was called by the Central London Home Rule Association; and delegates attended on behalf of the several branches and small bodies. Dr. Ward, M. P., was elected to preside. He said the formation of this association carefully and well now would be of the greatest importance, for on it would depend very much the future success of the London Home Rule Association. There was a great number of Home Rulers scattered throughout the great Metropolis but they of necessity belonged to various local branches which hitherto had not been knit together by a central London association. That condition of things resulted in a great loss of power, from the impossibility of unity of action and of mutual aid. Now, this association proposed to meet that event. It proposed that, while the various branches should be subject to the control of the association, and thus be made really effective for advancing the cause of Home Rule. The very large number of Home Rulers in London, when united together under one association would, by frequent meeting and great demonstrations, give an impetus to the question that was incalculable. To render this association a great power for good, it would be necessary that the various metropolitan branches should lay aside any jealousies that might exist, and to unite heartily with the central association. The formation of this central association at the present moment was most opportune, as the question of Home Rule would undoubtedly be pressed next session in the House of Commons, and the association would then be in a position to greatly aid the Irish members by the powerful and continued expression of public opinion which it would be able to call forth. The business transacted was thoroughly satisfactory and very encouraging. Rules having been adopted, and the necessary steps taken to connect the branches with the central body. Mr. Mitchell Henry was elected president, Dr. Ward and Mr. Redmond being elected vice-presidents. Mr. Hows and Mr. O'Neill were appointed treasurer and secretary respectively, and it was resolved to establish intimate relations between this new Metropolitan and the Home Rule Association of Great Britain. A good start has thus been made towards the attainment of an object long contemplated, and it is confidently anticipated that valuable results will accrue from this step to the Home Rule cause both in local and general (Parliamentary) elections.

INSURANCE PROSPECT.—The large fair and agricultural shows held in Ireland may be taken as evidences to test the truth of the "Castle" cant about Irish prosperity. We have more than once exposed the inaccuracy of the official figures, carefully falsified by Viceregal orators, designed to support the theory of prosperity, and now point to palpable and visible tests to prove its decline. All the large fairs in Ireland show a marked decrease in stocks of all kinds, while the entrances at the cattle shows (albeit peddled and patronized by the landlords, and the "Castle" interest), prove that under the beneficent rule of British even brute life is declining in Ireland. In the recently closed fair at Ballinacree, the decline in stock was strikingly manifested. At a meeting of a cattle show committee held in Cork this week, it was stated that there was a marked decrease in the entrances for exhibition, and these are

but signs of what prevails generally. The people have gone. Agriculture is dying out. Brute life is even declining—and yet Ireland is prosperous in the English press and Irish Viceregal orators! On this question of prosperity, Mr. Cornelius Dennehy, of Dublin, in a letter published in the Freeman, has furnished some instructive particulars. In the last fifteen years the population of England and Scotland has increased by four millions and a half—that of Ireland decreased by over half a million. With the decline of population, however, the year 1874 shows an increased poor law expenditure of £47,264—in fact in these 14 years poor law expenditure has nearly doubled. Mr. Dennehy goes into detailed statistics on other matters, to show that we are "very far from progress or prosperity"—but these will suffice. Prosperity in England and Scotland means increase of wealth and population. In Ireland it means decay of trade, destruction of manufactures, depopulation—decline of agriculture, decrease even in brute life, and increase in taxation and pauperism. Happy land—blessed with rulers that in face of facts like these can still prove it prosperous before the world!—Ib.

GREAT BRITAIN.

CHARGE OF MURDERING A SWEETHEART.—A young man, named Henry Millard, is in custody on charge of murdering his sweetheart, Emily Hodges, whose drowned body has been found near Hastings.

It is said that the Porte has offered Mr. Gladstone £50,000 a year to manage the finances of Turkey. That will be more profitable than writing "No Popery" pamphlets.

For selling a can of preserved green peas, which, upon examination proved to have been adulterated with crystallised sulphate of copper, a tradesman in Soho was fined by Mr. Knox twenty shillings and two shillings cost.

Lord Kimberley, speaking on the subject of outdoor relief of the poor, at a meeting of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture, remarked upon the extreme unfeelingness and want of natural affection exhibited by a large number of people who object to contribute towards their parents' support. This state of things, he considers, may be remedied by a strict application of the workhouse test.

THE WHITEHAPLE MURDER.—The Times states that Thomas Wainwright became less communicative after seeing some persons. It is in regard to the double case suggested that the case grows, new points of importance having come to hand. Even so it is as immediately after the enquiry fresh facts were brought to light.

POLICE AGAINST AN OFFICER.—Before the Hammer-smith police magistrate, Captain John H. Hamilton, a gentleman representing himself as related to the Duke of Abercorn, the Duke of Hamilton and family, and possessed of houses and stock to the value of £230,000, has been charged with incurring a debt of £105 by false representation. A remand was applied for and granted.

LABOUR CLAIMS.—The North Wales colliers have struck for a rise of 20 per cent, in their wages. The referee had recommended a reduction of 15 per cent. Mr. Macdonald addressed a meeting of miners in Glasgow, and advised them to demand a rise of 6d. a day. Mr. Macdonald, M. P., addressed an open air meeting of miners at Pontypool, on the 8th instant, and advocated union in maintaining their claims.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A serious explosion has occurred at South Liberty pit, Ashton, Bristol. Two of the night shift men were eight yards from the main air way on a new vein, when an explosion occurred and on the overmen and others going to the spot they found four men already killed or dying and five more severely injured. The latter were removed to the Bristol General Hospital, some of them in a critical condition.

Lord Derby, in the speech which he delivered at a dinner given in his honour at Liverpool by the Mayor, emphatically denied that English influence abroad was a nullity. He gave Turkey credit for willingness to grant administrative reforms, though aware from the idea of a local autonomy where Mahomedans and Christians are nearly equal in strength. After referring to our relations with China, of which he took a hopeful view, his lordship alluded to the recent Admiralty instructions in respect of fugitive slaves, and he announced that the Government had decided to cancel them.

In a letter addressed to the colliers of Monmouthshire and South Wales, advising them to accept the resignation of Mr. McDonald, M. P., as one of their representatives at the Board of Conciliation, Mr. Thomas Halliday urges six reasons, the principle being that Mr. McDonald suggests the course that it would be unfair to attempt anything to humiliate the employers, that the honour of neither Mr. McDonald nor the men will be affected by the adoption of the recommendation, and that there is nothing to prevent the member for Stafford from aiding the Sliding Scale Committee with his counsel.

A NICE PAIR.—Mr. Ahmed Kenealy, son of Dr. Kenealy, was summoned by a bill-sticker before the Hartlepool Court for the recovery of £7, the cost of bill-posting during the recent election of the Hartlepool. It was represented for the defence that the agent of the candidate was the person who should have been proceeded against. Dr. Kenealy was the agent for his son, but as there was no advertisement of the fact, and as no notice had been given of any such agency to the plaintiff, the judge took time to look into the act of Parliament, and adjourned the case.

THE TENDENCIES OF THE AGE.—The Protestant Bishop of Manchester, in the course of a sermon preached in the parish church at Eccles on Sunday spoke chiefly of the tendencies of the age. He said the public mind was distempered at present, and craved after the startling and the revolting. The tone of political parties seemed to him to be sensibly lower—to have become, he meant, more practical and less patriotic. Then, as to religion; it had degenerated largely into controversy. Superstition on the one hand and infidelity on the other were creeping stealthily forward, and occupying hearts where once burned, or seemed to burn, the flame of a sober or rational piety; and yet there was an aching sense in men's hearts of a great void which all these things could not fill.

Sir—I would request you to do an act of justice. You say in one of your articles to-day that "Cardinal Manning has elsewhere denounced the appeal to history as a treason and a heresy." What I have elsewhere said, and here say again, is as follows:—"The appeal to antiquity is both a treason and a heresy. It is a treason because it rejects the Divine voice of the Church at this hour, and a heresy because it denies that voice to be divine."—"Temporal Mission of the Holy Ghost," page 226. This passage has often been referred to, and sometimes by men of great name, who have given the number of the page, but have not given the words of the text; they have always, and all alike, suppressed my argument, which is as follows:—"The appeal from the living voice of the Church to any tribunal whatsoever, human history included, is an act of private judgment, a treason, because the living voice is supreme; and to appeal from the supreme voice is also a heresy, because that voice, by Divine assistance, is infallible." My critics have universally evaded and suppressed the premises that the supreme voice of the Church is Divine. I have seen much misrepresentation of my argument, but I have never seen an answer. Unless the premises can be refuted, no answer can be made, and this I believe to be the reason why it has been so studiously misrepresented. You further state that Catholic bishops of England do not possess proper ordinary jurisdiction in *foro externo*, and that the decrees of their provincial Council were upset by the Holy See. From the accuracy of your critic upon matters that have been published in print for many years, I may leave you to judge of his probable accuracy as to the ordinary jurisdiction of Catholic bishops and the decrees of provincial councils. I need hardly say the statements on these subjects in your article are as inaccurate as his garbled misrepresentation of my words. Requesting you to publish this correction,—I remain, sir, your faithful servant,—HENRY EDWARD, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.

UNITED STATES.

THE COMING EXHIBITION AT PHILADELPHIA.—With the view of solving the question of accommodation for visitors to the forthcoming Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia an organization has been formed to be known as the "Centennial Lodging-house Agency (Limited)." It is proposed to contract with a large number of housekeepers and boarding-house proprietors to furnish breakfast, tea, and supper in the old American style, and a bedroom "sumptuously clean" for each guest sent them by the agency. These accommodations are to be paid for by the visitor with a coupon ticket, which will be cashed at the central offices of the agency; fractional parts of unused tickets will also be redeemed at the same place. The coupon tickets will, according to the New York Tribune, be placed on sale in all the cities and towns in the Union, and also in Europe. An agent on all the principal trains approaching the city will furnish each passenger holding a ticket with a card assigning him to his proper quarters, giving him at the same time minute directions for reaching them. When a guest is gone, the agency will receive immediate notice, and thus be able to utilize all vacant rooms and accommodate hundreds of thousands of visitors. By this system a visitor can secure his accommodation before leaving home with a certainty of being comfortably provided for at a reasonable charge.

A VERY QUEER STORY.—A queer story was that told by the N. Y. Herald of Oct. 27, of the formation of a secret society of Irishmen by an ex-priest named McNamara, recently pastor of Raleigh, N. C. The organization is called the "The Sacred Order of United Irishmen Redivivi," the members of which contribute twenty-five cents a week toward feeding Ireland. "Each candidate," says the Herald, "was sworn secretly, his hands crossed over a basin of blood, and with a large, sharp-bladed axe depending from the ceiling directly over his head; it was a fearful scene that some of the candidates witnessed, and three or four became light-headed immediately after the terrible and ghastly inaugural ceremonies." Notwithstanding this ordeal, there were found 180 young men who believed that Ireland could be helped by such an organization. Amongst them was a well-educated young fellow, named Thomas J. McGeoghegan, teacher in the Christian Brothers' Academy, in Brooklyn. It was not long before this youth wished to withdraw from the order, according to the instructions of a priest to whom he had told the story; and he accordingly resigned his membership. Having received an answer, threatening defamation or worse, McGeoghegan to protect himself, went to the Herald office and made a statement of the whole affair. He says:—"At the solicitation of Father McNamara, I joined the Redivivi, believing it to be an organization solely got up for the purpose of liberating Ireland. I soon found out my mistake, for, instead of being a truly national organization, it proved to be despotic combination under the guidance of Father McNamara, having solely in view the pecuniary object of feeding my confiding countrymen for the maintenance of a few unprincipled men. As an Irishman, a Christian, and a Catholic, I found I could not continue a member of it. In performing my Jubilee duties I consulted my confessor about it, and he peremptorily ordered me to withdraw from "such a dangerous and villainous organization." Acting on this advice, I sent in my resignation, and in reply received the annexed letter from the Rev. Father McNamara. I did not intend to give it publicity had he not personally assailed me on the Hamilton terryboat, and abused me in a very insulting manner, and had not he and his adherents spread reports derogatory to my character of a Christian, a patriot and a man. I appeal to an impartial public as to whether I am justified in my actions or not, and publish his letter, so that they may judge of the blasphemous nature of the Redivivi and its founders." It may be that the nature and manner of this society is libelled by McGeoghegan; and as a matter of fair play we give the following letter which he received from Fr. McNamara:—"Thos. McGeoghegan, Esq.:—Sir:—Through some mistake, yours of the 16th inst., reached me only this morning. I have carefully noted the matter, and concluded to send you my reply. You are, of course, free to withdraw yourself from attendance on the meetings of the Order, as you would be at liberty to absent yourself from any other honorable body that had no power to physically coerce you; but you have no power to withdraw from the Redivivi the allegiance you have sworn to: the body for patriotic purposes. And no priest on earth has any power to exonerate you from the obligations you have there entered into, and the reason is because the Redivivi Association is simply those of Irish patriotism; and from these no priest, or bishop, or pope has any power to exonerate you. Nay, God himself could not absolve you, because God could not make a traitor. Either you are a patriot, or you are a traitor. There is no middle ground. A priest can give you no warrant to swerve from patriotism; and become a traitor. Without saying more on this point, I will, most say, I am astonished at the suddenness of your conversion. Your extreme piety is of very recent birth. I remember several expressions of yours wherein you conveyed the idea that such dictation as you allude to could have no force against your conviction of a man's rights. But there is no accounting for man's convictions; except—well, let it remain unsaid. I am exceedingly sorry to perceive such a letter as this from you, and had given you credit for something better. I was then laying out

for you some patriotic work that would suit your talents. Yet alas! poor Ireland! But be assured I do not wish to grieve you. I must honestly tell you, however, that you have no power to withdraw the allegiance you owe to the Redivivi. Be ready to appear before that body as soon as called, or they will proceed against you as a traitor. They will court-martial you, and, if necessary, expel you dishonorably and send your name and all about you to all parts. This is the way you will be dealt with. I take more trouble about you than I could for another. I had placed some confidence in you, and I do not wish to see you stamped as a slave, coward or traitor. Choose your course and take the consequences.—Yours, etc. FAYSSER McNAMARA, National President O. U. I. R., P. O. Box, 1807. All this is very remarkable, taking place as it does in a civilized and intelligent community. It is natural for Irishmen to wish to help their native land; but we cannot understand how they are convinced of the need of an oath sworn under an axe and over a pot of blood. How weak must those minds be that need such a bond and such accessories to hold them together in manful fashion? The Herald further says:—"The 'National Chief' McNamara met Mr. McGeoghegan in a Hamilton ferry boat a few nights since, and, after abusing him in a savage way, solemnly sentenced him to be shot to death by James Walsh. The latter individual bought a Smith & Wesson seven shooter last evening; it is supposed to wreak vengeance on the fated McGeoghegan, and it is quite possible that inside forty-eight hours our citizens may be startled by the news of a dreadful murder. The 'chief,' McNamara, was yesterday seen on Tyrone row and other public places armed with a bludgeon, and on being appealed to for mercy stated very resolutely that he saw no reason to reverse the sentence pronounced, and that McGeoghegan must die at set of sun."—Boston Pilot.

BURNING OF VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA.—Virginia City, Nevada, like Chicago, was destroyed by fire. A fire broke out early on the morning of Oct. 25th, in an undertaking establishment on B-street, a point in the south-western limit of the thickly settled business portion of the city. It spread rapidly, extending eastward towards the ravine, in which are situated the works and mills and several prominent mines. Reaching as far as F-street, the flames crossed Union and Setton streets, covering a space of about ten blocks. In the words of one dispatch "almost every decent building in the town was burned up." As the fire worked up G street, the offices of The Territorial Enterprise and Chronicle were destroyed, Piper's Opera House next burned; and the railroad depot and the hoisting works of the Consolidated Virginia being threatened, and the engines being of little use, recourse was had to blowing up the buildings. It was too late, however, and in a few minutes the depot and the hoisting works were in flames. The latter were recently completed at an expense of several hundred thousand dollars, and were the finest on the Comstock Lode. The flames continuing to the north and east, the partially completed mill of the California Mine and the Consolidated Virginia Mill were soon in flames. The Ophir Hoisting Works were destroyed also, which is about the limit of the destruction in that direction, the fire dying out for want of fuel. From Taylor street, near which the fire originated, it spread southward against the wind, destroying the branch office of the Bank of California, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express Office, and everything else in its line. The Gould & Curry Works were saved. Nearly the entire business portion of the town is in ashes. A special dispatch to the San Francisco Call says:—"The destruction of Virginia City was owing to the bad management of the engineer of the Fire Department. The fire started in an undertaking establishment on B-street, spreading to the adjoining livery stables. Streams of water were turned upon the stables, allowing the flames to communicate to the county buildings. The wind blowing briskly from the west carried the flames through the town. The water supply gave out, and the engines and hose were burned in the streets. The citizens were panic stricken, and the fire swept on unimpeded to the mills and hoisting works of the Consolidated Virginia, California, and Ophir Mines, destroying everything in its course. The southern end of the town was saved by a change in the wind. The fire still swept on northwardly, and the town presented a scene of the wildest confusion. Owing to a recent scourge of typhoid fever, there were many helpless invalids in the town, who had to be carried bodily to places of safety by their friends. The extortionate demands of owners of vehicles, in such case, at least, caused a murder. A man on B-street was endeavoring to engage a teamster, and unable to comply with his demands, in desperation, he drew a pistol and killed the teamster on the spot. It is impossible at present to state the extent of the loss of life. Two men were killed on C-street by the falling of a wall. There are rumors of numerous other casualties. Hundreds of families are homeless and hungry. The school-houses are the only public buildings unharmed, and they are open to the people; but, if immediate relief is not extended, much suffering will ensue. Utter demoralization reigns in the city. Men, women and children are wandering about the streets seeking for shelter. The surrounding hills are dotted with camp fires. Few saloons remain, but the supplies of liquor have not been lacking, and the streets are alive with a drunken mob. The military are patrolling the streets for the protection of property. It is impossible at present to conjecture the amount of loss. The destruction of the mills and hoisting works above referred to will probably entail a loss of \$1,000,000 within a radius of a few hundred feet. Fortunately, the shafts of both Ophir and Consolidated Virginia were bulkheaded, and the fire was kept out of the mines. The Ophir men say, that possibly their loss may be less than at first supposed, as the building was of light frame, and may have burned without destroying the machinery. The loss in the city must be very great, although covered to a great extent by insurance. At the Ophir the loss is placed at from \$150,000 to \$200,000, with an insurance of \$60,000. The mills were principally owned by the firm of Flood, McKay, Fair & O'Brien, which also holds a majority of the stock of the Consolidated Virginia, California, Gould & Curry, Best & Belcher and Savage Mines. The Consolidated Virginia Mine was producing at the time of the disaster about \$2,000,000 worth of bullion a month; about half of which was gold. The ore from which this was taken was hoisted almost wholly through the three chambers of its one shaft by the machinery that seems now to be disabled and not likely to be replaced for many months. The mills that are also destroyed separated this ore, and the assay offices melted the bullion into bars. From present indications not a pound of ore can be taken from either the Consolidated Virginia Mine or the California Mine until the machinery is replaced, and not a ton of it will be treated until the mills are rebuilt. This would seem to require, with all the resources of the richest firm in the country, several months. Unlike a coal mine, the ore in the Big Bonanza cannot burn, and cannot be destroyed by either fire or water; but it cannot be available without the costliest machinery. Should six months elapse before these mines are restored to their old condition, the effect on the gold and silver market of the world will be very great. The loss of \$4,000,000 gold a month will be felt in San Francisco, where it performs its functions as a circulating medium. The gold sent to New York, where it also has its relations with trade and commerce, and subsequently it is sent to Europe and finds its way to the German Empire, whose gold goes into effect in January. The loss of silver of equal or greater amount must also have effected on the markets of the world.