MILITARISM IN IRELAND.

Events Preceding the Balla Gathering.

PICTURES OF DISTRESS.

Government Threat to Shoot Down Parnell.

USES FOR SOLDIERY.

DUBLIN, Nov. 22, 1879.

It is not easy to recognize where or when we are living, so rapidly do events march forward and so startling are the changes which a few hours bring about. The ominous words "military precautions against possible disturbances" have been not only whispered, but have found their way into the public journals, alarming one section of the public and irritating another. We are informed that Sir John Michel, the commander-in-chief of the British forces in Ireland, has been made practically independent of control from London. He has been charged to take such measures as he deems advisable for the protection of life and property, and to make such a disposition of the troops as will be most effectual for the quelling of disturbance. He is to act promptly and vigorously, and not to delay by referring to London for instructions. Arrangements have been made for augmenting the force here, and several corps in England have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to start at half a day's notice. The military authorities here have begun to act on the plenary powers. In several towns of Connaught which have not seen the face of a red coat for several years detachments are now stationed. Barracks which have been going to wreck and ruin from disuse are being hurriedly cleaned out to provide accommodation for unexpected tenants. This rent campaign can hardly be viewed with favor by the soldiery. They are being hurried from comfortable quarters to those tumble-down Connaught caravansaries, where they can hope for miserable shelter at the best. And they will have to endure all the inconveniences of the wretched winter of the West of Ireland in order to assist the landlords—not to receive their rents (such delusive hopes are being now speedily abandoned) but to turn out their miserable tenants and leave them to die of suffering in the most inclement season of the year by the roadside. Nice occupation for the British soldier! Something different from Zulu hunting or Afghan raiding. Then there will be night patrols, double sentry work, incessant orderly duty and all sorts of vexatious and harassing services inseparable from the sort of semi-hostile occupation of the country in which they will be engaged.

EVENTS AT BALLA.

Here, in Dublin, the chief topic of conversation was the demonstration to be held at Balla, a small town in the heart of Mayo county. You have been already informed by cable of the origin of this demonstration. A poor farmer named Dempsey had two holdings under Sir Robert Blosse Lynch. It may be said, in passing, that the Blosse Lynches have ever ranged themselves on the unpopular side, the ladies of the family, like female fanatics in Ireland generally, seeking to wean the wretched Papists on their estates from doctrinal error and lead them to truth by small doles of clothes and meat on Fridays. The men were hard, driving the tenants at elections, allowing them no liberty of action and exacting the highest rent which could be screwed out of them. About ten days ago the Dempseys were forced to surrender a grazing farm to the agent of the landlord. The accumulation of bad times had been quite too much for them, and they were utterly unable to pay the rent. They were now to be evicted out of the other farm. The amount of rent owing was $130; but the law costs amounted to $35, and the poor wretches could not make up the sum, which must be paid, if they would keep the shelter of a roof over their heads. The Dublin *Evening Mail*, a journal which cannot see that there is any right at all except on the side of the landlords, publishes the following description of the pitiable state of the Dempseys from the pen of its correspondent:—

The family consists of Anthony Dempsey (the tenant), his wife and five children, together with his brother and mother, the latter an old woman, nearly eighty years of age. The youngest of the children is a mere baby in arms, the oldest not more than eight or nine years old. Only the women and children were in the house, and seemed in a state of great depression and alarm respecting the events which the morning might bring them. I could with difficulty persuade them that I was not the Sheriff, one of the little ones clinging to its granny and inquiring piteously where they would sleep that night. The total amount due is stated to be £23—namely, one year's rent at £26 and £7 costs. The decree for ejectment was only obtained at the beginning of the present month, and the Sheriff and bailiffs came to execute it on Thursday week. Finding, however, that some of the children were too ill to be removed, he consented to go away and postpone his next visit until to-day. The fulfilment of that promise is what is now awaited. The children have all had whooping cough lately, and two of them give unmistakable symptoms of it still, though no longer confined to bed. This has been the only illness in the house. They seemed quite resigned to whatever may happen, and spoke of the eviction with a kind of fatalism in which hope had no part and which nothing could advert. The old woman spoke in kindly terms of the landlord—Sir Robert Lynch Blosse—and only regretted that they had not the money to pay him, as she was sure, she said, he would not disturb them if he could "get his own share." In order to see and provide for this her son had been from home all day making efforts to borrow the money, and had not returned at the time of my visit. Those who remained in the house, however, had evidently small hope of the success of his mission. The property in the house and around it certainly did not appear very valuable, and at a reasonable estimate would be dear at the amount of the debt. Nothing could be more mild and submissive than the tone exhibited all through by the old mother. Any idea of repudiation of debt appeared to have no place in her thoughts. She only deplored that the times were so bad they could not pay as heretofore, and with modest pride declared it was the first time it could be said that she or hers owed any man a shilling.

POVERTY AND DISTRESS.

The misfortunes of the Dempseys aroused a universal feeling of sympathy throughout Mayo and all the neighboring counties. It was a crucial illustration of the miseries incidental to the Irish land question. It was resolved to hold a great indignation meeting on the spot, to protest against the eviction of this helpless family and to declare that a system of land tenure, under which such calamities might be inflicted on all the tillers of the soil of the country, must be radically wrong and should be reformed. The eviction was to take place to-day and the meeting was fixed to be held at the moment when the Sheriff's officers would come upon the land to take forcible possession. The feeling of the country has made a great stride within the last three weeks upon this point of fixing the people on the soil. But the government also have been working themselves up to the conviction that they must check the agitation or it may be too strong for them. So orders were sent down for a large force of police to be on the ground to assist the Sheriff in enforcing the law, and to overawe resistance should any be attempted. The people became alarmed and, it is reported, desperate counsels obtained the upper hand. Dempsey and his friends got together some firearms, and it was said they had resolved to defend the house to the last. Perhaps they had heard of the Ballyesey adventure in Tipperary county some years back, where a band of tenants held a farm house for weeks against the Sheriff and the constabulary, and finally beat off the landlord. But the time and the scene and the circumstances are not the same. When the government learned the state of feeling at Loonamore (this is the name of the Dempseys' place) they telegraphed for a large force of military to be concentrated—quite sufficient to deal with any crowd likely to be got together at Balla. Orders were given that no resistance should be tolerated. Unless the Sheriff was permitted to execute the law peaceably, the disturbers should be fired upon and forcibly dispersed.

THREATENING PARNELL.

Yesterday a military gentleman, an old friend of his father, called on Mr. Parnell, told him of the preparations made to crush resistance at Balla, and added that men had been specially told off to give an account of himself. Both soldiers and men of the constabulary to whom his person was well known had been selected, and should there be a riot at Balla and the people be fired upon, Parnell himself would be the first person to be shot down. His old friend implored him to desist while there was time, and to abandon the notion of going down to Balla. Mr. Parnell at once consulted with some confidential friends in whom he could rely—men of honesty and prudence. Fear for himself he had none; he will go on to the end, whatever that end may be. But he strongly inclines to believe that all this "military preparation" is being got up by the government in the hope of thereby exciting the people to commit disturbances which would serve as a pretext for suspending the habeas corpus act and proclaiming martial law. He was unwilling to do anything which might help on this game. Hence he asked the advice of his friends. But they were of opinion that he must go to Balla. The agitation had been hitherto confined within constitutional bounds, and it is of vital importance that it shall not be allowed to overstep those bounds. It had been announced that he would be at Balla, and his absence now might give rise to all sorts of most mischievous interpretations. His influence might restrain the people from committing any lawless act, and preserve them from falling into the trap so cunningly laid by the government. He thoroughly agreed with this opinion, and at midnight, after the great meeting at the Rotunda, he started by special express train, accompanied by John Dillon, the true son of the patriot John Dillon of 1848. It is unnecessary to say that great anxiety was felt in Dublin all day as to how things fared at Balla. We can now understand the emotion under which Parnell spoke last night. When a popular leader has been warned that troops have been told off to shoot him down whenever disturbances break out he must speak under a sense of great responsibility indeed. He might well be pardoned if he denounced the government which marked him out. But Mr. Parnell was most careful not to betray the slightest symptom of personal irritation; only he was if possible more emphatic than usual in warning his hearers not to let themselves be seduced into any illegal act which the government might lay hold of as the coveted pretext for inaugurating a reign of coercion and terror all over the land.

EUGENIE IN PARIS.

HOW THE EX-EMPRESS WAS RECEIVED IN PARIS—VIEWING THE SCENES AFTER NINE YEARS OF EXILE.

[From the London Globe.]

PARIS, Nov. 21, 1879.

Paris has been called the caravansary of Europe, and M. Daudet has shown us the great men of the earth and the kings of different countries in exile within the gates of the modern Babylon. Paris opens its arms to every one; the Sultan of Zanzibar is as welcome as the King of the Belgians, and no more attention is paid to His Majesty of Holland, who is still fond of music and the lyric stage, than to the Emperor of Brazil, although both of them may frequently be seen wandering up and down the wide boulevards. The aristocratic looking young man who sits of an afternoon sipping his coffee at Tartoni's or dines quietly at Bignon's, under the eye of Henri, is the Duke of Cumberland, the heir to the crown of Hanover. He may be seen of an afternoon during the fashionable hours of five to seven driving round the lake in the Bois de Boulogne. The observer who takes his stand near the pathway leading down to the waterside and to the ferryboat, where an aged Charon paddles the lovers across to the restaurant, and scrutinizes the faces of the occupants of the different carriages passing by, will be convinced that the sorrows of the great are very real. Don Carlos is in England, but even in his absence the spot is well worth a visit, with the ex-royal family of Naples, Her ex-Majesty of Spain, German grand dukes who have been annexed to the chariot of the conqueror, Russians who prefer Paris life to the nihilist intrigues, Turks who have fled from their enemies, Persians and other races from the East, where war is now threatening or being carried on. M. Daudet had not far to go to find matter for his realistic writing, and though the "kings in exile" may not feel flattered at the license taken by the author who has attempted to indite their biographies, replacing at times facts by fertile and romantic creations of his own imagination, there is something in the book recently published which is calculated to entertain the reader and to prove to him that the great ones of this earth have to bear their trials and crosses. The future Queen of Spain quitted Paris this morning for Biarritz. Within a few days she will be among her new people, listening to the shouts of the crowd of Madrid, who will acclaim her as she enters the capital. Everything seems pleasant for her, and her almost triumphant journey contrasts strangely with that being made by another august lady whose last hopes lie buried in the vault at Chiselhurst, and who, broken down with grief, is now hastening toward the land of the Spaniard to receive the benison of a dying mother. The stern rule of the Republic which proclaimed imperial *déchéance* has been relaxed at the request of the English government. Every vestige of the Empire has been removed, and the twenty years of prosperity France enjoyed have been effaced from the memories of a time-serving people which has uprooted the landmarks of a once popular *régime*. Few knew that the President of the Republic and the Ministry had sanctioned the request made, and that General Fleury had taken with him to England permission for the ex-Empress to pass through Paris on her way to Madrid to visit the Countess de Montijo. The inner room of the station was cleared some minutes before the train arrived in Paris, and a strong body of police was in attendance. The landau of the Duc de Mouchy was drawn up opposite the door, and behind it was a cab for the police escort, composed of MM. Canbet and Boucher-Cadart, with four of their myrmidons. Beyond a dozen people who were among the crowd waiting for friends and relatives, no one in the yard of the station knew that the Empress was about to visit Paris for the first time since she quitted the capital in 1870. The travellers, most of them English, stood aside to let a lady, dressed in very deep mourning and closely veiled, pass. Her Majesty appeared to lean heavily on the arm of the Duc de Bassano, who raised his hat several times in acknowledgment of the tributes of sympathy and respect paid to the august and unfortunate lady whom he accompanied. The two employés who stand at the door and levy the municipal dues on the different articles enumerated in the tariff stood for a moment and then they appeared to recognize the lady, and, forgetting that they were officials belonging to a republican government, they removed their *kepis* and abstained from asking whether the lady or gentleman had anything to declare. Not a word was uttered, not a cry was raised as the Empress, seemingly overcome with emotion, walked slowly along the line of people to the carriage awaiting her. Heads were bared as she passed by, and tears stood in the eyes of more than one person when those who knew the Empress years ago, when she was in the zenith of her beauty and influence, contrasted her present widowed and childless position with that she once held in Parisian society. The carriage, containing the Empress, a lady and the Duc de Bassano, drove straight to the Boulevard de Courcelles, the residence of the Duc de Mouchy. The landau was followed by the hack cab, containing the police, and the latter took up their positions outside the mansion of the Duc as if to prevent any manifestation. Those who saw the Empress say that her late trials have greatly altered her, and that sorrow and grief have left indelible marks on her handsome countenance, once so happy and full of hope. Her Majesty quitted Paris early this morning. The carriage which drove her to the station passed by special desire along the new road the Paris Municipal Council has opened in front of the ruins of the Tuileries dividing the old palace from the private garden. What must have been the feelings of the august lady as she saw the blackened ruins of the place where she had lived and spent so many happy hours? There was the garden, with its well known statues, and the broad walk where some dozen years ago a boy, who was the idol of his parents and the hope of his country, rode round and round on his bicycle, laughing and talking with his comrades. On the left of the carriage was the Salle des Marechaux, with the legend "Honneur et Patrie," written in letters of gold against the scorched and blackened wall where kings and princes had been received in 1867, and where balls had been given rivalling in magnificence the splendor of some Eastern tale. Nine years ago Her Majesty left the Tuileries in exile.

FIGHTING ON LEBANON.

CONFLICT BETWEEN MUSSULMANS AND DRUSES—TURKISH TROOPS ASSIST THE FORMER—SUBMISSION OF THE HAURANEES.

A correspondent forwards to the London *Morning Post* a lengthy account of the late conflict between Mussulmans and Druses in the Hauran, an event, he says, "which marks an epoch in the progress toward civilization of a noted tribe of marauders which has never before been brought to answer for its delinquencies." It appears that the conflict had its origin chiefly in the abduction by a Druse of a young Arab girl and her recapture by some Mussulman peasants. The Druses made an attack on the village of Bassir, and Midhat Pacha's officers reinforced the Hauranees. The following account of the facts is given:—A column of Druses, 800 strong, advanced to make a demonstration against the Hauranees, who were encamped at a short distance from headquarters. To this demonstration, menacing an unexpected attack, the Hauranees responded and a combat ensued. The latter, probably finding themselves incapable of resisting, demanded succor. The commander, Djemil Pacha, immediately despatched to the place of combat a detachment of gendarmes, followed by two companies of regular infantry, giving instructions to the gendarmes to order the Hauranees to retreat and thus to cause hostilities to cease. The efforts made by the officer in command of the gendarmes to stop the fight had produced the desired effect and the Hauranees commenced to retreat, when the two companies of regular infantry arriving at the spot in charge of a captain commenced firing with or without orders. This naturally caused an engagement, in which unfortunately the officer was killed. On hearing this fusilade Djemil Pacha, probably suspecting that the gendarmes had not succeeded in accordance with his first order in establishing peace, leaving the camp immediately with two other companies, came to the spot to arrest hostilities and establish an understanding between the parties. He was received with a volley from the Druses, found it necessary to despatch an aide-de-camp for reinforcements, and the battle became general. It resulted in the retreat of the Druses with a loss of 300 killed, and in the occupation of their village by regular troops. The loss to the battalion amounted to sixty men killed and wounded. No engagement has since ensued, and all hostilities have ceased. A certain Said Bey Talhouk, a notable Druse of the Lebanon, besought the Pacha to accept his intervention. His Highness, ever animated with a conciliatory spirit, accepted and permitted him to join his coreligionists to make them hear reason. A despatch from Said Bey Talhouk announces that all the Druses have retired, that the springs which were diverted by the rebels have been opened freely to the soldiers, that the culprits claimed shall be given up to the authorities, and that all the chief Druses will appear before His Highness to implore his pardon and to submit completely to his commands. This is a happy issue out of troubles which under other auspices might have been of long duration, and which only the name of Midhat Pacha, his acknowledged firmness, energy and benevolence could have produced.

LONDON CLUB LAW.

The difficulty which has lately arisen between the Beefsteak Club and Mr. Labouchere is the subject of much discussion in the London journals. *Vanity Fair* says:—"But what we do very much concern ourselves with is the entirely new and very dangerous and destructive principle of club law which the committee of the Beefsteak Club have laid down, and on which they have acted. That principle is that it is right and necessary to expel from a club any man who makes an attack in a newspaper upon another member of the same club. What are the consequences of the new and contrary principles which the committee have affirmed? Simply that every club becomes the inquisitor into every act done by every member to every other member. If A takes away B's cook, buys a house over B's head, throws doubts upon the chances of B's horse for the Derby, A must be turned out of every club to which B belongs; and this must be done, be it observed, quite irrespective of the question whether A is or is not justified in his conduct. If C, who belongs to the Athenæum as well as D, ventures to declare his opinion that D's last book is dull and unreadable, or if he alleges that D is a member of a government of thimbleriggers, he also must be turned out of the Athenæum. If E, an actor, who belongs to the Beefsteak Club as well as F, the eminent tragedian, should dare to present to the public a burlesque travesty of F's "Shylock," E must be turned out of the Beefsteak. If G, who belongs to the Devonshire with H, should accuse H in a public print of being unpatriotic in his public utterances, out goes G. Nay, if H, who belongs together with I to the Turf Club, should seduce I's hatmaker into ironing his own hats better than I's, then H must be expelled. It is useless to answer that Mr. Labouchère's attacks on Mr. Lawson were especially objectionable and cruel. This is granted; but if a club may take up outside quarrels when they are serious, so may it do so when they are not serious; if it may avenge injuries inflicted outside when they are most objectionable and cruel, so may it do so when they are less or least objectionable or cruel. Once open the portals of the club to outside quarrels, and there is absolutely no limit to club interference. The principle laid down by the committee of the Beefsteak Club is, that there is no limit to it; and if that principle is admitted and generally acted upon it will be absolutely impossible for any club to exist, unless every member of it is prepared to accept, to approve and to admire every action, however trivial, of every other member of that club, to the most minute particulars, and to refrain from any expression of adverse opinion of even the most trifling character. Fortunately the committees of clubs in London are for the most part composed of gentlemen. Now, gentlemen are always well aware of the necessity for keeping the common ground of a club sacred from individual disputes of an outside character, whether those disputes be of a personal or of a public character. Lawyers who have taken to society, as they take to riding, late in life, may have a difficulty in comprehending either the distinction or the necessity for a distinction between what a club may and what it may not require of its members. But a habit of good society has fortunately given to those who form the committees of the good clubs a finer sense of the proprieties; and though it is necessary to protest against the new principle that has been laid down by the committee of the Beefsteak Club, there is no reason to apprehend that this principle will ever be accepted in clubs of higher standing and greater importance."

ECHOES FROM ABROAD.

In Western Australia a new tariff has been proclaimed which, it is expected, will yield £200,000 per annum.

The attendance at the Sydney International Exhibition since its opening foots up over 180,000. The admission has been fixed at a uniform charge of one shilling.

In Tasmania a Ministerial crisis has occurred, in which the Ministry were defeated and a vote of want of confidence was passed. The Ministers advised dissolution, but the Governor refused to sanction it. Mr. Giblin has formed a new Ministry.

A letter from Adelaide, New Zealand, says:—"Parliament was prorogued on the 25th ult. The Governor's speech alluded to the hopeful prospects of the harvest. Commercial interests, he said, were encouraging. He expressed confidence in the stability of the resources of the colony."

The Sydney *Morning Herald* of October 1 reports that the steamer Strahlerven, designed to test the possibility of conveying frozen meat from Australia, is to leave Sydney for London about the middle of November. She will take from Sydney 600 carcases of beef, 200 of mutton and a quantity of wool, and fill up similarly in Melbourne.

The system of denationalization in Poland is, we learn, pursued with even greater strictness by the Russian government now than formerly. M. Lapoushtin, Curator of Education at Warsaw, has just issued a decree forbidding the students of the university, under severe penalties, to use the Polish language, either in private or in public.

The receipts from the Suez Canal have been steadily decreasing for the last two years. The decrease in 1878 amounted to 1,616,000f., and during the last nine months of the present year there has been a further decrease below the average. During the last three quarters out of 1,121 ships that have passed through the canal 860 bore the British flag.

The value of land in Ireland is so depreciated at this moment, says London *Vanity Fair*, that in the Landed Estates Court, last week, Judge Flanagan declined to allow the sale of an estate in Roscommon, for which no higher offer could be obtained than fourteen years' purchase. There were no fewer than seven estates for sale that day, November 7, but only four were sold. For two of these there was absolutely no bidding. Is this the result of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Land act or of the state of the country? Whatever the cause, it is most serious to landowners and can hardly last.

For the theoretically peaceful occupation of a province the losses of the Austrian army have been considerable. The report on the campaign has just been issued, according to which there have been 47 superior officers and 935 rank and file killed. To these must be added 170 missing, and 33 officers, 228 non-commissioned officers and 2,030 rank and file, who have been swept away by disease—an absolute loss, therefore, of 3,443. To these must be added nearly four thousand wounded, of whom a quarter have been invalided. The strength of the army at present in the field, according to the number of rations issued, is 198,950.

Another Northeast Arctic expedition is spoken of. In a letter to M. Sibiarakoff, Professor Nordenskjöld expresses his intention of undertaking another voyage to the northern coast of Asia as soon as circumstances permit. "After my return," he says, "I think of spending a year on preparing an account of the voyage of the Vega, and it is my desire then to continue the exploration of the icy ocean along the coast of Siberia, making the River Lena the point of departure and the New Siberian Isles the basis of operations. For the object I have proposed to myself—namely, the rendering of the northern part of Asia completely accessible to commercial shipping—the prosecution of these researches is of paramount importance."

In order to prove the superiority of a republican form of government a French liberal paper furnishes the following statistics on the subject of European finance for the current year. The Prussian deficit, it remarks, amounts to 62,500,000f., or a fourteenth of the total budget; that of Austria to 32,000,000f., or the thirty-first part of the total budget; that of Hungary to 45,000,000f., or the thirteenth part of the budget; that of Holland to 17,500,000f., or the fourteenth part of the budget. As for the English floating debt, that has been increased by 238,000,000f.; and the theoretical equilibrium of the Italian and Russian budgets has only been obtained by means which leave a very large margin for the deficits of the future. The state of Spanish finance needs no comment. The French surplus, adds the writer, will not be less than 100,000,000f. this year—a fact which we are told should inspire serious reflections among neighboring nations.

Some new light may be expected to be thrown upon contemporary history by the work on which Kossuth has been for some time past engaged. Despite his advanced age Kossuth daily devotes ten hours out of every twenty-four to the work of composition, compilation and arrangement, for the book he is about to give the world will consist not only of his personal memoirs, but of his political writings and speeches, whose name is Legion. The first volume is announced for publication before the end of the present year. It will be perused nowhere with more lively interest than within the family circle of the Emperor-King, in the first year of whose reign the great Magyar patriot was condemned to death as a rebel and compelled to quit his country, a proscribed and penniless exile. The Crown Prince Rudolph is as enthusiastic an admirer of the Hungarian language and literature as are his august parents, and Kossuth's orations in that tongue, unrivalled for elegance of style, are favorite reading with the future Hungarian King. A pleasant story is told how, some short time ago, he learned by mere accident that one of the speeches in question had been kept back from him by his tutor, on the ground that it advocated the dethronement and expulsion of the Hapsburg dynasty. His Imperial Highness asked for the speech, but could not obtain it from his attendants, whereupon he appealed to the Emperor, and Francis Joseph at once gave orders that it should be procured for his son, whose desire to read it met with his entire approval.

As a politic concession to the vehement indignation excited throughout Germany by the scandalous attack upon German women recently published in the *Wiedomosti*, of St. Petersburg, the Russian police authorities suspended for three months that journal's privilege of street sale. It appears that the wrath aroused in Teutonic minds by the article alluded to, which, as will be remembered, stigmatized the matrons and maidens of the Fatherland when of a lively disposition as "prancing cows crowned with rose wreaths," and insolently asseverated that "they are not altogether human beings at any time," has brought down upon its author a very deluge of irate letters from all parts of the German Empire. One of these, which may serve as a specimen, has been made public by its recipient, as well as the reply which it elicited from him:—"Berlin, 30th October.—It is lucky for you, Sir, that you reside in a city far distant from Berlin, otherwise I would punish you in a highly exemplary manner for your abominable article upon German women. As, however, the distance separating us prevents me from so doing, consider yourself as having been properly thrashed by me, B. Nochstetter, 132, Oranienstrasse." The Russian feuilletonist, however deficient he may be in good taste, is certainly a very funny person, as the following answer to the above convincingly demonstrates:—"Petersburg, 4th November.—Honored Sir—At the very moment in which you raised your cudgel to belabor me I succeeded in drawing a revolver from my pocket and in shooting you dead on the spot. I therefore request you to consider yourself shot. My address is No. 14 Wladimirskaia."

PILOTS' PRIVILEGES.

MERCHANTS AND SHIPOWNERS CLAIM THE PROTECTION OF THE LAW—FURTHER REDUCTION OF PILOTAGE FEES DEMANDED.

On the invitation of the Maritime Association of this port a large meeting of merchants and ship owners was held yesterday afternoon in the rooms of the Board of Managers of the Maritime Exchange for the purpose of agreeing upon some plan to change the State Pilotage laws. Mr. Charles F. Elwell, president of the Maritime Exchange, acted as chairman, and among the audience were several Sandy Hook pilots. The chairman called for a report from the committee appointed by the Exchange to confer with committees from the Chamber of Commerce, Produce Exchange, Shipowners' Association and the New York pilots, in relation to a reduction of pilotage charges. Mr. J. Ernest Miller in reply said that three different conferences had been held with the pilots without result, the latter only offering a reduction of fifteen per cent in their charges, while the merchants and shipowners were unanimous in their demand for a reduction of thirty-three per cent. In addition, he said that the pilots had insisted that masters, owners or consignees of vessels should give them twenty-four hours' notice of their sailing under the penalty of forfeiting full pilotage charges. This demand, Mr. Miller characterized as an insult to the entire mercantile community, and he denounced it as another bad clause which the pilots desired added to the obnoxious pilotage laws which have been in existence for the past twenty-five years. On motion of Mr. G. A. Brett the report of the committee was received and ordered placed on file. The chairman then asked for suggestions or information from the merchants present, and Mr. Miller responded, endeavoring to prove that the pilotage system of this port was a monstrous monopoly. He insisted that the pilotage laws should be revised and that many clauses should be expunged altogether. He denounced the present Pilot Commissioners as mere figureheads, and claimed that the latter could not render a single decision which pilots were bound to accept. The speaker gave no credit to the pilots for offering to reduce their charges, but said that they were forced to do so by the system of steam pilotage now introduced, which had taken the wind out of their sails. He thought that $2,500 a year was sufficient salary for a pilot when captains of English steamers receive only from $1,000 to $2,500 per annum.

BETTER LAWS REQUIRED.

He contended that the mercantile community should go to the Legislature and endeavor to secure the passage of a free pilotage bill, or at least a reduction in the pilotage charges of thirty-three per cent. If no redress could be obtained at Albany then the merchants and shipowners should go to Washington and demand of Congress their rights as citizens. The provisions of the constitution of the United States, he stated, had been violated by the Hell Gate pilots, who had contracted not to charge any fees to owners of vessels residing in Suffolk county, while they insisted on half pilotage rates from owners residing in Kings county and Connecticut, even if the pilots had only spoken their vessels. He read a protest against this system of favoritism, signed by seventeen shipmasters of Boston, who claimed that it was an unjust tax imposed by this State on her sister States which do business through Hell Gate channel. Pilots should be held responsible to the amount of their fees for any damage done to vessels while in their charge.

On motion of Mr. Thomas P. Ball, of the Produce Exchange, the committee was retained with power to act. A resolution was subsequently adopted adding five members to the committee and giving them power to collect money to publish pamphlets and to go to Albany and Washington with eminent counsel for the purpose of seeking redress.

Several pilots were approached after the meeting. They expressed their determination to fight the matter out. They complained that the merchants' demand of thirty-three per cent reduction in charges was preposterous. Pilot Harbinson admitted that his craft might possibly agree to a reduction of twenty per cent (five per cent more than they had offered) and said that a ballot was now being taken on the question of this further reduction of rates.

THE WRIT OF PROHIBITION.

There was an extended argument during the day before Judge Brady in Supreme Court, Chambers, on the question of making permanent or otherwise the temporary writ of prohibition against the Pilot Commissioners recently granted on behalf of George H. Sisco, one of the pilots of the pilot steamboat Hercules. It will be remembered that the Pilot Commissioners directed Mr. Sisco to show cause why he should not be tried before the Board upon a charge of violating a recent bylaw prohibiting the use of steamboats in the pilotage service. The writ of prohibition was to prevent this trial. Mr. William Allen Butler, who represented the Commissioners, claimed that Mr. Sisco had mistaken his remedy, which he claimed should either be by certiorari or mandamus proceedings against the Board after it had suspended him or revoked his license. The Board, he argued, under this act, has a right to pass any bylaw it considers beneficial to commerce. After a statement by Mr. Thomas H. Bracken of the facts of the controversy between pilots in favor of steam vessels and those opposed, an extended argument in reply to Mr. Butler was made by Mr. John E. Parsons. His chief point was that the bylaw (No. 42) under which the Pilot Board is acting is ex post facto, having been passed subsequent to the use of the steamboat Hercules as a pilot boat, and that it cannot be made applicable to the present case. He called attention to the fact that steam pilot boats are extensively in use in Europe, and also in the harbor at New Orleans, and that they are found vastly more serviceable than sailing vessels.

At the close of the argument Judge Brady took the papers for examination.

A CHURCH UNDER THE HAMMER.

CAUSES WHICH LED TO THE SALE OF ST. ANTHONY'S, OF GREENPOINT, L. I.—WRECKED FORTUNES TO BE RETRIEVED.

The Catholic community of Greenpoint, L. I., is greatly agitated over the fact that St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, the largest and finest edifice on "Gospel Hill," has been sold at public auction, under foreclosure of mortgage. Not only the church but all the real property of the parish—the parsonage, the parochial schoolhouse and the old church building as well—have also been knocked down to the highest bidder; and now the parishioners are inquiring, "How shall we get our money back?" for large numbers of them hold larger or smaller certificates of indebtedness or bonds of the former pastor to an amount said to be equal in the aggregate to the mortgages. The parish of St. Anthony has been established over twenty years, and was considered a flourishing one up to a recent date. For some time it occupied a modest frame structure in Kent street. But early in 1872, when everything looked prosperous and before the fall in real estate commenced, Rev. William Lane, a talented and eloquent priest, was placed in charge. The young man achieved instant popularity among his parishioners, and soon became imbued with the idea that the old house was not good enough for himself and them. His people rallied round him, and at last he purchased a large piece of ground at a very high price from the agent of Mr. Samuel J. Tilden.

AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING.

The land is located on Manhattan avenue, near Greenpoint avenue, at the highest point of elevation known as Gospel Hill, because of the numerous churches erected on it. Contracts were made and signed and the church erected at extravagant figures, as was also a parsonage, the latter costing over $19,000. For a strip of land connecting the church with the back street $5,000 was paid. The prospective growth in property value and in population seemed to justify all this outlay, and as his inexperience led him to carry on the work personally there was no board of trustees to share the responsibility or advise the priest as to his measures; hence the difficulties which finally overwhelmed his administration of the temporal affairs of St. Anthony's Church. Pecuniary aid was volunteered by his people, who accepted certificates of indebtedness or bonds for the individual amounts, bearing interest at seven per cent. Merchants and dealers accepted the same in settlement of accounts, and things went on swimmingly for a time. Then came the downfall in values, and the pastor with horror saw the abyss that yawned before him. But the matter had then gone too far; he thought it was better to keep on in the hope of saving all than to lose everything by a forced retreat. The work was therefore pushed forward, and on Sunday, June 14, 1875, the building was dedicated with imposing ceremonies. Then a programme was laid down for wiping out the indebtedness. Some $90,000 in mortgages and about $60,000 in certificates were outstanding, on which there was an annual interest of $10,500 to be paid. The plasterer—a poor member of the church, who had mortgaged his little house to supply the material to complete his work—was clamoring for $2,500 due him. Lumber dealers, brickmakers and others to whom the church owed thousands each, demanded an early settlement. It was decided, therefore, as fast as money came in to settle with the most clamorous and let other claims and the current interest go unpaid. Affairs, instead of growing better, became worse, for many charged favoritism in the settlement of claims. Suits were brought under the mortgages for default of interest and judgment was obtained and the legal expenses added still further to the burdens of the pastor.

TERMS OF SETTLEMENT.

A few weeks ago the Manhattan Life Insurance Company advertised the property for sale and Mr. Lane was relieved from his charge, Rev. Father Murphy, of Rockaway, being installed in his place. The church's burden of debts was then $165,000. The sale was advertised, and on Wednesday last the edifice was sold at public auction in the city of Brooklyn, the insurance company buying it on one of the mortgages foreclosed for $15,000. The insurance company pledged themselves, on payment of $1,000 per month, to allow the church to redeem itself at that rate, and Bishop Loughlin advanced from the diocesan treasury $1,000 two days ago to pay the first instalment. Father Murphy has, so far as possible, called upon the creditors of the church who held certificates, and has induced them in some few instances to hold back their claims and in others to give up all claim of interest, but the greater number feel it a severe hardship, and bitterly declaim against the mismanagement that led to such straits.

The officers of the Manhattan Life Insurance Company say they have no idea of taking title under the sale. They have been exceedingly lenient with the church and intend to be so in the future, as the parish, by the payment of $1,000 per month, can soon make up the defaults of interest, which since July, 1876, amounts to $18,375. When Bishop Loughlin was called on he was very noncommittal and no information could be extracted from him. "You yourself ought to know all about it," he said, "I look to the HERALD for all the news."

TABERNACLE AND PRESBYTERY.

WAITING FOR FORMAL ACTION ON THE PART OF TALMAGE'S CONGREGATION.

The action of the trustees of the Brooklyn Tabernacle in recommending the withdrawal of the church from the Presbytery was yesterday the subject of lively discussion in the City of Churches and a vigorous reply from Mr. Talmage's assailants was expected. So far, however, that expectation has not been fulfilled, and the members of the Presbytery seem determined to take no public notice, for the present at least, of the statements published by Mr. Talmage's friends. It is asserted on good authority that until the Tabernacle congregation take definite action and apply for a separation the Presbytery will ignore the whole matter. But that there will be no amicable settlement is conceded, and the Tabernacle may be regarded as practically an independent church for the future. There will possibly be some legal proceedings also, to add to the interest of the quarrel, as the trustees claim that all church property belongs to the congregation, the Presbytery having no claim on it, while prominent members of the latter body think that, as the money was collected for Presbyterian purposes and the Presbytery is a chartered body, the Tabernacle people cannot legally do as they please with it. A sum of $500 is said to be still due for assessments for the ordinary work of the church, such as expenses of the General Assembly and Synod, and a demand for this by the Presbytery would probably be refused. Yet without the payment of all claims against the Tabernacle the Presbytery will hardly give it the necessary permission to separate.

A HERALD reporter called on Rev. Henry J. Van Dyke, but found him indisposed to say anything on the subject. He said he considered it more dignified and becoming to take no notice of "such silly stuff" as some of Mr. Talmage's friends had spoken about him and therefore would not reply. It will be remembered that Mr. Van Dyke was accused of persecuting Mr. Talmage through a feeling of jealousy.

WELL RID OF THE TABERNACLE.

Rev. Dr. Crosby was found at his residence, in Flatbush avenue; but he, too, was reluctant to say anything publicly on the matter. He said, however, that he thought the withdrawal of the Tabernacle from the Presbytery would be productive of good results and that it had long been foreseen. The Tabernacle had been of only one benefit to the Presbyterian Church, and that was by rolling up its membership; but it was questionable whether that was a real good, considering the peculiar tendencies of the Tabernacle and the manner of admitting members. He said the talk about persecuting Mr. Talmage was absurd. On the question of doctrine he said Mr. Talmage's orthodoxy had never been questioned. He was perfectly certain, for instance, that Mr. Talmage could pass an examination before any authorized body, but then his whole tone and manner were such as not to command respect. In fact, the Tabernacle included all the evil tendencies of the day, and the Presbyterian Church would be better without it. Dr. Crosby said he did not care to have these things published, as he did not feel disposed to go before the public in such a controversy, and he was only just recovering from a severe attack of neuralgia. He did not think there would be any "row," and until the elders of the Tabernacle or the Church itself spoke the action of the trustees amounted to nothing, as they had no jurisdiction.

Several prominent Presbyterian laymen were also visited, but they were unwilling to have their names appear in connection with the controversy.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

The annual sermon for the Association of the Propagation of the Faith was preached last evening in St. Vincent de Paul's (Roman Catholic) Church, West Twenty-third street, by Rev. F. Glackmeyer, S. J. This association was first organized in France about one hundred years ago, and has now its branches in every portion of the civilized world. The object, as the name implies, is the propagation of the Roman Catholic faith in all countries. Its members are expected to subscribe one cent per week, and though this sum seems ridiculously small, the number of subscribers is so great that with the aggregate amount collected throughout the world the association is able to support a college at Rome and send missionaries to all parts of the globe. As the society originated in France the annual sermon is always given in the French Roman Catholic Church of this city, of which Rev. E. Aubril is rector, and Rev. G. Septier, who is the authorized collector of all donations to the society in the archdiocese of New York, is assistant pastor. In the sermon last evening Father Glackmeyer told the story of the Catholic missionaries, their labors and their privations.

ONLY THE LORD'S PRAYER.

There appeared in the HERALD, a few days ago, a complaint by a gentleman named Foster to the effect that his children had received religious instruction in one of the Eighth ward schools. On the letter coming under the notice of City Superintendent Jasper that gentleman instituted an investigation, the result of which, he says, establishes the fact that the complaint is unfounded. It seems, Mr. Jasper says, that in Primary School No. 38 three classes did not assemble in the main room owing to the room being too small, and in one of these classes Miss Breen, the teacher, has been in the habit of opening the exercises with the Lord's Prayer, in saying which the pupils join. This, Mr. Jasper says, is all the ground there is for charging that children receive religious instruction. He reports that the teacher, who is of the same religious faith as Mr. Foster, certainly had no intention to affect the religious training of the children.

ALFRED LAGRAVE'S ARREST.

Additional particulars regarding the arrest in Frankfort-on-the