

"Some women do," she said with a sigh. "There is that Italian girl in Mrs. Browning's glorious poem. Do you know I have been reading it over and over again these days to gain courage?—as one reads the Bible for courage of another kind. See!" and the book opened where a marker had been inserted at the famous lines—

Heroic males the country bears—
But daughters give up more than sons:
Flags wave, drums beat, and unawares
You flash your souls out with the guns,
And take your Heaven at once.
But we!—we empty heart and home
Of life's life, love! We hear to think
You're gone—to feel you may not come—
To hear the door-latch stir and clink,
Yet no more you! . . . nor sink.
Dear God! when Italy is one,
Complete, content from bound to bound,
Suppose, for my share, earth's undone,
By one grave in't!—as one small wound
Will kill a man, 'tis found.
What then? If love's delight must end,
At least we'll clear its truth from flaws.
I love thee, love thee, sweetest friend!
Now take my sweetest without pause,
And help the Nation's cause.
And thus of noble Italy
We'll both be worthy! Let her show
The future how we made her free,
Not sparing life . . . nor Giulio
Nor this . . . this heart-break. Go!
(To be continued.)

The Ubiquitous Irish

HOW THE RACE IS SCATTERED THROUGH THE WORLD.

A speaker at the recent reception to his Grace Archbishop Mannix in the Sydney Town Hall referred to the wide dispersal of the Irish race throughout the world. He added that what had been Ireland's loss in this respect had been the world's gain. Recently the *New York World* published statistics showing just how the Irish people are scattered over the earth. These interesting statistics are as follow:—

Persons Born in Ireland or of Irish Parentage.

Ireland	4,100,000
Great Britain	3,000,000
United States	11,900,000
Canada (including Newfoundland)	1,200,000
Australasia (including New Zealand and Tasmania)	1,400,000
South America	1,000,000
Asia	100,000
European Continent	300,000
South Africa	100,000
Total	23,100,000

Persons of Irish Grandparentage.

Great Britain	4,000,000
United States	15,000,000
Canada (including Newfoundland)	1,300,000
Australasia (including New Zealand and Tasmania)	1,300,000
South Africa	150,000
South America	1,500,000
Asia	200,000
European Continent	500,000
Total	23,950,000

This calculation, which is based, so far as they are available, on official returns of nationality, gives us an Irish race 47,000,000 strong. The actual number of persons in the world at the present time who were born in Ireland of Irish parents is over 8,000,000, while there are nearly 15,000,000 of persons born out of Ireland, but both of whose parents were Irish. We have excluded from this any calculation of the number of persons of Irish descent

—that is, persons who are more than two generations removed from Ireland. If these were included there would be found some 10,000,000 more of the Irish race on the European Continent, and another 10,000,000 elsewhere. As it stands, the Irish race forms one of the most numerous races in the world—equal to the French or Italians. There used to be an old boast that the sun never sets on the English Dominions. It is a literal fact that the sun never sets on the Irish race. No wonder the Irish question is a world-wide one.

THE AMERICAN COMMISSION ON CONDITIONS IN IRELAND

INTERIM REPORT

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER IV—(Continued.)

The British Terror in Ireland

Article 46 of the Hague Convention states: "Family honor and rights, individual life and private property, as well as religious convictions and worship, must be respected. Private property may not be confiscated." The British terror in Ireland would seem to us to violate not merely this article but all law of peace and of war, private and public, human and divine. In its long continuance, complete organisation, ruthlessness, and all-pervading character, it would seem to your Commission almost without parallel in the practice of civilised nations.

The testimony of Mrs. Muriel MacSweeney, the Misses Walsh, Miss Craven, and others allowed us to realise the extent to which the sanctity of the Irish home is violated. A total of 48,474 raids by armed British on Irish homes in 1920, compiled from official Irish Republican sources, was presented to us. These raids would seem to take place usually in the night; and their avowed purpose seemed to be in part to find secreted arms and "wanted" men.

"On the Run."—The men sought by the raiders were said to be "on the run," some from arrest; others, as has been shown, from assassination by the Imperial British forces. Lord Mayor MacSweeney, "on the run," saw his family but rarely and by stealth. Lord Mayor O'Callaghan testified that he had not been able to enter his own home for two years. It would appear from testimony already cited that the family of a father or husband, son or brother "on the run," shared his peril even in his absence.

Shelter in Ditches and Cemeteries.—And in some places, those who were not "on the run," and the infirm and aged, the women and children, would appear to feel safer in the fields than in their homes. Mr. Derham testified that for a week after the sack of Balbriggan the townspeople "spent the night in the country. They did not wait until night to go. When four o'clock, or evening came, you would see them going away to the country, stopping in the farmers' stables or barns or haylofts or anything they could get, or in the ditches. Two-thirds of the people left the town during the week."

And, of a night in Mallow, Mr. Frank Dempsey testified:—

"There is a graveyard immediately behind the Roman Catholic Church and behind the Protestant Church, and quite a number of women and children spent the night sitting on the gravestones—on the tombstones. One woman, Mrs. Connolly, who had a baby about three days previous to this—she had to get up out of bed with her baby, of course. She got up and took her baby and remained out in the graveyard with her baby all night, and she got pneumonia and died. The baby is alive yet. Another old woman who went to this graveyard got sick and died."

What they feared could be appreciated from Mr. Morgan's testimony of the experience of his family at Thurles:

A Night in a Home.—"On January 20, about 11.10, my wife was in bed, and my boy of five years was in the cot. I had put out the light and had got ready to go