

Gladstone, advocate this point tentatively and with due acknowledgment of all that can be said against it. Yet, throughout both his pamphlet and his letter, Canon Trevor assumes this (to say the least of it) doubtful interpretation as the true and recognized one, and no person whose knowledge of the subject was confined to what Canon Trevor is pleased to tell him, would suspect that the slightest doubt existed. We confess we feel repelled from a controversy so conducted, and we altogether fail to perceive either the wisdom or the justice of such a course. Those who already know the arguments *pro* and *con* will not be deceived, and those who do not, it should be our effort to instruct and not mislead. The truth is, that Canon Trevor's letter forms a striking illustration of the manner in which justice would be dispensed by a clerical tribunal like Convocation. With the most thorough desire to be honest and just, and with a great deal of information on the subject, Canon Trevor has yet contrived to present to us a view of well-known historical facts which is terribly one-sided and distorted. What would be the probable result if it were left to a large body of men, most of them equally biassed, but not so well informed, as Canon Trevor, to form a judgment on these facts, and then to apply it to a perhaps unpopular clergyman? We can imagine no arrangement less favourable for the display of even-handed justice. We venture to affirm that no real remedy for the present discontent will be discovered which does not leave the administration of ecclesiastical law in the hands of lawyers—ecclesiastical lawyers, we admit—but still lawyers and not clergymen.

THE MONTH.

THE condition of Ireland is a disgrace and danger to the Empire. It even waxes worse.¹ The *Record* says:—"Cardinal McCabe may strive to throw oil upon the troubled waters; but his efforts are scarcely seconded by such lieutenants as

¹ The *Guardian* of the 14th says:—"Nominally we are governing Ireland by a combination of concession and coercion; practically, there is little government at all for the greater part of the country beyond what the Lord Lieutenant, the Chief Secretary, and the Resident Magistrates have personal ability enough to extemporize. That this is absolutely inadequate for the protection of the lives of any but the criminals has again been proved by the murder of Mr. Walter Bourke. The fact is, we have failed to do anything to check the development of a political and social revolution which is now assuming the most serious proportions." The killing of a landlord involved that of his armed escort also. Mr. W. Bourke, a barrister from India, who had purchased an estate in county Galway, acquired much popularity through his exertions during the failures of the harvests; but recently his dealings with his tenants had rendered him unpopular. As he was returning to his house in a gig, accompanied by a soldier for his protection, he was shot dead by five men with rifles through a loop-holed wall. As usual, no clue to the assassins has been found. Other outrages induce Colonel Brackenbury, the new official who has to deal with criminal matters, to invite the attention of the Government to the similarity of crimes over a wide area, and to its simultaneous commission.

Archbishop Croke at Cashel, and Bishop Nulty in Meath. . . . The law is paramount only where it is supported by an adequate force of bayonets." The Prevention of Crime Bill has been debated at wearisome length in Committee; and Parliamentary progress seems effectually blocked. Mr. Dillon's defence of "Boycotting" must be considered together with Michael Davitt's Communistic address at Liverpool on "the land for the people," &c. Even the Arrears Bill has failed to satisfy the people, who quote words about governing Ireland according to "Irish ideas."

The crisis in Egypt has strengthened the power of the Sultan. The naval demonstration could only threaten Alexandria. Dervish Pasha, the Sultan's envoy, may be able to put down Arabi, and bring about peace.

Prince Bismarck sustained in the Reichstag a crushing defeat on the Tobacco Monopoly Bill; but he stated that "personal considerations for his Majesty" the Emperor would prevent him from resigning. United Germany will in nowise withdraw its confidence from the Prince.

Garibaldi has passed away.—The Panslavist General Ignatieff has ceased to be Minister of the Interior; a proof, probably, of Prince Bismarck's influence in Russia. In Turkey his influence prevails.—M. Loyson (Père Hyacinthe) has been lecturing to influential audiences in London.

The second reading of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill was lost in the House of Lords by a majority of four: Contents, 128; Not-contents, 132. The Bill was voted for by all members of the Government except the Lord Chancellor. Sixteen Bishops, and the Archbishop of York, voted against it.

In receiving the report on the Imprisonment for Contumacy Bill, Lord Oranmore's amendment to the effect that a clergyman imprisoned for contumacy shall not be released without giving security against a repetition of the offence was rejected.

The weather has been very cold for June; and in Scotland there has been snow.

The Rev. Ernest Wilberforce, Canon of Winchester, is the Bishop designate of Newcastle. Mr. Wilberforce was for a time the incumbent of a church at Seaforth, of which Mr. Gladstone is the patron.

An influential meeting was held in London, Viscount Middleton in the chair, to consider the question of "Middle Class Education." In an admirable article on this important question the *Record* says:—

If Evangelical truth is to hold its own in the Church of England, those who profess it must be constructive as well as destructive in their enterprises. We earnestly trust that the generous devotion which has been so conspicuous in the cause of missions, and has identified them especially with the Evangelical party, will not be want-

ing in the cause of education. There need be no fear that if the money to build and start schools is forthcoming, they will long stand empty for want of scholars.

The Annual Meeting of the Church of Ireland Sustentation Fund was held in Lambeth Palace. The Bishop of Tuam gave an interesting and effective address on "The needs of the Irish Church to enable her to maintain her witness to the truth, particularly in the present disturbed state of Ireland." The Bishop said :—

What I wish first to do in addressing you is to thank this Association for the help that Ireland has received, and more especially for the help given to my diocese. The West has been truly spoken of as a part of Ireland which deserves especial attention, because of the great extent of its parishes and the poverty of its members, and I should not like in speaking my thanks to this Society to forget that we have been nobly helped also by the City of London Association, and by that great diocese in Ireland which is full of intelligence and of business in the North, headed by its warm and noble-hearted Bishop, and which has stood by us both in famine and pestilence during the last two years in the support of the poorer parishes of our Church. These are bright spots which to us who are working in the West are full of sympathy and kindness—spots of brightness which encourage us upon our way and give us these words, "Be of good courage, brother." I do believe that the cause which is entrusted to our Irish Church—a shining and undiminished Reformation light—will not be deserted by the great Head of the Church, but that He will raise up friends for us, and that we shall be still able to maintain our position amid all the difficulties and dangers. You may depend upon this, that the Irish Church in all her difficulties is but the forerunner and the warning voice of the Church of England. My next duty is to speak to you of what my subject treats of, the necessities of the Irish Church. You are all aware of that which was alluded to in the beautiful prayer with which we opened our proceedings, and which is made manifest to us most powerfully by the daily papers—I mean the state of our country. It depends very much upon our Irish Church, and to this subject I shall venture to allude in a few sentences. You know that Ireland is a land stained with blood. You know that the voice of our brothers' blood is crying daily to God from the earth. It is a fearful state of things. I must say myself that living as I do in the west of Ireland, in what may be thought a disturbed part, I cannot tell of one unkind word, of one unkind look that has ever met me. I can go about every diocesan, every ecclesiastical business as safely and as comfortably as any of our brethren in this more favoured land.

The Rev. Edward Forbes has entered into rest. The work done by Dr. Forbes in Paris is well known; he was everywhere much esteemed.