

(45) By the effect of both these bills, the Bar was opened to the Catholics,—they might become barristers, but not king's counsel—they could be attorneys and solicitors, they could be freemen of the lay corporations, the grand-jury box and the magistracy were opened to them, they were allowed to attain the rank of Colonel in the army, and still greater than all they were allowed to acquire the elective franchise, and to vote for Members of Parliament. This was the third great instalment of public justice obtained by the Catholics of Ireland.—*O'Connell's Memoirs of Ireland.*

(46) But it should be recollected that these concessions were made more in fear than in friendship. The revolutionary war was about to commence, the flames of Republicanism had spread far and near. It was eagerly caught up amongst the Protestant and especially among the Presbyterian portion of the north of Ireland. Belfast was its warmest focus; it was the deep interest of the British Government to detach the wealth and intelligence of the Catholics of Ireland from the republican party. This policy was adopted. The Catholics were conciliated. The Catholic nobility, gentry, mercantile, and other educated classes, almost to a man, separated from the republican party. That which would otherwise have been a revolution, became only an unsuccessful rebellion. The intelligent and leading Catholics were conciliated and Ireland was once again, by the wise policy of concession and conciliation saved to the British Crown.—*O'Connell's Memoirs of Ireland.*

(47) The Liberator was born A. D. 1775, the year of the American Revolution.

(48) In my mind gardens and fire-works are associated, having beheld those gratifying spectacles, only, in the Rotunda Gardens, Dublin.

(49) It will be recollected that O'Connell indignantly refused the proffered assistance of the Chartists.