

are quaint and curious. The customs in Parliament are observed as rigorously as though they were fixed canons.

Take this case of Black Rod, who is an official of the House of Lords, visiting the House of Commons. As with slow and stately stride he walks through the corridors his approach is heralded by shouts of "Black Rod!" "Black Rod!" When the Sergeant-at-Arms, sitting in his pew in the House of Commons, hears that shout he immediately goes to the door, shuts one panel, holds the other ajar until Black Rod is within two paces, and then he bangs the door in Black Rod's face and turns the key.

This seems a rude proceeding. It is an act, however, signifying on behalf of the House of Commons that Black Rod has no right to stalk into the Chamber whenever the House of Lords cares to send him, to demonstrate, indeed, that the Chamber is inviolate, sacred, and that neither King, Queen, noble lord nor their representative can cross the threshold without permission.

And this Black Rod immediately proceeds to ask. He knocks three times on the door, and then the Sergeant-at-Arms opens a little shutter in the door and peeps out, and asks who is there and what does he want. Black Rod craves permission to enter "this honourable House." This is granted. The door is unlocked, and he advances to the bar. He puts his heels together and bows. On this the House uncovers, but remains seated. Black Rod advances to the middle of the floor, halts, puts his heels together again, and bows a second time. He advances again till he is right before the Mace, and facing the Speaker. Once more his heels meet, he bows, and then he delivers his message inviting the attendance of "this honourable House" to the House of Lords to hear the reading of her Majesty's assent to various bills. Then he bows himself backwards down to the bar.

The Speaker, accompanied by the Sergeant-at-Arms, who carries the Mace across his shoulders, immediately follows. As the Speaker passes, not only do all the members remain uncovered, but they all stand. Afterwards those who desire follow to the Gilded Chamber.

Frequently in debate reference is made to the House of Lords. But it is never called the House of Lords. Indeed, the House of Commons ignores the House of Lords as much as possible. It pretends not to know there is such a House. So when mention is made it is always hidden from sight under the phrase, "another place." You constantly hear members saying: "Lord Salisbury speaking last night in another place said so-and-so."

The speaking in the House of Commons is different from public platform speaking. It is more subdued; oratorical fireworks are at a discount. So it is that men who have a reputation in the provinces as public speakers are sometimes unsuccessful in the House, whilst others who couldn't hold the attention of a public meeting for twenty minutes are listened to readily at Westminster. The explanation is that the House is composed of trained, experienced men, and though they admire effectiveness and cheer it, they are more concerned with what a man has to say than with his manner of saying it.

As a rule the big speeches, delivered by the leaders, are made between half-past four in the afternoon and half-past six. Then the talk lags, slipping into the hands of third-rate men, and dreariness usually reigns between eight and nine. About ten o'clock the House begins to waken up again, and very often there are big speeches between then and the midnight hour.

Mr. Balfour usually comes back about half-past ten, and remains till the rising of the House. Shortly after eleven you may notice him rise, go to the table, select an official-sized sheet of notepaper, pick up a small blotting-pad, and with his stylographic pen start writing a letter upon his knee. Sometimes it is short, sometimes rather long. He bends over and writes slower and evidently tries to be more legible than is his wont. Every night without fail he writes this particular letter.

said he bought the premises under a deed, and they were afterwards put up and purchased by Burke for £89. He (defendant) paid Mr. Roche £59, and his own bill was about £20. He might tell his Honor that a balance of about £5 was left, and he sent 50s for masses and a novena for Doherty to be said in Roscrea, and there was a balance of £2 10s.

His Honor asked why the money was not given for masses to the priests at home; their masses would get a fellow out of trouble as quickly as any other (laughter). But why Roscrea?

Mr. Curtin informed the judge that he left the money for 10 days at the Castle office. All claims were paid, but this was not put in. He had Dr. Pierce to attend Doherty, and brought him medicine from Dr. Pierce's prescription.

His Honor: No wonder between them both he died (laughter). His Honor would allow the doctor a fair fee, £3 10s, but the question was, had the defendant the money left to pay? This man had got the benefit of masses, and what was better now he'd get the benefit of discharging his lawful debts, and a double share of coals would be removed off him (laughter). Decree for £3 10s., and 3s expenses.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.

The monthly meeting of the Managing Committee of St. John's Hospital was held on Friday, the Rev. Father Conway, P.P., in the chair. Also present—Father Cregan, Adm. St. Michael's; Father Lee, Adm. St. John's; Dr. O'Shaughnessy, D.L., Mr. W. Lloyd, Dr. Mulcahy, Mr. R. Nash, B.C., Mr. M. Cuddihy, B.C., Mr. Vincent Nash, J.P., High Sheriff (hon. treasurer), and Mr. T. McSwiney (secretary).

It was announced that there was a balance due to the bank of £1,768 2s. 5d. after last month's bills had been paid. The number of patients in hospital was 41, of whom 32 were free.

A discussion took place as to the best means of furthering the collection at the different boxes at warehouses, stores, etc. The matter was left in the hands of a committee.

The other business was routine.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. W. H. WIDDESS.

The remains of the late Mr. W. H. WiddeSS were removed yesterday morning at ten o'clock for interment in the family burial place at St. Munchin's Church. Deceased, who passed away at a very early age, was a general favourite with all who had the pleasure of knowing him, and there was a large gathering of young friends, as well as older citizens, to pay a last respect to his memory, and sympathise with his bereaved mother and brother in their keen sorrow. The chief mourners were—Mr. M. B. WiddeSS, brother, and Mr. Johnson, brother-in-law of the deceased. The clergy present were—Rev. H. Orpen (who officiated), and Rev. E. Archdale. Precentor Meredyth sent his carriage. Beautiful wreaths were sent by several friends.

WHY SUFFER ONE MOMENT from torturing, disfiguring skin, scalp, and blood humours, with loss of hair, when a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, and a single anointing with CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure, to allay itching and inflammation and soothe and heal, followed by a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, to cool and cleanse the blood, will afford instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. PRICE, THE SET 6s.; or SOAP, 1s.; OINTMENT, 2s. 6d.; RESOLVENT, 2s. 6d.; or post-paid of F. NEWBERRY & SONS, London E.C.

party wall, and he also raised leasehold.

Mr. Kelly said that he never had anything as a right to repair a wall, mitted was clearly the property of

His Honor, said he did not think Donnellan was damaged by the defendants, but the contention of was that they enjoyed an easement prescription to build a shed up against and put a course of masonry on. That was a different thing. His Honor it was Mr. Donnellan's wall. Defendants were permitted in fact to meddle with it to a certain extent, acquired the fee of the wall, and build a shed against it. His Honor for one penny and costs of the event of an appeal not being taken that the parties should come to a settlement in Court.

After some discussion, the Judge in order by consent to the effect that admit the wall is plaintiff's property, consents that the defendants are to maintain and repair the wall, it; defendants to have a shed against and to remove the shed whenever plaintiff to do so.

The remaining business of the case over to the adjourned court, the has yet to be fixed.

ANNIE.

So Annie is ill, the doctor said,
A week, or a fortnight will su
No shake this time of his grey o
No fears expressed in a subdued
Annie, my dear little playmate
So tenderly-loving, and fair to
I fain would check those tears of
For Annie, my darling, was fo

I fancy I hear her steps just now
But no; she is sleeping quiet,
So strange; yon swinging lilac
She bent for a blossom, but you
Annie with eyes like the blue a
And fresh young mouth, like a
Annie with voice, like the voice
Makes everything brighter w

A week or so—she'll be well again
Our flowers must be tended,
The crystalline bath of last night
Has dyed the geraniums a de
Yon faint musk-rose loses half it
Those bulbs, you see, have no
No matter; when dear little An
We'll have fairer roses and be

Limerick.

A BARONET IN P

The Irish Daily Independent giving interesting particulars of the career of Algernon Coote, an Irish Baronet, time past has been obliged to eke existence by writing begging appeals to English people from his poor abode in street, Dublin.

Sir Charles is great-grandson of Bellamont, who held the post of Lieutenant-General from July 1789 to 1797. of Lord Bellamont that he took Lord Townshend's Vice-royalty immediately admitted to an audience had applied. Upon Lord Townshend's England the late peer called very offensive manner.

In the duel which was fought in the Fields on February 2, 1773, Lord severely wounded.—Evening News

The small Scottish town of Leith refused to adopt the Free Libraries Act, consequently loses Mr. Carnegie's o