inquiries are not published in next issue after receipt.

NOTE—There is no charge for a publication in this column; but 6d each will be charged for second and subsequent publications of a notice. Correspondents should write their names and addresses plainly in all cases.

REPLIES.

KINNANE—Bridget Harte, *nee* Lawlor, Cork road, Limerick, replies to the inquiry of Kate Kinnane (*nee* Lawlor), Smythesdale, Victoria, Australia, published in *Weekly Freeman* of the 15th inst. P Lawlor, Lock quay, will please note this in reply to his inquiry.

HARTNEY, James C Hartney, Vancouver, State of Washington, U S A, replies to inquiry of Richard O'Connell, Summerhill, Nenagh, county Tipperary, published in the *Weekly Freeman* of Feb 1st, 1890.

M'CARTHY, Rebecca, of G P O, Melbourne, Australia, replies to inquiry of Mrs. Somerville, 1 Brabazon place, Dublin, published in *Weekly Freeman* of October 23rd, 1889.

O'HARA, John, Harristown, county Kildare, replies to inquiry of Peter O'Hara, Heathlawn, Killimore, Ballinasloe, county Galway, published in *Weekly Freeman* of March 1st, 1890.

FOGARTY, Alfred D C Taylor, Box 18, P M Burg, Natal, South Africa, writes in reply to the inquiry for John Fogarty by Mrs Mary Kearney, 9 Bolton street, published in *Weekly Freeman* of September 14th last, giving particulars as to his probable death.

INQUIRIES.

DOWLING, John and Dennis; left Rathangan, county Kildare, about 1854; when last heard of John was learning the hatter's business in New York; sought by their sister. Reply to this office.

CONNOR, John Kearney; emigrated from Edenderry twenty years ago; when last heard of was a horse shoer in Chicago; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

DUFFY, Thomas; seaman; native of Queenstown, county Cork; left the ship Longfellow, commanded by Captain Farridy, at Colon, Aspinwall, South America, on 13th November, 1885; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

FALLEN, Owen; left Kilronan, Arran Island, Co. Galway, in June, 1883, for Canada; last heard of from Ontario; sought by his brother. Reply to this office.

WRIGHT, John; left Ireland twenty years ago; last heard of in Pennsylvania; sought by his sister. Reply to this office.

O'KEEFFE, Thomas; left his home in Liscordan, Kilcoleman West, county Limerick, in September, 1882; last heard of four years ago in Pennsylvania; sought by his father. Reply to this office.

BLAKE, James and family, who resided near Enniskillen about 40 years ago, and who is supposed to have gone to America, is sought by his cousin, Ann Blake. Reply to this office.

MACKIN, Richard, native of Miltown, Ashbourne, county Meath; last heard of, two years ago, at Mount Gerretta, Staten Island, U.S.A; sought by his parents. Reply to this office.

M'FEE, John and Mary Ann, who left the county Armagh and settled in Norton Creek, Lower Canada, with their parents, about 35 years ago; are sought by their sister Catherine. Mary Ann M'Fee was last heard of about 17 years ago from Chicago. Reply to this office.

LYNCH, James and John, natives of Cabra, county Dublin, who left for America about 40 years ago, are sought by their sister Rosie, now Mrs Connor. John was last heard of in 1864 from Maryland, U S A; James was last heard of in 1853, from Sacramento, Cal. Reply to this office.

M'PETRIDGE, John, who left home on the 18th June with lambs for Glasgow; is believed to be dealing in cattle and sheep; last seen, six weeks ago, in the Highlands of Scotland; sought by his sons. Reply to this office.

O'LOGHLEN, Turlogh Patrick, left London, via Antwerp, for New York, two years ago; sought for by his mother. Reply to this office.

GREGG, Darby, left Bradford, England, 14 years ago for South Africa; last heard of in Bloomfonteine, Orange Free State; sought by his wife. Reply to this office.

O'HARE, Maryann, maiden name Kerwin, who left Dublin about twenty years ago, is sought for by her nephew, James Joseph Kerwin. Reply to this office.

CONAGHY, Thomas, native of Ardee, county Louth; when last heard of was living in Alnwick, fourteen years ago; age about 46; he is married, and his wife is a native of Dumfries; sought for by his brothers Michael and John. Reply to this office.

POWER, Patrick, left Waterford for England about eight years ago; last heard of on 7th April, 1887, at 30 Carlisle street, Hulme, Manchester; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

O'FAHERTY, Mary, left Ruan, county Clare, for Australia in March, 1883; when last heard of, August 15th, 1886, was married to Mark Mortimer, an Englishman, an engine-driver, residing at Newton, Sydney; sought by her father. Reply to this office.

DYER, Patrick and Maryanne, natives of Inistioge, county Kilkenny; the former last heard of three years ago at Winton, Queensland, and the latter five years ago at Brisbane, Queensland; sought by their brother. Reply to this office.

M'COWLEY, Laurence, labourer, emigrated to America; last heard of in November, 1887, at Scott House, 186 Ohio-street, Buffalo, New York; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

KENNEALLY, Edward, son of John Kenneally, a sergeant in the 68th British Foot, and his wife, Mary Finn, supposed to have gone to Michigan about 1856; sought by Joseph E Jacobs. Reply to this office.

KAVANAGH, John, left Enniscorthy, county Wexford, 21 years ago for America; when last heard of 16 years ago was with his uncle, James Doyle, at River-street, Newark, New Jersey; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

CLEAR, Julia and Theresa, left Castletown, Queen's County, in October, 1876, for America; last heard of at Bloomingdale, New York; sought by their sister. Reply to this office.

CLARKE, James, last heard of in July, 1889, from Johnstown Post Office, Westmoreland county, PA, U S A; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

WARD, Thomas, native of Clonmel, county Tipperary; emigrated to Maryborough, Queensland; last heard of in 1887, from General Post Office, Sydney; sought by his brother. Reply to this office.

MORTIMER; the relatives of Catherine, who left Westport, county Mayo, 27 years ago and went to Scotland, where she got married; are sought for by her son, who is now in America. Reply to this office.

SHORT, Mrs Frank (*nee* Kate Flanagan), last heard of at Fall River, Mass, U S A; sought by her sister. Reply to this office.

LANDY, Ellen and Kate, left Bohill, Balbriggan, county Dublin, for America, between 30 and 40 years ago; the former was married to a man named Slevin, and the latter to a man named Brennan; sought by their niece. Reply to this office.

GRATTAN, John, left Bohill, Balbriggan, county Dublin, for America, between 30 and 40 years ago; sought by his niece. Reply to this office.

KELLY, Catherine (*nee* Darragan), left Fethard, county Tipperary, about 30 years ago; last heard of 27 years ago in Adelaide, Australia; sought by her niece. Reply to this office.

[illegible]HAN, Timothy, last heard of in Fethard, county Tipperary; sought by his niece. Reply to this office.

PRICE, Margaret (*nee* Darragan), left Fethard, county Tipperary, about 29 years ago; last heard of, 26 years ago, in New York; sought by her niece. Reply to this office.

CORRY, William, left Belfast on the 29th July, 1878; last heard of at 62 President street, Baltimore, Maryland, U S A; sought by his brother. Reply to this office.

M'CARTE, Daniel, of Crebilly, Ballymena, county Antrim; last heard of five years ago in Darlington, England; sought by his mother. Reply to this office.

DWYER, Anne; last heard of at service with Mr. Robert Edlin, 49 Cross-street, Leicester, England; sought by Henry Dillon. Reply to this office.

O'HALLORAN, Mrs Patrick (*nee* Healy), native of Chappel, county Sligo; emigrated to Canada with her children and husband, a pensioner of the R I C, who returned in 1887 and died in Liverpool on the 7th January, 1890; last heard of in 1887 in Toronto; sought by William O'Leary. Reply to this office.

HART, Patrick, native of Dromore West, county Sligo; left the police in Smithstown, county Mayo, 20 years ago, and emigrated to America; last heard of a year ago in Texas; sought by his brother. Reply to this office.

HALL, James, William, Michael, and Patrick, sons of John Hall, of Ballingarry, county Tipperary; went to America about 40 years ago; last heard of 17 years ago in the State of Ohio; sought by their sister. Reply to this office.

FARRELLY, Peter, left Dublin in May, 1884, for America; last heard of a year later from Sandwich, Mass, when he stated he was going to Chicago; sought by his father. Reply to this office.

GALLAGHER, Bridget, Mary, and Owen; left Scotland respectively in the years 1851, 1853, and 1856; Owen last heard of in Oil City, Pennsylvania; sought by their brother. Reply to this office.

M'LOUGHLIN, Thomas, native of Waterford; emigrated to America with a gentleman named Duffield about fifty years ago; sought by his sister. Reply to this office.

ROONEY, Daniel, and his wife Mary; went to Melbourne on the ss Chimutz; sought by Jas Rooney. Reply to this office.

MULLDOWNEY, James, John, and Denis; left Ballahide, county Carlow, about thirty years ago; last heard of two years ago at Forest Hill, Sierra County, California; sought by their brother. Reply to this office.

CROWE, John; left Liverpool three years ago for America; last heard of in St Louis; sought by his parents. Reply to this office.

SMYTH, Denis, native of Lisburn, Co Antrim; left home in 1863; last heard of in 1865, in Sacramento, California; sought by his sister. Reply to this office.

DUNNE, Peter and James, natives of Coolquay, Parish of St Margaret's, county Dublin; last heard of in Chicago, Illinois; sought by their father. Reply to this office.

M'ARDLE, Edward, of Wapping, London; left Derry for Boston, Mass, August, 1885; worked for about a year at the Quincy House, Boston, and went from there to Hotel Raymond, South Sasadena, Los Angelos County, California; last heard of at Del Monte, California; sought by his brother. Reply to this office.

GREY, Peter, native of county Tipperary; went to New Zealand with 18th Regiment about forty-two years ago; last heard of about thirty years ago from Auckland; sought by his sister. Reply to this office.

GREY, Bridget, native of county Tipperary; last heard of, twenty years ago, from Dunedin, New Zealand; sought by her sister. Reply to this office.

DUGGAN, Margaret, native of Charleville, county Cork; when last heard of, in June, 1889, was cook in Lakeview House, Lakewood, New York; sought by her sister. Reply to this office.

KELLY, Bridget; left Ardetegle, county Carlow, for America about thirty years ago; last heard of, about four years ago, under the name of Mrs Kerr, in Brooklyn; supposed to be an innkeeper; sought by her cousin. Reply to this office.

FEELY, Patrick and Michael, natives of Oldrock, Ballymote, county Sligo; the former left the R.I.C. in 1876, and went to London, and the latter was living at Dainton, Yorkshire, ten years ago; sought by their brother. Reply to this office.

M'GARRY, James and Patrick, left county Leitrim about 40 years ago for America; the former settled in New Orleans, and became a judge, and the latter had a dry goods store in St. Louis; last heard of in 1871; sought by Catherine Dwyer. Reply to this office.

DUFFY, Patrick, native of Mullenclavan, county Monaghan; last heard of in May, 1887, in Brooklyn; sought by his sister. Reply to this office.

LAUSOM, J H, ship steward, native of Glasgow; left for Melbourne in 1879; last heard of at Mongomery's Hotel, Second-street, San Francisco; sought by his wife. Reply to this office.

KEOGH, Belinda Margaret, left Drogheda 28 years ago, on the death of her mother, to reside with her grandmother, Mrs. Hesham, in Cork; sought by her brother. Reply to this office.

NEYLAN, Patrick and Daniel, emigrated to Australia from Ennis, county Clare, 37 years ago, sought by their brother. Reply to this office.

O'SHAUGHNESSY, Maria (*nee* Neylan), emigrated to Australia from Ennis, county Clare, 37 years ago, sought by her brother. Reply to this office.

SKINNER, Ann (*nee* M'Mahon) left Clare Castle, Co Clare, for Australia about 30 years ago; last heard of 25 years ago at Ballarat; sought by her brother. Reply to this office.

M'MAHON, John; when last heard of, in 1882, was a warder in H M Prison, Tullamore; sought by a friend. Reply to this office.

CLANCY, Mary, emigrated to Australia 23 years ago; last heard of, 20 years ago, in Melbourne; sought by her father. Reply to this office.

MULLENS, Thomas, distiller, native of county Westmeath; emigrated to America many years ago; sought by his cousin. Reply to this office.

GELSHMAN, Bernard and Anne, natives of county Westmeath; emigrated to America many years ago; sought by their cousin. Reply to this office.

The Weekly Freeman.

DUBLIN: SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1890.

MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN'S NOVEL.

We have pleasure in announcing that publication of the novel, "When We Were Boys," which Mr William O'Brien, M.P., has written while confined in Galway Jail under the Coercion Act, will be commenced in the *Weekly Freeman* on April 12th next, which will be the date of its first publication in any newspaper—the publication in book form following after an interval. It is a tale of the Ireland of a recent period, a social novel dealing in a masterly manner with the Irish Revolutionary Movement of 1867, introducing striking Irish characters, while important Scotch and English individualities play a prominent part in the progress of the story.

Replete with powerfully-depicted scenes and finely-delineated characters, the interest of the reader in the story is sustained through highly-wrought developments to the end. From the beginning the plot steadily increases in dramatic force until its exciting *denouement*. The extraordinary circumstances under which the novel has been written, added to the great personality of the author, and his widely-recognised and eminent literary ability, lend features of interest to its publication not presented by any recent kindred production. The story will be continued from week to week in the columns of the *Weekly Freeman* until completed. The story is dedicated to Mr John Dillon, M.P., "in memory of anxious years and glorious hopes." The dedication amply implies the period of the story.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

THERE is an old song to be found in Dr. Madden's "Literary Remains of the United Irishmen," which tells how

> Saint Patrick, that ancient apostle of old,
> This mysterious problem did clearly unfold,
> How you by a shamrock all plainly may see
> That three may be one, and yet one may be three.

The recurrence of St. Patrick's Day in 1890 found the political mind of the Three Kingdoms concentrated on the problem for England, Ireland, and Scotland—a problem the illustration of which, while it awakens holy memories, bestirs patriotic thoughts on that day, in a sense which is not so true of the sons of St. George of England on that saint's day, or of St. David of Wales, or St. Denis of France, or St. James of Spain, or even of St. Andrew of bonnie Scotland, the sons and daughters of St. Patrick turn to their Motherland with a tenderness pathetic in its affectionate strength, which has outlived the desolation of the sword, the pestilence, and the famine. The manner of keeping St. Patrick's Day may be somewhat changed, is no doubt chastened and sobered; but that St Patrick's Day is kept by the present generation in not less honour than that with which it was celebrated by our fathers and grandfathers is honourably and steadfastly true. Irishmen, like pebbles on the strand laved by the waves from many shores, are cast upon many lands. In the great West, at the Antipodes, on the Continent of Europe, and at home, all the same they were found on Monday wearing the Shamrock; in religion and in song, in speech and festivity, they celebrated the memory of the great historic Christian Missionary, who as a captive youth for six years in the county Antrim, near the village of Broughshane, tended the flocks or herded the swine of Melchu. Dr. Stokes says that the most reliable chronology fixes the time of St. Patrick's captivity in Ireland as towards the end of the fourth century. But Christianity was known in Ireland before St Patrick. Celestius, the intimate friend of Pelagius, a Briton, the author of the Pelagian heresy, was an Irishman. He was a great wanderer, and is said to have been referred to by St Jerome in somewhat strong language as "an Alpine cur reared upon Scotch porridge." Palladius, a Frenchman, or Gaul, was sent by Pope Celestine before the time of St Patrick to Ireland, and he, landing in Wicklow, met with very slight success, and was ultimately compelled to go away. He died in Britain. Just as the Apostle Paul saw a man in a vision who cried "Come over into Macedonia "and help us," so St Patrick, as he relates in his Confession, saw in the midst of the night a man who appeared to come from Ireland named Victoricus, and he had innumerable letters upon him, one of which he gave to St Patrick. "I read the commencement of the epistle," narrates the Saint, "containing 'the voice of the Irish,' and as "I read aloud the beginning of the letter I "thought I heard in my mind the voice of "those who were near the wood of Fochlut, "which is near the Western Sea, and they "cried out 'We entreat thee, holy youth, "that thou come and walk still amongst us.' "And my heart was greatly touched, so that "I could not read any more. So I awoke. "Thanks to God that after very many years "the Lord hath granted them their desire."

The exiled race that has drifted far apart know only one aim and have one soul and one heart. Irishmen have proved to the world that 'twas falsely said they never could unite. They have drowned their feuds. It was better, as a gifted poetess wittily sung, than drowning the shamrock. On Monday in London a banquet was held at which many representative Irishmen were present, the President of the Irish National League of Great Britain, and Irish member of Parliament for one of the divisions of Liverpool, presiding, while prominent Englishmen joined them in the happy and suggestive festivity. These gentlemen truly celebrated the victory of Irishmen and Irish earnestness over British prejudice and English phlegm, and rejoice too over the vindication of the Irish Leader and the Irish Parliamentary Party from as foul charges, and their emerging safely from the toils of as base a conspiracy, as ever endangered the life of a nation. On Monday in Paris a little band of Irishmen and of the descendants of Irishmen toasted St. Patrick and the Green Isle. On Monday all over America the Green Flag was held in honour equal to that in which the Stars and Stripes itself is held. And many a boy and girl sported the green emblem fondly sent over the ocean "in a sod of the ould shamrock earth." And on Monday under the Southern Cross, too, the name of Ireland and her Patron Saint was praised in the churches of Australia's greatest cities, in one of which an Irish Cardinal and in another of which an Irish Archbishop sit enthroned. In secular assembly, too, the men who made the mission of John Dillon, Sir Thomas Esmonde, and Mr. Deasy so splendid and sterling a success celebrated the cause of Ireland and wished it "God speed." At home Irishmen are under the blade of Coercion. The shadow of the prison is on many a household. The terrible Unionist and landlord vendetta against the Irish peasantry is carried on from Cork and Tipperary to Galway and Donegal.

> God of Peace and God of Love,
> Let it not Thy vengeance move,
> Let it not Thy lightnings draw,
> A nation guillotined by law.

FATHER MATHEW.

NEXT Sunday will, we hope, be a great day for Ireland. That day has been fixed by the Archbishop of Dublin, acting in concert and conjunction with the Archbishop of Cashel and a large number of the other Irish Bishops, for the Revival of the heroic Crusade of Father Mathew against Intemperance. The new Temperance Association will be formally established on that day in the several parishes of the different dioceses in which the project has been warmly taken up. In every church of those dioceses a sermon will be preached on Temperance and its blessings—Intemperance and its curses. How many Irish homes has the excessive use of intoxicating drink made desolate! The jail, the workhouse, the ocean, and the churchyard have devoured its victims. It is the Reproach of Ireland. Its cure would do more to make Ireland a flourishing, self-dependent, self-governing nation than the discovery of a vein of gold or the delving out of inexhaustible coal mines in the land.

The Archbishop of Cashel makes a bold stroke for prosperity and Home Rule and a happy Ireland. His Grace is the Patron of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Dr. Croke has stuck to the young men through weal and woe, through evil report and good; he has appeased their dissensions, calmed their impetuosity, shielded their shortcomings, saved them from devious courses, and, above all, stimulated their healthy ardour, cheered them on in the right path, and, in a word, he has done his level best to make men of them, worthy of a country whose old prowess in the field of strength was only equalled by its gentleness in the walks of peace. The good Archbishop, with his heart full of sympathy with and pride in the young blood of Ireland, asks the Gaelic Athletic Association "for a favour." That is the way he puts it. That is his own word. He asks the members of the Association to join the Temperance League in a body. He appeals to them to enlist under its banner in their respective parishes. He suggests to them to give significance to the demonstration by enrolling themselves under their own flags, and in their own uniforms, on Passion Sunday as the Temperance Army. It is a noble, happy thought. And we believe that the generous Gaels will jump to the idea as one man. It would be the best thing that has happened in Ireland for a generation. It would be the real fruition of the National prayer, "God Save Ireland." The Volunteers of Charlemont made no more glorious muster. It would literally change the face of the country, brighten its homes, ensure its wealth, conserve its strength, perpetuate its courage, and straighten the back and uplift the head of the lowliest serf in Ireland. It would be a feather in the cap of the women of Ireland. It would be a crown for the men. The Archbishop makes a strikingly true reference to the abstemiousness of the athletes of Greece and Rome. The first principles of athleticism remain to this hour as they were before Christ. The feats of the Gaels sober would put to shame the feats of the Gaels drunk. With such a healthy, sinewy, brawny, lithe and dashing population as a recruiting body no athletes on earth could stand before Irishmen. We believe that they are willing to make the sacrifice—if sacrifice it can be called—for what do these noxious drinks bring but misery of mind and body, passion, incapacity for work, and shrinkage of the physical and mental powers? We look forward then next Sunday to see the Gaelic Athletic Association trooping its colours before the Altar of God, and marching out of the churches with those brave old colours flying, but with new colours, too, not less sacredly guarded than the original banner—the Flag of Temperance.

WINNING FURTHER.

THE Stoke Election has resulted in the return of Mr. Leveson Gower by the splendid majority of 1,231. The numbers were—For Mr. Gower, 4,157; for Mr. Allen, 2,926. It is a complete gain in every sense upon the previous contest. At the General Election in 1886 Mr. W. L. Bright polled 3,255, and his opponent, Mr. Corser, 2,093. This gave a Liberal majority of 1,162—that is, 69 less than Friday's. But Friday's poll was heavier than that of '86 by 1,735 votes, and of these new votes the Home Ruler took 902, while 833 went to the Coercionist. This, then, is the result of all the energy, all the labour, and all the eloquence which Mr. Allen's friends enlisted on his behalf. A desperate raid was made on the constituency. Coming so soon after St. Pancras and Stamford, it was felt that some of the ground lost in these two divisions would be recovered if an inroad could be made in the solid strength of the Liberal vote in Stoke. There was a danger that, secure in their strength, the Liberal electors would be apathetic, and that their abstentions would give an apparent gain to the Coercionists. And indeed a comparison of Friday's figures with those of the election in 1885 shows that the Liberal vote for Mr. Leveson Gower was anything but exhaustive. In 1885 over 600 more Liberals went to the poll, and the majority was to that extent greater. But after all where one side feels itself so superior the chances of an exhaustive vote are slender, and for ourselves—and we think the same may be said for the Liberal Party generally—a 1,200 majority in an English borough constituency carries that unmistakable ring in it which implies fixity of tenure for the victor. The contest was fought solely upon the Irish question, and the result is an additional expression of English feeling respecting the conduct of the Government on the Forgeries Report. Neither in Parliament nor in the country is there a solitary symptom of opinion favourable to the position of Ministers.

BREAKING UP.

"THE Thanes fell from me," says Macbeth in the play, when on the brink of defeat and destruction. They who had abided with him in the days of his power held aloof or took the other side when the usurper's doom was at hand. So it is with Lord Salisbury and those who have been the supporters of him and of his precious nephew. The Government have strained to the breaking point the bonds of allegiance which held members subject to the Ministerial Whips. Lord Randolph Churchill's open revolt and scathing attack they might affect to disregard, for he is prone to have his own way, and tame subserviency suits neither his disposition nor his plans. But when in the debate on the Forgeries Commission othermen of standing like Mr. Caine, Mr. Staveley Hill, and Mr. Courtney voted against them, and when twenty of their usual backers abstained from the division altogether, the situation became ominous. Immediately follows a defeat upon a question in regard to which Ministers assumed an irrational attitude, and with superb folly did their utmost to irritate a section of the community so important as the Volunteers, as well as all who have a patriotic concern for the defence of the country in case of war. Then comes the result of the Stoke election, showing that the strenuous efforts of the Tories to cut down the Liberal majority had been utterly fruitless, and on Friday night Ministers escaped by a narrow majority of four another of those demoralising rebuffs that invariably precede the overthrow of a Government, while they have been again defeated this week. It is not often that a Ministry falls all at once—only when some suddenly arising matter of supreme importance, some great question that rends asunder a majority, comes to be debated and decided. It is much more usual for a Government to crumble away slowly; now one and anon another partisan retires from the ranks; their forces are demoralised by skirmishes, whereas the effect of a pitched battle is often to consolidate them; and the natural tendency to discover in defeat the condemnation of the vanquished does all the rest. If we look outside Parliament and consider the state of feeling in the country that makes and unmakes legislators, and if we gauge that feeling by the elections—admittedly the only true as it is the only constitutional standard—we cannot but perceive that the policy of the Government is repudiated by the electors. If we confine our attention to Parliament we see that the knowledge of how popular sentiment goes has almost revolutionised the House of Commons. A year ago the enemies of the Liberal Party were numbed by the consciousness that the Ministry could command an overwhelming majority; now the Liberals are full of fight. Then the followers of the Government were insolent in the certainty of their own strength; they contemptuously gave their opponents any consolation that could be extracted from bye-elections won, and other proofs that the tide had turned; was not the Ministerial majority as solid and almost as great as ever? Now their thoughts run upon a General Election and they uneasily calculate their chances, whilst they gird at Mr. Gladstone and curse the mischievous stupidity or malevolence of their Attorney-General, and of Mr. Smith, and of "old friend" Walter. The more reputable amongst them are heartily sick of the wretched business, and such of them as are in a position to speak what they think make no secret of their disgust. We need not now anticipate the dangers that the Government must face if they mean to carry out the promise of the Queen's Speech and introduce an Irish Local Government Bill and another petty Land Bill. Their existing difficulties, and especially last week's contribution to the troubles that encompass them, justify the pregnant remarks of the *Manchester Guardian*—"It is clear that the Government "have reached one of those critical stages in "the lives of men and Governments when "everything goes wrong. A General Election "in the course of the present year is becoming "more probable every day." Think well on it, good gentlemen who fancied that Coercion would last for ever and ever, and that the sway of the battering ram and the rule of the Removables, with Mr. Balfour as general superintendent, would provide for all your needs.

It is not unlikely that the summons to a Conference of the Party, which has been addressed on Lord Salisbury's behalf to the Conservative members of the House of Commons, preludes a dissolution. The natural supporters of the Ministry were to meet on Thursday at the Carlton Club, and the Prime Minister was to occupy the position of president. So far as can be learned, as we write on Wednesday, this muster of the Tories has not been summoned merely that the Tithes Bill or of any other measure now before Parliament may be considered. Nor is it an adequate explanation that Lord Salisbury desires to meet his supporters in council at least twice a year. He has dispensed until now with any such consultation, and there is nothing in the Ministerial programme for the immediate future which seems to necessitate a modification of the haughty indifference that he has shown for the opinions of his followers. His conception of the duties of Ministers and Ministerialists respectively has been that the former should devise measures, and that the latter should vote for them. "Theirs not to reason why; theirs "but to vote and die"—at the General Election next ensuing—if we may parody the Laureate's famous lines. Until now the Premier was in a position to treat the Ministerial majority in the Commons with calm indifference. He was certain of the orthodox Tories, and he held the Dissentient Liberals in bonds more firm than party obligations ever were with them. But times have changed, and he is compelled by the exigencies of the situation to assume a less disdainful bearing. It has become plain to him, as to the rest of the world, that the party has been demoralised by persistent ill-luck and constantly recurring misfortunes. Last week the Government suffered from a series of disasters. This week comes another chapter in the tale of defeat and disgrace. On Tuesday they were soundly beaten upon a motion introduced by a Scotch member, and it was a motion of a popular character. A few weeks more of such experiences and the Government would be undone. Therefore it is necessary that Lord Salisbury should endeavour to pull the party together, and this is evidently what he means to do. According to the Press Association, "it is expected that he will use some very "plain words as to the consequences which "may ensue if the support accorded to the "Government is not in the future constant "and unswerving." That is to say, he will dissolve Parliament, and send the Conservative members to face their constituents, unless they abandon their preposterous pretensions to independence even upon minor matters. The mere threat of a dissolution will suffice to reduce many of the malcontents to surly submission, and upon no section of the supporters of the Government will it have so much influence as upon the Liberal Coercionists. Whatever may betide, their doom is certain, and the most they can do is to earn "a long day" by obsequious obedience to the mandates of the Ministerial Whip. One of the most intelligent of their number, Mr. W. S. Caine, who recently separated himself from the Government majority in the vote regarding the Forgeries Commission, declares without reserve that in his judgment a dissolution will take place soon after Easter if Ministers are wise. Mr. Heneage, on the contrary, thinks that there will be no dissolution this year, and we are sure that nothing of the kind will happen if Lord Salisbury can avert it. Apart from all considerations as to time and circumstance, it is clear that henceforth the General Election will be the event most keenly anticipated by all politicians, and that the acts and words of the Government and of the Opposition will be wrought and spoken not so much for the House of Commons as for the Sovereign People, the judges who will pronounce in return the final verdict upon the great question which for nearly four years has agitated Great Britain.

LORD RANDOLPH'S MEMORANDUM.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has given to the world his private memorandum which he addressed to Mr W. H. Smith—and through him to the Cabinet—protesting against the appointment of a Special Commission to try the charges and allegations made by the *Times* against the Irish Leader and the majority of the Irish Party. Undeniably the document, which is dated July 17th, 1888, proves that Lord Randolph possesses the gift of prescience. It does far more credit to his head than to his conscience. Even then he saw that Mr. Parnell was likely to emerge unscathed from the most strict investigation into his public life, and he was aware that, as matters stood, the Irish Leader was placed in a position of peculiar difficulty. The consideration uppermost in his mind was, apparently, the advisability of holding Mr. Parnell in the pillory. He seems to have reviewed the whole controversy in the spirit of a cynic, full of contempt for his species; and to have estimated "Parnellism and Crime" at its market value as a weapon to be employed against the Nationalists. He did not desire the prosecution of Mr. Parnell or the expulsion of the Irish members, followed by the disfranchisement of their constituencies. That, it would appear, is what Mr. Smith and his colleagues sought, and Lord Randolph's warning to them was that "prudent politicians would "hesitate to go out of their way to play such "high stakes as these." He foresaw the result of a breakdown, such as has actually occurred in the *Times* case, and he warned the Government against the possible consequences of constituting "a revolutionary "tribunal for the trial of political offenders." He discredited, as most men did whose eyes were not blinded by passion and prejudice, the findings of a tribunal selected for such a purpose by the virtual accusers, and in view of some of the findings of the three Judges his words deserve to be quoted:—"The "case of 'Parnellism and Crime' in so "far as it is not criminal is entirely "political. In any event the political "character of the case would predominate "over the criminal." Here again he was a true prophet. Events have borne out the accuracy of his forecast. What he anticipated has occurred. The Government have gambled for high stakes, and have lost. The cause of Home Rule has been advanced by the agencies that were employed to retard it indefinitely, and the decision of the three Judges upon those matters that are mainly political remain on record as his vindication. He estimated accurately the risks which the Tory Party gaily invited, and he foresaw the disaster that the Tories now sadly rue. But whilst conceding that his memorandum proves him to be a shrewd judge of politics, we cannot say that it is calculated to excite any exalted feeling of respect for him. He might never have heard that there is such a weakness as justice in the treatment of political adversaries, if we were to judge by this confidential expression of his opinions to his old colleagues. Throughout he is for expediency, as becomes an Opportunist, and for devices whereby to deceive the people, such as are sanctioned by the traditions of Tory statesmanship. Summed up in one sentence, his memorandum means—"'Parnellism and Crime' will serve; why not "leave well enough alone?" Lord Salisbury, and "old friend" Smith, and the Attorney-General, with the rank and file of Toryism, fancied that Mr. Parnell and Home Rule could be destroyed out of hand, and they resolved to accomplish the great deed by the aid of Pigott and all the other aiders and abettors of the plot. Therein they displayed their folly, whilst Lord Randolph's warnings show that if his code of political morality is not higher than theirs, his head is considerably clearer.

STRIKE.

A GENERAL strike of colliers on a gigantic scale has taken place in England. Half the artisans of the kingdom appear to be either actually on strike or on the point of striking. This is the preconceived result of the meetings of the National Miners' Federation of Great Britain, held recently at Manchester. Delegates attended those gatherings, representing one hundred and twelve thousand and sixty union men, and the number of miners generally that were represented were considerably over a quarter of a million. The delegates discussed their wants in private, and they issued an ultimatum that there should be a general increase in miners' wages of five per cent immediately, and a second five per cent on the 1st of July. The ultimatum prescribed no delay and no arbitration. The owners were to concede at once, or submit to a general strike at once. It is quite a "stand and deliver" affair. The gravity of the situation thus created has, it is true, been considerably relieved by the sensible response of some owners. Some of them promptly conceded the demand, and others after a show of hesitation yielded. Immense bodies of workmen have gone out in consequence of the delay of the owners in making a response to the men's demands; but it is believed that there will be no strike of any duration. The action of the miners cannot be complained of. Their task is a dreadful one, and it is not only laborious and constant, but it is attended by risks the terrible nature of which finds frequent and tragic illustration. The miners' strike is an incident in the relations between capital and labour. Capital has gone on accumulating at the expense of labour, and yielding sadly inadequate returns to the toiling and sweating human mass that has been the base and pivot of the capitalist. Let us hope that the confidence in the probabilities of an early termination of the miners' strike is not misplaced. It requires no effort of the imagination to comprehend the deadlock to trade which a stoppage in the English coal supply involves. And if those coalowners who have not yielded persist in holding out against the men the country may experience the formidable evil of such a deadlock.

In England the great coal strike extends. There are over 200,000 men out, and something like an industrial paralysis is threatened. In consequence of the strike at so many pits a large number of mills and ironworks and other places of business where steam power is employed are face to face with what amounts to a coal famine. Many mills have already stopped work, and others are preparing to stop in a day or two. Another result of the strike is a rise in the price of coal. The merchants on the London Coal Exchange have advanced the price of house coal very much, and fancy prices are being asked at the pit's mouth. Happily the dispute does not promise to be of long duration. The coalowners do not seem unfriendly, and, even if they were, the force of circumstances would compel them to expedite a settlement with the greatest eagerness. There was a meeting of the Coalowners' Federation in London, and while they declined to concede the terms proposed by the men, they suggested a meeting between representative committees of both sides with the object of finally settling the dispute. This exhibits a spirit on the part of the owners which justifies the anticipation of an early settlement. When the kingdom has quite cleared itself of the present strike epidemic—brought about by the great strides labour has made to assert itself against capital, tending to a more equitable readjustment of wealth—for it amounts to that—the public generally will take a new and much deeper interest than before in the formation of some general board of conciliation or arbitration to which all trade disputes may be referred. A most valuable and pertinent letter on the subject was read in the Catholic churches of Liverpool on Sunday from the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, the Bishop of the diocese. The letter, which will be found in our Liverpool Budget, and which the *Post* describes as wise, conciliatory, and Christian-spirited, was written with the object of impressing upon the priests of Liverpool the importance of the duty which devolved upon them by reason of the dock labourers' strike. But it has a general application just now, and its admonitions affect employers as well as employed. "I am sure," writes Dr. O'Reilly, "that the employers wish well to their "servants and value them. They do not "want strange hands. They know their old "ones, their fidelity, their skill, and their "industry; and they would prefer them to "any others. The men, too, I am sure, seek "only what is just and reasonable—a fair "day's work and a fair day's pay. Where, "then, it is of such deep interest and comfort "for both to live in peace and harmony, why "should they not come together, and con"sider their points of difference in a spirit of "kindliness and conciliation? Can there be "no amicable board of arbitration "instituted?" His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin has said something similar long since, and the general good sense of the public will soon insist upon the formation of some such board as that indicated in the letter of the Bishop of Liverpool.

Strikes, being misfortunes, never come singly. Fast upon the resolution of the Midland Railway employes to turn out on Friday—which, however, was happily rescinded by a settlement on Wednesday—came the notification of the builders' labourers to cease work on Wednesday, which was carried out on that day. As there are nearly two thousand builders' labourers in the city the significance of this item is formidable. It means that all building operations in Dublin are practically at a standstill while the labourers' strike lasts. We had a flavour of what this signifies during the bricklayers' strike not long ago, and, be the merits of the present dispute what they may, the experience is not of a kind to excite public satisfaction. The cause of the labourers' strike is the refusal of the master builders to meet the demand of the men for fourpence an hour, being a penny an hour of an increase upon their present scale of wages. A penny an hour of an increase appears a small thing to fight over, but from the builders' point of view it is sufficiently serious. Assuming that the men work ten hours a day, and that their numbers are, as is stated, 2,000, the increase represents an augmentation of wages to be paid by the master builders of £500 a week. That is a tidy sum, and it must cut into the profits of the employers to an extent which, we are not surprised, makes them pause at the demand. On the other hand, assuming again that the labourers work ten hours a day, their present scale of wages—namely, threepence an hour—would give them 15s a week, and no one will say that, for able-bodied workers, heads of families as many of them are, that is an income upon which they can very comfortably live and thrive. To say, however, that any remedy lies in a strike, or that both sides must not lose by a suspension of business, is the essence of absurdity. It means a dead loss to the builders, and to the labourers not only a dead loss, but also grave privation to themselves and their families.

AT the Cavan Convention on Tuesday Mr. Vesey Knox was selected as the Parliamentary successor to Mr. J. G Biggar, deceased.

MR. W. H. SMITH said on Thursday in the House of Commons that the Government will introduce their Irish Land Bill before Easter.

THE French Ministerial Crisis has come, and after running its course, the Tirard Cabinet has at last ceased to exist, another taking its place with M. de Freycinet at its head.

UNDER the title of "Tit-Bits' General Election," the paper of that name has issued coupons to elicit the political opinion of its readers. The idea is novel. It is, as it were, plebiscite of *Tit-Bits'* constituency. The result will be interesting, though not, of course, decisive.

MR. VESEY KNOX, the Nationalist nominee for the vacancy in the representation of Cavan, is, we understand, nephew to the Protestant Primate Archbishop of Armagh. The MacDermot, Q.C., and Mr. Walker, Q.C., were also mentioned for the seat, as was Mr. Vincent Scully.

IN some quarters, writes the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*, the refusal of the Irish Attorney-General to accept the vacant Judgeship is regarded as a sign that no immediate dissolution is in contemplation. This view is based on the belief that had a dissolution been near Mr. Madden would have taken the opportunity to go to the Bench.

MR. JOHN O'LEARY is writing his "Recollections." Few men have had more varied and interesting experiences or have Mr. O'Leary's striking literary gifts wherewith to recount them, and the forthcoming volume should be of the greatest value to all who are interested in Ireland and her cause. The subscription is fixed at £1 (five dollars) per copy, payable in advance to Mr. R. Barry O'Brien, 100 Sinclair Road, West Kensington Park, London.

THERE will be a dress rehearsal of the Oberammergau Passion Play, open to the public, on Sunday, May 18. The play will afterwards be performed on Whit-Monday, on each of the five Sundays in June, and twice on week-days in that month. There will be five performances in July, seven in August, and five in September. There are only a few changes in the cast. "Zwink is too old for John, and is to take the part of Judas; Peter Rendl, son of Thomas Rendl (the Pilate of 1870-80), taking his place as John; Diemer, the late Choragus, is to be Herod; Rosa Lang, the new Maria, is the Burgomaster's daughter. Flunger, who played the part of Pilate with so much dignity on the last three occasions, is dead. Lechner, whose fine acting of the part of Judas was so deservedly admired, is greatly disappointed at being passed over this year; but a severe attack of erysipelas has greatly weakened and somewhat disfigured him."

THE London correspondent of the New York *World* says—I have heard from an authentic source a curious fact concerning Mr. Gladstone. One of his most remarkable physical characteristics is the size of his head. It is altogether exceptional. Recently a trusted follower of his was visiting at Hawarden, and one evening the conversation turned on phrenology. Needless to say, Gladstone had included this empirical science in his limitless studies. "I am a bit of a phrenologist myself," said he, "and here is a circumstance that will surprise you. Within the last twenty years my head has grown considerably in size, and I can demonstrate it to you." The old man hied off to an adjoining room and returned with an old Court hat. He explained that it belonged to a uniform he had used early in his official career. Said Mr Gladstone, placing the hat on his head, "This was large enough for me when I got it; but it is much too small for me now." And so it was—it did not go down on his head at all. He confessed that the alteration in the size of his head puzzled him, and declared he had never heard of a similar case.

THE meeting of leaseholders and others which was held in Dublin on Tuesday will appeal, it is to be hoped, to the framers of the new measure of agrarian reform which is in process of incubation in the Cabinet. A resolution was passed declaring that all the exempted leaseholders from the Land Act of 1887 and all yearly tenants of agricultural lands should be empowered to go into the Court to have fair rents fixed, and that the tenants of demesne lands, town parks, building land, and pasture land should also have power to have their rents revised. In other words, Tuesday's meeting suggested what has been so often urged upon the Government, that the anomalous exemptions of the Land Acts of '81 and '87 ought no longer to be maintained, and that the Legislature should cease to recognise invidious selections of agricultural tenants who wish to have fair rents fixed upon their holdings, which were conceived in ignorance of agricultural tenure in Ireland, and which have wrought the most scandalous injustice in a great many cases. If no other instance were given but that which Mr. Grehan mentioned yesterday, it should be enough to satisfy even a Government with the proclivities of rackrenters to sweep away the narrow and iniquitous fetters of the land legislation of the past decade.

THIS was certainly hard earned money. Mary Anne and Ellen Frances Dougherty, two Irish girls in the employ of Barbour Brothers, thread manufacturers, of Paterson, have, says the *Irish American*, on deposit with that firm 16,000 dollars, every penny of which has been saved from their earnings. The girls went to America nineteen years ago and found work in the mill, where they have been since. The conditions under which this money has accumulated are remarkable, since they show the hardships imposed by labour and endured by women labourers. Few American girls could have stood the ordeal. Employed in the wet spinning room, where the moisture under foot and the steam heat overhead made it necessary, for comfort and convenience, to dispense with all superfluous clothing, they worked without shoes or stockings, wearing a sleeveless gown from one year's end to the other. In this unsightly garb the expense of clothing was reduced to a minimum, half of the twenty-four hours being spent in the mill, and, as their living expenses were covered by 3 dols, the rest of their earnings remained with the mill-owners, who, as an encouragement to thrift and industry, paid them 6 per cent interest.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S resignation of his high office as Chancellor of the German Empire must be regarded as the natural and necessary consequence of the verdict upon his policy which the people of Germany returned at the recent elections. They have grown weary of the "blood and iron" method of government, of the laws that proscribed freedom of speech, and of the officialism that has dominated the life of the individual not less than the affairs of the nation. They have been driven to accept Socialism, with all its possibilities of unutterable evil and its vague promises of better things, as preferable to the deadly despotism under constitutional forms which Prince Bismarck organised and administered during the last twenty-five years. When Ferdinand Lasalle died of the wound that he received in his fatal duel, there were few believers in his doctrines to be found in Germany. Nowadays they are to be counted by hundreds of thousands, though the Chancellor has been ruthless in persecuting them. After all, doctrines of any sort, be they good or bad, cannot be locked up in prison cells or trampled out of life under the tread of armed hosts. The Emperor of Germany, with a shrewdness for which few gave him credit, has rightly appreciated the force of the warning that the late elections convey. Perhaps he is jealous of the unique position which the founder of the German Empire occupies in the latter-day history of the country, and that, after the manner of Monarchs, the owes a grudge to the man by whose deep scheming and unceasing labour an Empire was consolidated in blood twenty years ago. His life-work was the regeneration of Germany, and he accomplished it. It was a task from which even the inspired rashness of genius might well have shrunk, and the signal success of Prince Bismarck's great enterprise proves good his claim to be numbered amongst the greatest statesmen of modern times. But in dealing with the internal affairs of the country he was entirely unsuccessful. Born a Tory, a member of the most exclusive aristocracy in the world, he has been a Tory to the last. But "the old order changeth, giving place "to the new," in Germany as in all lands where civilised men dwell; and not even the iron will of Prince Bismarck, utilising the vast resources at his command, could longer resist the pressure of Democracy.

NEW PULPIT, ST. SAVIOUR'S, WATERFORD.

This sacred edifice has lately been enriched by the addition of a very fine pulpit, the gift of Miss Barrow, of Waterford. It is of classic design, and is composed of Sicilian and Carrara marbles, relieved by shafts and inlays of coloured marbles tastily blended. On plan it is hexagonal, a very pleasing arrangement being thus secured. Panels facing nave and aisles. The panels are composed of Carrara marble, encased in very richly carved frames, moulded, beaded, and carved with acanthus leaves, and they represent Our Lord presenting the Keys to St Peter; Our Lord preaching on the mountain, St Thomas of Acquin, and St Dominick. Surmounting these panels is a carved cornice, with Sienna capping supported by Spanish Broccatilla shafts, fluted and ornamental, and having Carrara marble carved caps, with moulded bases. The floor, of one stone, is highly ornamental, and is supported by coved bracketting cut into moulded and inlaid panels, the inlays being of Sienna and Italian Greotte marbles. This stands upon a pedestal or pillar of inlaid white marble, the base of which is of Moate (Irish) marble, which, in turn, stands upon a plinth of Cork red marble, having a sub-plinth of Kilkenny black marble. The stair to pulpit is in one stone, and in itself, owing to its curved form, is an excellent piece of workmanship. At one side is a silver-plated handrail, and endado of pedestal near this is a brass plate bearing the following inscription—"This pulpit was the gift of Catherine Barrow to St Saviour's Dominican Church, Waterford, in memory of her dear deceased brother E J Barrow, and his sister Maria Ellen Barrow.—R I P." The design was prepared by Messrs Goldie, Child, and Goldie, and the work has been done by O'Neill, sculptor, Great Brunswick street, Dublin.

At a football match near Midleton on Sunday a man named Patrick Glennon had his collar bone broken by a fall.

Image © THE BRITISH LIBRARY BOARD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.