

THE DONNELLY MASSACRE.

PRISONERS BEFORE THE JUSTICES.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—As briefly stated in my despatch yesterday afternoon the Donnelly case was resumed before Squires Peters and Fisher. The Court was crowded. A certificate from Dr. Sutton to the effect that Wm. Donnelly was too ill to be present was handed in. The first witness called was

County Constable Porez. He deposed as follows— I am a county constable, and had a warrant placed in my hands for the arrest of James Carroll and the two Mahers on Thursday, the day following the murder; Constable Hodge and I went to execute it on Carroll, whom we found on the Roman Line, going east; he was between the Donnelly homestead and Maher's house; he said he was wanted by the Chief in Lucan to help work up the murder case; he asked to be allowed to go home and change his clothes; he went home with him, and changed his clothing, which occupied ten minutes; at the house of the Mahers, Carroll went upstairs, took off his boots, and changed his shirt and pants; he had a dark coat on when he came out; I asked him when we came down whether he had his handcuffs, and he said "Yes;" we were not in his bed room, and had not at that time a warrant to arrest him; we did not want to let him know he was being arrested; he came along willingly, although he seemed to be very much frightened, changing his color from paleness to redness at times; we talked about the murder on the way to Lucan, but he did not seem to care to make any reply to what we said; I even pointed to the ruins, but he would not notice them; he did not say where he had been on the night of the murder; I asked him where he first heard of the murder, and he said the next afternoon; I did not ask him where he slept that night; we took him to McLean's Hotel in Lucan, where he was informed what we wanted him for; Hodge and Police Constable Karkin, of London, were there, and when Hodge told him what he was wanted for, he said, "All right," dropped his head, and held out his hands for the cuffs; he seemed frightened, and did not speak a word.

Mr. McMahon objected to the evidence as to how the prisoner conducted himself after his arrest. The objection was overruled.

Witness continued—He seemed to be shocked, so that he could not speak; I searched him at Lucan, and he had no handcuffs with him, at which I made no remark; we looked him up in the lock-up after that; he had on a brown overcoat and a coarse homemade flannel shirt, and a dark pair of tweed pants, dark grey in color; he had on a light pair of long boots; we arrested James Maher, junior and senior, an hour or so after Carroll's arrest; they were also searched and looked up; after being informed of the cause of the arrests, the young man said nothing, but the old man said "I expected it;" we found nothing on them; I never heard any threats used; Carroll put on a white shirt in place of the homemade one; he said he wanted to change his clothes in order to go up decent looking and respectable.

To Mr. McMahon—While at Maher's I believe I said that the Chief was getting men all over the country to look up the murder; Hodge spoke to him, too, about the murder and other things; Hodge said, "This is an awful affair, Jim," and Jim said, "Yes it is;" Hodge said, "You're just the man to work this up, living right here," but I cannot say what the reply was; I don't know whether I heard it, or whether I have forgotten it; I got no instruction to listen to what Carroll said, or what I was to say; I think I said, "Jim, this is a pretty bad affair; I wonder who could have done it;" he said it was a kind of mysterious affair to him; I am positive about the question and answer; we were in the yard at Maher's in the act of leaving when we spoke to Carroll; a stranger was asked by Maher and Carroll to get in and ride up, but he said, "No, I'll go up by and by;" the stranger was in the house when we started, and the sleigh was towards the door; Maher was inside standing at the door, and the stranger was at the door.

Witness continued—After Carroll had been brought to Lucan, not a word was spoken about the handcuffs; I do not recollect James Keefe telling me to be sure and search Carroll; he might have said so; Carroll came without a murmur; I did not ask Jas. Carroll where he slept that night, neither on the road nor at Lucan.

The court then took recess for an hour. Shortly before two o'clock the court resumed, every foot of standing room being occupied by spectators.

CHARLES POREZ was recalled, and in reply to Mr. Hutchinson, said—I heard some threats made; it was on the day of Carroll's appointment to the constabulary; after Carroll came from the Court House, Hodge and I met him and said, "Carroll, I understand you are a constable;" after shaking hands, I said, "you are in a position where you can fix things now," and he said "yes; I'll be the cause of the Donnellys being banished out of Biddulph."

Mr. McMahon—You supposed that Carroll was the man for the position.

Witness—I did, and it was in that view I spoke to him. I knew a large position had been sent in to the General Sessions for Carroll's appointment; I knew that many outrages had been committed in Biddulph, and, as a peace officer, I was unable to make anything out of them; it was sometimes remunerative to go to Biddulph; I was favorable to his appointment, and never had anything against him in my life; the Donnellys were supposed to be the guilty parties, and it was with a view of bringing them as well as others to justice, that Carroll was appointed; I thought he would catch them and send them to Kingston, or some other place; I did not expect he was going to resort to anything but lawful means; I did not take it as a threat.

MARY THOMPSON, sworn—I am the wife of William Thompson, and live in Biddulph on the Roman line; that is the same line on which the Donnelly house was located; it is about a quarter of a mile from the Donnelly's; there is no house between ours and the Donnelly's; their house could be seen from ours plainly; I am acquainted with James Carroll and his brother William; William was working at our place and lived there; he slept upstairs; there is one bed-room on the south side of the house, and two on the east; where Carroll slept there was only one window which looked out upon the Donnelly house; the bed was in the northeast corner of the room, and the head was towards the

north; on the night of the murder, James Carroll and Bill Carroll slept in that room together; I attended to the rooms of the house myself and changed the linen of the bed-rooms on the Saturday previous; there were two pillow cases and a sheet changed; the young men went to bed between nine and ten o'clock, both going at nearly the same time. I went to bed a little afterwards with my husband; there was no one else in the house; I did not tell the Chief that our bedroom door was shut on the night of the murder; I don't know what I told him; if I told him so, I don't remember it; if I did tell him so it would not be the truth; Wm. Thompson is the "boss;" he is the one I referred to when I used that term; the "boss" sometimes sleeps soundly; I don't think I told the Chief that he slept soundly; the "boss" was awake about eleven o'clock, but I might have told the Chief that he was not awake during the night; I know at least that he was awake then; the window of our room looks to the west; I saw the fire in the morning, after daylight, but I can't say how long afterwards; the "boss" saw it first when he got up to light the fire; he said there was a fire up the road, and I got up and looked out of the kitchen window; the house was blazing some; when the "boss" saw his neighbor's house burning he lit the fire and went out to the stables; he did not go over to help the neighbors; he called the Carrolls before he went to the stables; they did not go to the fire; I guess James Carroll heard the "boss" say there was a fire, but I did not hear what he said; I saw James Carroll do nothing but eat his breakfast; I got up a little after Carroll came down, and while I was making the breakfast, Carroll was in the kitchen; he said it was "kind of hard, on a stormy morning like this, to have no house to go in;" that is all I recollect him saying; nobody proposed to go down and see what had happened at the Donnelly's, although they are next neighbors; William Carroll said it was a hard morning for the Donnellys to go to Granton, and that they must be at Whalen's because he could not see any of them about the fire; I don't mind whether Jim was looking out of the window or not; I did not see any one about the fire until between eight and nine; the schoolmaster was the first one I saw; Jim went away after breakfast and said he had to be in Granton by ten o'clock; Granton is seven miles away; he would pass the Donnelly house in going to Granton; I know that Carroll is a constable, but, nevertheless, he said nothing about going to see about the fire; I heard of the murder about ten o'clock in the morning, when the scholars came home; my little sister, Julia Carroll, first told me of the murder; she sometimes lives with me, but was not there that night; Bill Carroll was with me at the barn when the girl told about the murder; "boss" had gone to Exeter before we heard of the murder; he did not go down to the house to see about the murder, but turned his back on it and went to Exeter. The general tenor of her evidence was to show that no one could have left the house without her knowledge.

At six o'clock the Court adjourned till Friday.

ADMITTED TO BAIL.

Mr. McMahon applied for the discharge of those against whom the Crown had no evidence.

The Crown Attorney refused to discharge, but allowed several of the prisoners to go on bail.

The following prisoners were then admitted to bail in the sum of £2,000 each:—Patrick Ryder, sen., Patrick Ryder, jun., Jas. Maher, sen., Jas. Maher, jun., Wm. Carroll, William Shea and Mary Maher.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—In the cross-examination of the witness Connolly, yesterday, the following evidence came out:

Mr. Hutchinson—Who is Father Connolly?

Witness—He is the parish priest; the church is on the Roman line near the Proof Road; we are all in the habit of going there; I have never heard the priest mention the Donnellys' name in church; I never heard him speak of them openly; he spoke of the troubles but never mentioned names; I don't remember the purport of his words.

Mr. MacMahon—Father Connolly is not charged with anything.

Witness continued—I can't say whether Father Connolly ever cursed or denounced the Donnelly family in the church; I have heard him speak of a family which I understood to be the Donnellys; it was in a speech to the congregation, and he said it was a shame and a scandal that depredations were being committed; from what he said I thought he meant the Donnellys; this was last summer, at different times; I never heard him curse the Donnellys.

Mr. MacMahon—I believe it is a fact that no such thing ever took place. It is very improper for the Crown officer to ask such a question when he has not the slightest foundation for it. He should be held responsible for his insinuations. I am sorry that he has done so.

Mr. Hutchinson—It is quite unnecessary for you to talk like that. I'm not going to be guided by you.

Mr. MacMahon—I have a perfect right to ask you to keep within proper bounds.

Mr. Hutchinson—I won't take any instructions from you. You're a paid servant of the prisoners and can say what you like; you've got nothing to do with me.

Witness, to Mr. MacMahon—Father Connolly was sorry that these depredations were going on, and that was the reason he spoke; he said they were a shame and a disgrace to the parish; I never heard him curse or denounce the Donnellys from the pulpit.

Mr. MacMahon—No, nor the Crown can't bring a man who will say he did.

Witness—He spoke in sorrow about these things, and said he would do all in his power to stop them; it was with this view that the Committee was formed.

James Feely deposed that on the night of the murder he saw James Carroll and James Ryder near Thompson's gate; it was about nine o'clock. He adds: we were talking about the Donnellys; he said in effect that the society was going to put them down one way or the other; I cannot give the exact words; he asked me to shun the Donnellys; I don't know whether he said all of them or only Tom.

Mrs. Thompson (recalled) said she had not told the Chief of Police that Carroll did not sleep at her place on the night of the murder.

Patrick Keefe, a friend of the Donnelly's, said that on the night of the murder he saw Patrick Ryder, jun., riding past the Keefe place; he had something tied up, which looked like a gun; he hung his head and didn't appear to wish to be known; witness was averse to the Vigilance Committee.

Robert Donnelly deposed that after the

murder he visited the place; while walking round he found a stick about ten rods from the house, in the direction of the school-house and his brother William's place.

The stick was here produced. It is a stout elm club, about three feet long, rounded at one end, and smeared with blood.

Witness also deposed to the finding of the overcoats at McArthur's place.

Constable Hodgins, of Lucan, deposed he had loaned a pair of handcuffs to Carroll the day after the Ryder fire; they were returned to him the day following the Donnelly murder. He continued: I have arrested some of the Donnellys, and was at their house on several occasions; there was a difficulty once when I had a summons for Thomas; he came out with a gun and threatened to blow my brains out; the old man told me not to be afraid, that Tom would not shoot me.

The Court adjourned till Saturday.

A LETTER FROM FATHER CONNOLLY.

The following letter, written by Rev. Father Connolly, of Biddulph, on the 13th inst., and addressed to a Quebec journal, will be read with interest at this time:

"Sir,—Might I take the liberty of telling my friends in Quebec not to credit one-half what is written of me, by some vulgar, vicious correspondents from this place. Of course it will be at all times sweet and agreeable to the morbid appetites of bigots and evil doers to see the name of a clergyman of any Church, and especially a Roman Catholic priest, connected in any way, no matter how remotely, with crime. That five of my parishioners have been murdered in cold blood, and that others of my parishioners are accused of the murder, has given me a shock from which I can never sufficiently recover. In the meantime, my friends need feel no way alarmed in my regard. I trust I have never yet compromised my priestly character, and am sure there is no one in Biddulph can show me where I have compromised it here. That story of a Vigilant Committee is all bosh. I never formed a society in my life outside a Temperance Society, either here or anywhere else. What I did do was to ask my people to sign a pledge to one another that if anything stolen should be left on their premises, that they would endeavor to find out the owner, and, if possible, the thief, so that he might be prosecuted according to law; this step was not taken against the Donnellys any more than against any one else. However, it must be said that, with the exception of the Donnellys, whose reputation was bad, I never met a more honest or upright people in every line of life than my present broken-hearted parishioners. There is no man whatever in this place who believes the persons now accused would be guilty of the crime laid to their charge.—I am, yours, etc.,

"JOHN CONNOLLY, Priest.

"St. Patrick's Presbytery, Biddulph, Ont.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—At the close of William Donnelly's evidence to-day, James Maher, sen., James Maher, jun., Mrs. Maher, James O'Shea and Pat Ryder, sen., were discharged, and bail was accepted for William Carroll and Pat Ryder, jun.

Wm. Donnelly has received a number of threatening letters. He to-day received the following, which he characterized as the worst ones yet:

MULMUR, Feb. 8, 1890.

Wm. Donnelly, Lucan:

Sir,—I write you this to advise you to take warning in time, and fly for your life as far as you can from Biddulph. You are making a great deal too much noise and fuss over that outrage. Now is your time to clear the country. Every day you prolong your stay is so much the worse for you. You are being gradually drawn tighter and tighter every moment round you. I do not mean to threaten you with any personal or other violence, but still you are no doubt ready to swear anything; but take heed, you had better prepare your prepared soul for what may come instead of spending your time in concocting lies to try and implicate innocent persons. You know well enough whom the slugs were intended for that which took effect in your brother John. It was a slight miscarriage, but it was as well to get Jack out of the way. There may be a slug or two left for you if you don't be careful. You may imagine that you are safe for the time, but the police and other officers of the law are enlisted in your behalf, and we have right on our side. I am not a man to do anything by halves. My motto is, "root and branch," when a family is to be exterminated by reason of their predatory and incendiary acts, and I believe you are a member of such a family. All Canada is considerably excited over the tragedy, but the news has not yet come. If you do not be forewarned and leave the country, America will hear of such deeds as were never known before. It is not my desire to threaten you, but to give you timely warning, so that no one but yourself may be to blame if a still darker tragedy appears upon the advent of Canadian crimes than any heretofore. Ad hoc, sub judice sit est.—Yours warningly,

ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HE KNOWS.

The envelope on which the above was enclosed bore the post mark of Barrie, the date being Feb. 20. The letter is written in a good business hand, on foolscap, a margin being left all the way down the page. "Even after this letter I'm not afraid," said the redoubtable Bill. "I've no doubt my life is endangered, but those letters don't bother me. If I am killed I am certain the few survivors of the family would work with all their might, and spend all the money they've got, to bring the guilty parties to justice. I'm not afraid of the Vigilance Committee, supposing they had the letter written, nor of John Joseph B., the retired sailor, if he was the author."

The following epistle was received by Wm. Donnelly a few days since:—

To Robert and William Donnelly: This is to notify you that the Honest and Law Biding People of Lucan wishes you to remove from this village at once or you may be moved some knight and your colleges will be remembered your Brother Jim was shot here by our Police Man in 1877 in the act of incendiary and robbery burning cutting our horses throats murdering Dan Clarke's murder is not forgotten; Deluding our families robbing them of their character and other bad acts.

A FRIEND TO LUCAN AN CITIZEN.

The writing was in a disguised hand, written irregularly, and on a piece of ledger-ruled paper. William Donnelly says the statement of Dr. Sutton is sufficient to show that his brother Jim was never shot. The Dan Clark referred to was found dead in a stable, and a Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of "died from excessive drink and exposure."

London Spectator: "Tutors and governesses have all caught up a system from the professional writing masters, and the professional writing masters are all dominated by two ideas, which are radically false. They all think that 'copper plate writing,' the special hand of writing masters and bank clerks, is good writing, which it is not, being devoid of character, far too regular in form and from the multiplicity of fine upstrokes not easy to read; and they all believe that certain mechanical motions, if carefully taught, will produce clear writing. They will not, and they do not."

BRITISH ARMS DISGRACED.

A STARTLING INDIGNITY AGAINST THE REGIMENTS AT THE GAPE.

The Veteran War Correspondent on the Utter Lawlessness of the Troops.

William Howard Russell writes an energetic letter to the London Daily Telegraph in reply to Sir Garnet Wolesey's charge that he had been "hoaxed into circulating transparent falsehoods." He says—"I stated in my letter of October 10 that 'I begun it with reluctance;' I may add, with anger and disgust. I declared I had no doubt on my mind that if the provisions of the new code of military law be applied to the British army in its present state in any country which is situated like Natal or the Transvaal, it will be utterly impossible for the officers to maintain discipline." Why did I make that declaration? Because those officers told me so, and because I saw what they said was true. How and where did I gain my information? I will tell you.

PROOFS GATHERED ALONG THE ROAD.

All along the road from Durban to Pretoria. I was obliged, after my return from Zululand, to remain for sometime at Durban and Pietermaritzburg while Sir Garnet Wolesey proceeded to Ulundi. I heard much while there from officers of the "scars" among the troops in Zululand, which made night hideous again and again. I witnessed some of the effects of these stampedes on the persons of sufferers, whom, if challenged, I will name. I heard, too, of the repeated floggings which were administered by officers, whom, if challenged, I will name. I heard, too, of wild alarms, and of outburst of musketry and cannonading at nothing, at places and on occasions which, if challenged, I can name. I said nothing of these things, which I attributed to the youth and inexperience of many of the men composing the mass of our battalions. But then came rows and evidences of relaxed discipline in the bearing of some of the soldiery and in the drunken men in the streets of towns far from the seat of war, who were cleared out by strong pickets at night. I attributed all that to the abandon caused among young troops by a demoralizing kind of war, and by their joyfulness at their return to comparative civilization. I left Pietermaritzburg and went up country. All along the road I heard stories of the indiscipline and excesses of detachments of men on the march. I found that officers in command of stations were obliged to put the adjacent towns and villages "out of bounds," so that soldiers could not visit them without passes, as if they were ticket-of-leave men. Are these "gross exaggerations," or "transparent untruths?" At Newcastle I was informed by a distinguished soldier, who has recently been rewarded by his sovereign for his gallantry in the war, that "he had never been in so much danger throughout that war as he was the other night in Utrecht, when the soldiers of the 1st regiment attacked the hotel in which he was lodged, and smashed in the windows with huge paving stones because they were refused drink. He got out of bed and crept under it to escape, and was rolled over by a stone like a rabbit; and he then got his revolver and called on the landlord to fire, and the fellows went away." On visiting Utrecht a large store, with broken windows and doors, was pointed out to me as having been wrecked by the soldiers; and the landlord of one of the hotels there described an attack on his premises, as if they were undergoing a siege in due form. The officer in command had resorted to the measure declared to be illegal, but wholly necessary and justifiable, of closing the public houses and taverns by force and making it penal to sell liquor at all. Is that a "gross exaggeration" or "transparent untruth?" While I was at that place awaiting the arrival of headquarters another officer in command of a regiment on the march adopted the device of ordering a supply of spirits to be brought out on the road, so that the men who so desired might get drunk in the open out of sight. And they did, in some degree, but not all were unwell. Two soldiers of another corps at Utrecht died of "choking in drink" when I was there, and one was buried the day Sir Garnet Wolesey inspected the troops at the close of the ceremony. But is it a "gross exaggeration" or "transparent untruth" that the mess stores of Sir Garnet Wolesey's own personal staff were stolen in his own headquarters camp and the wines and liquor drank by the men around him?

THE SACKING OF HEIDELBERG.

I thought all that I heard very bad and deplorable, but still I held my peace. I hoped that things would mend. But when I reached Pretoria the matter assumed a serious aspect. The gravity of the political consequences on the situation in the Transvaal of misconduct on the part of any of the Queen's troops came home to me forcibly. I heard complaints of personal violence and of insecurity of property. Soon after my arrival at Pretoria I met, at the table of the highest official personage in the territory, an English gentleman who had been introduced to me at Heidelberg by his Excellency Colonel Lanyon, the distinguished administrator of the Transvaal, and whom I understood to be one of the first merchants in South Africa. He was accompanied by his wife. The picture they drew of the state of things in the town they had left filled me with indignation. "There is not a single store in the town of Heidelberg which has not been broken into and wrecked by the troops," and details were given of robberies small and great, from chickens up to the church clock; but the lady's statement was still more painful, for she said "she was afraid of remaining in her house by herself, and she knew of several who were thinking of leaving and going to the coast." There were officers present who admitted and deplored the existence of outrages "which they could not adequately punish, as they could not turn out the few men" who committed them with ignominy from the service they disgraced, and they could not flog them as they were not before the enemy. On another occasion the officer in command of the Queen's troops in a country as large as France said "If I am to carry out my orders I shall not have a man for duty." "Why?" asked I. "How is that?" "Because," answered Colonel— "one half of the men will be guarding the other half in the guard tents or marching them along the roads under arrest." I heard complaints from Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Greytown, Stanger-Pearson, Ladysmith, Estcourt, Heidelberg, etc., and I read reports in the newspapers of police cases and judicial trials. From other towns came stories of disorders of the most serious kind, and at last "the spirit was kindled within me and I spoke." At Middel-

burg some men of a party of one regiment passing through attacked the principal inn-keeper, knocked him down, took ten or twelve sovereigns out of his pocket, and beat him and his barman. They were not punished, because the officers promised the inn-keeper compensation. I heard the man make the statement before the Administrator. I now await the results of the enquiry, and meantime I repeat my question and ask that it may be pointed out in what I have grossly exaggerated, in what I have been "hoaxed into circulating transparent falsehoods?" The letter in which the Duke of Cambridge's attention was so usefully, I would fain hope, directed to evils which might have been heard of through other channels, and as to the existence of some of which at least official records of what had been going on in South Africa ought to have enlightened the Adjutant-General and the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, stated that it was only a few bad men in certain corps who were guilty of conduct which brought discredit on the army. The officers of that army spoke through my pen. It was their voice of complaint that I uttered. If any one ventures to say that I have made false charges against the British army my words are in evidence to convict him of gross exaggeration and transparent untruth. WILLIAM HOWARD RUSSELL, Late War Special Correspondent in South Africa.

COMMUNISM IN CANADA.

OTTAWA, Feb. 26.—As already intimated in a previous despatch, the Gaitaneu incendiary case, which has been brought to light, continues to create the greatest excitement in the vicinity of the scene of the outrage. The particulars reveal one of the deepest and darkest plots ever conceived in this district, and partakes much of the character of the reign of terror in Biddulph in its incipient stage. For many months back, dwelling houses, barns, sheds and other property have been destroyed by fire, the origin in every case being shrouded in mystery. There appeared to be no distinction as to religion, for Catholics and Protestants alike suffered. One of the victims was Mr. Joshua Ellard, ex Warden of the county, who had sawn lumber to the value of about \$3,000 destroyed. This led Mr. Ellard to take steps to ferret out the criminals, and for that purpose detective Foley, of Montreal, was despatched to the scene. His mission was a successful one, and soon he had collected sufficient evidence to warrant him in arresting a priest named Father Faure, who bore a very doubtful reputation in the district, and who had two contracts on hand for getting out logs in addition to attending to his ministerial duties. Four other persons were also arrested, named Richard, Martin, Bearie and Uhambreau. They were brought before three magistrates at the Plakanoek, and evidence was given against them by one Doyle, who had been connected with the party, he having agreed to reveal the plot if he was not proceeded against. His evidence went to show among other things that Father Faure had offered Martin \$500 to set fire to Mr. Ellard's premises. Martin agreed, but a vigilant dog prevented him from carrying out the plot. Failing to fire the buildings, he wandered a short distance away and ignited several piles of lumber owned by Mr. Ellard. Father Faure watching him apply the torch. Doyle also implicated the other persons arrested, and all have been sent to the Aylmer jail, where they await trial. Mr. Ellard and the priest had not been on intimate terms for sometime, owing to an unpleasant circumstance which had occurred after the death of Mr. Ellard's wife. It appears the deceased lady had made a dying request that her beads should be deposited in the casket with her corpse. This Mr. Ellard carried out, but it was subsequently found that the beads had been stolen out of the coffin, and Mr. Ellard threatening to exhum the body, the reverend gentleman produced them. Previous to going into lumbering, Father Faure kept a grocery store, which he sold out to Dr. Langlois & Doyle, the man who turned Queen's evidence. Some months ago the doctor had to leave for "fresh fields and pastures new," on account of being mixed up in an abortion case. Later on, Doyle's store was destroyed by fire. He had an insurance of \$2,000 on the stock. The claim will, of course, be contested. Among the other places fired were Dr. Duhamel's, Mr. Bambridge's, Mr. Grace's and Mr. Thomas'. Doyle says the plot was a Communist one, and was intended to prevent any one accumulating too much wealth. A sort of society was formed, and the places to be fired were fully discussed.

A COURT'S REFORM.—When Lord Chesterfield was in administration he proposed a person to George II. as proper to fill a place of great trust, but which the King himself was determined should be filled by another. The council, however, determined not to indulge the King for fear of a dangerous precedent. It was Lord Chesterfield's business to present the grant of the office for the King's signature. Not to incense His Majesty by asking him abruptly, he, with accents of great humility, begged to know with whose name His Majesty would be pleased to have the blanks filled up? "With the devil's!" replied the King, in a paroxysm of rage. "And shall the instrument," said the Earl, coolly, "run as usual—Our trusty, well-beloved cousin and councillor?"—a repartee at which the King laughed heartily, and with great good humor signed the grant.

AN UNEXPECTED COMET.—A despatch has been received from Dr. Gould, formerly of the Dudley Observatory, Albany, N.Y., but now director of the Cordoba Observatory, South America, stating that a great comet is in the neighborhood of the sun, passing northward. No large comet has been expected this year, and no small one at this season, Wincke's comet not being due until near the end of this year. Reports by mail are awaited with great interest. Should Dr. Gould's despatch be confirmed, a new member must be admitted to our cometary system; and possibly the nations north of the equator may also be treated to a sight of it.

Of the women who are engaged in the trades in England, besides those in the usual pursuits of woman, there are over 10,000 women machinists, 5,000 bookbinders and 4,000 shoemakers. A league has been formed in London which furnishes at its office trustworthy information as to the demands for workers in various trades. Employers of labor frequently write to the office for workmen. The league has also instituted a circulating library, a halfpenny savings bank, a reading room, a swimming club, a seaside house, a monthly journal, evening meetings, concerts, etc.