

GENERAL NEWS.

WORKINGMEN'S PEACE ASSOCIATION.—At the second meeting in Paris, Mr. Arch made a speech, and insisted on the power of the working-classes, if they would only petition perseveringly in spite of rebuffs, and on the identity of their interests in all countries. Four more resolutions were carried, the second declaring that the present armaments of Europe are an unbearable burden on the people, and calculated to lead to war; the third—on which Mr. Arch spoke—affirming that the workingmen of all countries should "organise a movement for the purpose of securing permanent peace," and should vote only for the candidates who pledge themselves to support the principle of arbitration; the fourth inviting the Workingmen's Peace Association to take the initiative in this organisation; and the fifth recommending a propaganda in favor of the cause. The second resolution was carried with only one dissentient; the third unanimously, after a French member had fruitlessly endeavored to obtain from the Conference a resolution in favor of Republics everywhere; and the fourth and fifth also unanimously. There were only about five Frenchmen present, a fact which gives the measure of the interest which the movement has aroused in Paris; for, if the French workmen had really cared about it, the rule about admission by ticket would certainly not have prevented a far more numerous attendance. The Paris correspondent of the 'Times' says:—"How little Parisian journalists often know of what passes in their own capital is shown by a paragraph in a paper published recently, which states that M. Arch, the great English agitator, yesterday, in London, addressed English workmen, members of the Peace Society. Would the editor be surprised to hear that this speech was delivered in Paris, and was ostensibly addressed to French workmen, though Englishmen formed the majority of the audience? As will be inferred from this blunder, the English Peace Mission has attracted very little notice in Paris."

SIR RICHARD WALLACE AND HIS IRISH TENANTRY.—A large and influential deputation of the tenantry on the Hertford estate has waited on Sir Richard Wallace, Bart., and presented him with an address expressive of the happiness and security enjoyed by the tenantry under his rule. Sir Richard, in replying, referred to a rumour which had gained currency respecting his intention to dispose of the Hertford estate, and said it was quite true he had entertained the idea of selling a portion of the property, and with that view had been taking proceedings to obtain a parliamentary title. As great facilities were offered by the Irish Land Act to tenants for the acquisition of their farms he thought that perhaps the tenants might be glad to purchase their respective holdings, and thus become their own landlords. However, he had no intention of severing his connection with them. A liberal offer had been made for the whole of the property, but he could not make up his mind to accept it. He would endeavor to promote and develop the interests of the tenantry in every possible way.

NARROW ESCAPE OF MR. SULLIVAN, M.P.—Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M.P., nearly lost his life while bathing off the rocks at a wild and dangerous part of the Irish coast, between Kilkee and Loop Head. He was overpowered by an enormous breaker, and despite desperate efforts to save himself by clutching the rocks he was rolled and dashed helplessly along the ledges beneath the cliff, and eventually into the deep water beyond. Although much hurt and bleeding all over Mr. Sullivan succeeded in swimming to shore. His body was much torn and lacerated, but he received no really serious wounds. On his arrival late in the afternoon at Kilkee the town was illuminated. Tar barrels were placed round the circular sweep of the bathing strand, and a band and banners escorted the hon. gentleman's carriage to the house of the parish priest, where speeches were delivered.

CARDINAL MACCLOSKEY.—The Pope recently gave an audience to Cardinal MacCloskey. His Eminence was accompanied by his secretary and the Rector of the American College, and his arrival was awaited by two Cardinals and several prelates in the Throne-room of the Vatican. The new Cardinal was immediately ushered into the Pope's private apartments, and his Holiness on his entering rose and embraced him. The Pope and the Cardinal remained together alone for half an hour.

A "GOSHA" LADY.—It has been stated by several of the Indian papers that the Princess of Tanjore intends to pay her respects in person to the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his Royal Highness's visit to Madras. This report is, however, authoritatively contradicted. It may not, says the 'South Indian Times,' be generally known that the Princess is a "gosha" lady, which, being interpreted, means that her husband is the only favored individual of the sterner sex who may behold her and live. If her Highness, therefore, did determine to visit the Prince, she would have to gaze on his Royal countenance, and converse with him through the keyhole of some retired apartment adjoining his reception-room. This arrangement, it is considered, would be both awkward and inconvenient. There are, however, many women in this country—not "gosha" ladies—who, in the pursuit of knowledge, are not above applying both eye and ear to the keyhole, and derive much pleasure and consolation from the practice.

THE CAVOUR FAMILY EXTINGUISHED.—The Marquis Eynardo Benso di Cavour, the last male representative of the family of the great statesman, is no more, and with his death the family becomes extinct. The Marquis Don Michele Giuseppe had two sons, Gustavus and Camillo. In 1860 Camillo died without issue and unmarried. Four years later his brother Gustavus died suddenly. Gustavus had two sons, one of whom died in the war in Lombardy in 1848, and Eynardo remained to inherit the riches of his father and uncle. He was well and carefully educated, had considerable talent, but avoided politics and public life. He stood once for a seat as Deputy in the Sardinian Chamber, but had few votes. He was not a Freemason, was by some considered to have leanings towards an ecclesiastical career, and was extremely charitable.

The race of Cavour may be said to be extinct. So much for those who aspire to thwart the will of the Almighty. It is the old, old—very old—story. Judas betrayed the Saviour of mankind, and soon after Judas hanged himself. Count Cavour may be thanked for the spoilation of the Church of Christ, and the indignities to which his Holiness, the saintly Pío Nono, has been subjected, and the race of Cavour has become exterminated. Yet, according to all accounts, up to Count Cavour's time there was no more happy prolific family. For centuries the family of Cavour produced a succession of marquises and counts. And now we hear of the death of the male branch of this old family. Worldlings will see nothing in this; but if they look back impartially to the history of Christianity—if they study the careers of the successors of the first Pope of Rome, the ever-memorable St. Peter—they will see many a miracle and sequence in all; and if their innate bigotry is not too firmly established, they cannot fail to notice the repeated fulfillments of the promise of Christ, that he should be with His Church even unto the consummation.

NUNS AS WORKHOUSE NURSES.—At a recent meeting of the guardians of the Waterford Union, Major O'Gorman, M.P., moved that the Infirmarian Nuns, or Sisters of Mercy, be appointed nurses in the workhouse hospitals. The hon. and gallant gentleman read a number of letters from the chairmen of unions where there were nuns acting as nurses, showing the great amount of good they were doing, and said he was sure their appointment to this union would be productive of much benefit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clappett, a Protestant Guardian, and was carried by 32 to 5, the majority comprising five Protestant members. The result is mainly attributable to the unceasing support given to the movement by Alderman Redmond, who originated it.

The 'Avenir des Landes' says the Jesuits have bought the estate of Beaumont, near Pau, where they will erect a free university.

A telegram from Madrid states that at the instance of the Supreme Court, the Minister of Justice has decided to place the Bishop of Urgel at the disposal of the judicial authorities. He will, however, be kept in a place to be fixed upon by the Government, where he will remain as a prisoner of war.

The Irish Census extended to religion, and the result is a list of nearly 150 forms of faith. Nine-tenths of the people range themselves in five classes:—4,153,867 Roman Catholics; 667,993 Protestant Episcopalians; 497,648 Presbyterians; 43,441 Methodists. The remaining 52,423 belong to "other denominations." Among them are 1538 Covenanters; 2600 Brethren and Christian Brethren, the majority of them women; 6 Exclusive Brethren, 3 of them women; 40 Non-Sectarians; 4 Orthodox; 5 Christadelphians; 5 Humanitarians; 44 Christian Israelites; 33 Mormons and 10 Latter Day Saints, 17 of them women. A few call themselves followers of some more or less known man; there are 10 Darbyites, 9 Puseyites, 6 Walkerists, 5 Morrissonians, and 1 Kellyite. There are 60 Free-Thinkers, 49 persons of "no denomination," 16 Deists, 6 Theists, 1 Atheist, 8 Secularists, one Materialist. When we come to count "single persons," we are in a labyrinth of varieties. There is an idiomite, a Reformer (a woman), a disciple of "natural religion," a philanthropist, a saint of no sect, a protestor against all priestcraft, a latitudinarian, a Socialist, a Sabbatarian, a Buddhist, a Mussulman, a True Moslem, a Confucian, a Pagan. Four men and one woman describe themselves as "undetermined" or "undecided;" and there remain, after all, 830 males and 214 females whose religious profession is entirely "unspecified."

The news comes from Melbourne that scarlet fever is doing the work of wholesale destruction; entire families are swept away. Not only is the city of Melbourne scourged with this fatal disease, but many of the up-country towns are similarly, though to a less degree, afflicted. So great is the alarm in Melbourne that the most active steps are being taken to enforce all the sanitary measures enacted, while new ones have been created, the most important of which is providing for the entire abolition in every town and borough of those abominations—cesspools. With the view, too, of instructing the people upon the subject of hygiene, the Health Officer of Melbourne is engaged in giving free evening lectures in the principal hall of each ward in the city.

The Melbourne 'Daily Telegraph' in a recent issue says:—"Philosophers have quarrelled about the surest sign of civilisation. There is no occasion for the dispute. The test is the presence of flower-gardens. The love of flowers is universal, but it increases steadily as a nation grows in refinement and taste until at last no home is complete without these ornaments. They furnish the cottage, they add grace to the mansion. A house without a garden, and a room without flowers, come to be equally abhorrent. The bride is decked with flowers. They are the favourite gift from a friend, and the sick welcome nothing more than their presence. And the last sad office is to deck the grave with flowers. They come to be interwoven with joy and sorrow."

The Timaru 'Herald' says:—It is not generally known that there exists in South Canterbury an unlimited quantity of the finest marble. Our attention has been drawn to two splendid samples procured from the Kakahu, and polished by Mr. George Munro, sculptor, of Dunedin. One specimen is green, and the other of a dove color, a handsome grain running through each. Our informant states that the marble, of which there are several shades, is equal to the best Sicilian and French sorts, and that it is by far the best discovered in the Southern Hemisphere. Mr. Munro has taken a lease of a piece of country on the Kakahu, and intends to convey the marble to Dunedin, and polish it there. If the marble is as good as it is described to be it cannot fail to become an important article of export from South Canterbury.

The cost of the last session of Parliament is estimated by Mr. Luckie, M.H.R., at £30,000. Of this sum no less than £16,500 is for actual payment in cash to members for their expenses, in addition to a sum of £1,050 for their passages to and from their places of residence and the capital. To Bellamy's is voted £400 for furniture, and £500 as a special subsidy; to say nothing of free gas, firing, &c.