## JUNE 4, 1858. THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

known truth : and she plundered the sanctuary the Scriptures and that they are not even perto reward ber, adherents, and she created the Church Establishment as the political result of her national spollation. And, again, she incurred enormous national debt in a conflict with the surrounding Catholic countries, whom she changed from allies into enemies, by her sacrilegious robbery and ther national injustice. These two results of her apostacy, viz: her debt and her Church Establishment, may yet be employed (as all history leaches), to surround her Pagan capital, to break open her gates, to beat her flat, and to drench her banquetting halls in blood, unless the cause be removed, and the enemy disarmed by impartial justice and generous legislation. Of course, there is no intention of including in

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the report of the Bishop, or in the remarks of the Times, the upper classes of the English peo- shall quote here the fable of "the cat and the ple: quite the contrary. The religious charac- mice." ter of the English nation in high society is best attested by the enormous sums of money they give in maintaining charitable institutions of all descriptions, as well as by their known personal virtues. A people of more unblemished honor, more inviolable truth, or more exalted moral feeling, is not to be found in the world : but, the the laboring, the artizan classes, are sunk in grovelling sensuality, in a degraded description of vice, in an unnatural code of crime, and in a total ignorance, and an entire disregard for religion, which has no parallel in Christian Europe. The mass of the people are either gone into miscel-laneous sectarianism, or they live in avowed infidelity. From a residence of nearly four years in England, visiting the various towns and cities, I learned that the worst habits of the laboring classes of the English-namely, frequenting no place of worship upon Sunday, using blasphemous language, and falling into the practice of a beastly vice, unknown in Ireland. Of course, the English Protestant Clergy are opposed to this scandalous character of those classes, and exert themselves to correct the thrilling evil as much as they can. But they have lost all influence on the people, who look upon their zeal as hypocrisy; on their professional character as mockgone into Sectarianism or Nothingism, never to return, at least, to Protestantism. In the hearing of any one learned in the Doctrine of "Divine Grace," or, acquainted with the essential principles of Divine Revelation, it must cause a smile of ridicule to listen to a Prime Minister, or a Member of Parliament in England planning laws to make Christians ! These Senators speak of making good Christians as they would make good drummers, sailors, or engine-drivers: the zeal of the Minister, light from above, the disposition of the heart, is mere romance in their system. In their theology, to sit or kneel in the Church, to believe in the historical existence of Christ, to hate the Pope, to burn the Blessed Virgin, and to maintain the Church Establishment in its annual millions, this is true Protestantism, spotless morality, unblemished life, heavenly faith, and glorious Christianity. This is what is called Parliamentary Christianity : and can no more save the soul, than the laws which construct marine harbors, railways, or lay down the electric telegraph. Hence the English dissenters call this system of religion by names not easily forgotten-namely, "a scheme of legal hypocrisy, and of Church revenue, for the adrancement of the wealthy, and for the oppression of the poor." Who in Ireland can forget the scheme of this English church confederacy, which, during the last ten years has scattered discord in Ireland, by the annual expenditure of £39,000: and who does not now see its total failure amongst us, amidst the scorn of the universal people, both Protestant and Catholic, of this country. In reference to the various ramifications of these Bible Socielies, there is one fact connected with their preaching : one fact which is made the anology for their conduct: one fact which is put forward as the basis of their association, and, if, the Catholic public were not daily witnesses to this remarkable fact, no man or set of men could be ever made to believe that such a fact could have ever, existed and be believed by rational beings, or by civilized society. This fact is, that the Catholics never read the Scriptures; and besides, that they are not allowed by their Church to possess a Bible in their houses. Millions, tens of millions, hundreds of millions, have been expended by the Protestant Church, and by the Bible Societies, in publishing this fact at bome and abroad. Now, it happens, that in the sense in which they put this fact forward, it is, perhaps, the greatest lie which has ever been told, written, and published in the whole world; and when we consider the men who tell this lie, the press that publishes this lie, the millions expended in teaching this lie to the rising generation, it forms in all its circumstances, the most singular instance ever recorded in the whole history of mankind. from the time of Moses to the present hour, of a thing said to be a fact, published at so much expense, producing such discord in society, and yet having no truth, no particle of truth, no infinitesmial fraction of truth, no more than if they said that the Catholics eat snails for their breakfast, dined on oak bark, and took their supper on tea made from the leaves of tobacco! And. moreover, when the Catholic priests deny itwhen millions of the laity swear it is false-when it is stated that the priests read the Gospel every Sunday from the public altar to the assembled congregation-when the laity, ladies and gentlemen, show their prayer books, where all the gospels and epistles are found, and which they read daily at Mass on their knees,-when the Catholic booksellers point to their shelves where Bibles are sold to every one who wishes to purchase them; and when these booksellers tell, that in the very title page can be read the approbation of all the Bishops of Ireland for the laity to read the Scriptures with the proper disposition : what must be the characters of the supporters of this multitudinous lie, when, after all this overwhelming evidence, they come forward again, and de-

England commenced her apostacy against the and therefore; that "the Catholics do not read mitted to have a Testament in their 'houses ?" More cannot he said on this subject, except to conclude by asserting, that England has spent more money in publishing this PALPABLE LIE than would be sufficient to pay ordained ministers in the conversion of all the Pagan nations on the entire earth.

In order to meet this our statement here made against this Biblical lie, the Soupers have offered to go themselves amongst our people, and to distribute with their own hands our Catholic Bible to our Catholic poor. Of course, we refuse, and we reply : why employ Soupers to distribute our Bible, when we ourselves perform this office ; and, secondly, we would not trust you in your contact with our faithful poor. And, in order to convince them of our prudence in this matter, I

"An old cat not being able to catch a certain young mouse, which played every day near a shelf in the kitchen, bethought himself of a plan to capture the little mouseling : and accordingly, seing a nail projecting from the shelf, he suspended himself from it by the two hind legs, and pretended to be dead. The old mouse, the mother of the little fellow seeing the cat thus suspended, addressed the young mouse as follows : ' My child I am long accustomed to the stratagems of cats; and therefore I would not depend on a cat dead or alive : and, my dear child, take this my advice, through life, which, I repeat again and again : and it is never to trust even his skin, though it were even stuffed with straw."

D. W. C. May 6.

# MR. S. O'BRIEN'S ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

## PART VII. ABSENTEE TAX.

In recapitulating the measures which ought to engage your attention, I should not do justice to my own convictions if I were to omit "a tax upon absentee proprietors." Unfortunately we have no anthentic statistics which tell the exact amount of the remittances made annually to proprietors who live out of Ircland. Judging by my own personal inquiries, I cannot estimate this amount at less than five millions sterling per annum. Probably it is more. Many of the proprietors who receive these rents have selery; and on the Church Establishment as a legal | dom even visited their estates in Ireland. Without swindle. Beyond all doubt, these classes are assuming that the absentees are either better or cone into Sectarianism or Nothingism. never to worse as landlords than other proprietors, it is obvious that, by the very fact of their absence, they must neglect nearly all the social duties which a good resident landlord is called upon to perform .-They do not administer hospitality to the rich and to the poor-they do not dispense charity-they do not encourage the industrial and the fine arts-they do not take part in the administration of local affairs -they ignore the literature, the traditions, and everything that constitutes the nationality of this country. Considered in an economical point of country. Considered in an economical point of view, the remittances to absentees operate as a tribute for which no equivalent is returned. A resident proprietor distributes at once amongst his neighbors and dependants a large portion of the produce of his estate, and, if the remainder be sent out of Ireland for sale, he obtains in exchange an equivalent of foreign products. Since he can consume but a very limited proportion of these articles upon his own person, the remainder are distributed, in one form or other, amongst the population who surround him. On the other hand, if the landlord's share of the produce of an estate belong to an absentce, it is sent out of Ireland for sale, and the proceeds of such sale are distributed amongst the inhabitants of another country. Now if a foreign conqueror-the Emperor of France, for instance-were to subjugate Ireland, and to exact from it a tribute of five millions per annum-one-third of its rentalall mankind would exclaim against such intolerable oppression. Yet Ireland would not suffer more from the exaction of such a tribute than she now suffers from her remittances to absentee proprietors. An Absentee Tax would provide a remedy for this grievance, without violating any of the rights of property, because if it were effective in point of amount-say at least ten per cent on the rental-it would induce proprietors to live in Ireland or to sell their estates to purchasers who would be prepared to dwell in the land to which their social obligations would by such purchase become due. If, for the sake of health or pleasure or other considerations, a pro-prietor were induced to take his family away from Ireland, an Absentee Tax-the proceeds of which ought to be applied in aid of useful local objectswould in some measure indemnify this country for the loss occasioned by his absence. These and other considerations were urged by mc in favor of an Absentee Tax when, at the time of the famine, I brought forward this proposal in the House of Commons; but nearly every English and Scotch member present at the debate voted against me, and I was support-cd by less than one-fifth of the Irish representatives. This experience is not very encouraging to others; but when a measure is based upon justice, though the advocacy of it may, from motives of expediency, be suspended for a season, its principle ought never to be surrendered. I have witnessed the accomplishment of many events which at one time seemed to be much less probable than the imposition of a Tax upon Absentees or the Repeal of the union appear to be at the present moment. IRISH MANTFACTURES. I shall say very little respecting the manufactures of Ireland, because it is the fashion now for manufactures to declare that they ask for nothing but to be let alone. Whilst the manufactures of Ireland were protected from English and foreign competition, there existed in this country a considerable number of manufactures which have been gradually extinguished since that protection was abandoned. It is right that I should admit that if the domestic manufactures, which were formerly dispersed throughout Ireland, have for the most part been extinguished by the operation of free commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland, or by financial regulations, there has, on the other hand, been concentrated in the town of Belfast a greater amount of commercial enterprise than was formerly to be found in that port. Whether the manufacturing prosperity of the rest of Ulster has increased in proportion commensurate with the increase of Belfast, is a proposition respecting which doubts may be entertained. For my own part, I do not judge of the prosperity of any country by tables of exports and imports : and, though our export of food and our import of manufactured goods may have increased, I am not convinced that Ireland is either richer or happier than it was at the time when we were accustomed to eat our own beef, and wore clothing that was made in Ireland. It would be idle, however, to suggest any legislative measures to the British parliament which could tend to encourage the manufactures of Ireland. Even since this Address was commenced, the Whiskey trade of Ireland has been subjected to a tax amounting to half a million per annum-being an increase of taxation specially and exclusively imposed upon Ireland-and the Irish distillers are told, with bantering jibes, that the tax will encourage this branch of Irish industry.

Attempts have been made to set up monopolies in syour of private individuals, which are at variance with the first principles of natural right. Thus a most cruel persecution of the fishermen of the Shannon has been going on for several years, in violation of the natural right which all mankind ought to enjoy of fishing in the sea and in tidal rivers.

Those who are interested in the preservation of the inland fisheries of Ireland have recently waited upon the executive with memorials suggestive of an amend ment and consolidation of the existing fishery laws. The movements of individual proprietors ought always to be watched with vigilance, because they are naturally desirous to strengthen their own monopoly, but measures which tend to protect fish during the spawning season are for the common ad-vantage of the whole community because they tend to increase the supply of fish.

Another reason for inquiry is the fact that there has been an extraordinary decline in this branch of national industry, in so far as the sea coast fisheries are concerned. In the year 1848 the number of fishing boats registered in Ireland was 19,883, the number of men and boys employed in the sea fisheries was 93,073-but in the year 1855 the number of boats registered was only 12,758; the number of men and boys employed was only 53,633.

The fisheries of Ireland ought at least to supply as much fish as is required for domestic consumption by our own people, but it appears (see Thom's Official Almanack for 1858) that in the year 1855 not less than 97,377 barrels of herrings were imported into Ireland. The Irish members ought also to ascertain upon what grounds a sum of £13,500 is granted annually by Parliament to the Scotch Board of Fish-eries whilst no corresponding grant is made in favor of the fisheries of Ireland. We are told by the advocates of Free Trade that all such assistance is injurious rather than beneficial, but in the meantime, we find that the Gaelic inhabitants of the West of Scotland are able to carry on a prosperous trade under the operation of this encouragement, whilst Irishmen of the same race upon our own coast are barely able to procure from this branch of industry a precarious subsistence.

### MINES.

The laws which affect mining operations in this country ought also to be carefully examined by a committee of intelligent Irishmen with a view to the expansion of this branch of our national industry. Considering the mining resources which Ireland possesses—as ascertained by the enquiries of Sir Ric-hard Griffith, Sir Robert Kane, Dr. W. K. Sullivan and other competent persons—it ought to bring to market annually a much larger amount of mineral productions than it yields at present. I speak with diffidence on this point, because I do not feel myself to be master of all the details that are connected with the subject, but I am inclined to think that the laws which relate to mines in some foreign countries are much more favourable to the developement of mining industry than those which are in force in Ireland. It would be well that a committee should consider how far such laws are applicable to Ireland.

#### PUBLIC WORRS.

In regard of public works it may be admitted that in spite of waste arising from incompetency, and I fear also from jobbing, the result of the outlay occasioned by the famine has been to leave a small residuum of permanent benefit as the result of the expenditure which took place under the agency of the Board of Works and of other functionaries of the central government. Arterial drainage has been effected, to a small extent, at a great cost. Useful roads have been made to a small extent at great cost. To a small extent the construction of railways has been promoted by government loans. Had these objects been forwarded in a judicious manner the pressure of the famine might have been greatly relieved without pauperising the population; the in-dustry of our people might have greatly augmented the productiveness of our country, and advances from the public Exchequer of a much more liberal kind than those which were actually made might have been furnished without any eventual loss. When Government advances money to a proprietor or to a company, it takes a first-charge upon the property affected by the loan, whatever it may be. The security, therefore, being except in the case of bubble speculations, unquestionable, there appears to be no limit to which indicions advances ought to be made. In the case of many of the loans which have been made to Ireland, an interest of five per cent has been exacted on the most solvent security for money

but it seems to me to be deeply humilisting to us as 20sent ins a nation, that the ladies and gentiemen of Alreland should scarcely dars to meet for social intercourse, we fell con with each other, except under the condescending patronage of an English nobleman and his suite. As I have never attended a Drawing-room at Dublin Cas-

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tle, I cannot estimate its facsinations, but I own that I have felt deeply humiliated when I have been told that a young lady is not considered to have been "introduced" into good society in Dublin until she has been "presented" at the Castle. I own that I have felt deeply humiliated when I have seen homage paid by our great historical families (I will not say of the Gaelic race, who might naturally be expected to hate Dublin Castle, but the Fitzgeralds, the Butlers, the Caulfields, &c.,) to English noblemen who have possessed no one qualification calculated to command public respect, and, at the same time, were far inferior in birth and rank to the Irishmen who pay reverence to them.

There remains then simply the monetary question. How much of Exchequer Cash is put into circulation in Dublin by the Viceregal Court? Is it £50,000 ?-Not so much! . It is less than half the sum voted annually on an average of years by Parliament for the support of the British Museum, its purchases and its buildings. In a financial point of view, therefore, the population of Dublin would gain more by a liberal grant in aid of metropolitan improvements than it gains by the expenditure of the Viceregal Court. Perhaps it will be said that if the office of Lord Licutenant were abolished Dublin would lose the advantage of the Viceregal expenditure, but would not gain the indemnity suggested. This is very probable ; and, whether the Viceroyalty be abolished or retained, a suitable outlay upon public institutions and metropolitan improvements ought to be secured to Dublin. At present it is easier for a Finance Minister to persuade the House of Commons to give ten thousand pounds for a single picture for the National Gallery of London than to procure an equal sum for all the artistic institutions of the whole kingdom of Ireland. If an Irish Parliament were to sit in Dublin, not only would votes be passed annually for the embellishment of a capital, in the adornment of which every Irishman would feel an honorable pride, but subsidies—such as are given by the legislature of Belgium for the repair of ancient edifices, and for the erection of new ones, in the remotest parts of that kingdom-would be freely afforded in support of every local improvement in the provinces.

In the hope that such a time may bereafter arrive, I still uphold the Viceroyalty, simply as a symbol of nationality. We know the amount of evil which it inflicts upon our country, and, if a proper spirit were to exist amongst us, we might hope to neutralize that evil; but we cannot estimate the consequences which would result from the habit of looking perpetually to London for direction in regard to the administra-tion of our local affairs. Perhaps we should find that the renue alone would have been changed, and that corruption and intrigue would flourish as actively in Westminster as it has flourished hitherto within the precincts of Dublin Castle.

I fear that in this section I have said much that will be distasteful to some of my readers. I propose to discuss in the next chapter topics which affect all parts of the United Kingdom.

I remain, your faithful friend,

WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN. Cahirmoyle, May 3, 1858.

## IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

Sunday, 2nd May, a church dedicated to the Immaculate Conception was opened in Wexford with great and imposing solemnity. The Right Rev. Bishop of the diocess presided, assisted by his clergy. The chalice and vestments were the gifts of the lamented Countess of Shrewsbury. His Lordship delivered a most impressive discourse before the conclusion of the ceremonies. This the second new church opened in Wexford within a very short period.

On Thursday, the 6th ult, the neat chapel of Ballinacourty was solemnly dedicated and set apart to the worship of Almighty God, under the patronage of the ever glorious and Immaculate Mother of our Redeemer, by the the Reverend Bishop of our diocess the Right Rev. Dr. MacEvilly .- Galway Vindicator.

On Sunday, May 9th, the mountain district of Corcahan, parish of Kilmore, within three miles of Monaghan, presented a scene most truly gratifying to a Catholic. The Most Rev. Dr. McNally, Bishop of Clogher, came from Monaghan to preside at the Pontificial High Mass, celebrated in the spacious Parochia! Church, and after the holy Sacrifice was concluded a charity sermon was preached, in order to enable the Rev. Michael Duffy, curate of the parish, to decorate the church and furnish it with the many requirements of which it still stands in need.-The Catholics of the parish, and many Protestants as well as Catolics from Monaghan, responded generously to the preacher's appeal, and contributed handsomely on the occasion. After the sermon the Most Rev. Dr. McNally ascended the altar, and commanded in the highest terms the zeal and efficiency of Father Duffy, who has succeeded in crecting an excellent dwelling-house close by the parochial church. The venerable and learned prelate dwelt at great length on the good that must necessarily result from the fact of the clergy living as near as possible to the parochial church; and he at the same time denounced most energetically the execrable secret societies which have long been a curse to some parishes in the diocese of Clogher. His Lordship was listened to with the profoundest attention, and priests and people retired from the sacred precincts deeply affected by the solemn address of the learned prelate. The Rev. Michael Duffy is entitled to the highest meed of praise; for to his exertions, aided by the parishioners of that poor district, the parish stands indebted for its excellent parochial residence, and the great moral improvements that has been effected in the surrrounding region. May he live long to see the Church of Corcahan beautified and furnished with all its requirements. Father Michael Duffy is brother to Mr. James Duffy, the eminent Catholic publisher, who has done so much for the diffusion of Catholic literature through the whole Catholic world .- Nation. CHRISTIAN BROTHERS IN KILKENNY. - A meeting was held on fast Sunday to make final arrangements for the introduction of the Christian Brothers into Kilkenny, and we are happy to say that it was numerously attended, and that a sum of nearly £600 was subscribed on the spot. Never have we witnessed such generosity in the cause of religion as that of which the citizens of Kilkenny have given such frequent and substantial proof. Only a few months ago the new cathedral, built solely by the contributions of this diocess, was opened; and now again they come forward, almost at their own instance, to raise funds for the erection and endowment of schools, to afford the means of education-education based upon the saving truth of religion-to the poor of the city. It was edifying to witness the zeal that animated the meeting of last Sunday. The citizens present seemed to vie with each other in generosity; and the result was the munificent sum we have already stated. The entire amount necessary for building and endowing an institution for the Brothers is about £3,000. The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh guarantees £1,000, and, with a generosity almost unparalleled, before the end of the week the city of Kilkenry will have contributed another £1,000. A third of the necessary sum will still remain to be collected; and we feel confident that the county will lend its assistance to this good work, and contribute its mite toward a project which is destined to confer a blessing, not merely upon the city, but upon the county of Kilkenny.: We believe it is the intention of the committee to; appeal . immediately. to the Ca-

stelready-rendered itself famous by its munificant generosity in the cause of religion, and we feel confident that it will not hesitate to lend its essistance to such a cause as that of establishing the Christian Brothers in Kilkenny .- Kilkenny Jour. nal.

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We are gratified to learn that among the results of the late mission in Tagoat, county Wexford, was the conversion of several adult Protestants to the Oatholic faith. This is a cheering fact, at once evidencing the steady progress of Catholic doctrine, and the existence of that spirit of unohtrusive propagandism which has so successfully redeemed and regenerated the world, even in the advance of material civilisation. - Tablet.

This is the eleventh anniversary of the great O'Connell's death ... No one ever enjoyed a larger share of a whole people's love and veneration while he lived; no one was ever lamented with more grateful affection or more genuine grief. It seemed impossible that one so much beloved should increase his hold upon the nation's heart; it seemed impossible that for one whose fame had so filled the world an increase of glory should be yet reserved. And yet if anything is certain it is this, that the name and memory of the great Liberator are more fondly cherished and more reverently prized with every year that passes. We are only at the beginning of the national movement which in all the chief towns of Ireland, and on all the scenes of his great exploits, will raise monumental trophies to the Leader of the people. And it is well that this movement should be but beginning, for even yet we are not in a position to do full justice to the merits, or to appreciate worthily, the service of Ireland's greatest son. Their proportions are too colossal to be inspected close at hand. We require time and distance that we may estimate their magnitude by comparing them with other objects. We require time that the verdict of history may be recorded in his favor upon matters which are still disguised by the smoke and dust of angry controversy. But every year brings new materials for the triumphant vindication, not of his genius, his fidelity, and his patriotism, for these are undisputed, but of his wisdom and his policy, and of the great principles which directed his struggles for the rights and liberties of the Catholic Church and of the Irish people. Men have wondered that with his vast power he did not do more. We are perfectly satisfied that the real cause for wonder is, that with such scanty means he should have done so much. The eleven years which have passed since his death have revealed how much of the power which he wielded was his own, and how little of it could be claimed by any other. It was buried with him. Let the present weight of the Catholic body and the political power of the Irish poople be compared with the weight of that one Catholic and the political power of that one Irishman, and we see at once all that we have lost. In eleven years the work of reconstruction has scarcely been begun. It is not certain but that our strength may even yet become more feeble, our counsels more distracted, our spirits more cowed. But while the memory of O'Counell lives and grows, there is no fear that the Irish people will embrace either of the alternatives which are so assiduously offered them, of sinking into a mere province or dependency of the empire, a huge stall, or large barn in the victualling department of Great Britain ; or, on the other hand, of sitting huddled up in unavailing regrets for times long past, or vague longings for an imaginary future. When O'Connell lived there was work to be done which left little time for elegiac wailings over Red Hugh, or for pictures of the good time coming, when the French should march on London. When O'Connell lived there was work to be done which precluded the idea that the destinies of Ireland were to be fulfilled by hewing wood and drawing water for the Whigs, in exchange for places, salaries, and petty patronage.—Tablet, May 15.

The Committee have decided that the parties in the case of the Limerick Election Petition are to pay each his own costs.

There is a new contest for Limerick, Major Gavan having been unseated for bribery. Mr. Ball has done good service in refusing to sign the late Report of the Patriotic Fund, and he comes before the electors with a strong letter of recommendation from the venerable Bishop :-- "I know no one better fitted than yourself to discharge the various and important duties that devolve just now upon a Catholic representative. I have the fullest reliance on your honor and integrity ; your ability, Parliame rience, and capacity for public affairs are intimately known to me; while your devotion to Catholic interests, so well known and so highly commended by many of the most distinguished Irish and English Catholic Prelates, has always commanded my warmest admiration. For myself, I shall feel it a duty to give you my most cordial support, and I beg to recommend you in the strongest manner to the Catholic Clergy and Laity of the city." He is opposed by Mr. Spaight .- Weekly Register. A MAN STRONGER THAN A DRAY-HORSE .- At the close of a police case in Galway on Monday, the de-fendant, Redmond Jennings, was mentioned as a brewer's drayman, of whom a solicitor in court stated a curious fact-which he said many respectable persons were personally cognizant of. He said that Jennings was the strongest man in the province of Connaught, or, probably, in all Ireland ; that on one occasion, when his horse failed to draw a heavilyladen dray with barrels of porter up a hill, he untackled the horse, fixed himself between the shafts. and drew up the load to the top of the bill. Many persons in court stated that they knew this to be positive fact, and several added, that they knew also that he could load a dray with heavy barrels of porter in less time than it would take three ordinary men to do it .- Galway Vindicator. We (Tablet) reneat our deliberate opinion that a searching inquiry into the working of the whole system of National education is now strongly called for. The Education Board itself has come to be, to say the least, uncatholic. We wish to speak with all due respect of certain Catholic gentlemen whose names help to fill up the list of the Board, and two or three of whom may even be considered actual members of it. But, at the best, these gentlemen must be considered a most inadequate representation of the Catholic body. It will be recollected also that the Catholics, as well as the Protestants and Presbyterians on the Board, have been nominated by the Government; and we trust we shall not be misunderstood if we say that the fact of their nomination by the Government cannot be accepted as conclusive proof of their qualifications as Oatholics, though it may have been a tribute to their high personal characters, and to the esteem in which, on whatever grounds, they were held by their countrymen and co-religionists. It is also possible that some of these nominations may have been made on more questionable grounds; but what is quite certain 19, that no single nomination of a Catholic member to the National Education Board was ever made by a Protestant Government on the express ground that the person nominated was likely to be peculiarly efficient in defending Catholic interests, and in resisting the inroads of Protestant proselytism. In fact, it would be simply absurd to expect anything of the kind, while it is a matter of public notoriety that, in one or two instances, such parties have decisively repudiated the system by refusing to accept seats at the Board EMIGRATION FROM THE NORTH .-- On Saturday 8th of May, the bark Flora Mino, with I60 emigrants for Quebec, obtained her final clearance from the Government officers at the port of Belfast. This spring, the emigration tide seems to be chiefly from the northern counties. In the south and west there is an apparent lull in the movement, while the numbers taking shipping at the port of Dublin are far tholics of the diocess in aid of this most charitable less than in any previous season since the commenceundertaking, and their appeal will not be in vain .- ment of the exodus 10 years ago.

#### FISHERIES.

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Perhaps some advantage might arise from the appointment of a committee to enquire into the circamstances of the Fisheries of Ireland. Several reasons justify the demand for such a committee. Amongst clare that their statement is still palpably true : | them I will only mention the following :-

which the State has borrowed at 31 per cent. showing a profit of nearly 2 per cent. in favour of the British Exchequer.

Your patience would be exhausted if I were to enter into a critical analysis of all the details of our local affairs. I shall, therefore, conclude this section of my address, by adverting to a topic which has recently given occasion to discussion in Parliament, and to an expression of opinion in the metropolis of our country. It is this :-

Ought the people of Ireland to consent to the abolition of the office of Lord Lieutenant?

### THE VICEROYALTY.

If I were advocating the policy of an incorporate union with Great Britain, on terms of perfect equal-ity and unity of legislation, I would not hesitate to surrender this last symbol of a separate nationallyupon the understanding that an equivalent should be given to Ireland for the financial and departmental loss which would be sustained by its suppression. As a Nationalist, I am inclined to give my vote in favour of retaining the Viceroyalty. Let it not be supposed, however, that in offering this opinion, I set any value whatever upon the services which have been rendered to Ireland by this branch of the Executive. Looking to the past, I am compelled to admit that Dublin Castle has at all times been a citadel of corruption and intrigue, and this fortress of English influence has been upheld for the express purpose of denationalising the people of Ireland. Do you imagine that when on St. Patrick's Day the English Lord Lieutenant shews himself on a balcony with an immense shamrock on his breast he does so for the purpose of paying homage to the nationality of Ireland. Far otherwise. He seeks to reconcile the populace to English rule by paying an outward respect to an emblem of nationality which they love, but which the people whom he represents both hate and despise. I believe Lord Carlisle to be personally one of the most amiable men that have of late vears filled the office of Lord Lieutenant, yet he could not repress the utterance of his real sentiments when he told Irish farmers assembled at agricultural shows that he considered that Ireland was designed by Providence to be a dairy or grazing farm for England. Do you suppose that when he wept over the statue of Moore, and called upon his enchanted audience to remember the glories of Brien the brave," he meant to honour the patriotism and the heroism which Moore has commemorated in immortal verse. Far otherwise. The man who would imitate Brien by keeping "Ireland for the Irish,"—not allowing it to become a farm for the Dane, the Norman, or "the Anglo Saxon," is a traitor in the eyes of the amiable Lord Carlisle. Do I reproach him for thus deluding you? Yes! But I reproach you still more oitterly for allowing yourselves to be beguiled by such empty cajolery.

In a social point of view the presence of the Viceregal Court is scarcely less noxious. It tends to give a low tone to the society of Dublin. When I was at Florence I learnt that any Italian who spoke to an Austrian officer during the period when the Austrians occupied Tuscany was immediately put out of the pale of good Italian society; and we have recently seen the aristocracy of Lombardy refusing to accept the blandishments tendered to them by the Imperial Court of Vienna. Now, I am not prepared to say that an Irish lady or an Irish gentlemen ought to refuse to speak to an English, aide-de-camp. If he be a gentleman, he ought to be welcomed in society as we should welcome a French officer or a Russian :