

blossom: From Mallow a new line is about to be opened to Killarney. It is expected to be finished by the 15th of June, and will thus be ready for the summer and autumn traffic. The tourists of Monday travelled on it to within 9 miles of the lower lake, and this distance they completed by omnibuses supplied for the occasion. You descend on Killarney through a bleak region of heath-clad moor and bog, preparing the mind, by contrast, for a keener appreciation of the charming scenery beyond it. A change in the aspect of the peasantry, perceptible for some time, here became obvious: Something in their look and dress indicates, if the face of the country did not do so, that you have advanced into the wilds of Kerry. Many traces of the past sufferings of this primitive people reach the eye and affect the heart of the stranger. The small proportion of strong middle age to that of boys and girls; and old men and women, recalls to the memory the realities of an emigration such as the world has rarely seen equalled, while pinched faces and wasted frames bring up again the dismal history of the great famine. Looking into each little garden attached to the cottages on the wayside, young cabbage plants and other vegetables are struggling into life instead of the potato. The whole country seems soaked with superabundant moisture, and the very people have a damp appearance. At night, in the Victoria Hotel, there was high festivity and true Irish hospitality. To the delight of the French visitors especially, old Ganssey, the blind piper of the Lakes, was introduced, and with tremulous fingers upon the stops of his chanter, played the sweet melodies of the country. The English mayors could only find vent for their gratification in the speech-making so dear to all municipal minds. Mornings broke heavily upon the district of the Lakes, with mist shrouding the mountain tops, and magnifying their height by concealing it. Fortunately, however, it did not rain, and though the weather continued somewhat overcast, it became brighter as the day advanced. In white-painted barges, and at as early an hour as they could be got together, our party started to view the scenery of Killarney. Often described, its beauties are always new, and at this season of the year especially, when nature is just assuming her garb of summer loveliness, language fails to do them justice. What strikes one most about these Lakes is the exquisite combination of objects, which leaves no imagination, however cold, unsatisfied, and kindles poetic feelings in the most prosaic minds. Every wish is gratified by that changing panorama of island, and mountain and clear rushing stream and grotesquely formed rock, and ruined castle and mouldering abbey, which are collected here together. The mode adopted for showing the beauties of Killarney to visitors, under circumstances, is the best that could be hit upon, but when, as in the present instance, large numbers go together under hospitable guidance, it possesses extraordinary advantages. MacGillivuddy's Reeks and Tomies' Mountain, Torr Mountain, Dinis Green Isle, and Glen-a's wooded shore, all revealed their sweetest charms to the eyes of the tourist, and the notes of the bugle were prolonged by the echo, with the same exquisite effect as when Tom Moore sang of them. Through all the Lakes and to the foot of the Eagle's nest, to Ross Castle, overgrown with grass, and to Innisfallen Island, with its crumbling abbey walls crowned by waving foliage, past the "Honeycomb-rocks," too, and the "O'Donoghue's Library," with "the big Bible lying on the top," the strangers in their gay barges swept. They inhaled the fragrance of the spring blossoms, and admired the splendid varieties of a vegetation in which the myrtle and the arbutus grow wild. The lights and shadows that chased each other on the hill side, and the diversified hues of wood and glen, all were noticed and delightfully praised in their turn, and still the light drapery of the misty mountain-tops maintained over the changing prospect a certain character of dreamland. So thorough was their inspection of Killarney, that the Devil's Punchbowl, of all its attractions, alone escaped a visit. On the summit of Mangerton mountain this celebrated reservoir lay, brooded over by a dense mass of vapor, within which, while mayors and railway directors, Royal commissioners and executive committee men, were feasting their eyes beneath him, the Prince of Darkness might, unseen, be quaffing comfort and relief from the ice-cold waters. Killarney does not contain the element of sublimity in its scenic effects, and those whose tastes turn to the grand and majestic attributes of nature, must seek them elsewhere; but for picturesque variety, raised by legendary associations to the verge of enchantment, it is quite unrivalled by any place within the compass of the British Isles. The new railway about to be opened to it, and which has been, it is said, constructed at the low cost of £5,000 a mile, will place it within seven hours' ride of Dublin, and within 17 of London. So charming a retreat from the fatigues of business and the exhaustion of a town life, thus made accessible, is a boon to the community at large. Thousands will now visit what previously was only within reach of the few, and in time nature will win for the surrounding wilds of Kerry a degree of comfort and civilization which has hitherto been denied them. The Southern and Western Railway Company have made arrangements for conveying the humbler classes to see the Dublin Exhibition at the cheapest possible rate, and there is little doubt that their liberal example will be followed by all the other lines.—*Correspondent of Times.*

DECLINE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION.—Trinity term opens on Monday next, and in the course of the week two candidates for future legal fame will be called to the bar. Just five years since at the same time the number was 25, since which it has been gradually decreasing until it has sunk to the above-mentioned low figure. In 1847 the number of new law students was 40; in Trinity term, 1853, there is but a solitary claimant for admission. In the second branch of the profession the decline is nearly equally striking, but the case of the attorneys is not yet so bad as that of their brethren of the horsehair. Meanwhile this fearful falling away—this extension of the "clearance system" to the hall of the Four Courts—must of necessity make a serious difference in the amount of revenues heretofore received by the benchers of the Queen's Inns. The income of this influential body is almost wholly derivable from the fees paid by law students and attorneys' apprentices, and the moneys thus received have been disbursed with no niggard hand in buildings and other improvements: the payments in this way during the last 20 years being estimated at little short of £70,000. Their responsibilities, including the rent of all the law courts, are very heavy; and, unless fickle fortune turn up something like a counter "social revolution," there is no knowing what the finale may be.—*Times.*

GREAT BRITAIN.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE JEWS.—On Saturday a deputation of gentlemen connected with the city of London attended at the Paymaster-General's office, in Whitehall, for the purpose of receiving from Lord John Russell an explanation of the views and intentions of the Government with regard to the admission of Jews to seats in the Legislature. At the interview a few days previously, the noble lord intimated that he would be prepared on Saturday to state what measures it was intended to adopt upon the subject.—Among the gentlemen present were Mr. Gregson, M. P., Mr. Dillon, Mr. R. W. Crawford, Alderman Wise, Mr. Travers, Mr. W. J. Hall, Mr. Rock, Mr. Bennoch, and Mr. Sidney Smith. At half-past 1 the hour fixed for receiving the deputation, a note was transmitted from the noble lord to Mr. Dillon, apologising for being unable to see the gentlemen, in consequence of the length of time during which he had been detained by other parties, and being obliged to attend a Cabinet Council then on the point of assembling. The noble Lord expressed it as his opinion that no step ought to be taken by the Government until they had ascertained first, the nature, and secondly, the fate, of the bill announced by Lord Lyndhurst, upon the subject of the oaths of abjuration. His advice was that nothing should be done until they had ascertained the nature and result of that measure. The noble lord added, that although he was then attending the council, he would be happy to answer any questions they wished to put to him. A note was in consequence sent to Lord John Russell, stating that all they required to know was the nature of Lord Lyndhurst's bill, and whether it was likely to meet the views of the deputation. In reply the noble lord stated that he did not know the nature of the bill, as it had not yet been printed, and therefore he could not answer the question. The gentlemen forming the deputation, who had been introduced to Lord John Russell's reception room while the correspondence was in progress, they retired.

THE FIRST BLOW AT THE STATE CHURCH.—The best friends of the Anglican Establishment are not, it is manifest, to be found in the ranks of the Anglicans and Spooners. By their insane vote upon the estimate for keeping Maynooth College in repair, these men have inflicted upon the principle of ecclesiastical endowment a deadly wound; and, as if to make the blow more fatal, the reasons subsequently assigned by them for that vote, in the discussion of the grant to the Irish Presbyterians, have rendered the future maintenance of the Established Church incompatible with justice and sound policy.—*Catholic Standard.*

ANGLICAN DIGNITARIES AT ISSUE.—In consequence of the continued illness of Dr. Bagot, the Protestant Superintendent of Bath and Wells, it appears that a certain Dr. G. Spencer, formerly her Majesty's Bishop at Madras, has been exercising the Episcopal functions in the place of Dr. Bagot during the last year. The Archdeacon and examining Chaplain of Dr. Bagot is the well known and eccentric Mr. C. A. Denison, of Tractarian opinions. Dr. Spencer, on the other hand, is of the moderate Evangelical school and accordingly declines to ordain a gentleman who holds Mr. Denison's high views of the Anglican Eucharist. The consequence is that a long and angry correspondence has gone on for some weeks between Dr. Spencer and Mr. Denison, in which the latter, relying on the support of Dr. Bagot, who has always been a steady supporter of the High Church school, calls the religious opinions of the latter over the coals with tolerable severity. The end of the matter is that Dr. Spencer has found it the pleasantest and safest course to resign his delegated functions into Dr. Bagot's hands, as "Episcopal Commissary, in the diocese of Bath and Wells," and has resolved to publish the entire correspondence. It is curious that the family of the late and present Bishops of Bath and Wells have recently supplied converts to the Catholic Faith; that of Doctor Law in the person of the Hon. W. F. Law, late Chancellor of Lichfield, and Mrs. Charles Law, with their entire families, and that of Dr. Bagot, in the person of his Lordship's eldest daughter, the lady Charles Thynne.

THE ATTEMPTING TO EXTORT MONEY FROM MR. GLADSTONE.—At Marlborough-street Police-office on Thursday the prisoner, William Wilson, who stands charged with attempting to extort money or a situation from the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, by threatening to charge the right honorable gentleman with immorality, and to expose him in the Conservative papers, was again brought up before Mr. Bingham, in order that the depositions might be formally read over in his presence. He paid the greatest attention to the chief clerk during the time he read the depositions. As soon as they were completed, and the witnesses bound over, the prisoner said he admitted the correctness of what the right hon. prosecutor had stated, and requested to be admitted to bail. Mr. Bingham refused according to the prisoner's request, and he was then fully committed for trial.

SUDDEN DEPARTURE OF STEAM FRIGATES FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN.—Considerable activity was caused amongst the naval authorities of Portsmouth, in the course of Saturday, by the receipt of orders, directing the departure of the London, 90 guns, and Saiparrell (steamer), 71, from Spithead, for the Mediterranean. The Highflyer, steam-frigate, 21, and Odin, Steam-frigate, 16, are also under orders for sea, and have the Blue Peter flying at the main. The Cabinet Council of Saturday was supposed by many persons to stand in some relation to the sailing of these vessels.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.—In no part of the West of England more than Devonshire has the question of an increase of wages been agitated. At Plymouth the carpenters and joiners have met on several occasions, and many of the masters have acceded to their demands. At Barnstaple and South-molton similar demands have been made, with a similar result, the men remaining out of work but a very short time.—At Exeter the agitation has caused much more excitement. It first commenced with the joiners, carpenters and bricklayers, who struck to the number of several hundred. Their demand was at first an increase of 3s. a week, but they subsequently reduced it to 2s., when several of the masters consented, and many of the men returned to their work. Several, however, still remained out of employ, and they were sent to other towns. An appeal was made to the public, stating that their wages averaged no more than 15s. a week, but this was contradicted by the master builders, who held a meeting, and issued advertisements, in which they stated that good workmen averaged fully 17s. per week. The example of this class of workmen has been followed by the shoemakers, many of whom have turned out on the strike. It is believed, however, that this will have a beneficial effect, as it will compel many of the slop-shops to give better wages, the amount which the men at pre-

sent receive being barely enough for their support, considering the high price of provisions. At Exmouth, owing to the reduced amount of freights, many of the masters of vessels found it necessary to reduce the amount of the men's wages from £3. to £2. 15s. a month. This caused many of the men to refuse to embark, and the consequence has been that many incompetent persons, even agricultural laborers, have been employed to work the various vessels leaving this port. The agitation, however, is gradually becoming more settled, and it is to be hoped that all disputes between the masters and the men will soon be ended.

LORD SHAFTESBURY AND MRS. STOWE.—Accustomed as Mrs. Stowe must be at home to idle exhibitions of barren zeal, to indignation meetings that burn like stubble, and leave nothing behind, and all other forms of plausible folly, she must have been pained, not to say disgusted, with the frantic impotence of the Exeter Hall Abolitionists. They rose as she entered the room, and received her with more than loyalty. She deserves it, and we honor their enthusiasm. They repeated their homage at her departure. But what was really done meanwhile? What was said that could by any means help the poor slave, and resolve this fearful enigma? Absolutely nothing. Lord Shaftesbury spoke, as he is too apt to speak, when he has discovered what he thinks a religious principle.—He spoke as if he had never read of slaves in the Bible—as if slaves had not been therein told to remain content with their lot—as if compulsory service was incompatible with social laws and moral obligations—and as if three millions of slaves could be safely emancipated by a single vote of the American Congress, or any State Legislature, any more than all the infants in the Union could be as summarily invested with the rights of full age. Indeed, he did not altogether blink the adverse testimony of the Bible; but he disposed of that testimony by the summary expedient of declaring that all who rested on it were of the synagogue of Satan. This is rather a loose way of talking when it comes to a question of doctrine, and to numerous texts with a definite meaning. Let us beg to suggest to Lord Shaftesbury that, invaluable as his labors are in the work of social and material reforms, he would do well to take counsel of some learned minister before he resigns the text of Scripture to the synagogue of Satan. Indeed, he has not done even Mrs. Stowe that justice out of Scripture which she has a right to expect. "The Lord," he says, "will sell this Siserer—that is the anti-Abolitionists—into the hands of a woman—viz., Mrs. Stowe." Now, we protest on behalf of Mrs. Stowe, that she is not the woman into whose hands the Lord has sold the anti-Abolitionists. She is the Deborah of this question—the judge, the prophetess, the inspired songstress.—The craven-hearted Barak would not give chase to Siserer and his cohorts of iron, unless Deborah might be allowed to go with him—so, to punish him, the victory was to be utterly inglorious, at least to him.—A woman was to invite Siserer into her tent, receive him with pretended hospitality, and kill him in his sleep; but in which respect Mrs. Stowe is like Jael, the wife of Heber, the Kenite, except that whether she has hit the right nail on the head, Lord Shaftesbury himself would be puzzled to say.—*Times.*

ROTHERHAM RECKET CASE.—THE QUEEN V. HALES AND SON.—The indictment found at the Surrey Sessions has been removed by certiorari into the Court of Queen's Bench. The trial therefore cannot take place till after the present term.

If this country were either a moral or a religious nation—if Protestantism were a nursery of virtue and a shield of chastity, we might endure this demand for monastic supervision by the State, but the notoriety of a very different state of things makes the conduct of our opponents intolerable. As easy would it be to bear with the Gracchi declaiming against sedition, as to endure the cry of English Protestantism for inspection of Nunneries on the plea of regard for the purity of morals. The most licentious people in Europe, except the Swedes, are not precisely those to whom we should look for restraints upon the passions. Their innate depravity is shown in this very clamor against monastic institutions. Profligate themselves, they cannot believe that the profession of a pure faith is so potent an antidote against vice. Worshipping money, they believe as an article of faith that the heads of our female monastic establishments have but one object—the acquisition of wealth, in the admission of Novices.—*Catholic Standard.*

THE DISCUSSING CASE OF ABORTION.—LAMBETH POLICE COURT.—Charles Cunningham, alias Smith alias Taylor, and James Thompson Currie, calling themselves surgeons, and Mr. George Thomas, chemist, who have been in custody for several days on a charge of felony in procuring abortion, were placed at the bar before Mr. Elliott (who sat for Mr. Norton) for further examination on Saturday. The court, as on previous occasions, was much crowded by persons who anticipated that this stage of proceedings would be brought to a close; but the auditory experienced a disappointment, as no further evidence was produced, and the proceedings entirely were merely with a view to a further remand of the prisoners. Superintendent Lund, having been sworn, stated the charge against the prisoners; and that Miss Morden and other witnesses had already been examined, and bound over to prosecute the prisoners at the next sessions of the Central Criminal Court. Mr. Lund added, that at the next examination other evidence would be adduced, and he, therefore, asked for a further remand.

Mr. Elliott—Do you say that further evidence is to be adduced?

Mr. Lund—Yes, sir, certainly.

Mr. Elliott—I thought the remand to this day had been made in the expectation that there would be another prisoner (the Rev. Mr. Gordon) in custody on this charge.

Mr. Lund—So I expected, sir. I know where he is, but whether I shall be able to take him I am not at present prepared to say.

Mr. Elliott—Does anybody appear for the prisoners?

Mr. Binns said—I appear for the prisoners, Cunningham and Currie, and I cannot offer any objection to the remand now asked for, especially as the case will eventually be submitted to a jury. I, however, must express a hope on behalf of my client that on the next occasion Mr. Lund will be in a position finally to close the evidence, in order that we may have time to prepare our defence at the Central Criminal Court. The prisoners were then remanded. The penalties to which the accused are liable are very severe, for the sixth section of the act holds the crime to be a felony, and those convicted to be liable, at the discretion of the court, to be transported for life, or for any term not less than fifteen years, or to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three years.

THE LATE GOVERNMENT.

The select committee, which was appointed for inquiring into the abuses connected with the dock-yards, under the administration of Lord Derby; has made its report; and, notwithstanding the guarded manner in which the report is worded, according to the usual etiquette of Parliament, it is hardly possible to conceive a document so damning to the character of all the implicated parties. If there be one department of the public service more than another, the officials connected with which ought to rise superior to personal favoritism and political partialities, it is the navy—the bulwark of our liberties—"the wooden walls of old England." Here, if any where, merit and merit alone, ought to have been recognised and promoted; and the man, however humble his position, who exhibited the highest order of talent in the development of his country's naval supremacy, was entitled to, and should have received the protection of his country's rulers. But what have we seen? A sight of the most depressing and the most degrading, which has ever offended the dignity and self-respect of a great and sensitive people. It is the least of Mr. Stafford's offences that, knowing nothing about the naval service; he made the dock-yards a nest of political jobbing, where tested ability was set aside in favor of political sycophants; that he spent the public money in electioneering entertainments, and tried to organise within walls devoted to practical shipbuilding, a systematic conspiracy to support the Derby Government; that he cancelled appointments founded on acknowledged merit, with a stroke of his pen, and denied the existence of letters on grave subjects, which had passed through his hands; that important public documents connected with the Admiralty, and bearing immediately on his reckless doings, were destroyed, or at least could not be found when they were called for; and that the entire system, from first to last, involved a series of low, sordid, and petty-fogging stratagem, calculated to destroy the prestige of the royal navy, to degrade the service, and permanently to injure the country—offences for which, in enormity and utter shamelessness, the history of this land may be searched in vain. All this is bad enough—the natural result of placing in an office of grave responsibility a raw partisan, new to official life, destitute of judgment and discretion, who was determined to carry everything with a high hand; one of those small personages depicted by the Warwickshire poet, who—

Clad in a little brief authority,
Played such fantastic tricks before high heaven,
As made the angels weep.

But the worst feature of all, we think, is the conduct of Mr. Stafford's superiors—those who ought to have checked his headstrong impetuosity, and prevented the disgraceful scenes which were daily passing before their eyes. In this respect, the figure which the Duke of Northumberland—a Percy, and the head of the late Board of Admiralty—cuts, both in the evidence which he gave before the Committee, and in the Committee's report—is we know no more suitable phrase—*pitiable*. He was a mere tool, a plaything in the hands of the unscrupulous Secretary, content to take every statement on trust, and candidly confessing good, easy man, that he really knew nothing about what was passing under his own nose. The doggerel, applied too truly to an English monarch, with whom his Grace was familiar, may now, with some propriety, be applied to his Grace himself:—

To tricksters and fools leaves the state and its treasure,
And when Britain's in tears, sails about at his pleasure!

As regards the two leading members of the late precious Administration, Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, who gave evidence before the committee the former apologised for Mr. Stafford's conduct on the ground of inexperience, but the latter, with characteristic effrontery, attempted to whitewash him. The ex-Premier stated that he held the Duke of Northumberland responsible for the Admiralty; but the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, who disposes of everything by a theory, endeavored to show that Mr. Stafford's diabolical machinery for the management of Dockyards had its origin in the fact that Mr. Stafford was the only member of the late Board of Admiralty who had a seat in the House of Commons, and that, in consequence of this want of sympathy between the House and the Admiralty, all this corruption prevailed! Mr. Disraeli delivered this solemn absurdity as glibly and unblushingly as if he were delivering a set speech stolen piecemeal from Mr. Thiers or some other French author. An ingenious man can always be plausible, and the contrast between the examination of the two Ministers was decidedly in favor of him whom the great Irish agitator used to call the "descendant of the impotent thief." But the whole affair from first to last, from the time that Lord Derby collected his unfledged Ministers, who swallowed all their pledges and "turned their backs on themselves," down to the time when, despite their apostasy, they were unceremoniously ejected from office, including this Admiralty 'exposé,' which winds up with the special committee's report—is the most melancholy proof imaginable of the havoc which feeble intellects can inflict on mighty interests. Worse still, it shows that, whatever change Toryism may be supposed to have undergone in these latter days, one of its essential features is still visible—the spirit of jobbing, which has always clung to it, and promises to do so until the end of time.—*Wilmer and Smith's European Times.*

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.—We find the following item in a Western German paper, the *Hermann* (Mobile) *Wochenblatt*:—"In the neighboring town of Union a case has just been tried, of which the material facts are these:—A man who had hired a female slave, lost a \$10 bill, and could only account for the loss on the supposition that the woman had stolen it. He complained to her owner, who charged her with the theft, but she most explicitly denied it, and continued to protest her entire innocence. The barbarian of an owner then bent her hands backward, tied them to her feet, and dashed cold water down upon her. She, however, persisted in asserting her innocence, and was released without having made a confession. She was finally sent back to him who had hired her, who flogged her with a green hickory stick until the stick was split to pieces; still no confession. After the flogging she seized the first opportunity to escape, and crawled on her hands and feet into the bushes, where she was soon after found dead. Her entire back from the neck downward was one single wound, and an examination showed that both lungs and liver were fatally injured by the blows she had received. Her murderer was arrested, tried by a jury of free and enlightened citizens, and—*acquitted*. It was only a 'nigger case.'—*New York Tribune.*