RONA". MES GHOST

It was a calm, clear day, in the early

part of December, that the writer de-

marted from Killarney on a shooting expedition to the neighborhood of the oper Lake, some ten or twelve miles fatant. Hiring a couple of men to mavigate one of the boats so liberally placed at the disposal of the officers of he detachment by Lord Kenmare, we left Ross Castle soon after midday. and arrived at the Upper Lake just as evening was closing in. The cak woods still retained the russet beaudes of autumn; the waters of the lake were the most perfect of Nature's mirrors; and it was impossible to disanguish the real rocks and arbutus at rose from them from their "couneprieit presentiment" in the placid mke below, so perfect was the illusion. Whatever may be the case now, there was not at that time any inn or place of public entertainment near the pper Lake; but I remember a desohte cottage standing alone upon a litsisland, and it appeared not imposable, with such comforts as we were sole to transport with us in the boat, make it available as a shelter for e night, or perhaps two nights, that we proposed to remain there. In our way up the narrow passage which manects the Upper with the Lower Lake, we procured a heap of dry herhage—a haycock of the long-deferred carvest; and with this for a bed, and

a good fire, it seemed reasonable

cough that a sportsman should calcu-

to upon passing a comfortable night.

It was a quiet, melancholy scene. A mail dilapidated house, having, however, in its decay, the air of "a cotthe of gentility," stood upon a green mank within a few yards of the lake, backed and partly enclosed by the tangied wood. It was in a sadly forlorn condition; the moss-covered thatch of the roof had a damp and spongy air of decay; the neglected walls were green with the rains of many a winbr; there was no door to hide the utter desolation of the interior, and the aly shutter hung diagonally by an upper hinge beside the paneless frame of the window. A drooping china rese-tree was bending forward from the wall, as if trying to escape from the inefficient support of the tottering were scattered about, half-choked by was the result.

TO MAN THE PROPERTY OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO THE P

Marie Marie

much fussy civility. seeling of mysterious interest about him, and Kearney, "aften." How old to rot away by itself. The masonry the back of the island just at nightdoors, and floors, and shutters are a rock, and dropping his oars, hid his meither burnt, sold, stolen, or other- face in his hands; and when he lookwise carried off Was it a place to ed again there was nothing but a be shunned? Had it a bad name? You small old stump of a tree where the is either in chancery or else a wick. Mather, of Bantry, thought to enter mon opinion, and left to fall, bit by behold! as the boat approached, old lit. to the ground. About such houses | Ronayne was standing in his doorabout, expecting every moment to branch to rustle against the eaves, or stumble over a skeleton.

But this house had an interest per culturly its own. Here had lived for and hitched the haycock nearer the thirty years, the world forgetting, the fire. world forgot, a recluse by the name, The recluse was described as a small Ronayne. What his motives may withered man, of features intelligent looked under the table—into the corhave been for such a seclusion had but sad; and dressed in the common never transpired; and whether cross- gray frieze of the country, which he ed in love or ambifion was never more than surmised. He was a man total- chilly from the damps of the grave. of impenetrable mystery and reserve; importunate or obtrusive spectre; had, and the Paul Prys of the country, who apparently, no pressing secret to reat first dropped in upon his solitude. were baffled by his civil manner, and he give way to the weakness of never went again. He avoided no

one; he sought no one. he was content. The ladies said it tramping rudely up the staircase, or was a case of "crushed affections:" said he hid himself from his creditors: erty: he paid his rent and had not his motives will assuredly now never be known. But certain it is that he been heard about his premises dur-

If the ghost of such a being had not have been a subject of wonder; but testimony of all the neighboring peashour," but, occasionally, at all othbe seen slowly perambulating his fav- during the night. orite walk. He was a silent, melan-

men halferepented them of the adven- enough to frighten all the ghosts in ture when they confronted the mel- the parish. encholy dwelling. They addressed While tranquilly awaiting the issue come serious talk to each other in of the fight between fatigue and indi-Irish, and looked blankly round at the gestion, my attention was again at- Monsignor Emmanuel Velos, Bishop of one of them even went so far as to out of the crannies of the walls, has been allowed to return to his see hint at the probability of finding more

comfortable quarters on the maintand, and he was quickly seconded by his But this would never have done: I was bent on taking a bed with the respectable Ronayne, and had even incurred a certain outlay in the matter of the haycock: so to have abandoned the adventure was

not to be thought of. Our first care was to examine the ing, in tenetable repair. Glass in the windows there was none, but the shutters had not been all removed, and this was our first glimpse of consolation. The interior doors, too, were at Their posts; but altogether it was just the sort of house that the wind would take a pride to whistle through, or a ghost to walk about in. I observed that my companions showed much disinclination to be left behind in the dark rooms, and gave a stealthy took round when they passed through the doorways, as of expecting that our visionary host was in attendance to do the honors of his dilapidated mansion.

We began our operations with vigorous measures. A fire was lighted; two of the interior doors dismounted, one to do duty as a table, supported on logs of wood, the other to stop the front entrance, though the frame of the latter was a world too dish, then to get a purchase under it tions. wide for its diminutive proportions. and afforded ample room for the whole bodily towards the side of the sion of the Nameleonic wars was the body of the former tenant, let alone door. What a squeaking and whisk- loss of 20,000 men, including British his ghost, to drop in, if so disposed. ing of tails, and a frolicking, there infantry and cavalry and a large con-But it had the appearance of a door. and when the paralytic shutter had much of the manners and customs of force the Khyber Pass in 1841. We been set upright, things assumed at gats before. By far the greater por- had sent a double expedition, under more comfortable shape; and a blaz- tion were yuong, but others were of Burnes, by way of Quetta and the Moing fire sent a genial and unwonted a patriarchal age; in particular a bray lan, and under Wade by way of the feeling through the room. The hay- old buck of huge dimensions, probably Khyber, in order to back an unpopucock was equally divided; one molety one of the original colonists. This jar claimant to the throne of Afghanbeing reserved for myself, and placed fellow crossed with age and infirmities, istan against Dost Mohammed, who against the wall opposite the window chased the younger fry in all direc- was supposed to lean to the Russians. and door, while the other portion or tions, and was unquestionable the The Khan of Khelat had said to the men's bed was under the window. beef began to arise, and a pot of potatoes merrily simmered in the cor-

As I lay tranquilly on the hay, watching the process of our little culinary operations, I could not help fancying that from the holes about the room I could perceive small black eyes curiously watching, as I was, the process of the coming meal; but this I attributed to fancy.

Having dispatched the solid portion with scarcely a spring left, made a of the supper, a kettle of hot water sturdy effect to flourish by the door- made its appearance on the board, in- whether he liked punch while in the slaughtering all our prisoners without way. An ancient issured stretched its to which a portion of spirit being flesh; and imagined that, even now, quarter, and we attempted to retreat withered arms out of the encroaching poured, with a due allowance of su- the warm fragrance of our kettle through a blocked mountain pass in gar, a certain harmonious compound must be, very agreeable to him the an exceptionally severe winter.

the rough herbage and the rotting Dipping from time to time our cups seaves. There was no sign or sound into the kettle, the boatmen recountof life, save the "tit, tit," of a rob- ed for my amusement many tales of m. who came bowing down to the the eccentricities of the romantic and mading-place in his best red waistmelancholy Ronayne; and especially their heels to soft music, and making We do not enter it on our black list, coat, and, hopping from twig to twig, how his spirit was wont to stroll marshalled us to the house-door with about the premises in the dead waste and middle of the night. How the There is always, more or less, a Sullivans, father and son, had seen an old house thus abandoned and left Malony, the fisherman, pulling around nothing; but you wonder why the fall saw a figure close above him on come to the inevitable conclusion that wision had disappeared. How Mr. ed old tenement, gibbertted by com- the house one summer evening, when, there is an uncomfortable suggestion way, and they backed their oars and et ghosts and cold chills, aguish va- pulled hastily away from that haunted pors, the smell of waults, newts, owls, spot; and during the recital of these bats, toads; and you go cautiously tales, when the gentle wind caused a the ill-fitting door to tap against the post, the men looked hastily round.

wrapped closely around him, as if estranged from his kind, a being He was not, I was pleased to hear, an veal-clanked no chains; neither did sqeaking, gibbering, groaning, or the imagination. I must look again-nonlike. There was a native dignity about "Where rose the mountains, there him which repressed any disposition to him were friends;" and with such to pounding or stamping overhead, or making any fuss in the cellarage. He but there was no admission on his seemed, from all accounts, a spectre part of soft impeachment. The men of much negative hospitality, not offended by the presence of visitors, or but there was no appearance of pov- at any rate, contenting himself with a "dumb resentment." The only cusbills. His history died with him; and picion of a sound escaping him was the smallest possible howl having mesided during thirty years; and dy- ing high winds. Above all, I was ing, was buried on the island besidel gratified to hear that he expected no questioning on the part of his guests: but, on the contrary, had a habit of walked the premises, it would, indeed, vanishing when confronted, as of and there was a cold, crawling feeling shunning any impertinent inquiries. that it did so was a fact established All this was satisfactory; but since: beyond all question by the concurrent we had a ghost to deal with, how for clothes. tunate it was to find a conscientious antry. Not only at the "witching and easy-going one! Fresh logs were fascinated it is impossible to say, but heaped upon the fire, and a reinforce- at last the figure spoke. It said, in a ers. was the form of the old man to ment piled up in a corner to recruit it clear and somewhat peremptory tone:

I would with pleasure exchange here, at all? Sure I thought the place choiy ghost; no "curious perfume or stomachs-nay, throw in a bit of livmelodious twang" revealed his pres- or to boot-with the man who cars ence, but he glided noiselessly about sleep undisturbed after a supper of the island, as had been his wont provincial beef-steaks. I never could; when alive; and generally took refuge and as I lay warmly wrapped in my in the cottage as before, about bed- boat-cloak, I envied the efficient laboratory of the boatmen, which left at on the mainland, pulled across the I somehow fancied that the boat- leisure to execute a nasal duet loud lake to ascertain the cause of such an

eppressive desblation of the scene. tracted to the bead-like eyes peering the Gautemain dioces of Comayagua,

There they were-now looking out or a crack in the skirting-board, then glanding from a hole in the plasters and there was the smallest perceptible rustling under the floor, which made me disposed more than once to doubt the accuracy of the quiet character which had been given to Mr. Ronayne,

the cause, for the eyes were accomcottage. It was not, strictly speak- panied by sharp-pointed, whiskered noses innumerable, thrust farther and farther into the apartment. They were rate. In all my life I never saw their hiding-places, and those mostly end in our favor, says the London of a tender age-lost children, sent Chronicle. Still, it is a serious renumbers; and getting bolder as they one-ninth of the force with which we found us inoffensive, ran without began our campaign in Natal. Withbreaklast, and it was amusing to away, it may be of interest to recall visions. They tried to pull off the ish arms during the past three generawith their noses, then to remove the . Our first disaster after the couplywas amongst them! I never saw so tingent of Sepoys, in attempting to Robinson Crusoe of the island. It was Burnes on his way up: "You have Soon the grateful odor of boiling long before I felt disposed to eleep in brought an army into the country, such a busy scene, and frequently but how do you propose so take it when I closed my eyes I was aroused back again." That is the whole gist by some new tour de force, a louder of the matter; no one withstood our squeak, or a more general scurry be- resolute advance, but the hill tribes, fore the old master of the revels. the mountains, the Alghan winter abthe "witching hour," my thoughts be- who retired from Cabul, one soillary

> generat cold without of the cottage. | Our reverses in the Crimes were Then I fell in a dream of the spectre- matters of commissariat and organiballet, and thought how fortunate was sation rather than of arms; but the the Devil Robert to be visited by such cost of this useless war, both in blood it quite a pleasure to be haunted; but no historian, and few British of-Then I was wandering in interminable ficers, will make a point of claiming catacombs, and finally woke myself important victories in the Crimean pelting Ronayne out of his own house with his own bones. Then I thought followed at a short interval by the self an elderly gentleman of pale and chapters record what may be describbenevolent aspect, seated by the table ed as the most frightful disasters, of then, moved by that irresistable curitimes, I opened my eyes to assure myself that he was not there; when, behold! the rate had gone! Not a single tail was whisking over the table or about the floor; not a squeak was heard; the gray old general had drawn off his forces, and they had silently and unaccountably vanished without leaving a single straggler behind 1 ners-along the akirting-board and then raised my eyes, examined the walls; when, as my gaze passed across the doorway, it suddenly rested on the features of an old man, sternly, but

curiously, looking into the room! I shut my eyes—pooh, pooh! it could not be; a touch of nightmare, begotten of punch out of beef-steaks-excited sense! better go to sleep.

I did look, and there was the face etill, and figure, partly seen through the ill-closed doorway. He was dressed in the common frieze usually worn by the peasantry, and his coat hung loose and limp on his attenuated form. He moved not, but kept at steady, unearthly gaze upon me as I

I had no power to close my eyes a second time; a rustiness came over the hinges of the evelids, and they became stiff and distended with the intensity of my gaze. A sensation passed over my head as if each particular hair was rising itself independently up. came down my back like the tickling of a dead man's hand under my:

How long I should have remained What in the divil are ye doing ' was a-fire!"

We were upon our legs in a moment. Don't be disappointed, gentle reader, it was no ghost after all, but the body of Corney Sullivan, who, having seen the blaze of our fire from his cottage unusual appearance.

After five years of enforced exile,

ENGLISH DEFEATS

THE NOTABLE BRITISH REVERSES DURING THE PAST SIXTY YEARS

Soon there was no mistake about What an English Paper Says on the Sudjett ... Defeats Suffered in Little Wars The Ladyanith Disaster Recalls Fermer Similiar Defeate for the English.

The disaster which occurred near such multitudes. They seemed to oc- ladysmith, when some 2,000 British cupy every cranny and hollow of the and Irish troops were surrounded and walls and floor. They were cautious captured by the Boers, is only un inat first; a few only venturing from cident in a war which must eventually out to akirmish by the wily seniors in werse in itself, since it brings up the the back-ground. But soon they all total number of prisoners now in the took courage, and almost literally hands of the enemy to a number covered the floor and table with their which probably exceeds 2,000—about scruple not only on the enoring bost- out pausing in this place to consider men, but myself. The stable was the the tactics which led to so unhappy a grand point of atack. Fortunately the result, at the very moment when Sir remainder of the meal had been cov- George White was carrying out a ered over with a dish as a reserve for fairly successful operation a few miles watch their efforts to uncover the pro- some of the principal revenues of Brit-

But as I lay, half dozing, towards solutely barred retreat. Of the 20,000 gan to revert to the recluse. I won- doctor escaped to tell the fate of the dered if he was even then taking the remainder. We have no space to more air; and whether, having satisfied aline, but it may be observed that in himself with the pale starlight, he this case we began by backing a I wondered, in my dreamy state, reason; we went up the country,

war. This attack upon Russia was

ness of our revenge. up country without much trouble or, but nebody likes to hear it; with loss, took possession or control of the they do laugh passes, and established our resident at Cabul. The massacre of Sir Louis Cavaguari, was followed by a war of varying fortunes, which brought Sir Donald Stewart, Lord Roberts and other generals into prominent notice.

Our disasters in the Transvaal water of light of heroic deeds are of 1877, have been sufficiently recalled those which are performed within to mind in the past few mo. the four wall and in domestic privace comparatively insignificant defeat at Richter Bronker's Spruit might well have Blight frombles render us tender ation of the claims of the Boers, when ing Andre Chenier with less than 1,000 men, of wacmine by the experience of others!—Voltaire lost more than a quatter at Laing a dren, like grass—somerson.

Nek on January 28. The Gordon Duty grows everywhere—like ship to share in a further defeat on the truths - ismerties. Ingogo River, and Colley's fatal occu- Hurry is only population of Mainba Hill lad to the world in the Helitage

disester of M. on Percuary W. 13 Highla dere, two complishes of this Fifty-cigath two compoures of the Sixtieth and sixty-four sinelackets reacted the "saucer-like automit" at a in the morning. Soon after moon the column of the saucer were ilsed with licera, who, is practical security, shot down nearly half of our men with Colley at their head.

The occupation of Egypt brought Come to their aid. day. Hicke Pashs lost an army of 7,00 men. Osman Digna massacres the gardson of Sinker and inflicted a Help save the posts the he ory defeat on Baker Passa at Telakitat. In these cases the massacred troops were Exyptions, under British officers. In 1884 came the Nile expedition for the relief of Gordon in Khar- Oh Charles II was they they tours. On January IT of the follow Thou heavenly made to less them ing year we won the bettle of Abu Kles. Herbert Stewart fell in anothor coatly but still successful battle at Abu Kru, and Sir Charles Wiscon. with his small flotilis, pushed up stream to the neighborhood of Khartoum, only to find that Gordon's gallant stand had ended with the masseere of his garrison and his own death.

CATHOLIC NOTES.

Archibitop Corriges he taken a practical step toward providing private for the many thousands of listing Catholics residing in his jurisdictor. He has made the study of the Italian language obligatory upon all theological atudents of his archdiocesa.

On Sunday Bishop McDennell On Sunday Bishop McDennell, of Brooklyn, will bless the new St. John's Hospital, Long Inlend City, which is now ready to be opened. Upward of Mily scoleties have been invited to parade on that day. They will merch from the junction of Jackson and Yearnon evenues to the new hospital, Christmas is searcely the day for a Catholic organisation to hold a public dance; and Nev. R. A. McAndrew of Wilkesbarre, Pa., took a commendable stand in refusing to allow the young men of his parish to give a dance which they had arranged for the holyday. Father McAndrew will very properly that Christmas was from the standpoint of Catholishy of even more importance than Busines, and will herefore, it should be kept took.

Rev. Patrick Observa, a seminariem to limit

mevers blow in the loss of his fath and elster, both of whom the at Ringston, N. T., within a few house of each other. The sister had been as Invalled for some years, but the father's death was transpected, he having been for ill only three days. The son, whose ordination has father foundly hoped to winters in June mark, was not able to reach his father's beduide in time to we see him slive.

Roman Catholics in England, says Caridinal Vaughan, will carry out w vigorous movement to inaugurate the ter to new century. A thoroughly effective was you programme is arranged for spreading long as upon him waking, and pictured to my. Indian mutiny, whereof the carrier the realiston throughout magical, and further, a pligrimage to Rome, in which both rick and poor will particle and gravely dipping his cup into the the century. The revolt of the Sepays pate, will take place. The playsimage kettle, while he pledged himself to took the Indian authorities by sur-i will make a counterpation. some tonst or sentiment that touched prime; the country between lower Ben. to the Vationa funds as Pater's Tonos. some toast or sentiment that touched prise; the country between lower near to he values land and the punjab became in 1857. At the Academy of Riely Name is asky paleness of his cadaverous fear almost unbroken area of massacre. Bactamette, Cal., the other night and to the day an Englishman can. Bishop Mongemery awarded a years distressful stroke that his youth suffered" passed through his mind; and then, moved by that irresistable curiosity which will come over us at such sacres is only paralleled by the awful. Of young ladies and everybody else osity which will come over us at such sacres is only paralleled by the awful. Of young ladies and everybody else of the sacres is only paralleled by the awful. Of young ladies and everybody else The second Aighan war began with dom from slang It is a bas having our invasion of the country of Shere which all of us fall into easily. Was All in 1878. As in 1839, we merched may think it is smart when we alse to

In Burhand and Scotland, wh the beginning of the sentury contains it ed but 18,000 Catholies, there are now other generals into prominent notice. The battle of Maiwand, fought on July 17, 1880, was a terrible disaster. Burrowes lost over 1,300 men, out of the total garrison of 3,000 at Candahar, and it was left to Lord Roberts to relieve the isolated town by his lamous march.

We have had our minor reverses during the fifty or sixty expeditions against the hill fribes within the past half-century, but no other great disasters have befallen its in india beyond those which have been mentioned.

The Zulu war inflicted on us the great disaster of Isandlana, when 14, 000 of the blacks surrounded Colours Glyn on his march, in the course of the cantury the number of Catholice. In the course of the cantury the number of Catholice can be cantury the number of Catholice has risen in Germany from \$,000,000 in \$,000 in 2,000,000, under the charge of 3 archewith two battalions of the Twenty- middle of the centery there were not fourth, a battery and a few levies. Catholics there are now nearly 1004. This calamity was almost an extend 000 gradies in thirty missions under mination, and the news as it reached the thange of 100 missions less the country was only relieved by the Spanish Dotal and English colonies. account of the splendid stand of Lieu- of Oceanics, where there were no Cenants Chard and Bromhead with Catholies at the beginning of the ceneighty men, who defended the commissariat store at Rorke's Difft and their numbers have risen from
egainst 1,000 natives, and so prevented the victorious implicit the Zulus United States of America from 25,000 in the commentation of the Zulus United States of America from 25,000 in the commentation of the Culus United States of America from 25,000 in the commentation of the comments of the c

been succeeded by a calm consider gree ones make us hard and united demanded the restoration of their in Believe and love—a believing love—dependence. But what we may the prestige party were for the more menu-in the ascendency in Funds A list there are one so wise as to learn rica; Sir George Colley was dispatched in the ascendence of a there are one so wise as to learn the street of the ascendence of a the second of the second of

Ereck in your beats."

THE REST WAS THE THREE THREE That shute them out from his starnal blice.

Ledr bood, And thy tweel voice splitts word announce to all:
"Who marety seems Ded bore

MA THE PLOO

Lud shall we not piny this is

And the sweet value word word anomale to a