

regulating the taking of prizes and the
 tion of merchant shipping during war-
 ave been violated by the unrestricted
 the U-boats." And this is the
 as we find it to-day, notwithstanding
 Czernin's specious peace proposals
 sia, and the effort made through that
 sted and divided country to open up
 rlers with the Allies. The Count is
 t enough of a diplomatist to realise
 o road to peace is to be found by the
 and through the agencies that have
 at work in the countries of the Central
 ra and their vassals. Indeed, it
 ns to be seen whether the
 evils can, and whether Germany
 carry out what is now provisionally
 ged with regard to Russia. The posi-
 of the Allies is, at all events, sufficiently
 e to enable them to await with confidence
 rrial of America's mighty strength.
 a will far more than counterbalance
 ia's defection. Hence, Germany's
 ish anxiety to bring about, in the mean-
 some sort of a patched-up peace with
 ia, hoping that, if achieved, it would
 some influence on the rest of the
 d. But she will be disappointed. We
 fighting for justice and security. The
 ker put the pertinent question: Has
 ce or reparation been done? Has
 e been any suggestion on the part of our
 nies that they regretted the action they
 taken? "Absolutely none," said the
 ker, and "so far as the security went, we
 d in no better position now than in
 ust, 1914. The conclusion of his
 iment on that matter was that if we
 e right in 1914, and he thought they
 ld agree that we were, what had
 pened since to alter our opinion. Should
 y not be of the same opinion now? What
 right in August, 1914, was right
 r, and if our security was threatened
 n it was threatened now." In
 re quarters, he added, we were told
 t the Germans were ready for peace. "It
 ght be so, but we have had no evidence
 it." Nor is there, beyond vague
 eralities respecting "no annexations or
 lemities." And as to "no indemnities"
 if that means that nothing is to be paid
 Germany to the countries she has ruth-
 sly devastated and done her best to
 stroy, it is a thing to which, as the
 eaker said, "we would never consent for
 a reason that justice would not be
 sified." And so, as he frankly declared,
 until the proposals were much more precise
 s were not in the position to offer any
 finite and straight opinion in regard to
 em, and although he was perfectly certain
 at we were ready for peace, we were only
 ady for a peace of justice and for a peace
 hich would give us security, and for no
 her peace." No one can deny that the
 eaker puts our position clearly and im-
 artially. The year which has just passed
 ay has had its ups and downs, its victories
 ad, on the other hand, its disappoint-
 ents, these latter entirely due to the
 ussian collapse. But, taken all in all, the
 llies welcome the year 1918 with high
 ope of ultimate victory for the cause of
 ruth and justice, and freedom for civilisa-

Letter from Lord Emlý.

In reply to an invitation signed by the Earl of Mayo and Lord Oranmore and Browne, to "Irish Peers having residences in Ireland," to attend a meeting to be held in Dublin on Tuesday, 1st January, of Irish Peers (who have residences in Ireland), in view of the signatories being elected last June by the Representative Peers for Ireland as their delegates in the Irish Convention, and the possibility of an agreement being arrived at by that body (the Convention) as to the future Government of Ireland, Lord Emlý has replied as follows—

"Tervoe, December 29th, 1917.

"MY LORDS,—Much as I would like to avail myself of your kind invitation to attend the meeting of Irish Peers having residences in Ireland, I fear I cannot do so. I have not the faintest idea of the questions to be discussed. As a Nationalist I might—may, rather, I assuredly would—find myself in nine questions out of ten in a laughable minority. Anyway, I sincerely hope that at long last balm may be found in Gilead.—I am, yours truly,

"EMLY."

THE COLISEUM.

A tip top programme was presented at the Coliseum last night, when the attendance at the double house was of large proportions. "Hearts of Exile," adapted from the most successful of John Oxenham's romances, was assigned premier position in the bill. It is a play rich in picturesque scenes, and was to lured with keen interest throughout. The exhilarating comedy, entitled "Home Among the Redskins," proved a charming film, while the two act drama, "Three Ways Out," was a decided addition to the performance. The Paramount travels series was an educative film, while the Motoy comedies were well up to the standard of these entertaining films. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the second instalment of "The Girl from 'Erisco," will be presented, as well as the "Book Agent," a delightful story full of refreshing incidents.

DEATH OF MR J DIXON.

Very many friends in the city heard with sincere regret of the death of Mr John Dixon, which occurred at his residence, Wellesley Place, on Saturday evening, after a brief illness. Deceased, who was a native of Meath, had been many years in Limerick, and carried on a successful tobacco business at the Crescent. He was of a very kindly and genial disposition and highly esteemed by all who knew him. Deep sympathy is extended to his widow and to his brothers-in-law, Messrs W J and John South, and other relatives in their bereavement. The remains were removed to St Michael's R.C Church on Sunday evening, and the funeral, which took place yesterday morning at ten o'clock for Mount St Lawrence, was large and representative.

The clergy present were—Rev. Father Dwane, Adm. St Michael's Rev. Father Devane, C.C.; Rev. Father O'Carroll, C.C.; Rev. Fr Tracy, C.C.

The chief mourners were—W J South and John South (brothers-in-law), Thomas O'Neill, John O'Neill, Michael, David and W Sheehan, J Leahy, W O'Neill, Roche's street (cousins).

BURNINGS IN COUNTY TIPPERARY.

Farmers in the Tipperary district are alarmed at the large number of burnings of hay, oats, and straw, that have taken place recently. Within the past two or three months, in different directions outside the town, there have been half-a-dozen or more of these burnings, in which an enormous quantity of valuable foodstuffs has been destroyed. In no case has the origin of the fire been traced. The latest fire was at Mr William Fogarty's, Killeale, where there was a big burning of straw, but an adjoining hayshed and its contents were saved.

THEATRE ROYAL.

An up-to-date vaudeville programme was pro-

The operations in Palestine continue to be attended with great success. In the latest official despatch it is stated that the operations of the 28th and 29th December resulted in a serious defeat for the Turks. With German assistance the enemy made a determined attempt to reach Jerusalem. His attacks were pressed with great vigour, and continued for 26 hours.

General Allenby at once launched a counter-attack against the flank of the Turkish attack. On the 27th the attack progressed, and when the Turkish attack was spent on the 28th a general advance was made. The enemy was driven before our troops, and on the 29th General Allenby secured an important line. In killed and wounded the Turk lost 1,000, with 600 prisoners.

RUSSIAN AND GERMAN POURPARLERS.

Demonstration in Petrograd

A monster demonstration in honour of the success of the pourparlers with Germany took place in Petrograd to-day (Sunday), says a Petrograd message. The demonstration began at 10 o'clock in the morning, and lasted till 5 in the afternoon. Several hundred thousand workmen, soldiers and sailors, took part in a procession, which began in the environs of Petrograd. The Nevsk Prospect was a sea of red standards inscribed with the watchwords of the demonstration.

German Flying Corps Deteriorating.

The Press Association Special Correspondent at the British Headquarters, December 30th says:—

The ground continues to be snow-clad and frozen, and the only belligerent activity worth mentioning lies with the gunners. Even our indomitable airmen are restricted in their operations by the bitter cold and the low visibility. It is becoming increasingly clear that Germany is experiencing great difficulty in maintaining her air service at its present standard of strength and efficiency. Captured enemy airmen are unanimous in stating that the output of new machines has become so limited that only a very restricted proportion of those are available for replacement in the fights employed upon the Western front, the remainder being composed of what our own airmen call "old buses." As the personnel of the German Flying Corps in the field has been considerably weakened by the withdrawal of a number of trained men to act as instructors.

Mentioned in Despatches.

REV W J GALLAGHER, C.F.

The Rev W J Gallagher, C.F., whose name is mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatch of December 7th, is the son of Mr James Gallagher, Queen street, Nenagh. The rev and gallant gentleman was recently gassed at the front, has now completely recovered, and is at present on a visit to his parents at Nenagh. He was ordained about a year and a half ago, and has been about 12 months a chaplain.

CAPT STOKES, R.A.M.C.

We are pleased to observe that Temp Capt D J Stokes, R.A.M.C., has been mentioned in despatches. Dr Stokes joined the Army in 1895 and served in Salonika and France. He is the late Mr W L Stokes, J.P., of this city.

Seven Sons in the Army.

According to the Sydney "Freeman's Journal" Mr and Mrs Michael O'Dwyer, Nth Pitt Melburne, have given seven sons to the Empire's fighting forces. These young soldiers are nephews of the late Most Rev Dr O'Dwyer, Bishop of Melbourne. One of them has been killed.

PREMIER AND INDIA.