

to constitute St. Patrick's Day a Festival of the First Class, to which is annexed the obligation of hearing Mass.* We have every reason to hope that the celebration will be in every way worthy of our creed and country, and that

"Though dark were our sorrows, that day we'll forget them" before the holy altars of our God, and amidst the sweet consolations of our Religion.

* There is no obligation, however, to refrain from servile work, on that day.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

'A Moralist' has called our attention to a wanton and unprovoked attack on the character of the Clergy which appeared last week, and makes some forcible remarks on the obvious tendency and motives of the writer. He might have saved himself the trouble. We have higher and nobler aims, and have no notion of wasting our powder and shot on such small game. Besides, the rag to which he alludes has been so bespattered with filthy obscenity during the last month, that it could be handled only with a pair of tongs. An interesting Lecture was delivered the other day before the Mechanics' Institute. But, alas! we fear that the age of chivalry is gone. There is certainly very little of its spirit to be found in Halifax.

The letter of 'an Honest Repealer' might, if published, just now, inflict an unmerited and, we are sure, an unintentional wound on the feelings of the immense majority of the Irishmen of Halifax, who love their country with genuine and disinterested affection. There is no holiday nor selfish patriotism which nails the national colours to the mast, at one side of the water, and tears them down at the other—which bids defiance to England in all the furious bombast of inflated vanity, and in less than one small month dares not whisper the name of Politics. No, the prosperity of Ireland will never be achieved by such hollow patriots, who had neither the decency nor prudence to conceal the true motives of their political manœuvres. The Irishmen of Halifax are too shrewd to allow their honesty of purpose to be much longer imposed upon by those who were never worthy of their generous, unsuspecting confidence. The reign of Gullification is at an end.

Our humorous correspondent 'a Catholic' has

addressed us another able letter in which he gives such a description of a late nocturnal congregation of Gulls, that the risible muscles of Diogenes himself would be moved at its perusal. His sketch of the 'ill-favoured looking Bird, more like an Owl than a Gull,' who took a high position among the flock, is drawn by the hand of a master. But, 'a Catholic' must excuse us, if we withhold his clever communication for the present. We must in mercy forbear. The plucking of the poor Birds last Autumn was severe enough, and it would be too cruel during this bitter season of frost and snow to strip the old as well as the pinfeathered of the slight covering they possess. We have another reason stronger than all. We believe that further allusion to this subject will be unnecessary, as it has been taken up in a more suitable quarter. The solemn and earnest admonition given by the Bishop, on last Sunday, sets the question at rest, and will preserve our young men from the unholy machinations of two or three notorious disturbers who have been hitherto foiled in every attempt, and whose late efforts will also explode amidst the derision of the entire community. Every one will be in his proper place in less than no time.

CHEZZET-COOKE.

During the week before last, the distribution of the relief voted by the Provincial Parliament for the distressed inhabitants of Chezzet-cooke, took place at Dartmouth. Some corn meal was given out on this occasion in such proportions as the magistrates deemed equitable after an investigation of the claims of the various applicants. No blame, as we know, can be attached to these worthy functionaries, but we cannot help expressing our opinion on the unnecessary hardship to which the people of Chezzet-cooke have been exposed, in being compelled to walk upwards of 40 miles in such a season as the present, in order to obtain possession of a few measures of meal! What a mockery!

"Nil habet infelix paupertas durius in se,
Quam quod ridiculos homines facit."

And yet the poverty of the people of Chezzet-cooke was merely the consequence of a visitation of Providence. If they deserved relief—and who will presume to deny it?—we think they should not have been forced to walk to Dartmouth, to have