

but that it had been successfully made, and that the people were working hard co-operating with the Congested Districts Board and with the Department. And there were fifty or sixty beautiful houses, every one of them gay with flowers, instead of the muck-heap before the door, as had been the custom in the old days. The whole thing had been transformed. And he confessed he shrugged his shoulders when he thought how long it had taken to come to the conclusion that the people should be taken out of the bogs, and put back on the lands occupied by the cattle, as if men were not of more value than cattle. It was in these districts that every Land Bill had been born. It was out of the trouble there that crime and mischief arose, which forced the hands of Parliament, and compelled them, slowly but surely, to arrive at the conclusion that they had now arrived at that Ireland was an agricultural country, and that the land of the country, in these parts at all events, had better be occupied by human beings, than have human being starving on the bogs, and cattle fattening on the land. He gave the members of the association a cordial welcome, and he was sure that welcome would be repeated wherever they went in the South of Ireland.

THE HOME RULE FUND.

The Home Rule fund for 1913 has now reached a total of £8328. This is £1500 below the amount subscribed at the same date (May 17) last year (says the *Irish Press Agency*). But, then, this year's list opened four weeks later than last year's, so that this year's list is doing splendidly, considering that last year's total far surpassed all previous records. All over the country, meetings are being held and subscription lists opened, and the utmost confidence is expressed that a fresh record will be made this year. There is nothing else comparable to a big subscription list for the Home Rule fund for filling the opponents of Home Rule, factionist and Unionist, with despair. It is the unanswerable reply to the argument that the Irish people do not want Home Rule. The Unionist campaign is now in full swing in England, but it is not giving satisfactory results. Home Rule still holds its ground against all the assaults of the 'Ulster' ascendancy party and their allies of the British League against Home Rule. But why? Because, wherever the emissaries of ascendancy go, they are met by the representatives of the Irish Press Agency, directed by Mr. Thomas Scanlan, M.P., or by the literature of the I.P.A., issued under the supervision of Mr. Stephen Gwynn, M.P. The expenses of the Irish counter-campaign are very heavy, and it is to meet these expenses, as well as the expenses of the Irish Party as such and the National Organisation, that funds are needed. The Home Rule movement is approaching closer and closer to its crowning triumph. But, until that has been secured, there can be no respite for either the Irish Party or the Irish people. They must keep pressing on. From May 29 until far on in the summer, Mr. Redmond and his colleagues will be in the thick of the fight, from day to day, almost from hour to hour, even the week-ends of most of the members being taken up with propaganda work in the British constituencies. The Party may be trusted not to fail Ireland, and Ireland can be relied upon to continue to give the Party that moral and material support which is the secret of its strength and the pledge of victory for the cause it so ably champions.

The lad he loved her deeply,
For she billed and cooed so sweetly,
And she promised he should have her
In the happy days to be.
But she qualified it thuswise:
That she'd marry him for sure
If he'd promise to always keep a stock
Of Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

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People We Hear About

King Alfonso signalled his birthday by pardoning six men who were lying under sentence of death. The extreme penalty, however, is to be demanded in the case of Sancho Alegre, whose trial for his recent attempt on the King's life will take place shortly.

His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons has addressed a letter on the subject of Women's Suffrage to the anti-suffragists of Maryland, in which he asserts that in deprecating the suffrage he is pleading for the dignity of woman. Further, he considers that to restrict the field of woman's action to the gentler avocations of life is not to fetter her aspirations after the higher and the better.

By the death of Miss Charlotte Louisa Hawkins Dempster, the world, says a correspondent of the *Times*, loses a lady who enriched it by her writings. She was a constant contributor to the *Edinburgh Review*. Miss Hawkins Dempster died on May 7 at Cannes, and was buried in Brookwood cemetery according to the rites of the Catholic Church, of which she had become a member.

Sergeant J. F. Moriarty has been appointed Solicitor-General for Ireland, in succession to Mr. Molony, the new Attorney-General. Mr. Moriarty was educated at Stonyhurst and Trinity College, Dublin. He was called to the Bar in 1877, and since 1908 has been First Sergeant-at-Law in Ireland. He married in 1909 Mabel Agnes, daughter of Henry de Blaquiére, of Fiddan House, County Galway, and widow of Hubert Peter Dolphin, of Turve, in the same county.

A correspondent of the *Irish Independent*, discussing the personal character of King Alfonso, says that with all his gaiety the Spanish monarch knows that he carries his life in his hand. As a practical Catholic aware of his dangerous surroundings, he keeps his conscience ready for any fate that may come to him. The King is much attached to his wife and children, and in particular to his second boy, Don Jaime, who has been a deaf mute from birth.

Lord Petre, who was married last week in Westminster Cathedral to Miss Catherine Boscawen, is the present head of an old English Catholic family which dates back, as far as its title of nobility is concerned, to times of James I. The father of the first Lord Petre was a principal Secretary of State under Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth. The fourth Lord Petre was committed to the Tower at the time of Titus Oates's plot, and died there five years afterwards. The present Lord Petre was born in 1890, and is the son of the fifteenth baron. He owns about 19,100 acres and has estates in Essex. The heir presumptive is Mr. Francis William Petre, architect, of Dunedin. Miss Catherine Boscawen is an only child, and her father is the youngest son of the sixth Viscount Falmouth.

Lord Petre, who was married recently, has three aunts in convents—one is a Sister of the Good Shepherd in Glasgow, another is a member of the same Order at Hammersmith, and a third a Sister of Charity at Carlisle Place, Westminster. The present Duke of Norfolk has one sister a Carmelite nun and another a Sister of Charity, while the Duchess has four aunts, sisters of the late Lord Herries, who are nuns. The late Lord Abingdon's sister is a nun at the Convent of the Visitation, Harrow, and Lord Brayne has a sister who is a nun. One of Lord Killanin's sisters is an Irish Sister of Charity and two others are Carmelite nuns. A sister of Lord Denbigh is a Sister of Charity at Shanghai, and four of Lord Trimlestown's sisters are nuns.

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