

who is deeply interested in hospital reform, the Clonmel Guardians, and Dr. Crean, M.D., Miss Holcroft took charge of Clonmel Workhouse Hospital for some years, and started the system of training probationer nurses.

Catholics in the Navy.

In the South and West of Ireland, to which the great majority of the Catholic seamen in the navy belong, great dissatisfaction is felt at the refusal of the Admiralty to appoint a Catholic chaplain to the Channel Squadron as announced in the House of Commons by Mr. Arnold Foster. The necessity for one is undeniable. Accidents and frequent occurrence and Catholics are nearly always among the injured. On the occasion of the explosion on H.M. Mars off Berehaven (says the 'Catholic Times') two Catholic seamen lay writhing in agony all night and in momentary expectation of death. How these poor fellows must have longed for that consolation which a priest alone could afford them, and how petty the action of those who persist in refusing this great boon to brave men.

Economic Rents.

'Apart from the grazing land and the larger holdings there is absolutely not a penny of economic rent to be had out of the district.' In this sentence Mr. T. W. Russell, in an article in an English contemporary, summarises his experiences in the West during the Whitsuntide holidays. The English members of Parliament who accompanied him on the trip are of a like opinion, and it is satisfactory to learn, on the authority of Mr. Russell, that they will state it in the House of Commons. It is extraordinary how little known is this simple elementary fact in the land problem, and those who know least of all about it are the men who make laws with the view of solving the question. Mr. Russell and his friends (says the 'Freeman's Journal') have seen the landlord 'on the pounce' for the American postal orders, and been impressed by the horrid injustice and cruelty of the present state of things. It is not entirely confined to the West, in certain districts in the south the tenants of wretched holdings periodically go to Wales for the purpose of earning in the mines the rent of the miserable home. Mr. Russell has taken off his coat to the work, having realised that shilly-shallying with this great question is almost criminal. I almost must face the facts. The Land Commission must tell us on what principle they proceeded in fixing these so-called fair rents. They are at war with fact at issue with every principle of political economy. The question cannot wait. The fighting spirit is the winning spirit.

Holyhead Packet Service.

One of the monthly magazines has an article on the various mail packet services between Great Britain and Ireland and Great Britain and the Continent. The service between Holyhead and Kingstown is, of course, dealt with. The writer states that the post office pays the company £137 for each voyage, and the time is so strictly limited that if three hours and thirty-seven minutes be exceeded in the passage the company is called upon to forfeit £1 14s per minute over time. If the boat starts late the owners lose £10 per hour, and if a steamer should not be provided at all for the service the loss is no less than £100 for the offence.

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People

At the Coronation of the King in Westminster Abbey, the Duke of Norfolk, as the premier Duke, will kneel before the King and pay homage as the representative of his order in the peerage.

Sir Henry Trenchborne, who has just entered upon his 37th year, is one of the 22 baronets who are invited to the Coronation on the ground that their baronetcies were created before 1620. Sir Henry is the head of an ancient Catholic house.

Says Kaiser Wilhelm of his only daughter, Princess Luise: 'My daughter never forgets that she is the daughter of an Emperor, but she often forgets that her father is the Emperor.' Which goes to show in what domestic groove the man of the 'mailed fist' moves in his own family.

Mr. William Redmond when he returned to the House of Commons was heartily welcomed by his colleagues on the highly successful results of his mission to the United States. He gives a most encouraging account of the progress of the United Irish League in the States.

The position of chaplain to the lay Catholic undergraduates at Cambridge, in succession to the Rev. E. Nolan, B.A., has been taken by the Rev. A. S. Barnes, M.A. The appointment has been made by the Bishops, on the nomination of the Universities Catholic Education Board.

Queen Margherita of Italy will shortly make a journey to the Holy Land on board the ironclad Marco Polo. The Queen will land at Jaffa and go by rail to Jerusalem, the Sultan having done all in his power to make the pilgrimage safe and easy. The Queen will travel with only a small suite, and will not be accompanied by her mother, who is still in poor health.

Mr. Michael Herbert, who is, according to a recent report, the newly appointed successor to the late Lord Pauncefote as British Ambassador at Washington, is the brother of Herbert of Muckross, late owner of that famous Kerry property before its purchase by Lord Ardilaun. Mr. Michael Herbert is married into one of the 'four hundred' families of New York.

Father Clare, who has just passed away in his 75th year (says the Dublin 'Freeman's Journal') was, perhaps, the most popular Jesuit in England and Scotland of his time. He was quite a young man when he became rector at Farm Street in London. He went to Liverpool in 1874 as Rector of St. Francis Xavier's. He was a preacher of remarkable power and dramatic talent, and as a Missionary Father he drew large crowds of people of all creeds in every city of Great Britain. His zeal lay more, however, in the direction of working in an unobtrusive way among the poor. In his early days he spent his time in the slums of Glasgow, and on the occasion of his last visit there he almost broke down in the pulpit, and said in extenuation, with the simplicity of a child, 'Somehow I always feel a sadness when I have to leave St. Joseph's.'

Rumours of difficulties about precedence in Ireland were rife some time ago and there would appear to be confirmation of these in a paragraph that is inserted for the first time in this year's edition of Burke's Peerage. It runs as follows: 'It is his Majesty's pleasure that the following rules be observed in the Colonies:—(a) Any member of the Royal Family, present in a Colony, shall rank of, etc., etc.' This is sufficiently explicit to set all doubts at rest, and it also accounts for the 'indisposition' of his Majesty's representatives on certain occasions when it must

have been extremely awkward for him to take precedence of Royalty. In England the Lord Mayor, it is well-known, takes precedence of Royalty, with the exception of the Sovereign and Queen Consort, in the City. But the necessity is avoided whenever possible. At the great Guildhall ball, held on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887, the Lord and Lady Mayoress preceded the King and Queen—as they now are—up the long corridor and looked very uncomfortable at having to turn their backs on their Royal Highnesses. In fact, they almost walked sideways at first. Such are the difficulties of precedence.

'The Holy Father,' says a Catholic exchange, is not the only grand old man high in the government of the Church in Rome. Cardinal Ledochowski, Prefect of the Propaganda, is another instance of what holiness and energy united in a sound mind and a sound body can offer in old age. One who can meet a serious attack of pneumonia at the age of 80, and recover, must have a vitality far beyond the ordinary. Although he is also blind from cataract, it is hoped he will soon resume his work as Prefect of the Propaganda. This title probably conveys no definite meaning to many readers. It means that he is the responsible general director of all the missionary work in the Church. In Rome he directs a large staff of officials who help to sort and sift and weigh and answer the thousands of questions and demands which pour in from all parts of the missionary world.

Someone took the trouble to analyse the pedigrees of the guests of honor and the speakers at the annual banquet of the St. George's Society of Ottawa, and discovered that the Englishman pure and simple was in the minority. There were Anglo-Scots, Anglo-Irish, Scots-Irish, and Franco-Irish, but the purebred Englishman did not cut any remarkable figure. This discovery has led to another interesting one. Canada has had eight Governors-General since Confederation in 1867, but only one has been an Englishman. Viscount Monck, the Confederation Governor, was an Irishman. Lord Lisgar was of an Irish family, though born in India; Lord Dufferin (Irishman), the Marquis of Lorne (Scotch), Lord Lansdowne (of Irish and English blood on his father's side, and of Scotch and French Huguenot lineage on his mother's). Then came the only Englishman Lord Stanley of Preston, now the Earl of Derby, and each of his successors—the Earl of Aberdeen and the Earl of Minto—have been Scots.

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