

own to guard their local wants and attend to their peculiar interests. Is it wonderful under these circumstances that the rights, interests and claims of the Irish are neglected or forgotten? I am told that the Government plead in extenuation, if not justification, the ground that there is no Irish Catholic in Parliament fit to be a Minister. Perhaps they are right. Was this their reason for shelving Sir Edward Kenny? Did they *Knight* him to make his fall easy? It is a very sorry compliment to such obsequious followers as Senator Ryan and Mr. O'Connor. Mr. McKeagney is said to be a man of some parts; and if he is not equal in mental calibre to some of the Ministers, his parts are, like angels' visits, "few and far between." Mr. Anglin, in the Canadian acceptance, at least, is a first-class man, but, alas! for the aberrations of genius, he is tainted, so say the Ministerialists, with "Fenianism." If he were a sixth or tenth-rate man, quietly and silently following in the Ministerial wake, he would be immaculate—a paragon of automaton perfection. Mr. Anglin will pardon this allusion. It is not meant to insinuate that, if offered, he would accept a seat in the Cabinet. It has been recently announced that Mr. O'Connor's wounded pride is to be soothed with a *port-folio*, at least, during the elections, when he will no longer be needed. The period, though brief, will nevertheless be "*Honourable*." *Nous verrons*.

LEGISLATION.

We now come to the second branch of our inquiry—*Legislation*, which I shall sub-divide into two parts, *general* and *special*—the former affecting the community generally, and the latter affecting us as Catholics and Irishmen.

General Legislation.—It is to the Liberal party we are indebted for responsible government, for our municipal institutions, which give the people control over their local taxation and improvements, instead of being managed as in Ireland by irresponsible magistrates, and by which the people are trained to the higher form of self-government. It is to the Reform party we owe the opening to the whole youth of the country of that sectarian corporation known as "Toronto University," established on the model and on the pernicious basis of Dublin University—a close borough for the benefit of members of the dominant church. It is to the struggles of the Liberal party we owe the secularization of the clergy reserves, and with it swept away for ever the last vestige of church ascendancy on this continent. We are indebted to the Liberal party for the extension of the elective franchise, by which the industrious but poorer classes have a voice in the making and administration of the laws. It is to their agitation that we owed an elective second chamber, which had been extorted from the Tories after a long struggle, but which they adroitly