

majority can scoff at the fears or at the reasonable apprehensions of law-abiding and loyal subjects throughout Ireland, and do not incurring any personal risk. Mr Gladstone has more shamefully and more grossly violated the principles of the nation than either Charles I. or his son Strafford, but without the risk that these tyrants incurred. The time is approaching when Mr Gladstone's must reach its crisis. He has been led to play the revolutionist too far. The men in Belfast are such as could not be seduced in any other great city of the world. Merchants and artisans, clerks and working-men, noble and peasant, professional men and all classes of labourers; the streets in their thousands protest with all the power they possess against the threatened infringement of their rights. They don't want to interfere with anyone else, and they will let nobody else to interfere with them. Agitation against Home Rule is increasing, and will increase still further. The Loyalists in Ireland have behind them the majority of the English people, who are prepared to act as they see fit. The men who throng the streets of the Northern Capital to-day are fighting up for the rights and liberties of all classes of Irishmen, as well as for their own. The crisis is rapidly developing itself. From the start the Home Rule Bill never had a chance unless from the apathy of the Unionists. Apathy exists no longer. The foulest piracy that ever was planned against the rights of a free people is being gradually exposed, and its pernicious details are being brought to the light and held up to public view. It is not all in a moment that a people seduced by the name of Gladstone can be made to realise that for six years a plot has been planned and concocted in Mr. Gladstone's brain, under the pretence of a plan for a better government of Ireland. A vast majority cannot yet realise the baseness and treachery of the man they raised to power. When they do, the revulsion will leave nothing to be desired. Till this takes place the Unionists may live on hope; but they must work hard to bring about the desired result.

Tomorrow the election of Chairman, Vice, and Deputy-Vice Chairmen of Limerick Union will take place, and the occasion promises to be of considerable interest, inasmuch as a contest seems to be inevitable. The gentlemen who have filled these respective positions for the past twelve months have proved themselves excellent business men, and conducted the business of the Board in a fair and impartial manner, knowing no distinction whatever in politics so far as the legitimate business of the Board is concerned. As a result everything has gone on satisfactorily, and the Board room has been

the present week. On Doonass fishery, Mr J Miller got on the 27th, one salmon, 10½ lbs; Mr B L Marples, on Prospect fishery, on 24th, one salmon, 32 lbs, on 25th, one salmon, 13 lbs, on 28th, one salmon, 26 lbs; Mr A C McCorquodale, on the Newgarden fishery, on 25th, one salmon, 31 lbs; Mr G C Williams, on same water, on 27th, one salmon, 30 lbs, on 30th, one salmon, 14 lbs; Mr H F Birley, on Hermitage fishery, on 26th, one salmon, 11 lbs; Mr A C McCorquodale, on same water, on 27th, one salmon 32 lbs; Mr G W Greenhill, on Summerhill and DeBurgho fishery, on 31st, one salmon, 9 lbs.

**HOLY WEEK IN ENNISCORTHY.**—The People says:—"The ceremonies incidental to Holy Week were carried out in the Cathedral, Enniscorthy, with the customary solemnity. On the evenings of Spy Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday there was Tenebrae Office, the choir, for the first time since its inception, singing harmonized arrangements of the "Benedictus" and "Miserere." The former was invariably sung in unison by the choir in the past, and the latter was now introduced for the first time. Mr A. Fitzgerald (late of Limerick), the new organist and choirmaster, conducted the services efficiently, and very successfully surmounted the difficulties which presented themselves, owing to the short time available for choral practice since his recent appointment."

**DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.**—Within the past week there passed away from amongst us one of the oldest and most respected of our fellow-citizens, in the person of Mr Nicholas Lynch. His death took place at his residence, George's Quay, on Tuesday, 28th March, to the grief of his sorrowing wife and family. Mr Lynch was a descendant of the old Lynch family of Galway, and was born in St. Mary's parish, in the city of Limerick. He took an active part in politics during the time of O'Connell, and was an ardent admirer of the Liberator. The funeral took place on Wednesday at three o'clock, from St. Mary's Parish, and was representative of the old classes of the community, including the fishermen and tradesmen, who turned out in large numbers to pay their last tribute of respect to their dear and departed friend. The Rev. Father Fitzgerald, P.P., performed the last ceremonies.

**THEATRE ROYAL.**

Miss Isabel Bateman, supported by Mr Edward Compton's Specially Organised Company, commenced a six nights' engagement at the Theatre Royal, last evening, before a good house. *Jane Shore*, a very fine drama, full of pathetic and touching situations, was the piece selected. It is one which from its very nature requires in its representation great delicacy of treatment, as well as a very high standard of dramatic ability. The performance last night was on the whole, good, and though it did not arouse any great enthusiasm, still it created considerable interest and a few of the leading artistes were heartily received. The plot deals with a fascinating woman who leaves the comforts of home, as well as a fond husband and child to become a gaudy appendage of a profligate court. She falls from her position, and returns once more to her old home from which she is, however, spurned, and is forced to undergo cruel and untold of sufferings, even at the hands of her former flatterers. The scene where in the snow-storm, ill-clad and shivering, she is pleading for bread, is particularly touching, and was about the best presented in the play. Miss Bateman, who is an exceedingly clever actress, portrayed the title role in a highly realistic manner. She acted with grace and feeling which were most natural, and won the best opinions of the house. Mr A. E. W. Mason as "Henry Shore" gave a very powerful representation of the part of the much wronged husband; while Mr G. R. Peach as the "Duke of Gloucester" supplied a very capable performance. The *dramatis personae* comprised very many parts, all of which were well presented, and the play was nicely mounted. *Jane*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.  
DEAR SIR—Just a word in reply to Mr Gibson, whose attack on "the arch-plunderer W E Gladstone," I cordially endorse.

Mr Gibson denies that we receive at present Parliamentary grants in aid of local taxation of the amount of two millions sterling. I beg to refer him to this year's Thom's Directory, p 672, where he will find the details, and that actual amount for last year was £2,013,094. cannot adopt his conclusions that, though we shall have to pay into the Imperial Treasury annually, should this bill pass, the interest on our debt of £30,000,000, which he over estimates at two millions—the actual amount being a million and a quarter—in addition to the annual tribute under the bill, viz, £2,370,000 (the customs duties), we "should be paying two and a half millions less than we pay at present to the Imperial Treasury." The fallacy here is easily exposed. Mr Gibson assumes (see his letter of March 23rd) that Ireland receives only two millions at present from the Imperial Treasury out of the seven millions two hundred and fifty-five thousand pounds, paid into the Treasury, whereas, we receive back nearly four millions in addition, the Imperial Treasury retaining for Imperial purposes the balance, or between one and five per cent of the total expenditure of the United Kingdom for Imperial purposes which amounts to £59,000,000 a year.

According to the Treasury minute, dated February 24th, 1893, the estimated expenditure for the future Irish Exchequer for local purposes would be £5,160,000, and the total estimated receipts, £5,660,000, so that it is plain that in no circumstances could there be a deficit of two millions in our favour. We, Unionists, that even the estimated surplus of £500,000 is a mere paper surplus concocted and factored by the "arch-plunderer, W E Gladstone," to aid the Home Rule Bill for a great Irish people.

It is easy to say that "the arguments put Lord Ebury's mouth are directly in opposition to facts." Let us have Mr Gibson's fact figures, which I have no doubt are as substantial as his apocryphal two and a half millions. I am, sir,

A LIBERAL UNION

Limerick, April 3rd.

**ENFORCEMENT OF LEGAL DECREES IN IRELAND.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR—Mr Morley in his inconsequent venture to pooch-pooch the unanimous judgment of the Irish Bench condemning his refusal to execute the sheriff of Kerry at night. I am to understand why the Conservatives have applied for an attachment against him for contempt of Court. The Judges very plainly intimated he stood within their danger, and it be well that this Thersites should bear the weight of the sceptre of the law.

He proposes to put himself in the right of legislation. Should he do so, it is to be hoped he will merely curtail the powers of the Executive. Yet no Irish subject calls more for the attention of the Legislature than the revision of the means existing for the enforcement of legal decrees. In England the office of the sheriff, though absurdly antiquated, is, by the assent of the people serviceable. In Ireland the sheriff is by the public enemy, and his functions might combine all those circumstances of inefficiency, corruption, and insult which should be the study of the Executive to avoid. The office is past mending; it should be abolished and the decrees of the Courts should be executed by the Constabulary. They are ubiquitous, trustworthy; continuity would be imposed if they held the warrants; and surely once ascertained law must be desired by any Government. I cannot ask you to follow the ramifications of this topic, but just point out that a precedent exists. The Constabulary carry out the Small Debts and Petty Sessions Acts, and do so in a manner