

THE IRISH TROUBLE.

League Meetings Broken Up by the Police.

STONING THE RIFLE BRIGADE.

Parnell to Take His Seat in the House of Commons.

FENIAN OUTRAGE.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A Dublin despatch says that twenty land meetings will be held on Sunday, but it is arranged that none of the traversers shall participate, nor does Mr. Parnell intend to go to London for the opening of Parliament.

Provisions are being sent to Ireland for the troops. A large meeting of the land owners and tenant farmers was held at Enniskillen, county of Fermanagh, to-day. Resolutions were passed denouncing the Land League, and calling upon the Government to preserve order.

The Times says the new Irish Land Bill has, we believe, been framed with a view of supplementing or repairing certain defects which experience has shown exist in the land act of 1870, and not with a view of introducing new principles reversing it. The bill is little likely to satisfy those friends of Ireland who are engaged in the midnight drilling of deluded peasants. The proposed movements of the flying columns will exercise more persuasion with the malcontents, who may be Fenians under new names, than any legislative measure.

A Dublin correspondent says he has authority for stating that the flying columns were found necessary in consequence of the night drilling of armed men, the police patrol in many cases having had to avoid the parties drilling.

The attendance at the trials is much smaller to-day than on the preceding days. Mr. Law, in concluding his speech, said the principles taught by the members of the Land League had been called American principles, but they might be more properly described as red Republicanism or Nihilism. He expressed the hope that when the mischievous new gospel was abandoned, those whom it was now his duty to prosecute would turn their talents to better account for Ireland's sake.

LONDON, Jan. 1, 1881.—A Dublin correspondent says it is stated on good authority that the Government has resolved to prohibit all Land League meetings on Sunday. Two constables have started for Ireland with Hennessey, who was arrested at Tipton, England, for complicity in the murder of Lord Mountmorris.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—A Dublin correspondent says Mr. Parnell, who was apparently in different while the case for the Crown was being stated, has developed much watchful industry in regard to the witnesses, making copious notes and passing them to his counsel. It is a curious fact that one of the traversers, Gordon, has not up to the present even come to Dublin, and the Crown has never once inquired after him. It is stated he is ill in the west of Ireland. The Crown does not trouble itself in regard to the whereabouts of the defendants. This has given the traversers much satisfaction, and it is probable Biggar, Sexton and others will go to the meeting of Parliament.

A Rome despatch says in order to avoid a repetition of the misrepresentations in regard to the state of Ireland in Catholic newspapers, the Pope has requested all Catholic journals to submit their articles on Ireland to the Vatican authorities.

A Cork despatch says a party of men visited the house of a man named Daniels and shot him, inflicting a dangerous wound. It is believed the affair is connected with Fenianism.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A Land League meeting was held to-day near Killarney. Eight thousand persons were present. In order not to come in contact with the police, the meeting, which was called to take place at Drogheda on Sunday, and which was prohibited, was held there on Saturday. After Healy and Davitt had made speeches, two magistrates summoned the chairman to stop the meeting, and the Riot Act was read. The people dispersed quietly. Ten thousand persons were present. A monster Land League meeting took place at Ballycastle on Saturday, and a meeting, at which 3,000 persons were present, was held the same day at Killarney.

A meeting to have been held at Clondalkin to-day was prohibited because the authorities had reason to believe it had been summoned for the purpose of interfering with the true administration of the law and a fair and impartial trial of the traversers.

Mr. Parnell openly expresses his intention of taking his seat in the House of Commons at the opening of the session on Thursday next, and in fact of adopting the policy of "pleading the Queen's proclamation against the Queen's writ," in spite of the warning already conveyed to the traversers that they will absent themselves from Dublin at their peril. Very little public interest is felt in the trial. Everybody feels convinced that it cannot possibly result in a conviction. I even hear it stated that nine of the jurors are known to be determined to render a verdict of acquittal, be the evidence or charges what they may. The entire proceeding is a farce, and even the reports in the papers are now very little read.

A detachment of the Rifle Brigade passing through Tuam to-day was stoned. Two arrests were made.

Railway Men's Wages.

The following is the new schedule of pay to be received by the Erie railway employees: Passenger conductors, \$90 per month; freight conductors, \$2.50 to \$3 per day; engineers, \$2.80 to \$3.20 per day; firemen, \$2.50 per day; brakemen, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day; baggagemen on express trains, \$60 per month; on local trains, \$40 to \$50 per month. The latter have been reduced more than any other employees. They have been subjected to reductions and get no increase. Station agents receive from \$40 to \$50 per month and in a few instances more. Common trackmen get \$1 per day, except foremen of gangs, who receive from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

The Sioux chiefs at Washington have received permission to take back with them to Dakota the children now at the Hampton and Carlisle Indian schools. The Sioux have good boarding schools on the reservation.

Benevolent Mr. Wixham.

(Detroit Free Press.)
At a meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, held the other day, it was resolved that a committee of four ladies be appointed to canvass for donations, and in the course of their peripatetic this committee yesterday dropped into Mr. Wixham's office. He received them as a gentleman should and after the usual formalities one of them began:

"Mr. Wixham, we are asking aid for benevolent purposes."

"Ah! yes. Benevolence is a bump which should be cultivated. Are you looking after poor folks?"

"We are."

"Very proper—very proper. You all have children of your own?"

"Oh, yes."

"All of them are well fed, well clothed, and well cared for, are they?"

"Yes, sir."

"That's very proper. I presume their stockings are properly darned, buttons in their places, and they say their prayers when they go to bed? Am I correct?"

The women looked at each other in a sly way, and then at him, and one of them said:

"We shall be happy for any contribution."

"Yes'm, yes'm. You don't want this contribution for your own families, eh?"

"No, sir!" answered four voices in chorus.

"Well, I am somewhat inclined to benevolence. Hardly a day passes that I don't do something for charity. Here's an old account of \$26 against Mr. ———. I know he's hard up, and having a close time to get along, and yesterday I cancelled the debt."

One of the canvassers turned red, white and blue, and looked out of the window. That was her husband, but Wixham didn't know it.

"And yesterday I found a poor, forlorn-looking little boy out here crying with hunger and cold. He said his name was Tommy ———, and he lived at No. 36 ——— street. He hadn't been washed or combed for a week, and I felt sad for him. I was going to take him home and feed him, but he slipped away."

Another woman suddenly looked out of the window, and her pulse ran up to 120 a minute, but Wixham was as innocent as a lamb of any knowledge that it was her boy.

"Then you won't aid us?" queried the spokeswoman.

"Oh, yes, certainly I will. I was simply figuring to see how much I could spare. I signed a note with Mr. ——— last fall, and I had to pay it yesterday. That makes me feel rather poor."

The third woman didn't turn red, but green, but Wixham couldn't have possibly known that it was her husband.

"Let's see. Let's see. I want to give you all I can spare. Mr. ———, on ——— street, owes me four months' house rent, and I'll give you an order on him for \$20."

The four women rose up. They rushed in a solid body for the door. They went out in a heap. Some were red and some were pale, and all mad, and as they hastened to get away from each other Wixham held up the half-written order and gasped:

"How very, very singular! Perhaps they thought they couldn't collect the money."

Scientific Notes.

According to Prof. Tait, a flash of lightning ten miles in length has been recorded by a trustworthy observer.

The celery-growers of France have united in an offer of a prize of \$2,000 for the purpose of encouraging investigation into the nature of celery rust, and the discovery of a remedy.

During the recent severe storms in Germany, the subterranean lines of telegraph have proved so much better than the others that the German Government now proposes asking the Reichstag for authority to greatly extend the underground system.

M. Pirot has called the attention of the French Academy to the fact that neither insects, scorpions, tarantulas or rattlesnakes are, so far as his knowledge extends, ever observed among the aboriginal plants with which large tracts in North America are covered. This leads him to suggest that the manuring of land with absinth might be fatal to the development of the grape vine phylloxera.

During a recent boring for water in the Wimmera district, Victoria, a tree was passed through for a distance of six feet at a depth of 250 feet. Several fruit stones were brought to the surface. At some period in the world's history a grove of trees probably occupied this spot and the great depth of earth now covering the remains of the vegetation indicates a vast lapse of time since it flourished.

From observations made during nearly twenty years in a forest in the Jura, it appears to be proved—first, that when light strikes the ground without being sifted by foliage, it stimulates the production of carbonic acid in the soil; secondly, that the growth of wood is diminished when the underbrush is so thick and tall as to impede the passage of sunlight to the soil, and its reflex action on the branches of the trees; and thirdly, that mould in too great a thickness becomes inert, and thus remains for many years, as in the case with barnyard manure when too deeply buried.

The adulteration of tea is carried on to a surprising extent. M. Aussen, an eminent French chemist, has investigated the subject and made a report to the Paris Academy of Sciences. He finds that a great variety of substances are used as adulterants, such as Prussian blue, indigo, gypsum, chromate of lead, arseniate of copper, sulphate of iron, stearite, carbonate of magnesia, plumbago and kaolin. The Chinese often mix with tea the leaves and flowers of other plants.

In bamboos, the flow of sap takes place at the beginning of the rainy season, but vigorous shoots rarely grow before the thunder storms, which generally precede the harvest. The rapidity of their growth increases with the violence of the storm, amounting to as much as seventy feet within thirty days in some instances, the vegetation being most active during the night. These facts offer a curious confirmation of the experiments of Dr. Siemens on the influence of electricity upon plant growth.

"The inconvenient young lady" remarks the Electrician, "whom the newspapers have lately discovered administering electric

shocks to everybody who shakes hands with her is not an original phenomenon, to say nothing of the Canadians who habitually lighted the gas with their fingers' ends in quite modern times. Virgil tells us that the hair of Ascanius emitted a harmless flame, and Servius Tullius is known to have shot sparks out of his locks at the precocious age of seven. A more exact counterpart of our female contemporary, however, lived at Verona about a couple of centuries ago. Cassandra Buri was unable to sleep in linen sheets because of the fire emitted from her body on getting into bed. Such were the crackling and blazing that her maids often fancied that they had dropped live cinders out of the warming pan into the bed. This is the dull season."

Amusing Mathematical Quid Nunc.

Let one who propounds and understands the problem tell a third person to write down any number, large or small (if a large number the problem will seem more remarkable), without letting him see or know what the number is; write this same number backward—i.e., to the last figure the first, the next, to the last the second, etc.; subtract the lesser from the greater; multiply the difference by any number whatever; rub out any figure in the multiple, and (provided the figure is not 0) add together the remaining figures as if they were all units, and tell what is their sum, then the first person will be able to tell what was the figure rubbed out.

Explanation.—The difference between any number and the same written backward will always be a multiple of 9; of course, multiplying this difference by any number whatever does not alter this condition. The sum obtained will still be a multiple of 9; for instance, if the sum so multiplied is 7 times 9 (or 63) and is multiplied by 12, it will be 84 times 9 (or 756). The figures expressing any multiple of 9, if added together as units, will always be 9 or some multiple of 9. If one be rubbed out, the sum of the remainder will be somewhat less than a multiple of 9, thus: if the sum of the remaining figures are 56 the figure rubbed out was 7, that being what is required to make 63, the next multiple of 9. The reason for excluding 0 from the figures rubbed out is that if 0 or 9 be erased the remainder will still be a certain number of 9s, and the person propounding the problem cannot tell whether 0 or 9 was rubbed out; but if 0 be excluded of course the figure rubbed out was 9 (for it must be 0 or 9). If the sum given, after rubbing out one of the figures, be 725, 7 and 2 are 9, and 4 is wanting to make it the next multiple of 9 (18), which was the figure rubbed out.

A Cheap Ice-house.

An ice-house which will answer every purpose can be built for a small sum, and when it is finished it can be filled without any cost except the labor of the farmer and his team. When once properly filled, it is a source of comfort, luxury and even profit all summer. It is next to impossible to make gilt-edge butter without it and nothing can supply its place upon the table. An ice-house need not be, and should not be, an elaborate or costly affair. A square building which will turn wind and water, properly located, is all that is required, for the secret of keeping ice is much more in packing than in housing it; but good drainage is absolutely necessary and so is good ventilation. A necessary and so is good ventilation. A pile of ice six feet high, eight feet long and eight feet wide, will make 384 cubic feet, or enough for an ordinary family. If we could get one solid cake of this size and place it on the north side of a building and where the sun would not strike it, and cover it with sawdust enough to exclude the air from every part, it would keep without any building or other protection over it, but a house helps to keep it. Locate your ice-house, if possible, on a side-hill where water cannot stand under it, and on the side of a building which will shut the sun away from it. Build it large enough to give eighteen inches of space between the ice and the boarding on each side. Cut the blocks as smooth as possible and pack them close together, filling the spaces with ice chopped fine, so as to make a solid mass. When the pile is complete cover it thickly with sawdust, packing the dust in the spaces at the sides and on the top as completely as it can be done. If the sawdust is two or three feet deep on top all the better. Then see that your house is well ventilated. The larger the mass of ice, the better it will keep; and a small supply requires more packing than a large one. Straw may be made to take the place of sawdust, but it is not so good. On many farms an ice-house which will answer every purpose may be built inside some other building.

A Dickens of a Fellow.

"Mark Tapley" is not dead. He still lives. He lives in Hamilton, and holds an editorial position on the Spectator. He is as cheerful as ever; in fact, he is actually facetious on the subject of the syndicate bargain, and Mr. Blake's visit. It is easy to see that his "humor" is painfully forced—which proves that the writer has some latent sense of propriety though he tries hard to conceal it. He knows, as well as we do, that the bargain is a matter of the gravest concern to the people of this Dominion, and that the people as a whole entertain a decidedly unfavorable opinion of it. But he also knows that if that opinion manages to get utterance through Parliament it will result in the discomfiture and perhaps the defeat of the Ministry. Such a denouement he knows would be a trivial circumstance in comparison with the disaster which would result from a temporary triumph of the Government, and yet the insanity of party leads him to act the role of a patrician. He cannot do so seriously, however; his feelings no doubt revolt against that. His only resource is to try to be cheerful under the melancholy circumstances, and we hope he succeeds to his own satisfaction.—Grip.

"Can I see my son a college education at home?" says a proud and anxious father. "Certainly," replies an expert who knows all about it. "All you want is a baseball guide, a racing shell, and a few packages of cigarettes."

A Calcutta despatch says the Ameer Abdurrahman is still far from feeling his position assured at Cabul. The situation is most critical and it would not be surprising if within a few months he should be obliged to fight for his throne.

THE CATTLE TRADE.

Interesting Statistics of Cattle Exportation

At a dinner in the Albion Hotel, Toronto, yesterday, given by Mr. H. J. Frankland to several gentlemen interested in the cattle trade, that gentleman, who occupied the chair, after thanking his guests for their presence, went on to speak of the newness of the cattle exportation trade, it having been in existence for but five years. Even now they could count by millions the dollars coming into this country from Great Britain in return for that trade. He could not see why they should spend thousands of dollars in the United States purchasing cattle when the farmers of Canada had every facility for raising stock themselves. He noticed gentlemen present who had recently spent some \$40,000 in Chicago purchasing live stock, which was shipped to England via Canada and Portland. Canadian cattle raisers could keep this trade within their own country if they studied the subject of blood and ancestry in livestock. Mayor Beatty alluded to the extraordinary fact that 100,000 sheep and 50,000 cattle had been sent across the Atlantic this year from Canada. At a reasonable estimate this would represent three or four millions of dollars, and it showed the vast results which would ultimately accrue if the farmers would only realize the enormous advantages of this trade. Another feature for consideration was that years ago they imported cheese, and now they exported many million dollars worth.

Life-saving Service.

On Christmas day an old seaman stood on one of the docks and looked out over the frozen surface of the harbor at the thousands of flying skaters and the iceboats. "Why, Jimmy, is this you?" said a friend who stood beside him. After a hearty shake-hands and a few inquiries after other friends and the dirty weather of last fall, Jimmy said: "There's many a lad got his 'call this year.'" "Aye, that there has, and if we had a life-saving service like they have on the other shore, there's lots of the boys as would be here to-day." Who is responsible for the non-establishment of life-saving stations it matters not. But if he had been a witness of the above meeting, and had considered the loss of life there has been on this lake alone for want of a life-saving service, he would have felt the justice of the remark of Jimmy's friend. Secretary Sherman says in his report that information has been solicited by other countries preparatory to introducing the service for themselves. It is to be hoped Canada is one of these countries, for she can well afford to take a leaf out of their book in this matter.

BODY FOUND AT THE FALLS.

Discovery of Mrs. Leydon's Remains—Suspected Foul Play.

CLIFTON, Ont., Jan. 2.—Mrs. Leydon, who has been missing from her home at the Falls on the American side since last Monday evening, was found this morning by a Mr. Scanlan on his way home from church in a field adjoining the Young Ladies' Academy, about three-quarters of a mile from the village of the Falls, frozen stiff and partly covered with snow. She had been visiting at Mrs. Harrington's, a neighbor's, last Monday evening, and left for home about 10 o'clock, apparently all right. It is said she had on her person about \$200, and as the place where she was found is in an opposite direction to her way home, foul play is suspected. The coroner has the body in charge, and will hold a post-mortem examination tomorrow morning, when it is expected some startling developments will be made known.

FATAL TOBOGGANING.

Melancholy Accident to Two Montreal Gentlemen.

MONTREAL, Jan. 2.—A number of accidents are reported as happening yesterday. Mr. Armstrong, an undertaker, and Mr. Henry Walters were knocked down by passing sleighs and both were very badly wounded. A still more serious accident occurred from tobogganing at Cote St. Antoine. As Messrs. Guy and Fraser were coming down the hill at a rapid rate the toboggan struck a tree, throwing the occupants out with great violence. Mr. Guy was taken up insensible and brought to the general hospital, where the doctors declare his injuries, which are internal, to be fatal. Mr. Fraser, it is feared, is permanently injured, his spine being affected. At a late hour to-night both gentlemen were very low and in a critical condition.

Horrors of Petroleum.

Petroleum is the most dangerous substance, when carelessly used, that is manufactured. The fruitful source of accidents at the present time is by kindling fires. The girl or woman who continues and persists in pouring oil from a can on to a fire, or where fire has been or is to be, will in all probability sooner or later lose her life. It is about as certain as anything that can be imagined in this world. The small amount of oil that remains in a place on the wood or coal immediately ignites with a very large volume of gas and terrific force. The natural thing for a person to do is to tip back the can in such a case, and that movement causes the upward stream of burning gas to follow the oil into the can, when the explosion takes place with most ruinous effect. The papers daily record such accidents, and yet the carelessness goes on. There is nothing that can be said that will make people appreciate the nature of coal oil. It is perfectly safe if properly used, but most dangerous if fooled with.

There is something deliciously amusing in the way Mr. Sankey combines musical instruction and religious fervor all in the same breath. He sings his solo, shouts out his instructions, and trolls out the chorus in the most indefatigable manner, and varies the proceedings in this wise: "Sings—'What must it be to be there, to be there; oh, what must it be to be there. (Now all sing—chorus): Oh, what must it be (louder) to be there (that's good) to be there (now pianissimo)—oh, what must it be to be there. (Then now you sang that very well there—let's have him again, and be sure you mind that pianissimo. Now!) What must it be." etc. It adds so much to one's religious feelings to repeat the same verse to get the exact emphasis on the tu.—San Francisco Call.

THE AFRICAN REVOLT

Crushing Defeat of the Tambooke Rebels.

AN INSURGENT PROCLAMATION.

Address of Sir George Colley to the Troops.

THE FREE STATES AROUSED.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—A Cape Town despatch says the triumvirate have issued a proclamation defending their action and offering pardon to all opponents. They agree to retain the present officials, to admit a British consul, and to indemnify Great Britain for her expenditure on behalf of the Transvaal. The triumvirate have proclaimed martial law. Governor Bellairs at Potchefstroom is closely besieged. His position causes great apprehension here. Col. Lanyon, British administrator for the Transvaal, is still at Pretoria. He has been summoned to surrender. The excitement throughout Cape Colony is intense. Communication with the Transvaal, except through the Orange Free State, is entirely interrupted. The Boers' account of the affair with the 94th regiment is: "Commandant Joubert, with 150 men, met the troops and requested their officers to await Col. Lanyon's orders, but the officers insisted on going on. Joubert then commanded a charge, and in fifteen minutes fifty British were killed and many wounded. The remainder surrendered."

A Durban despatch says communication with the Transvaal is wholly interrupted. A Pieter-Maritzburg despatch says the garrisons of Standerton and Wakerstrom are well entrenched, supplied and confident. They have not been attacked. The Boers have abandoned Utrecht, having offered no violence. The magazine was broken up, but the bulk of the ammunition has been removed. Fifteen hundred troops are already on the way to the front with two cannon and one Gatling gun.

A Durban despatch says the Dutchmen of the Orange Free State are greatly excited. In Cape Colony the revolt is considered a terrible calamity, and the authorities do not deem it advisable to denude Cape Town of its garrison. Sir George Colley has issued an address to the troops, saying: "The stain upon our arms must be quickly effaced and the rebellion suppressed." But he trusts the officers and men will not retaliate for the outrages, and will avoid punishing the innocent for the guilty. He charges them to remember that the Boers, though misled and deluded, are, in the main, a brave, high-spirited people, actuated by feelings entitled to our respect.

New York, Jan. 1.—A London special correspondent telegraphs: Strong reinforcements are being ordered to Natal, and there is not the slightest probability that the Radical demand for the withdrawal of the British forces from the Transvaal will be complied with. Thanks to the South African and Afghan outbreaks, it is expected that the army estimates for the coming year will exceed £20,000,000.

If the forces of Cape Colony cannot cope with the Boers they meet with more success in the war with the Tambooke rebels, as the Premier at Cape Town telegraphs to-night that the troops under Commandant Frost and Colonel Wavell have gained a signal victory over the rebels, killing 80, wounding 200, and capturing 8,000 cattle and 500 sheep. One burgher was killed and three Fingee allies were wounded. The Boers are reported to be quiet. I understand that the Government fears that the Boers will have acquired the mastery in the Transvaal before the relief now on the way arrives there.

A Durban despatch says it is reported that if troops are sent from England to fight the Boers the Dutchmen in the free states will make common cause with the Boers.

The News says that beyond a few beleaguered parties the Transvaal has completely passed out of our hands, and if the Union Jack is flying at Pretoria by April we shall not accuse the troops of sloth.

A NEW YEAR'S EVE TRAGEDY.

Attempted Murder of a Whole Family by a Young Relative.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 2.—A wholesale and cold-blooded murder occurred one mile south of Otis, Ind., on Friday night. Jas. Augustine and family lived there many years. They were possessed of considerable property, and generally had a good deal of money in the house. During the afternoon Henry Augustine, nephew of James, came from Chicago to pay them a visit, and tried vainly to get them to drink from a bottle which proves to have contained poisoned whiskey. About 11 o'clock at night he got up from his bed and sought the bed-room of James Augustine, and leveling a revolver began firing. Mrs. Augustine was so badly wounded that she died to-day. James Augustine was shot in the breast, and will probably die. Henry ran from the room after firing several shots. The sons hearing the firing came down, and Christian Augustine demanded of Henry, whom he met in the kitchen, what it meant. Henry replied with a bullet, which killed Christian instantly. He gave a parting shot at the younger brother, James, which only made a slight flesh wound, and then coolly went to his uncle's room and demanded admission, assuring them that he was all right and wanted to help them. James, the son, got the revolver from him and put him in the kitchen and locked the door. Henry escaped barefoot and hatless, and has not yet been captured. Lynching will probably follow the capture.

The English High Church papers are furious over the imprisoned Ritualists. The Church of England Review writes: "We are threatened with disestablishment. Let it come; and let the archbishops who generated the Public Worship Act and pulled the wires of the Privy Council—let them see to their palaces and peerages and thousands a year. They, and not we, must be the losers. We are no Radicals, but we do not think the establishment worth defending, if its chief blessing is that its clergy can be imprisoned for their religion while no other men in England can be so outrageously treated. The primate made the mess; let him get himself out of it as best he can."