TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anonymous communications are useless to attention. Everything forwarded for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer of the same. Not for publication, but as evidence of authority. All letters to the editor should be addressed editorially, and not to any of the staff by name.
We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Daily News.

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 19.

Ellison turns from the electric light, and a rheumatism liniment to invent a white shirt of 365 layers of apparently fine white lint all one piece, needs washing but a layer in strict off every day, revealing a perfectly white glossy surface underneath. He expects these shirts can be sold for $6 a dozen. This, coming immediately after the cutting off of the supply of Chinese launderers, helps to fill what might otherwise be an aching void.

The denunciations heaped upon the tariff now in vogue and upon the many fingerers who, according to Sir Richard Cartwright, have "deliberately sold themselves" to the Conservative Party, do not seem to have had much effect upon the bank and file of the party. Mr McKelvey, last night, declared himself a protectionist, and Mr Rioard avowed his belief that the N. P. had done some good, though not as much as had been promised. Of course the proper place for men holding such views is in the Conservative Party, and, as a matter of fact, they are joining that party all over the country. What change of source have the leaders whose teachings are disbelieved and derided by their own followers!

Mr B. M. Britton, Q.C., spoke at the Grit nomination meeting last night and proved that he possessed a delicate sense of the proprieties of public life. He had been deprived of his vote by accepting a Government situation, and would be unable to assist in the canvas, but he assured his audience that his heart was with the cause for which he had worked so long. What a nice distinction! Mr Britton is too well aware of the duty he owes the public, of impartiality and of abstaining from participation in active politics, to allow his name to be voted out at ward meetings, but he thinks it is quite right to get up and give vent to his violent partisanship at a caucus. If Mr Britton is to grace a public situation for any length of time, he will have to find he will deport himself with better taste as regards politics.

Mr William Harty said last night that the workingmen of the city are not fools to be caught by lip-praise, and it is altogether likely that Mr Harty will be painfully aware of the fact about this time next month. Workingmen are to be won by their substantial interests and they know that these are with the Government of Sir John Macdonald rather than with the Opposition. The party is the conversion of leading Reformers to the ballot that Sir John Macdonald regards the signs of the times correctly and applied proper measures to the relief of our former manufacturing distress, that portends the discomfiture of Grittism both here and elsewhere. On the most important question now before the country, Grittism is a host divided against itself. The fact is ominous; Grit ascendancy means the abolition of all protective duties, and yet Grits are becoming protectionists.

OSCAR WILDE ON DECORATIVE ART

A Thin Audience—Eloquent Discourse.

The inclemency of the weather last night gave an esthetic thinness to the audience which assembled in the Opera House, which may not have been fully appreciated by the unique celebrity whose duty it was to instruct and entertain. Curiosity stood on tip-toe during the almost half hour which intervened between the hour appointed for commencing and the lecturer's appearance, but it was fully gratified when that personage advanced quietly and with stately stride from the left side of the platform to the reading-desk. Mr Wilde is tall, graceful and powerfully built, suggesting an athlete rather than an aesthete. His features are heavy and marked by great decision of character, while at the same time they are well formed and handsome. His long hair drooping over his broad shoulders "like the branches of the weeping willow," resembles a portion of his face. His costume attracted immediate attention. It consisted of a court dress of wine-coloured velvet, the coat resembling that of a Queen's Counsel in pattern, and lined with purple satin; knee-breeches, silk stockings and shoes completing the outfit. About his throat he wore a lace neckerchief which fell in graceful folds upon his bosom, spotless frills of the same material encircling his wrists. In his left hand he held a pair of lavender gloves, which he occasionally made a sort of, alternately with a paper-knife, to occupy his restless fingers. The lecturer threw his head back as he spoke, and sauntered various attitudes such as have been depicted from time to time in public prints. His voice was full and rich, but the cadence was monotonous.

Mr Wilde commenced by describing the aim of the so-called æsthetic movement in England, showing that the object of it was to surround life with beautiful objects and to introduce beauty into the ordinary useful vessels and articles of every day life to which Good work he contended was work done by an honest and artistic workman, one who worked with heart and hand, who thoroughly loved and enjoyed his labour, and whose acquaintance with nature's sweet and simple loveliness gave sufficient stores of original design. The ordinary handicraftsman was almost entirely dependent upon the influences which surrounded him for his knowledge of form and colour, and it was of the utmost importance that he should be brought with the noble productions of original minds. In passing through America he dwelt in ill-contrived and badly-decorated rooms in ugly and ill-built hotels, where the walls did not revel in the bare coldness of white plaster they received a further horror from well-papers of dismal design; upon the badly-woven carpets of unmeaning pattern was placed machine-made furniture that creaked when one sat down and cracked when one stood near the fire. But the most dreadful object that met his eye was the American stove, adorned with black cast-iron grimy roses and surmounted with funereal urns. He dilated with much good natural sarcasm upon the word "second hand" which summed up in itself all that is odious in modern furniture. If a thing were really well made it would not be necessary to deface it with time, as Gothic cathedrals are now more dearly set in the earth and more solid than when first built.

In all ages when there was a really artistic spirit abroad it had emanated from the people. Although we sometimes heard of rich things as the Grecian school of sculpture and the Venetian school of painting, yet there never really had been such a thing as an art school. There had been a perfectly diffused love and feeling for the beautiful, and human natures interpenetrated with the influence of natural loveliness. The poet gave an exquisite description of the season upon which a Venetian workman dwelt glazed, drawing down load and well-merited applause. At the present day, however, instead of the workman devising beautiful patterns and designs, he copies out of a book something that he neither understands nor loves for, consequently, he has every where unhealthily incongruity and misplaced anachronisms. Instead of this servile imitation of romantic ages, we should strive to make life a romantic age. He believed that modern sculpture was either dead or in such a condition that one wished it were dead, and its products gave us heroes in bronze frock coats and marble double-breasted vests, adding a new honour to death. No doubt much of the non-success of sculpture was due to the impropriety and ungracefulness of modern dress. There should be schools of design in every city, where workmen would be familiarised with the productions of artistic minds. If there were such schools we would no longer have hideous articles as the oil Gunn is decidedly the strongest man in the party He achieved, aided by a combination of circumstances, the victory which had been found impossible to others before him, and he is the only Grit in Kingston who could be proposed with any hope of success. The Conservatives of this city are quite satisfied that their opponents should have as candidate a man who, in the coming trial of strength, they are confident of success in spite of all the positive and negative claims of the Grit candidate. The issue to be decided is not personal animosity, they are of national interest and importance, and the leading issue of whether a moderate protection is to be given to native industry or not was regarded from different standpoints even in last night's meeting. Mr McKelvey, a practical man, stood up among the supporters of a Free Trade administration and, even while giving his adherence in a representative Free Trader, stated his belief in protection. It is the spread of similar ideas among men engaged in practical pursuits throughout the country, it is the conversion of leading Reformers to the ballot that Sir John Macdonald regards the signs of the times correctly and applied proper measures to the relief of our former manufacturing distress, that portends the discomfiture of Grittism both here and elsewhere. On the most important question now before the country, Grittism is a host divided against itself. The fact is ominous; Grit ascendancy means the abolition of all protective duties, and yet Grits are becoming protectionists.

THE

Parnellite Opposition to the Arrears Bill—

London, May 23.—In the House of Commons to day, Gladstone stated that he had seen the Chief Secretary for Ireland and the Government reasons for the introduction of trial by jury, but the matter both had carefully considered and the repressible resolution was framed, and its conditions fell contains their deliberate opinion.

Melady, aged 4, [illegible] between the who shot in the collision between the Orangemen and the Nationalists during the [illegible] outrages over the [illegible]

In the House of Commons, yesterday afternoon Mr Trevelyan said, "I suppose the suspect is not an American citizen, and has not been [illegible] writing to Mr Lowell. The Government has not offered [illegible] to Mahony or any American citizen money to quit the country."

At a meeting of the Irish parliamentary party to day, Mr Parnell presiding, the Secretary was directed to telegraph to all absentees to attend the evening of the House of Commons to oppose the Repression bill. Messrs Parnell, Sexton, Healy, Leahy and Dillon were appointed to direct amendments to the bill. This signifies a strenuous resistance.

Mr Gladstone moved the second reading of the Arrears bill in the House of Commons to day. A debate ensued. Mr Gladstone said it is impossible to compel people to buy land against their wishes. The object of the Government must be a gift. There are five hundred and eighty five thousand tenants in Ireland paying under thirty pounds rent (fortfifth valuation.) Of these two hundred thousand are excluded from the benefits of the Land Act by being in arrears. This must be remedied. He admitted that the proposal was extraordinary, but so was the state of Ireland.

Mr Forster testified to the general leniency of the landlords in Ireland, though there were individual cases of hardship. It would be of interest to the landlords to get a large number of tenants. If the poor tenants got a fair start they would become thrifty and better off, and wretchedness would no longer furnish and excuse for agitation. He believed many landlords would accept a small compensation from the tenants in order to get the Government's guaran. He strongly favoured the grant taking the form of a gift.

Mr Mulholland (Conservative) strongly opposed making a loan or a gift.

Mr Shaw hoped the bill would pass its second reading to night.

Mr Trevelyan said the bill would give tenants the great advantage of a fresh start with a feeling of independence which they did not feel before. They would have better homes, and lovely scenery of California had captivated the debate.

Mr Gladstone opposed the motion, and it was rejected by 290 to 100.

A second motion to adjourn the debate was rejected, and the third being made, Mr Gladstone said, in view of the opinion that it was hopeless to proceed. He would take the bill in the morning sitting on Tuesday instead of the Repression bill.

The House then adjourned.

London, May 23.—The amount of the arrears of rent owed by tenants in Ireland is over £10,000,000 before the Commons would wipe out a fifty million dollar debt. The immediate effect of the measure would be to save the lives of thousands of families from eviction and restore homes to thousands of families already evicted. Had not the Government stepped in, it is calculated that 25,000 would have been evicted by the end of the winter. It is reported that Harcourt threatens to resign from the Cabinet unless the Government carry through the Crime Prevention Act in the original form, and undertakes to enforce the provisions rigorously.

It is reported that Davitt's speech at Manchester destroyed all the hope of obtaining any modification of the Coercion Act.

London, May 23.—The arrears in rent bill has passed the second reading in the House of Commons.

It is stated that the action against Biggar, member of Parliament, for breach of promise will be settled by his marrying the plaintiff.

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OWEN'O HARRY

[illegible]

NEW YORK MARKETS.

New York, May 18, 1 p.m.

Stocks—Irregular
Flour—Quiet, receipts, 11,000 bbls; sales, 12,000 bbls; extra, 4.10 to 4.30; superfine, 3.60 to 4.00; spring wheat, 4.30 to 4.50 for common to choice extra state; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra western; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Ohio; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra St. Louis; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Minnesota; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Canada; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Pacific coast; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Southern; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Western; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Eastern; 4.90 to 5.25 for common to choice extra Northern