

had since been informed that 'Answers' is under the same management as the 'Daily Mail.' Manifestly there is a fault of memory on one side or the other. The interviewer affirms on oath that Lord Ashtown was informed when dictating the article that it was intended for publication in 'Answers,' and that he gave his signature to be placed beneath it; and Lord Ashtown has sworn that he did nothing of the kind. It is difficult to imagine that he forgot the incident, because he is no novice in press matters, being the editor of a periodical called 'Grievances from Ireland,' which is circulated in England.

WEXFORD—Proposed Memorial

Nearly £1000 have been subscribed for a memorial to the late Venerable Archdeacon Furlong, P.P., Gorey, which will take the shape of schools for the boys and girls of the parish, whose welfare he ever had at heart.

GENERAL

The King of Portugal

The King of Portugal has expressed his intention of offering a prize at next year's Oireachtas for an Irish marching tune. King Carlos has been interested in Irish affairs by his Excellency The O'Neill of Lisbon, who has for years past been a generous friend of the Irish language, and who is the King's secretary. The particular shape which the King's interest takes is due to Dr. W. H. Grattan Flood, whom, by the way, Gaels have been congratulating on the degree 'honoris causa' recently conferred upon him by the Royal University.

Seeing Ireland

The 'Daily News' refers rather sarcastically to an enterprising party of one hundred Londoners who have undertaken to go to Ireland, 'do' Killarney, and return to Cockneydom within forty-eight hours. 'Still,' says our contemporary, 'the experiment serves to show how near to London the Kerry Lakes are brought. The man who has a fortnight to spare can now spend more than twelve days between Killarney, Glengariff, and Dingle Bay, and in visiting Blackwater, Parnassilla, Derrynane, and a few other of the Beauties of Kerry.' Our London contemporary (remarks the 'Irish Weekly') ignores the most serious possibility of this forty-eight hours' 'there-and-back' trip. What about the newspaper articles—perhaps whole books—on all Irish affairs which may be expected from many of the scurrying 'explorers' when they have finished their adventurous journey? There is not a man amongst them who will not hold himself better equipped to write about Ireland—or to govern it—than 99 per cent. of his countrymen when he returns home, and very justly, too.

The Commonwealth and Home Rule

The London 'Times' of September 21 published a letter from Mr. Richard A. Crouch, dated Parliament House, Melbourne, August 7, criticising a letter published in the 'Times' last May, from a number of members of a body called the Protestant Electors' Committee, which was written to show inter alia that the resolutions of both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament in favor of Home Rule for Ireland were not representative of Australian public opinion. Mr. Crouch says:—The universal Australian support of Home Rule flows from the democratic instincts of its people, and from its sympathies with all developments of Imperial unity. With us the Home Ruler is the true Imperialist and loyalist, because his efforts are directed to the attainment in Ireland of local contentment and its consequent Imperial loyalty and stability. Referring directly to the resolution passed in favor of Home Rule, Mr. Crouch says:—The motion was carried not only in the Senate, but in the House of Representatives by a majority of 39 to 27 out of a total membership of 75. Of the 39 who voted for it, only five were Roman Catholics, and only two of these Irish-born. The majority included the Prime Minister (Mr. Deakin) and twelve Ministers or ex-Ministers of the Commonwealth. The minority at the succeeding election used every effort to raise sectarian feeling, and tried in every way to make Home Rule an election issue. The self-appointed Protestant Electors' Committee advertised daily the names of those who had voted for Home Rule. With what result? That out of the 39 who had voted for Home Rule, including as they did two members who were appointed to the High Court Bench and did not seek re-election, 31 were again returned by the constituencies at the general election last December. Of the 27 members who voted against Home Rule, 17 only were returned to the new Parliament. Mr. Crouch adds that he himself, as a Protestant and a Home Ruler, was returned by the largest majority he had ever received.

People We Hear About

A world's record was broken on September 7 at the Jamestown Exposition by John J. Flanagan, of New York, who hurled the 56lb weight 38ft 8in, beating his own record by an eighth of an inch.

The British Government has decided to give Mr. Bryce, the Ambassador to the United States, a salary of £10,000 a year. This is the same as that paid to Mr. Roosevelt as President of the United States. The previous salary of the British Ambassador at Washington was £7,800. Mr. Bryce also gets an installation allowance of £2,000. The following list shows the salaries of the remaining British Ambassadors:—Paris, Sir Francis L. Bertie, £9,000; Vienna, Sir Edward Goschen, £8,000; Berlin, Sir F. C. Lascelles, £8,000; Constantinople, Sir Nicholas O'Connor, £8,000; St. Petersburg, Sir A. Nicholson, £7,800; Rome, Sir E. H. Egerton, £7,800; Madrid, Sir M. W. de Bunsen, £5,500; Tokio, Sir Claude Macdonald, £5,000.

Sunday, September 22, was the birthday of Abdul Hamid, Sultan of Turkey, and it is a remarkable fact that this potentate, who is said to live in daily fear of the assassin's knife, is one of the longest lived monarchs in Europe, and has reigned for a longer period than any of his predecessors for nearly 250 years. King Oscar of Sweden is thirteen years older than the 'Commander of the Faithful,' the Emperor of Austria can give him twelve years, King Leopold of Belgium only seven, while King Charles of Roumania and Prince Nicholas of Montenegro are respectively three years and one year older than His Majesty. Five Kings of Europe and four foreign potentates have a longer record on the throne. The Emperor Francis Joseph has now reigned for fifty-nine years, King George of Greece for forty-four years, Prince Nicholas of Montenegro for forty-seven, King Leopold for forty-two, and King Oscar of Sweden (over that part of his dominions which remains to him) for thirty-five years. Abroad the Sultan's superiors are the Mikado of Japan, who has forty years of rule; the Emperor of China, with thirty-two years; and the King of Siam and the Rajah of Sarawak, each of whom has thirty-nine years to his credit.

Among the Birthday honors was that of a knighthood conferred on Mr. Charles Santley, the distinguished Catholic singer. Sir Charles Santley is perhaps the greatest singer that England has produced. He was not only a great singer, but a great artist, and has done more than any other English singer to raise the national standard. He is now in his seventy-third year, and has been more than half a century before the British public. On May 1 he celebrated the golden jubilee of his first public appearance. The occasion was celebrated by a benefit concert at the Albert Hall, London, at which Madame Albani, Madame Suzanne Adams, Madame Clara Butt, Madame Ada Crossley, Miss Fanny Davies, Mr. Edouard de Reszke, Herr Kreisler, Mr. Coates, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, and Mr. W. H. Squire appeared. On that day Mr. F. J. Harford gave notice in the Liverpool City Council of a motion to confer the freedom of his native city on Mr. Santley. As a result of the concert the veteran baritone was handed a cheque for £2,000. Sir Charles Santley visited New Zealand in 1890 and sang in the principal centres, taking part in oratorio at the Dunedin Exhibition.

The success of the turbine engine for steamers makes it of interest to recall some facts about the family of the inventor, as narrated by a correspondent of the Boston 'Pilot':—Charles Algernon Parsons, the inventor of the Parsons turbine engine, is the son of the Earl of Rosse, who some years ago built on his estate in Parsonstown, Kings County, Ire., an observatory in which he placed a telescope at a cost of over £20,000. This Earl of Rosse was a member of many scientific societies in Ireland. But perhaps of all the relations the connection of Sir Lawrence Parsons, his grandfather, who was a member of Parliament, and sat in the Irish Parliament at various times for Dublin University and for King County, in the last years of that Parliament, is of most interest to readers of the 'Pilot.' Theobald Wolfe Tone, in his memoirs, tells us that his first instructor in Irish national principles was Sir Lawrence Parsons, whom he (Wolfe Tone) considered the most honorable member in the Irish Parliament. Sir Lawrence Parsons, in his actions and work for Ireland, came as near to being a United Irishman as could a man who was not one. And Irishmen are proud to honor his memory as being the man who sought the best interest of Ireland.

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