

People

Cardinal Gibbons has become one of the vice-presidents of the National Anti-Vivisection Society.

The Marquis of Bute comes of age this year on June 20. The tenantry at Cardiff propose to present him with an illuminated address.

The hundredth anniversary of the birth of Lacordaire was celebrated on the 12th May. The distinguished Dominican was born on May 12, 1802, at Recey-sur-Ource.

At Capetown, South Africa, a Catholic lady, a member of the Victorian League, has accepted the task of caring for the graves of all the Catholic soldiers who have fallen during the war.

Hon. Anthony M. Keiley has resigned as a Judge of the International Court in Egypt. He is a Catholic, a brother of the Bishop of Savannah, a former Mayor of Richmond, Va., and a prominent member of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union of the United States.

The young King of Spain learnt English in his childhood, and now reads, writes, and speaks it very well. French he speaks with fluency and a slight Spanish accent. Of German he is master. But, most important of all, under a distinguished professor of Madrid University, he has become deeply interested in political economy, social questions, and politics generally.

From Honolulu comes the statement that a wealthy Belgian Catholic lady, Miss Maria Roosevelt, has asked permission to take up Father Damien's work among the lepers of Molokai. She proposes to use her own means in bettering the condition of those unfortunate people and in supporting herself.

'Pretty soon (says the 'Catholic Union and Times') there won't be any other than Irish-Catholic Mayors in the New England cities. Boston has Mayor Patrick Collins; Bridgeport has Mayor Denis Mulvihill; another Connecticut city has Mayor John Foley; and now comes Mayor Ignatius A. Sullivan, who was elected Mayor of the aristocratic old city of Hartford. If this thing keeps up, the name of that section will become New Ireland. The English are going from it—going with a vengeance!'

Mr. Burke Cochran, the distinguished American Democratic leader, and one of the strongest and most influential supporters of the Irish cause in the United States, was recently entertained at dinner at the House of Commons by Mr. John Redmond, who asked the following members of the Irish Party to meet him: Mr. Blake, Mr. Dillon, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Captain Donelan, and Mr. P. A. M'Hugh. Mr. Burke Cochran had just returned from Rome, where he had the honor of being received in audience by the Pope.

Mr. MacVeagh will evidently be a captain in the Nationalist host sooner or later (says the 'Pall Mall Gazette'). He has been a member only two months, but his readiness and self-possession are already recognised. He exercised the former quality on Earl Percy. Still in pursuit of 'Colonel' Lynch, friend of the Boers, Hotspur wanted to know whether 'steps would be taken by making him an outlaw or otherwise to prevent Mr. Lynch from using the King's courts for recovery of rents.' Up shot Mr. MacVeagh to ask whether it was not true that three of the Earl's ancestors had been hanged for high treason. There was a prodigious explosion of mirth, in which Ministerialists as well as Opposition joined, Earl Percy, however, hardly seeming to see the joke.

Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., who is a King's Counsel, was recently opposed in the assize courts to a distinguished barrister, remarkable for his capacity to talk against time. This lawyer asked for the postponement of a trial in which he and Mr. Healy were interested on opposite sides. 'On what ground do you seek this postponement?' queried the court. 'My Lord,' replied the barrister, 'I have been arguing a case all day in Court B, and I am completely exhausted.' At this point Mr. Healy arose and exclaimed that he, too, was weary and would gladly consent to a postponement. 'What have you been doing to tire yourself?' asked the now curious judge. 'My Lord,' answered Mr. Healy, with just a suspicion of a yawn, 'I have been listening to my learned brother.'

Mr. Stead's observations on men and things have an individuality of their own. We take the following from a recent issue of the 'Review of Reviews.'—'Ireland is the grave of reputations. But it occasionally creates them. Just at present it is making three. The session has brought into clear relief the fact that Mr. Redmond is the ablest Parliamentarian in the House, and if he were not Irish he would inevitably be the next leader of the Opposition. Mr. T. W. Russell, who is being driven irresistibly from Unionism into Home Rule via compulsory land purchase, may be Chief Secretary for Ireland when Mr. Redmond is Prime Minister of the advanced Administration that will issue from the social turmoil which may be expected when the war brings forth its bitter fruit in bad trade or lack of work. The third reputation which Ireland is making is that of Mr. Wyndham. His Land Bill has already achieved no small measure of success, and his speech explaining its provisions was a model of lucidity. Everyone admits that he is a veritable Prince Charming, but most people fear he is too light a weight to ever attain the Premiership, which would otherwise be at his feet.'

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on the part of the Government was the employment of coercion itself. The Chief Secretary talked about English newspapers publishing articles about Ireland, and very properly condemned them. Where did these papers get their information from? He would tell the right hon. gentleman that the main factor in this huge erection of false information had been the 'Daily Express' in Dublin, owned by Lord Ardilaun, one of the landlords who has been pressing this course upon the attention of the Government. There had been an agitation to bring this about by an extreme section of Irish landlords and no one else. As the representative of a purely agricultural constituency he had not received a single request to support the movement. He understood that the district of Dowra, where Lord Morley's estate was situated, was under proclamation. He regarded Lord Morley as a most estimable gentleman, and incapable of doing anything harsh or wrong. His Lordship was asked to sell his estate, and negotiations went on for a long time; but the tenants woke up one fine morning to find that the estate had been sold, not to them, but to a syndicate of land agents, who were now enforcing the arrears which spread over eight or nine years. The fact was the Government were making war upon the Dowra estate, and this proclamation was issued on behalf of this syndicate. Naturally the tenants would regard the proclamation as war against land purchase. If Coercion Bills would have cured this Irish question it would have been cured long ago. When he said that he was told that the Irish people were irreconcilable; that it was a case of the horse-leech over again, that if they gave them one thing, they would forthwith ask for another, and they got nothing but discontent and disloyalty in exchange, he answered in the words of Mr. Bright, who, replying to them, said that he had a belief which never could be shaken in justice. So had he. He believed in the Union as thoroughly as any member in the House, and had done more than most to maintain it, but the House ought not to deceive itself. It ought to face the coercion problem in solemn earnest: it would then see how little it would cost to settle it, and in settling it the Government would rid themselves of half the trouble the House and the country were involved in. He spoke as a Unionist representative of an Ulster constituency he was not afraid to face. He begged and entreated not the Government, because his words would have no weight with them, but the House of Commons, that great assembly which was the master of Governments and everything else, not to allow this question to simmer on until they had got into another land war and another land agitation, and until they were compelled to do in haste what they might well do at leisure.

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