

"We take just one peep into the courtyard of the castle, approached by a path between banks of rockwork where the young ferns are sprouting abundantly. A comfortable house and garden nestle snugly in the stone wall quadrangle, guarded by a ponderous old door with ancient iron latch and primitive iron knocker. Here within these castle walls, with roses growing where erst paced the mailed feet of warriors, a country gentleman might doze away life pleasantly enough. There are chambers worth seeing in the remnant of the old fortress, the care-taker tells us; but it is not to be supposed Her Majesty's mail car will wait, so we stroll back through the little town, wondering somewhat, in this whiskey-producing land, to see rows of brandy bottles bristling in the grocers' windows.

THE ELECTIONS IN ROME.

THE NUMBER OF VOTERS.

Rome, July 16, 1874.

THE Municipal elections have been the great event of the week. With a strange disregard to decency, which is very noticeable among the present government, these elections took place this year, as on former occasions, on Sunday. That day, dedicated to worship by the whole Christian world, is chosen by the Italians for the fury and bustle which accompany an election. This event has proved in an unmistakable manner the feelings of the Romans with regard to the government. The number of voters on the city list amounts to 14,608, and out of this number there were only 4,372 voters! Where were the other ten thousand? Why did they not hasten to the polling booths to deposit their votes? They were either indifferent, or they refused to do anything from which it might be deduced that they acknowledge or are in any way satisfied with the present government.

It cannot be said that those who hold the views of the new comers are indifferent to the interests of the government, especially after the scenes of the 24th of June, and on other occasions. Then the only conclusion is that they are followers of the Pope. So, then, the 4,372 who voted at the elections represent the persons who hold to the Italian government, and the 10,226 those who hold for the Pope. But only one fourth of this 4,372 were citizens of Rome; the rest are Italians employed in the public offices, as follows: Employees, 2,500; guards of public security, 400; guards of prisons, 120; municipal guards, 150; custom house guards, 100; ushers, 150; forming a total of 3,370. Thus only 1,002 Roman citizens, in the proper acceptance of the term, voted for the Municipal Councillors! There is a logic in these numbers that appeals powerfully against those who declare that the Romans are satisfied with the Italian government. They declare how strongly attached to the Pontifical government the Romans are, in spite of the constant denial of this fact; and it is a declaration which cannot be gainsayed. The revolutionary Pianfanciari, the Garibaldi colonel, who harassed Tivoli in 1867, and who was raised to the position of Syndic, has felt himself obliged to resign. He goes travelling, it seems, to Switzerland, where he may, if he choose, confer with M. Rochefort, the editor of 'La Lanterne.'

Amongst the newly-elected councillors is Quintino Selia, the celebrated Finance Minister. It was expected that an outburst of popular feeling against Selia, so well-known for his excessive taxation measures would be made by the people, and hence the soldiers were kept in readiness to suppress any such tendencies by the use of the rifle and bayonet—the usual resource in all such cases.—Pilot.

WAIFS AND STRAYS.

IRELAND'S LOVE OF LIBERTY.—The unconquerable obstinacy, this lengthened remembrance of departed liberty, this faculty of preserving and nourishing through ages of physical misery and suffering the thought of that which is no more, of never despairing of a constantly vanquished cause, for which generations have successively and in vain perished in the field, and by the executioner, is, perhaps, the most extraordinary and the greatest example that a people has ever given.—Thierry's History of the Norman Conquest.

CHARACTER.—A lecture was recently given on "Hats." The speaker, who was a phrenologist, argued in favor of a man betraying a character by the way in which he wore his head-gear, and doing so, he demonstrated that those of a bellicose turn of mind placed their hats on one side of their heads (the soldier for instance), in order that the hat might touch the most actively developed part of the brain—namely, that of combativeness. The proud man too, he continued, would naturally wear his hat well on his forehead, resting it thus upon the apex of the parietal bones, beneath which lay the organ of self-esteem. And, continued he, the benevolent man, the person who loves his fellow-creatures, the being who delights in acts of kindness, wears his hat on the back of his head, in order that it may rest on the upper portion of the frontal sinus, where is situate the organ of benevolence and generosity. When the audience left the hall, two-thirds of them had suddenly betaken themselves to wearing their hats on the extreme back of the head. Scarcely a man was present who had not set up for a generous, benevolent, high-minded individual on the spot.

Among the names of the passengers by the mail ship Mikado from San Francisco is that of the Rev. Eugene Luckie, who returns to the Australian mission after an absence of about two years. The rev. gentleman has made prolonged tours through Europe and America, and has, we understand, at the express wish of his Grace the Archbishop of Sydney, made special inquiries into the working and results of the school systems of the several States which he visited. Father Luckie's many friends in this colony and in Queensland (he has had missions in the outlying districts of both before the separation) will be glad to learn that he is in excellent health and spirits. It will be remembered that before his departure Father Luckie was for a number of years the respected pastor of the parishes of Woolahra and Paddington.

A case of great importance to newspaper proprietors has been decided by Vice-Chancellor Little, at Liverpool. Mr. John Vaughan,

editor of the 'Liverpool Leader,' had been summoned before the registrar to answer questions as to the sources from which he obtained information appearing in the 'Leader' on the Civil Service Association. Mr. Vaughan refused steadily to disclose his informant's name, taking the responsibility of the article upon himself; and after many adjournments, the Vice-Chancellor decided that he was not bound to answer the questions.

GREAT HOME RULE DEMONSTRATION.—A great Home Rule demonstration has been held in Glasgow. A procession a mile long marched through the streets to a field outside the city, where 20,000 persons were present. The Rev. Isaac Nelson, of Belfast, declared that Home Rule prospects were bright. Attacking Dr. Ball's speech, he affirmed that the intellect and independence of Ireland were favourable to Home Rule, but lawyers getting Government situations had become loyal. He intimated his intention of stumping Ireland to criticise late speeches in Parliament against Home Rule. Resolutions favourable to federal union, condemning the incarceration of political prisoners, and strongly disapproving of the conduct of the Irish members who voted for coercion, were adopted.

The 'Dublin Evening Post' says:—"Intelligence has reached Dublin that the Very Rev. Martin Crean, O.S.A., late Prior of the Augustinian Convent, John-street, has been nominated by the Holy Father to the newly-erected See of Sandhurst, in Australia. Like all the appointments made by Rome, the selection of Dr. Crean is one that is certain to indicate the wisdom of the choice. During a lengthened career in Ireland, his lordship evidenced great zeal, distinguished ability, and acquisitions, and, need we add, sanctity, such is the invariable characteristic of the Irish priesthood. Dr. Crean goes forth, another Irish missionary, to carry the faith and the traditions of the glorious Irish Church to a distant land, and we are convinced that we are uttering a good wish, that will be echoed by thousands of those who shared in and witnessed his ministrations in the old land, in bidding him a hearty God-speed, and hoping for him many years of health and happiness in the new sphere of his apostolic toils."

The Rev. E. Brennan, C.C., acknowledges the receipt of £100 from Lord Carew, towards the erection of a curate's residence at Courmasuddy chapel. He also says he has given for the same purpose half an acre of land, free for ever, and £100 towards the erection of the Catholic Church at Courmasuddy, and that Lord Carew always contributes most munificently whenever his aid is asked by the Catholic clergy.

A number of English Roman Catholic ladies are preparing an address of sympathy to ladies in Germany for bravely testifying their devotion to their imprisoned Bishops. A meeting of Roman Catholics is shortly to be held in London to express sympathy with the persecuted Bishops and clergymen of Germany.

Twenty thousand persons paraded the streets and suburbs of Dublin at the Home Rule manifestation. Mr. Butt addressed a monster meeting at Monaghan. He said he believed that a nation like England would grant the Irish people the right to manage their own affairs.

A REGRET.—The retiring editor of a Southern paper proudly boasts that he has never been "horsewhipped, revolved, knifed, kicked, liked, bricked, pummelled, or cussed for anything I have said, written, done, left undone as an editor, and in ceasing to be one, I am filled with a melancholy sadness."

THE BISHOP OF BALLARAT.—On Sunday, August 2, the Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of Ballarat, was presented by his late parishioners of Rathfarnham with an elegant address and a generous testimonial, in testimony of their deep affection for their late devoted pastor, and expressive of the sense they entertain of the loss of his efficient ministrations. No pastor could be more beloved by all classes, and no parish priest could be more ably seconded by zealous curates.

JOHN MITCHELL.—The Dublin 'Nation' of August 8th, says:—Mr. John Mitchell has been invited to a public banquet which the people of Cavan are about to give their Home Rule representatives; but he has written declining the compliment. He is positively determined to avoid all public demonstrations, desiring to seek in quiet retirement, in the midst of the kindred and friends of his native scenes, the rest and strength which he so much needs at present.

CONVERSION OF A FREEMASON.—The Catholic union of Ireland reports that the head of the Masonic Lodge of Besançon has died in that town. Early in his illness he eagerly asked for the ministrations of the priest, and declared himself ready to abjure the order. Word to this effect was hurriedly dispatched to the lodges of Paris, Strasbourg, Mulhausen, and "brethren" were sent in hot haste to dissuade him from his purpose. But it was all to no avail, and the missionaries of "the craft" returned discomfited. He made a public renunciation of Masonry, prepared himself for a worthy reception of the Last Sacraments, which were administered to him, and died a most edifying death in reparation of the scandals he had given.

England has now the largest gun in the world. It was cast at the Woolwich Arsenal, and weighs 80 tons. This monster piece of ordnance carries a 16in. projectile, weighing 1650lbs., a distance of 10,300 yards—nearly six miles—and takes 300lbs. of powder for a charge. The gun cost about £5800.

The Bonapartist organs are endeavouring to show that the Emperor is not responsible for the capitulation of Sedan. General Wimpffen, who was in command on the day of surrender, states, however, that the Emperor ordered the firing to cease, while General Wimpffen was still on the field of battle, that he hoisted the white flag without his knowledge, and that he sent a flag of truce to the King of Prussia. The General, on subsequently returning to Sedan, sent in his resignation, without any allusion to his having been practically superseded, but the Emperor wrote the following reply:—"General, —You cannot resign when the question is still that of saving the army by an honourable capitulation. You have done your duty all day. Do it still. It is a service which you are rendering to the community. The King of Prussia has acceded to the armistice, and I am waiting his proposals."

The Irish rifle team sailed for New York on September 5, to contest a match with the American team.