

tionate rates for carrying merchandize, the Irish railways have always been a source of embarrassment to the indus-trial development of Ireland. A ton of eggs can be carried from Odessa to London for \$2.25, while for the same quantity, the Irish and English rail-ways combined would charge \$7.50 from Cork to London A more sent is now

miralty, it is believed that Mr. Hal-dane will do in the war office. Anyhow, the country is willing to wait and give him a fair chance to "make good."

WHEN HE "ARRIVED."

Not many people in America, prob-oly, had ever heard of Mr. Haldane before he was made secretary of state for war, but he "arrived" here several years ago. Like most of the members of the cabinet, he is by birth a Scotch-man. He was first elected to parliament in 1885, and had long been marked out for high office by those in the inner secrets of the Liberal party Physically he is a man of considerable substance; intellectually he is one of the giants of politics. By profession he is a lawyer, and one of the ablest at the bar.

ALSO A PHILOSOPHER.

Like Balfour, he finds recreation in bilosophy—he has translated Schop-enhauer, and published "Studies in Philosophic Criticism"—but in almost every other respect, physically and mentally, he is the antithesis of the ex-prime minister. He is a man of strong convictions with as other strong convictions with a rift of clear statement. Nobody ever has to ask twice what he means. Square of shoulder and comfortably rotund, there is little of the student and nothing of the ascetic in his avbearance. And yet the broad, masterful, clean-shaven face, with its high, full forchead, over its high, full forchead, over which there curves a little hook of a curl-the miniature of that which adorned the brow of the greatest of all militarists-tells of great mental force. He is a prodigious worker with a great capacity for mastering facts and capacity for mastering facts, and a memory that retains them without the aid of notes. As a lawyer, he was once involved in a famous trial concerning cordite. He emerged from that with thorough knowledge of explosives that he was given a seat on the

"BLUE WATER" POLICY

that the navy is capable of defending the shores against invasion, and pro-poses to effect many economies by act-ing on that assumption. "Various points along the coast," he says, "are defend-ed by forts which in many cases are absolutely unjustifiable, and 300 of them are going as fast as they can be got rid of." Several other things are going, under Mr. Haldane's scheme, on which money has been recklessly soundered in the past, and a lot of going, under Mr. Haldane's scheme, so which money has been recklessly squandered in the past, and a lot of red tape with them. "Unlike other great nations," he says. "we have nev-ment of a competent "thinking depart-for the British army." The establish-ment of a competent "thinking depart-ment" lies at the root of his scheme of ment" lies at the root of his scheme of reform. It is expected that it will put an end to the costly hodge-podge meth ods of the past, and lead to the adop tion of a settled and continuous policy such as obtains in the navy.

Long Beards.

Howell's "Welsh Celebrities" says: 'Llewenn had the longest beard of which we have record. When loose and flowing it fell down over his horses's shoulders almost to the animal's knees. It was of a peculiar yellow or straw color, which was ail the more curlous, both his parents be-

ail the more curlous, both his parents be-ing dark-haired mountain Weish people. Years afterward the mountain people had proverbs which referred to this freak, they often using the expression, 'About as long as Howland's beard' or 'Yellow as the whickers of Llewenn.'" George Killingsworth, whom Queen Mary sent to Russia in 1555 as one of her agents to Czar Ivan the Terrible, had a beard five freet three inches in length. and Count Ruloff of Poland, 1697, re-joiced in the possession of a mustache which was so long that he could not touch the ends of it with his fingers.



THE RT. HON. R. B. HALDANE. The Famous Scotch Lawyer Who is to Reorganize the Army of the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

Mart The State of the State of

have attended the growth of the French capital. Could they speak, its He accepts the "blue water" principle that the navy is capable of defending hoary stones might tell strange stor-

ies,-stories of peace and charity; of piety that in after dime served as a mask for hypocrisy, levity and debauchery; of the horrible atrocities perpetrated in the name of liberty. equality and fraternity; of crime and depravity. HABITATION OF DESPAIR.

Denis, it has gone through many

phases, and the uses to which it has been put from time to time, reflect the

startling changes and vicissitudes that

It is strange to reflect that it was the beneficent charity taught by the gentle Nazarene which gave birth to

the gloomy structure which has long seemed a fitting habitation for misery and despair. St. Lazare was founded in 1110 as a hospital for lepers, as its name implies. By a charter granted in 1147, these lepers were given the right to choose out of the king's cellars, 10 hogsheads of wine a year. Some years later they exchanged this privilege for an allowance of beef and

bread with a few bottles of wine. LEPERS WERE OUSTED.

In 1515 the lepers were ousted and monks, vowed to plety and poverty, took their place. As an easy means of solacing the consciences of the powers that were, they were granted from time to time large increases of reveand the temptations of wealth nue. proved too much for the monks, as they do for many folks in these mod-ern days. They abandoned themselves to riotous living and consumed many more than the 10 hogsheads of wine a

For many years, they enjoyed a high old time and waxed fat, but their conduct caused such a public scandal that in 1632 the good Vincent de Paul received a commission to reform the es-ablishment. He was the right man for a job of that sort and did his work ablishment. most thoroughly. The monks that he could not reform he got rid of and recould not reform he got ind of and re-placed them with men who were in sympathy with his own lofty ideals. He founded at St. Lazare, the Con-gregation of the Lazarists, called the Priests of the Mission. At St. Lazare, he ended his life and was burled at the foot of the altar; his tomb with a commensative instribution was still

commemorative inscription was visible in 1789, but not a trace of it now remains

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

A portion of St. Lazare was set aside

lted meat and foods of all tions. The people got wind of what they were doing, and on the even of the taking of the Bastille, they stormed the monastery, believing that the monks intended to turn a public calamity to their own profit by selling their stores at big prices. The monks protested that they had only enough of the plain-est fare on hand to supply their own

St. Lazare. The monks had grown more worldly again. Instead of lay-ing up for themselves treasures in heaven, they stocked their cellars and

lofts

with corn and maize and wine,

simple daily needs, but the mob swept in aside and ransacked the building. When they found their suspicions con firmed, they returned to wreak their vengeance on the holy men, but the

latter, meanwhile, had made their escape by a secret passage. TRANSFORMED INTO A PRISON.

During the Reign of Terror, St. Lazare was transformed into a prison-which for many of the suspects there incarcerated, proved but the ante-cham-ber for the gillotine. The murder-loving tyrant, Robespierre, made the feroclous Venner governor of St. La-zare. Venner did his best to make the lives of the prisoners entrusted to his care a hell on earth. He gloated

over the sufferings which the shadow of impending death caused them, and adopted every device that his multi-mant ingenuity could suggest to add to them. The cruelties that were prac-

theed at St. Lazare are excelled only by those of the Inquisition. No prisoner was allowed to take his rest there at night without some grim reminder that it might be his jast on earth. On Vers All the familine colepities in the Parislan world of crime, for many years back, have, while awaiting trial, been lodged in St. Lazare. Gabrielle Bompard, the murderess of Gouffe; se charge that they were engaged Ecompard. the mainderess of Gouffe; Mune. Limousin, the woman who trad-ed in decorations and compromised Wilson M. Grevy's son-in-law, and Mune. Humbert, now "doing time" at Rennes, passed through the cells of St. Lazare. At the present time, the most interesting of its limited is La "Merelli, the misuress of Gallay, the ab-sconding hank clerk. in a conspiracy to overthrow then in a conspiracy to overthrow their guards and obtain their freedom, 86 prisoners were once sent from St. La-zare to the scaffold. Many accepted death as a welcome relief from the horrors of existence in confinement there. It was at St. Lazare that An-dre Chenier the young neat, wrote his As a prison and house of detention St. Lazare has long been a repreach to French penal institutions. It is behind the times to everything. The feod supplied is scandalously inade-

there. It was at so, have a wrote his famous verses, "La Jeune Captive," in-spired by Mile, de Coigny, a fellow pris-oner. It is a scene at St. Lazare which is depicted in Muller's great pis-ture, "Appel des Condamnes," wherein 1111 one of the agents of the terror is see alling out the names of those to be led to execution. Because of its melo-dramatic effect and the vividness with which it portrays the varying emotions of the unhappy wretches-despair, rage. resignation, hope-there are few pic-tures that by means of reproduction tures that by means of reproduct have attained such wide popularity.

EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN.

Under such conditions it is not to be wondered at that assemia and con-After Napoleon had triumphed over sumption claim a far larger percentage of victims at St. Lazare than at any the terror with his "whift of grape shot" he made St. Lazare a prison ex-clusively for women and such it has since remained. It comprises five separate buildings, surrounding three MAU other French prison. It is a remnant of a barbarous age, a disgrace to

England Depends on America for Bread

vacant lands under cultivation.

ews on these subjects:

and the second second

Special Correspondence. ONDON, April 25,-Several import-

ant bills introduced into the new British parliament apparently

threaten seriously some big American industries. In the first place, the new fand tenure bill, which aims to give small holdings to peasant proprictors, seems on the face of it likely to affect disastrously the vast wheat shipments which come to England from the United States. By bringing large areas of agricultural lands into cultivation, England, it is thought, should be able to raise its own food products, and thus do away with foreign importations. Another very powerful agent

toward the cheapening of food is the proposed opening up of canals all over tion. All the great centers-Glasgow, orders. As a matter of fact, there will

England. This will allow farmers to [Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and other places will be connect-ed with London; and railway freight rates will be compelled to come down. ship their products to the most available markets, and bring down railway

freight rates, which, in England, are, at present, prohibitive. With such vast American interests apparently menaced, the writer in-"Then, again," he continued, "the new bills for enabling small farmers vestigated the subject as to whether or not the importation of American to get land for cultivation will also encourage the raising of agricultural wheat would be affected by the buildpresent is a branch of industry sorely neglected." ing of English canals; and by bringing

onstitutes a veritable Inferno.

ity of cases, the girl who has made

cent woman of her.

sconding bank clerk.

when she is sent to St. Lazare under the pretense of seeking to make a de-

WITH SEPARATE SELLS.

Prisoners under remand are

course, provided with separate cells, and can order their food from the out-

side, provided they do not indulge in what the authorities regard as luxur-

food supplied is scandalously inade quate. The punishments for slight in

fractions of its rules are extremely severe, and comprise the dark, cold

cell, bread and water diet, a plank bed, and if it be deemed necessary, the strait-jacket. The vontflation is

had, the lighting poor, and the sani-tary arrangements of the worst kind.

All the fammine celebrities in

One of the members of the London And will not the raising of grain corn exchange-directly in touch with in large quantities, especially wheat e great grain importers-gave his affect importation from America?" I asked.

"The building of canals from one end of England to the other, as is pro-posed," said the member, "will un-doubtedly cheapen freight transporta-"England at present handles a vast quantity of American wheat, but I do not think the American former need fear a discontinuance of his English

generally a royal commission has al-ready been appointed to consider the advisability of opening up the numerous canals which extend all over Eng land, like a veritable network. Most of these canals in modern years have been charged in the morning than she de-liberately sets to work to commit some put out of use deliberately by raflway companies who have acquired them for the express purpose of closing them up. Upwards of 40,000,000 tons of goods were carried on English canals last that will ensure her being brought back at night. Reckless, ri-bald of speech, lost to all sense of shame, the assemblage of the "unruly" year: but it is stated that, were all the The young girls are most to be tied. Like the seniors and the uncanals opened, three times this amount could have been transported. The royruly, they have a ward to themselves, and some feeble efforts are made to reclaim them, but they are seldom sucal commission is to investigate and re-port on the entire subject of English railway canals, and the new govern-ment is following Campbell-Banner-man's lead when he recently said: 'Few things are more capable of benefiting both town and country than the develcessful. The system pursued is a bad one. No discrimination is made be-

As to the subject of canal-building

bread

tween those who are innately vicious and irreclaimable and those who are simply morally weak. They are all herded together promiscuously, and opment of our system of canals. It will facilitate transit, open markets, those who might be reformed under proper conditions are subjected to corand bring town and country together." If the canal project is carried through, the English farming population will be rupting influences to which they speedily succumb. In the vast majorraised above the position of practical serfs, which is their present state. I false step becomes hopelessly lost,

Cork to London. A movement is now on foot in Ireland by which it is hoped to buy up the railways. It is estim-ated that \$200,000,000 would be necessary for the purpose, and although there is more than one mode of raising the money, it is considered by some of the most practical men in the country, that the most satisfactory and equitable way of doing so is through the medium of the British government.

WHAT TIM HEALY SAYS.

"The only thing wanted," says Tim Healy, M. P., "is to put the act of 1844 in force, which empowers the gen-eral council of the county councils to borrow money for the purchase and construction of railways and other means of transit. England, according to the financial relations commission, which was appointed by a Liberal gov-ernment, agreed that she owed Ireland

ILITCH PETRUNKEVITCH. TVAN

PRESIDENT PICKED FOR RUSSIAS' COMING DOUMA.

Ivan Petrunkevich-"the famous Petrunkevich" he is called in Russiathe man whose name for a score of years has been in the forefront of Russian liberalism and who now as the accepted candidate of the constitutional Democrats will be the president of the coming Douma, is one of the few Russian statesmen who have defied the imperial bureaucropy and dared to tell the czar his duty.

When Nicholas III mounted the throne all the zenatives sent addresses of felicitation. The addresses of the Tver zemistvo was an extraordinary document. To felicitations and formulas like those of other zemstvos it added that for the welfare of Russia the new monarch should grant a constitution. "A continuance of the old regime," It sold, "will lead the country to perdition."

This was the first time the word constitution could be said to have been openly pronounced in Russia. Petrunkevich and Rodec'ieff were the authors of that historic document.

MAURICE LECLERG.

ear that had been granted the lepers