

states that Messrs. W. Redmond and Devlin were meeting with great success in their mission on behalf of the Irish Parliamentary Fund in the United States. At a meeting of the United Irish League in New York, Mr. Finerty, who presided, submitted a manifesto thanking the race in America for their response to the appeals of the envoys, and declaring the mission a remarkable success. An appeal for further sympathy and support was made and adopted on the motion of Mr. Bourke, seconded by Mr. Fitzpatrick. Mr. Redmond proposed, and Mr. Devlin seconded, a resolution of sympathy on the death of Archbishop Corrigan. It was decided to hold a convention early in the autumn. Mr. Fitzpatrick read the treasurer's report, which stated that £2000 had been subscribed by the branches started by the envoys.

Licensing Scandal.

The Irish members of the House of Commons have agreed to the unopposed passing of a Bill to stop the issue of new licenses, unless in exceptional circumstances, in Ireland for five years. The Bill will be brought forward by Mr. Clancy, M. P., and is backed by Colonel Sanderson, M. P., Sir James Haslett, M. P., Mr. Samuel Young, M. P., Mr. T. L. Corbett, M. P., Mr. Jordan, M. P.

A Turn in the Tide.

The splendid Liberal victory in Bury was a great blow to the Government. The Tories were absolutely certain of victory, and their amazement at the result was very pronounced. The late member, though a military fossil, enjoyed a sweeping majority, and the Tories were confident that the son of the proprietor of the 'Daily Telegraph,' being a candidate of great energy, great ability, and great wealth, would vastly increase that majority. Mr. Lawson reckoned that in view of the Education Bill he would also capture the Irish vote, and to make assurance doubly sure he declared against coercion, but all in vain. He was a Radical and a Home Ruler up till a few months ago and the Irish would have nothing to do with the turncoat. As soon as he recanted his political faith the Tories took him up, and Bury as promptly put him down. He became a deserter to get into Parliament, and he is still outside.

Emigration.

According to the Registrar-General's returns the number of emigrants who left Ireland during the quarter ended 31st March last was 4395 (2683 males and 1712 females), being 579 less than in the corresponding quarter of the year 1901, and 749 under the average number for the first quarter of the ten years 1892-1901.

Canadian Opinion.

The Canadian Government passed a resolution the other day urging that a policy of magnanimity should be adopted by the British Government as regards the Boers in South Africa. Some remarkable speeches were made in the course of the debate, in which even Imperialist members joined favoring the motion, but the most significant and interesting of all was that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who said—'As to the right of this Parliament to interfere in this question, to affirm this resolution, I, for my part, unhesitatingly say there can be no discussion whatever. The Parliament of Canada to-day is a sovereign Parliament. It is a sovereign Parliament within the British Empire. Many years ago the Parliament of Canada asserted this authority, and claimed not only the privilege but the right to interfere in any question which might affect any part of the British Empire, of which we form a portion. It is now almost twenty years since the Parliament of Canada passed a resolution in favor of granting Home Rule to Ireland. We were not directly concerned with the question; but why did Parlia-

ment twice in succession affirm the position that Home Rule should be granted to Ireland? Because we felt that it was in the interests of Canada that the wrongs of Ireland should be righted.' All this indicates more or less that Mr. Chamberlain's wonderful system of Colonial Imperialism may not, perhaps, work exactly as he expected. It would surely be the greatest piece of irony in the history of politics if it became the greatest factor in bringing about Home Rule for Ireland. Yet that is just one of the easy possibilities to which we may all not unreasonably look forward.

People

One of the late Dr. Lieber's brothers is a Jesuit who has labored many years on the mission in Sweden.

Sunday, June 22, was the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon's 57th birthday.

King Victor Emmanuel has given £100 to the Italian Hospital in London.

A silver medal of honor has just given by the French Minister of the Interior and of Worship to Sister Marie Louise Sanquez for 60 years of faithful tendance as infirmarian at the state insane asylum at Morlaix.

Lady Russell of Killowen has just witnessed the completion of the memorial placed upon her husband's grave in the Epsom cemetery. The cross now set in its place is reproduced from drawings Lady Russell has made after an ancient pattern still to be seen in the cemetery of the ruined abbey of Clonmacnoise, on the banks of the Shannon.

Book-keeping by double entry was made public by a monk, Paccioli, over 400 years ago. On November 10, 1494, he published a book 'De Summa Arithmetica,' in one chapter of which the system of double entry as now used was described. Paccioli had learned the art when tutor to the sons of a Venetian merchant, and though not the inventor of the system, was the first to make it known to the world.

One of the most remarkable personalities who arrived in London last week for the Coronation ceremonies was Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir presumptive to the Austrian throne. About a year ago the Archduke made a public speech, in which he expressed his opinions as a Catholic Prince, in a way which nobody could possibly misunderstand. Evidently, too, frankness is Archduke Ferdinand's way. The other day, for instance, he struck out Count Leo Tolstoy's name from a list of foreign honorary members submitted to the Emperor by the Prague Academy of Science and Art. His action has created quite a sensation in literary and art circles in Austria. But the heir presumptive apparently does not mind. He always takes his own line in life. Against the wishes and influences of his friends in the 'highest quarters,' he married Princess Chotek, the alliance entailing heavy sacrifices on his part. The accession to the throne of Austria of a man of such strong will may be an event of no little importance in European politics.

Mr. J. F. X. O'Brien, M. P., who is said to be resigning the secretaryship of the United Irish League of Great Britain, is one of the most remarkable Irishmen in the House of Commons. He is the only man now living, who has been sentenced, by British law, to be hanged, drawn, and quartered for treason-felony. In 1867, in the days of the Fenian movement, O'Brien was arrested whilst leading an armed party which attacked a police barracks. On the trial it appeared that the barracks

were set on fire, and that the inmates, including some women and children, were in imminent danger, when O'Brien, at great personal risk, went to their relief; and this circumstance was commented upon in terms of praise by the judge when passing sentence. The sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life, and some years later Mr. O'Brien was amnestied. He is now over 70, of patriarchal appearance, and one of the most kindly, gentle and unobtrusive men in the House, where his voice is seldom on never heard.

Mr. W. Shiels, who is the power behind the throne in the new Victorian Ministry, is an Irishman, and arrived in Victoria when a child. Like his chief, Mr. Shiels is a barrister.

Mr. Irvine, the new Premier of Victoria, is a lawyer, and a grand nephew of John Mitchell, the famous Irish patriot. Mr. Irvine was born in Newry, Ireland, in 1858, and is 44 years of age. He was educated at the Royal School, Armagh, and at Trinity College, Dublin. He is a B. A. of Dublin University, and M. A. and LL.M. of Melbourne. He came to Australia in 1879, was called to the bar in Melbourne in 1884, and entered Parliament in 1894 as member for Lowan, which constituency he has represented continuously ever since.

London 'Truth' recalls that at the Coronation in 1831 the great row was about the homage, as when the 'ceremonial' was submitted for approval to William IV. he vowed that nothing would induce him to go through the ordeal of being kissed by the bishops. His Majesty did not object to the salute of the Peers, but he protested that he would sooner not be crowned than submit to being kissed by the prelates, and he ordered that part of the programme to be cut out. However, the Archbishop remonstrated vigorously, and the king knocked under, but with a bad grace.

A cable message states that a knighthood has been conferred on Captain Russell. This is a distinction that is well deserved, for the nominal leader of the Opposition is held in the highest esteem by all classes, and every one will admit that this is a well-merited recognition of public services extending over a third of a century. Sir William Russell, M. H. R., is the son of Lieut-Colonel Andrew Hamilton Russell, and was born at Sandhurst, Berkshire, England, on November 12, 1838, so that he is in his sixty-fourth year. When seven years of age he was brought to New Zealand by his father, and remained here until he was ten, returning to England to be educated. Having completed his education, he joined the army, and was successively Captain in the 58th and 14th regiments. He re-visited New Zealand on military service in 1857 and again in 1861. On the last occasion he decided to settle here permanently and purchased an estate near Hastings, Hawke's Bay, where he still resides. He was a member of the old Hawke's Bay Provincial Council, and on the abolition of the Provincial Governments he was returned to the House of Representatives as member for the district. He was Postmaster-General of the fourth Atkinson Administration in 1884, and later on was Minister of Defence and Colonial Secretary. Since 1890 he has been practically the leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, where his gentlemanly bearing and moderation have made him extremely popular with members of all shades of political opinion.

The 'Excelsior' plough is 'Champion of the World.' On hillside, lea, swamp, tussock, or stubble it is equally at home. Morrow, Bassett and Co. sole agents in New Zealand. —***