

in a few moments a servant appeared, saying, "Mrs. Hartland was waiting for Miss Rosine."

"Here, sister," said the Doctor, stooping over her, "just put your right arm about my neck."

"O, Ned, thank you, but I can walk perfectly well," she replied.

"Two flights of stairs in your weak state might hurt you seriously," he said, still retaining his position; "if the Colonel were here he would carry you; as it is, you must accept of my services."

Rosine saw there was nothing to be gained by resistance, and she yielded.

"There, mother," said the Doctor, as he landed her in her own apartment, "just assist this little woman to undress, she must literally go to bed for at least two days; in the meantime, shall I say," he added, whispering to Rosine, "don't let any one be admitted?"

"No; please Ned," she said, beseechingly, "do let Laura come just once to-morrow."

"I will see how you are in the morning; take this," he replied, giving her a powder, "and don't trouble yourself about anything or anybody, but just stop thinking and go to sleep, and you'll be about again in a few days; but if you are not careful you will bring on a nervous fever, which is one of the most uncomfortable and uncontrollable of difficulties—so I caution you. Good-night."

IRELAND AS SHE IS.

As evidence of the greatly improved condition of Ireland it is stated in Thomas's Almanac (a modest name for a most exhaustive annual report upon Irish trade, industry, agriculture and commerce), that last year the amount deposited in the Irish Savings Banks was an increase over the previous year of £980,000. In ten years the increase has amounted to £12,067,000, and the amount of savings on deposit in the various Saving Funds upon the 1st January, 1876, was £121,718,000, or about \$600,000,000. In comparing this statement with that of January, 1846, we find the savings of the Irish working classes have increased five-fold in thirty years—this in the face of a decrease of three millions in population. The consumption of spirits in Ireland bears a curious ratio to the increase of savings. In the past ten years the decrease in the consumption of liquor has been twenty per cent., the amount of liquor not thus drunk turned into money, is almost the exact equivalent of the sum added to the Savings Bank account of the Irish workers. Pauperism has fallen far and away below that of England and Scotland, and now hardly exists in Ireland, save in the form of street begging, by cadgers and mendicants, who are professionals, and until the whole tribe is stamped out, will follow begging not through poverty, but as a profitable business. Education by means of the National and Christian Brothers' Schools, is now so general that within the past ten years, the educational status of Ireland has leaped up alongside that of Belgium and Holland—standing in the second rank after that of Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway—and in the same group as Belgium, Holland and Scotland—leading the latter nearly three per cent. in 1874, and far in advance of England, which strangely enough has retrograded, not only relatively, but actually, in her educational standard in the last decade. There are many cases operating to produce these beneficent results: social, economic, and political. The great decrease of drunkenness, the equally large growth of many branches of manufacture, must be credited with these consequences. Lace making has become an almost universal industry in the midland and south-western parts of the Island, where the Celtic element, with its aesthetic talent, most predominates. The manufacture of machinery, the building of iron steamships, and the immense linen production of Ulster, radiate from Belfast, through the northeast. Cambrics, much of them sold in this country as French, and hosiery, are made in yearly increasing quantities, in the vicinage of Dublin and the adjacent town of Balbriggan.

It would be unwise and unfair to examine the political causes of the growth of Irish prosperity.

The criminal neglect of England during the famine of 1846-7, by which 2,000,000 of human beings died of starvation and typhus, made her answerable to the public opinion of the world. One of the unanswerable counts in the world's indictment against England, were the ships freighted with the magnificent contributions of the American people. Another was the collection made at Mecca, by a pious Mahomedan Pilgrim, for the starving Irish Gaiour, as one of God's creatures. England, playing the role of informer in India, China, Italy, and our Catholic States, was so jeered, snubbed and laughed at as a hypocrite, that it became necessary for her to face the "Irish Question." As all great questions go back to an agrarian one, the land tenure was first looked to. It was found that in Ireland the law of entail must go, and "Tenant Right" be admitted as legal, or face a civil war, which would extend to every demesne, by means of the tenantry, and to the country by the help of Fenian organizations. The "Encumbered Estates Act" passed, and under its operation up to 1874, five-eighths of the soil of Ireland has passed from the nominal ownership of the titled landlords to the native farmers who tilled the land again. The whole tithe system has been abolished—or, in other words, the unaccountable injustice of compelling Dissenters to support an Established Church, has been declared illegal. A liberal and most munificent Corporation Act has been passed; indeed, very much has been done to promote the advancement and growth of well ordered freedom.

The one dream of the Irishman has been unaccomplished—separate nationality. As political knowledge broadens, it will become a question for even the most extreme Irish Nationalist to debate, whether a Federal Union of the three nations of England, Ireland, Scotland, and their colonies and dependencies in Europe, would not, after all be better for Ireland. This would be a saving of the distinct nationality of the Island, wherein she would treat, and be treated, as the peeress of her rivals. It is, however, a matter of congratulation

that the dear old land is fast winning the position she occupied in the early mediæval time.

To our people of this land we say, be of good heart; in the "old house at home" wonders are being done. If the progressive growth in sobriety, education, wealth, industry, and their concomitant virtues and advantages continue, we can forget the past, and challenge to an honest race in the future, any nation of Western Europe.—'Wilmington Herald.'

SINGULAR SAGACITY OF THE WILD BEES OF SURINAM.

A SINGULAR story is related by Stedman, the traveller in Surinam, to show that bees know those who live about their nests. He says: "On one occasion, I was visited at my hut, by a neighboring gentleman whom I conducted up my ladder; but he had no sooner entered my aerial dwelling than he leaped down from the top to the ground, roaring like a madman with agony and pain, after which he instantly plunged his head into the river. I soon discovered the cause of his distress to be an enormous nest of wild bees or *wasse wasse*, in the thatch directly above my head, as I stood within my door, when I immediately took to my heels, as he had done, and ordered the slaves to demolish them without delay. A tar mop was now brought, and the devastation just going to commence, when an old negro stepped forward and offered to receive any punishment I should decree if any one of these bees should sting me in person. 'Massa,' said he, 'they would have stung you long ago, had you been a stranger to them; but they being your tenants, and allowed to build upon your premises, they assuredly knew both you and yours, and will never hurt either you or them.' I at once assented to the proposition, and tying the old black man to a tree, ordered my boy Quaco to ascend the ladder, which he did, and was not stung. I then ventured to follow; and I declare, upon my honor, that even after shaking the nest, which made its inhabitants buzz about my ears, not a single bee attempted to sting me. I next released the negro and rewarded him for his discovery. This swarm of bees I afterwards kept as my body-guard. They have made many overseers take a desperate leap for my amusement, as I generally sent them up my ladder upon some frivolous message when I wished to punish them for injustice and cruelty to the negroes—which was not seldom. The same negro assured me that on his master's estate was an ancient tree, in which had been lodged, ever since he could remember, a society of birds, and another of bees, both living in the greatest harmony together. But, should any strange bird come to disturb or feed upon the bees, they were instantly repulsed by their feathered allies, and if strange bees dared to venture near the birds' nests, the native swarm attacked the invaders and stung them to death."

DOM PEDRO.

Dom Pedro, the Emperor of Brazil, who was received with national honors in New York, last week, is a Catholic monarch of very remarkable character. He was installed as Emperor of Brazil by the abdication of his father in 1831, at the early age of six years, was declared of age July 23, 1840, crowned July 18, 1841, and married September 4, 1843—when but 18 years of age—to a Sicilian princess three years his senior, Theresa Christina Maria, a younger sister of Queen Christina of Spain. Their only living offspring is the Imperial Princess Isabella, of Brazil, born July 20, 1846, who was married at the age of 18 to the Count of Eu, a son of the Duke of Nemours, and a grandson of Louis Philippe, King of the French.

The imperial princess has one living child, a prince born at Rio Janeiro in October last. In the full vigor of life (he has just past his 50th year), of Herculean mould, standing over six feet and three inches in his stockings, with a well-proportioned frame, hardened and developed from his earliest youth in all manly and athletic exercises, Dom Pedro on horseback at a review might be fairly matched as an ideal emperor with the late Nicholas of Russia himself. But he is also one of the most accomplished and one of the most conscientious of the rulers of men. From his earliest years he showed a rare passion for study, and made great progress, especially in the exact sciences, in the military art, in Mechanics, and in natural history.

He is a fine linguist, speaking French, Spanish, English, German and Italian, as well as his native Portuguese. In Brazil he is equally loved and revered. His reign has been marked by a steady development of all the best interests of his empire, and his influence has been steadily thrown on the side of liberal reform in the institutions, as well as of material improvement in the social and industrial condition of Brazil. The manners of the emperor are simple and dignified, and his personal habits rather those of a quiet English gentleman than of a tropical prince. Foreigners complain of the court as more than republican in respect to the absence of pomp, ceremony and display; but the Brazilians are well pleased with a sovereign who thinks more of bettering the condition of his people than of dazzling travellers at their expense. Dom Pedro has labored hard to promote immigration into Brazil, and therefore has thrown all the weight of his convictions and his example against the institution of slavery. In 1871-72 Dom Pedro made a visit of eight months to Europe, during which he devoted himself with the ardor of a private student to the investigation of everything that could tend to the advantage of Brazil. He astonished specialists in every European country by his minute and fresh acquaintance with their own subjects, and everywhere made the strongest impression by his intellectual ability, his amenity and his utter freedom from pretensions of all kinds. In London he was particularly liked. By eight in the morning he always got through his breakfast, and was in his carriage visiting all manner of interesting localities long before the fashionable English world had got through with its coffee.—'Pilot.'