

girl will work up in a year the wool of 225 sheep. The difference between a carpet produced in this way is much the same as that between an oil painting and a colored lithograph. The method requires human thought in the process; it is, therefore, an industry which cannot be superseded by power loom.

TIPPERARY—Prospective Mining.—There is at least a prospect, says the financial writer of the *Echo*, of some attempt being made to exploit Ireland's mineral resources. The Hibernian Development Co., we gather from interesting notes in *British Mining*, have taken over the Silvermines property in the County of Tipperary. This particular mine is supposed to have been discovered in 1690. What the old mine is going to produce is not clear, but both silver, lead, and quicksilver have been extracted from it, according to what we must term tradition.

TYRONE.—In Memory of the Inniskillings.—The officers of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers stationed at Dover gave an amateur dramatic performance entitled 'The Jacobite' on January 17 and 18 in aid of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers' Memorial Fund. The memorial, which is to perpetuate the gallantry of the regiment at Peter's Hill, will take the form of an Irish cross in stone, and will be erected near the railway station at Omagh, the headquarters of the regiment. Of the 21 officers of the regiments who went into action on that day nine were killed and only four escaped unwounded. Of the men 227 were killed. It was the task of the Fusiliers to hold the front while the turning movement was being made, and they were 72 hours facing the enemy.

GENERAL.

Reported Retirement of Mr. Horace Plunkett.—The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says: 'There is reason to believe that Mr. Horace Plunkett contemplates an early retirement from the post of vice-president of the new Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, which he was so largely instrumental in establishing. It is not a matter of compulsion that he should withdraw, but having lost his seat in Parliament, and meeting a difficulty in finding another constituency, he thinks it to be in the interests of the Department that he should make way for some man who can represent it at St. Stephen's. There is the possibility that even at the eleventh hour the difficulty referred to may be overcome, but information obtainable from the Government Whips does not encourage much hope. In the event of Mr. Plunkett's retirement he will doubtless be succeeded in the vice-presidency by Mr. Edward M. Archdale, Conservative Member for North Fermanagh.'

A Peculiar Industry.—A Lancashire man came across a peculiar little industry in the midlands of Ireland the other day; it was nothing less than the manufacture of dog soles for Lancashire. A couple of enterprising Lancashire men had purchased a certain number of trees in the well-wooded districts in the heart of Ireland. They employed native labor, and of the wood itself they made the dog soles of various sizes, casting away the refuse and selling it for firewood. By this means they saved the cost of freightage to England of a certain amount of timber, and this, as everyone knows, is a considerable item. The trees used for the purpose are principally alder, and as the speculators pay reasonably good wages they have but little difficulty in obtaining plenty of assistance.

The Lord Lieutenantcy.—The retirement of Lord Cadogan from the Vice-Royalty in the course of the present year has now been verified. Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary, will then be taken into the Cabinet, and either the Duke of Marlborough or Lord Dudley will be made Lord Lieutenant. Either of the two noblemen above-named will fit the ornamental part of Vice-Regal duties with tolerable success. The Duke of Marlborough, however, has the Hamilton influence and the Vanderbilt dollars at his command, and he is accordingly first favorite at present.

The Intolerance of the Board of Education.—A new instance of the intolerant spirit of the National Board of Education in Ireland is furnished in the matter of the Ballycastle District Council and the appointments of a School Attendance Committee following the adoption by the Council of the Compulsory Education Act. In the district involved there are 38 elementary schools, 19 Catholic and 19 non-Catholic, apportioned among various denominations. A committee of 10 members fell to be appointed—five by the District Council and five by the National Board. The District Council appointed three Catholics and two Protestants, and the Catholics as a result of an amicable arrangement petitioned the National Board to appoint three Protestants and two Catholics so as to give all parties equal representation on the committee. But the Board disregarded the petition, and appointed one Catholic only and four Protestants, thus giving the Protestants six out of 10 members, though the local Protestant representatives desired only equal share of representation. The glaring injustice of the proceeding is more manifest from the fact that the pupils in the Catholic schools much outnumber the pupils in the non-Catholic schools. Father Convery, P.P. of Cushenall, has publicly protested against the unfairness, and the matter will be brought before Parliament on the earliest opportunity. Meantime it supplies an excellent example of Dublin Castle methods.

The Grand Prix was the highest award obtainable at the Paris Exhibition, and the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, of Chicago, secured this coveted honor, and not only this but they obtained more special prizes than all other competitors. Such a tribute to the worth of the McCormick machines is proof positive of their excellence. Messrs. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, are the agents for the Company's manufactures in New Zealand.—*.*

People We Hear About.

The position of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom carries no salary. Lord Salisbury, therefore, draws no salary from the State.

In the new British Parliament there are 140 lawyers, 65 gentry and land owners, 52 manufacturers, 24 merchants, 14 farmers, 33 journalists, 59 army officers, and 13 labor representatives. Labor cuts a small figure in the House of Commons.

It is not generally known that the mother of Mr. George Musgrove, of Melbourne theatrical fame, is a sister of the wife of the versatile M.P., proprietor and editor of *London Truth*, Mr. Labouchere. There were three sisters, all gifted and beautiful. One married Wm. Lyster, the old-time opera entrepreneur, one became Mrs. Labouchere, and the other Mrs. Musgrove.

King Edward VII. has always had liberal leanings. He never liked Lord Beaconsfield (says the Dublin *Freeman's Journal*), whereas he had a sincere admiration for Mr. Gladstone. Lord Rosebery is perhaps his most intimate friend among leading politicians, while Lord Carrington, who is in most respects a thorough-going Radical, has always been one of his very choicest friends. It is true he has not cultivated politicians overmuch; but it is noteworthy that those with whom he has been friendly are not on the high Tory side, who had been for many years the sole depositaries of the confidence of the late Queen.

Through the generosity of the late Miss Catherine Wolfe Bruce, the Jesuit astronomer, Father Hagen, director of Georgetown College Observatory, has been enabled to publish his atlas of variable stars on which he has been at work for seven years. A sum of £400 had to be met, even after the possible sale of such a publication had been taken into account. Professor Pickering, director of the Harvard College Observatory, very kindly called Miss Bruce's attention to the matter, and publicly declared that when the new work appeared, astronomers would wonder how they got on previously without its aid.

Professor Charles Villiers Stanford, who succeeds the late Sir Arthur Sullivan as the conductor of the Leeds musical festival, is a native of Dublin, and has held the chair of music in the University of Cambridge since 1887. In 1883 he received his doctorate of music from Oxford, and was afterwards Professor of Composition in the Royal College of Music and conductor of the Bach choir. Among Dr. Stanford's works are an opera, 'The Veiled Prophet' the libretto of which is drawn from Moore's 'Lalla Rookh'; 'An Irish Symphony,' 'The Voyage of Maeldune,' 'Fifty Irish Melodies,' and old songs.

The first day in January began the third century in which the venerable Dowager Lady Carew has lived, her ladyship having been born at Holyhead (then little more than a fishing village) on the 2nd of December, 1793. Her parents had fled to Holyhead but a few weeks before, to escape from the civil war in Ireland, crossing the Channel in an open boat. She lives at her charming place, Woodstown, in County Waterford, receiving visits from time to time from members of her family of the second and third generations, and from many of her old friends who live in the neighborhood. She is even yet a remarkably handsome old lady, and retains the stately, gracious manner for which she was always distinguished. The Dowager Lady Carew used to enjoy telling a story of her presentation at the Court of Louis Philippe. She had taken with her to Paris a dress length of Irish poplin, which she had made up by one of the first *modistes* in that city. The dressmaker went into ecstasies over the material, the like of which she had never before seen, and prophesied that it would create quite a sensation at Court. As Lord and Lady Carew were ascending the stairs leading to the rooms at the Tuileries, where they were to be received, she felt a slight pull at the skirt of her dress. Having been warned to 'beware of pickpockets,' she turned round quickly to see who touched her, and was surprised to see a very smartly dressed lady examining her dress with great curiosity. '*Je vous demande mille pardons, madame!*' cried the stranger. 'But would you tell me of what your dress is composed? I never saw anything like it before.' Of course, Lady Carew gratified her curiosity, adding that the work was first introduced into Ireland by French Huguenot refugees.

A RICH RETURN.

When a mixture attains so wonderful a success in so short a time as Tussicura has managed to do, it is difficult to speak of the matter in a way that does not appear like exaggeration. Let us look back at the career of this extraordinary medicine from the start. It is only a few months since the proprietor launched it upon the market, and, as it was produced in a comparatively obscure town in Central Otago, it will be seen that the inventor was considerably handicapped. There was no idea of putting forth a cheap mixture—for there are only too many of these before the public at the present time—but the object in view was to use the very best drugs procurable after a careful consideration as to the effect they would have on the systems of persons suffering from particular complaints. People are, not unnaturally, chary of trying a new remedy unless it comes to them heralded by all sorts of 'bold advertisements,' and the proprietor of Tussicura, although he might have expected to have an extremely hard fight in convincing the public of the excellence of his preparation, is naturally gratified at its immediate success. At the same time he recognises that, in order to recoup him for his large expense that he has been put to in preparing the mixture, he must seek a wider field, and the number of testimonials he has received amply justified him in anticipating a success.—*.*