

The report of the Congested Board for Ireland is a record of progress. The Irish Land Act has already been of assistance in the purchase of land for the enlargement of holdings, and will also be the means of rapidly extending the migration work. As regards agriculture, this branch of the Board's work has now been handed over to the Department of Agriculture to prevent the clashing of the education and other schemes. As regards the purchase of lands, as a result of the Irish Land Act, the Board have been enabled during the last twelve months to purchase 45,617 acres; in other words, they have acquired in one year an area equal to one-fifth of all other previous purchases. They are now in treaty for the purchase of fifteen other properties containing about 35,000 acres. The great importance of the fishing industry in the Congested Districts has been fully appreciated by the Board. The spring mackerel fisheries are very successful this year in marked contrast to last year's result. The herring fishing was much later than usual this year. The demand for lace and crochet has not been as good as during the two previous years. Nearly £6,000 was spent on engineering and other works during the year. One other branch of the work of the Board is the encouragement, through Parish Committees of useful and permanent improvements in the people's dwellings, holdings, and general surroundings. The results have in most cases been very satisfactory, so much so that the scheme has been extended and the grants increased. The number of agricultural banks has now increased to 77. These useful institutions are gradually but surely extending their operations among the very large class of small farmers and cottiers for whose benefit they were established.

THOUGHTS FOR TO-NIGHT AND TO-MORROW.

Let a man contend to the uttermost
For this life's set prize, be it what it
will.

Robert Browning.

No amount of polish can make a pearl out of a pebble.

DEATH IN THE STREET.

An aged woman named Hanora Cusack, of Curtin's lane, was taken suddenly ill in Patrick-street last evening. She was removed in the Corporation ambulance to Barrington's Hospital where, on examination by the House Surgeon, life was found to be extinct. The remains were subsequently conveyed to the morgue, pending the decision of the Coroner as to the advisability of an inquest.

ace, king, queen, ... following inscription:—"Now, boys, I have shown you my hand. Come inside and show me your feet."—The Rev. M. B. Williams, a Chicago Methodist minister, flavours flirting in church. "The expectation of seeing a young woman home," he says, "has brought many a man to church for the first time."—In the Lower Kennington-lane there is a stone and monumental mason who advertises his business by decking out his front garden as a miniature cemetery.—A market-gardener at Heybridge, near Maldon (Essex), has just unearthed some giant potatoes. The largest potato scales 2lb 9oz., and the second largest 2lb 2oz. The same gardener has over twenty bushels of potatoes at present weighing over 1lb each.—After hiccupping constantly for five days and nights the Rev. Galen Spencer, a Methodist, has died at Greenwich, Connecticut.—An exhibition of home pets at Plaistow included thirty-two babies. A bachelor's offer of a prize for the homeliest was diverted in order not to offend the mothers.—"See my heart is taken out, as I shall not be dead." This instruction was made in a letter to his wife by Joseph Matthews, who committed suicide on the railway near Kirkstall.—The Rongten rays applied to a scoldier, named Taggio at Naples, discovered the curious fact that he had a heart on the right as well as on the left side of his body.—An apple (a Peasgood Non-such) met with a few days ago in Essex, had a circumference of 4in. and a weight of 2lb. 1oz.—Soon after remarking that there were thirteen guests at a dinner given in his honour on Saturday evening, County Commissioner Brewer, of Meriden, Connecticut, fell dead.

CHIPS.

The good are not so good as they think themselves; the wicked are not so wicked as the good think them.

All true knowledge contradicts commonsense.

The sole use of knowledge is to enable you to distinguish between what is true and what is plausible.

Little sins never stay small.

Happiness is health of heart.

A wrong is always worth forgetting.

THE JUDGE'S REBUKE.

FALSE SWEARING.

A process-server at Ennistymon Quarter Sessions first deposed to personal service of a process and subsequently said he put it through the door at midnight, and that he made a mistake in the house. Judge Carton said he swore falsely, and if it occurred again he would dismiss him on the spot. This conduct was monstrous. The case depending on the process fell through.

NEW BUOYS AT FOYNES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Foynes harbour authorities have put down two mooring buoys to the North-West and North-East of the jetty for the use of shipping frequenting the port and have issued a notice to mariners on the matter.

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