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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House adjourned on Thursday for the
Whitsuntide recess. The members will reassemble
on May 23rd.

IRELAND AND THE BILL.

The *Globe* learns from Dublin that the peculiar
character of the Irish Council Bill has given rise
to a good deal of comment among those who are
"behind the scenes," or, to be more exact, those
who consider that their sources of political in-
formation are exclusive. The more the Bill is
examined the more apparent one fact becomes—it
is not a Home Rule measure, or one of the pure-
bred devolution type. It is a patchwork; a strange
medley of proposing to "govern Ireland according
to Irish ideas" in one clause, and in some other
clause of riveting anew upon the country "the
fetters" of English rule. It is customary for a
British Minister who has his heart in his work,
and who is given a reasonably free hand by his
colleagues, to take a definite line. He keeps his
objective steadily before his eyes, and the measure
of which he has charge is drafted with the sole
object of reaching his end as expeditiously as
possible. The Chief Secretary's measure does not
fulfil this qualification.

Mr. Birrell, to use an Irish phrase, has "havered."
He appears to have been torn by conflicting emo-
tions, to have been divided between the desire to
go the whole way with Mr. John Redmond to the
goal of the "Freely elected Parliament, with an
executive responsible to it," and the fear of
certain consequences if he indulged himself to the
top of his bent. What was it that caused Mr.
Birrell to associate himself with proposals
upon which Nationalists, from the Cardinal
Primate of Armagh down to the humblest village
politician, are pouring scorn and derision? At
one period two measures relating to the "better
government of Ireland" were in existence. The
Chief Secretary's Bill was a "whole hogger" in
the matter of Home Rule. The Bill of the Under-
Secretary ran on the lines of the co-ordination of
certain Government Departments, and the grant of
certain powers in the region of finance.

Sir Antony MacDonnell, it is understood, in-
timated that if his measure were thrown over he
would resign, a polite way upon the part of the
Under-Secretary of saying that he was opposed, at
the present stage, at least, to Home Rule pure and
simple. Sir Antony MacDonnell's action, one
gathers, served to put heart into the Liberal Im-
perialist members of the Cabinet, and they found
their voices. The Chief Secretary had no option
but to accept the situation. It was almost the eve
of the introduction of the measure, which he had
calculated with confidence would close the chapter
of Irish enmity towards England, even though
England's staunch supporters in Ireland were
trodden to the ground in the process. What could
Mr. Birrell do but what apparently has been done?
The Under-Secretary's Bill was taken in hand and
subjected to drastic revision, not necessarily to im-
prove it, *bien entendu*. Meantime, the Royal Irish
Constabulary and the Dublin Metropolitan Police
remain under the control of the Crown, and all
that the Irish Council Bill has effected is the pro-
motion in Nationalist ranks of a positive suspicion
of Mr. John Redmond and Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

SEDITION IN INDIA.

The proprietor and publisher of the Bombay
"Indian Home Ruler" has been sentenced to a
year's imprisonment for publishing a seditious
article. Already in last October criminal proceedings
were taken against him on a similar charge and
he had to find a six month's security for his good
behaviour.

In February he published the objectionable
article for the second time, and has in consequence
received the above-named sentence.

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hand-made
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LORD CROMER'S SUCCESSOR.

Sir Eldon Gorst, Lord Cromer's successor, handed
his credentials to the Khedive on Thursday, and
expressed at the same time his confidence that he
would be given every assistance for making his
office easier. The Khedive replied that he was
delighted with the King's choice in which he saw
a fresh proof of His Majesty's desire to draw yet
closer the friendly ties between England and Egypt.
Sir Eldon could rely on his loyal support.

LABOUR TROUBLES ON THE RAND.

Serious disturbances took place at Johannes-
burg on Thursday, the miners on strike being in-
censed at the arrival from Pretoria of miners who
do not belong to the Miners' Union. The strikers
pursued with volleys of stones a group of "black-
legs" who were about to descend a mine, and
attacked the quarters of those miners who have
continued to work. At another mine the miners
showed fight and chased away their assailants;
one shot was fired. At a third mine the strikers
threw stones at the men who were working. The
Mining Companies fear a general strike is im-
minent.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE ANTI-TRUST CAMPAIGN.

The Chicago-Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway
Company have pleaded guilty before the Federal
Court of having granted freight rebates on coffee
consignments and have been condemned to pay 20,000
dollars fine.

THE DEBT OF COSTA RICA.

Mr. Carden, the British Minister to Costa Rica,
has, according to advices received in New York,
given the Government two weeks in which to pay
the debt owing to Great Britain. The original
amount was two million pounds, but it is fourteen
years overdue, and with interest the sum now
owing is £4,200,000. Great Britain threatens to
send a warship if her demands are not complied
with, and in view of the disturbed condition of the
country a revolution is feared.

No serious interest attaches in New York to this
reported action of the British Government. It has
been threatened on and off for years past and
something has always happened to prevent the
landing of Bluejackets, or other overt action on
the part of the importunate creditor. Money is
undeniably due. Costa Rica scarcely disputes the
fact, merely questioning particular items of the
old account, and suavely hinting at arbitration
when the British Minister becomes too pressing, as
apparently is the case at the present moment.

THE FRENCH CABINET AND MOROCCO.

A Cabinet Council was held on Thursday in
Paris at which M. Pichon reported that he had re-
ceived news by cable from M. Regnault, the French
envoy in Morocco, that he had received a Note
from the Moroccan Foreign Minister, Abdelkrim
ben Sliman, and that it might be regarded as satis-
factory with reference to the French demands
touching the murder of Dr. Mauchamp. A copy of
the Note was *en route*, so that immediately upon
its arrival the Cabinet could examine its textual
contents.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT.

For some days rumours have been current in
St. Petersburg that a conspiracy against the Czar

has been discovered in Czarskoje Selo. The con-
spiracy came to the light owing to the arrest of a
soldier who was living in a noticeably expensive
way; the man has confessed that he had received
money from Revolutionaries and Social Democrats
and was to make an attempt on the life of the
Czar.

On Wednesday evening serious fighting took place
at Ekaterinoslav between the police and anarchists
who had barricaded themselves in a house. Two
policemen were killed and a watchman wounded.
On Thursday morning the fighting was renewed
and when the police had succeeded in forcing their
way into the house they found on the floor the
body of an unknown man, with a bullet wound in
the temple; he had been the most vigorous of their
assailants.

THE MOROCCAN CRISIS.

The members of the English colony who left
Marakesh on the 9th, arrived at Safi on the 12th.
The journey was made by them without any mis-
hap. The French, six in number, left Marakesh
the following day; their arrival is being expected
hourly. The members of the English colony report
that the Germans are also on the way.

The report that Raisuli is with the Pretender is
incorrect; he has returned to the Marabout Abdel
Salem of the Beni Arrona tribe.

A BERLIN BANK THIEF.

The firm of coal merchants, Messrs. Laupenmüller
and Co. of Berlin have recently suffered a loss
to the tune of 50,000 marks through the embez-
zlement of a cheque. The criminal has been identi-
fied as a man by name Neumann, employed by the
firm to write addresses. He has not yet been ar-
rested, but is known to have been in Berlin in the
early part of the week, for on Monday he sent to
the proprietress of a laundry where his *fiancée*
was employed a letter begging her to inform the
latter that, owing to circumstances over which he
had no control, he had got into a tight place from
which he couldn't extricate himself. He regretted
not having told her the truth before, and now took
final leave of her. It had transpired that, although
Neumann had a fair income, he busied himself also,
after the fashion of old time criminals, with the
manufacture of forged references known as "stumers."
Armed with these references, he was easily able to
obtain a good situation, and there is no doubt that
he made ready for his great *coup* by means of
forged papers. He seems to be a ready knave of
much resource, for the prison authorities of Tegel
make the somewhat surprising announcement that
a representative of Neumann's has been sitting
under lock and key since the day before Ascension
Day. It appears that Neumann was sentenced to
a month's imprisonment some few weeks ago for
an attack on a little girl, and was to report him-
self at the prison on Wednesday in last week.
Instead of appearing, however, he sent a represen-
tative, whose identity has not been established.
Neumann has long been on friendly terms with the
criminal world, and it appears that his convenient
alter ego received 600 marks for his services.

PROFITABLE BETTING.

There can be no doubt that the action of the
French Ministry in suppressing betting on race-
courses in any other way than by the *parimutuel*,
has been amply justified by results. During the
four months of the present year the receipts have
amounted to the enormous total of £4,040,000. Im-
pressive as the total seems, it is even more
significant by comparison with the same period of
last year. This shows an increase during the four
months of £640,000. Out of these large takings
the percentage falling to the relief of the poor and
for the hospitals should also be large.

A TYROLESE BANDIT.

Switzerland is just now talking about a brigand
who, in some respects, appears to be quite worthy
of being enrolled among some of the Sicilian
masters of the profession. He is a native of Can-
ton Ticino, named Marco Ranzoni, for whom so far
it has not been found practicable to find a gaol
that will hold him. Imprisoned some years ago at
Prayerne, in the Canton Vaud, he simply burned
down the door of his cell and escaped in the smoke
and confusion. It has taken years to recapture
him, but he was recently caged a second time—in
the Friburg Canton, but he has emerged free once
more. This time he tore up the flooring of his
cell and let himself down through it by his bed-
ding.