

of which the Quakers were denounced as 'a cursed sect of heretics lately risen in the world.' To bring a 'known Quaker' into the colony was made punishable by this law with a fine of £100, besides bonds to carry him back again, or, in default thereof, imprisonment. The Quaker himself was to be whipped twenty stripes, sent to the house of correction, and kept at hard labor until transported. The importation or possession of Quaker books was strictly prohibited; all such books were to be brought in to the nearest magistrate to be burned. Defending Quaker opinions was punishable with fine, and, on the third offence, with the house of correction and banishment. Even these enactments did not suffice. By a law of the next year, the fines before imposed were increased; every hour's entertainment of a known Quaker was subjected to a fine of forty shillings; every male Quaker, besides former penalties, was to lose one ear on the first conviction, and on a second the other; and both males and females, on the third conviction, were to have their tongues bored through with a red-hot iron. Plymouth, Connecticut, and New Haven, on the recommendation of the Commissioners for the United Colonies, adopted similar laws.

Rhode Island alone adhered with admirable consistency, to the great principle of religious liberty: "But neither good advice nor good example made any impression on the United Colonies. A new law of Massachusetts, imposing fines on all who attended Quaker meetings, or spoke at them, did but increase the disposition to speak and to hear. In spite of whippings, brandings, and cropping of ears, the banished Quakers persisted in returning. They flocked, indeed, to Massachusetts, and especially to Boston, as to places possessed with the spirit of intolerance, and therefore the more in need of their presence and preaching." (Vol. i. pp. 405, 406.)

Yet even these measures of persecution did not suffice, and these Christian Fathers did not scruple to shed the blood of the most inoffensive and unresisting of Christian sects:—

"In hopes to put a stop to the annoyance of returning Quakers, the Commissioners for the United Colonies finally recommended that such as returned a second time should suffer death. The name of the younger Winthrop, who sat as one of the Commissioners for Connecticut, a man of much more tolerant spirit than his father, is affixed to this vote; not, however, without the following qualification: "Looking at it as a query, and not as an act, I subscribe." But it did not long remain a query. In spite of a vigorous resistance on the part of the deputies, a law for the capital punishment of returned Quakers was presently enacted in Massachusetts, and Marmaduke Stephenson, of Yorkshire, William Robinson, of London, and Mary Dyer, of Newport, were soon found guilty under it. Mary Dyer (formerly a conspicuous disciple of Mrs. Hutchinson), widow of William Dyer, late recorder of Providence Plantation, was reprieved on the scaffold, after witnessing the execution of her two companions, and set at liberty on petition of her son, on condition of leaving the colony in forty-eight hours. The magistrates vindicated the execution of the other two in a long Declaration, in which they dwelt with emphasis on the case of Mary Dyer, as a proof that they sought 'not the death, but the absence of the Quakers.' There was this peculiarity, indeed, in all the New England persecutions, with the single exception of Gorton's case, that heretics were persecuted, not so much as enemies of God, whom it was fit and meritorious to punish, but rather as intruders, whom it was desirable to get rid of, or at least to silence. Mary Dyer, however, did not escape.—Impelled by 'the Spirit,' she presently returned again to 'the bloody town of Boston,' where, like her fellow-contractors, she underwent death by hanging. The fortitude, and even triumphant joy with which these victims met their fate, the sympathy which their execution excited, and the readiness with which their places were supplied by others, prepared and even anxious for a like extremity, alarmed and intimidated the magistrates. Not only the doubtful effect in the colony, but the late revolution in England, and the uncertainty how these proceedings might be regarded there, gave additional reason to hesitate. Several other returned Quakers were sentenced to death, but only one more execution, that of William Leddra, took place. Several others, condemned to death, were pardoned and discharged upon acknowledgment of their error."

Other means of expulsion and repression were subsequently adopted, which inasmuch as they were certainly more lenient, were the natural result of a recoil against blood-shedding. The elder Winthrop, as he lay on his deathbed, had hesitated when solicited by Dudley to banish some heterodox offender. "I have done," said he, "too much of that work already." In a similar position his successors might content themselves with their unparalleled contributions to the list of Quaker witnesses. But some of them, we know, with undisguised reluctance abandoned the practice to which they had so long been habituated. Mr. Hawthorne, with happy conjecture, has described the Puritan children at the game of torturing Quakers; like the infantine boat-launchers depicted by the artist Turner in the foreground of the 'Building of Carthage.' Such fanciful pictures approve themselves as accurate when they harmonize with the spirit developed through a long history.

Mr. Hawthorne's suggestion of the capacity of Colonial Puritanism to infuse its bitterness into the impulses of childhood, may lead us to remark its social manifestations more attentively. There was this peculiarity about the New England settlement which rendered its régime more than usually irksome. In these little townships, hemmed in by the forest, and environed by the dread of the Indians or the ocean, there was no ready outlet for rebellious vivacity; while the narrowness of their limits enabled the magistrates, by the exercise merely of an ordinary vigilance, to give stringent effect to some of their dearest devices. A foretaste of the system which they enforced in Massachusetts was afforded by an

expedition to throw down a maypole which one-bron had erected in a neighboring settlement. The name of the place it occupied, which the owned called 'Merry Mount,' was changed into 'Mt. Dagon'; and eventually his house was burnt down, 'that the habitation of the wicked should no longer appear in Israel.' The keeping of Christmas was punished by fines; and *mince-pies* are said to have been proscribed in Connecticut. In 1639 a law was passed by Massachusetts against the drink of health; while the fate of a pleasant fellow was repeatedly illustrated in the case of one Samuel Werrick, whom Josselyn describes as 'the only hospitable man in the colony,' and whose 'sociable and jolly disposition,' according to Mr. Hildreth, 'was the means of getting him into abundance of trouble.' Dudley and Endicot patronised an attempt to put on long hair by means of a voluntary association, while they curtailed the ladies' dresses by a remptory enactment. So early as 1633, even the wives of the elders were conspicuous, according to Winthrop, for luxuries in food and apparel. The peculiar form of their excesses is not described, though we infer one particular from Endicot's antipathetic veils. In the following year 'costly apparel' and 'immodest' fashions were the subject of legislation; so that wearing veils was not the only delinquent of the fair sex. Four years later, so incorrigible were these daughters of Eve, that 'costly apparel' and 'new fashions' were again under consideration. In the history of the colony, the 'younger sort of women' had the open audacity to sport 'superfluous ribbons;' and the ministers were only consoled for the enormity by the fact that 'musicians by trade, and dancing schools' were not encouraged. Randolph states that the Magistrates of Massachusetts regarded one of their Indian wars as a visitation 'for women wearing borders of hayre, and for cutting, curling and laying out the hayre,' coupled with other equally heinous offences.

Mr. Hildreth concludes that they 'attempted to make the colony a convent of Puritan devotees, subjected to all the rules of the stricter monastic orders, except in the allowance of marriage and money making.' On the subject of marriage, we may not a conflict between their theory and their inclinations. The first marriage in the colony of Plymouth was solemnised somewhat hastily. William White (ed. Feb. 21st, and the wife of Edward Winslow on the 24th of March in the same year 1641. On the 11th of May, their disconsolate relicts mutually consented themselves by a second engagement. Winthrop's elder left his fourth wife a widow; and Bellingham, overpowered by the 'strength of his affection' for a second bride, violated the publication law, and, by virtue of his authority as a magistrate, performed the marriage ceremony himself. The magistrates early assumed the authority of granting divorces,—not for adultery only, but for such other causes as they might consider fit. At the same time, courtship without permission of parents was visited severely by fine and imprisonment; and the fate of a certain culprit whose unlicensed arm was detected encircling a fair damsel's waist is deliberately recorded. The damsels themselves were continually coming within the sweep of the law for their levities and transgressions.

'Straight-need, but all too full in bud
For Puritanic stays;

and the painful romance of the 'Scarlet Letter' is no imaginary illustration of human frailty incurring inhuman retribution. The pages of Winthrop and Hubbard show the recoil of natural passions against unnatural laws, and the pressure of a barbarous code is clearly visible in their superabundant examples both of crime and insanity.

(To be continued.)

An English Protestant periodical the, *Civil Service Gazette*, gives the following pleasant sketch of British Civilization and Protestant Morality in the XIX century:—

The winter assizes are proceeding; and, Heavens! what a picture of crime and ignorance, of sin, sorrow, and suffering do their records present! To such a picture no common fiction can do justice. The language of Divine inspiration can alone describe it. It is "the abomination of desolation." The facts are within the compass of human words—their effect must be left to the imagination. But what name shall we apply to such a commission as that now sitting? None half so applicable as that with which history is already familiar—"the bloody assize." And is it not such? If you doubt it, read the morning journals. Hear what an account they give of the state of the calendar in the various towns which the judges are now in course of visiting. At Kingston "all the cases are of a serious character;" at Taunton the offences are "of the deepest dye;" at Hertford the indictments are "many of them very important;" at Chelmsford "the offences charged are of a serious character, and comprise arson, highway robbery with violence, shooting at will with intent to murder, and highway robbery;" at Liverpool the calendar, "which is an unusually heavy one, contains a list of 135 prisoners, of whom eight are charged with murder, 11 with the attempt; and 11 also with rape, besides various cases of manslaughter, burglary, and other crimes of an aggravated nature." At Exeter "the offences are of a very dreadful character; there is one man for the murder of his wife, one for shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm, one for cutting and wounding, one (a girl of 13) for setting fire to a farm-house, one for an unnatural crime, one (a girl of 19) for burglary and three other offences, one for forgery, one for rape, another for burglary, one for perjury, and a man and two women for highway robbery." At York the calendar is considered a heavy one. It contains the names of 109 prisoners. Of these three are charged with murder, five with manslaughter, two with felonious shooting, eight with rape, 13 with burglary, five with horse and cattle stealing, 10 with stabbing, three with arson, four with riot, and assault, four with criminal assault, one with abduction, three with forgery, six with perjury, three with bigamy, two with concealment of birth, and no fewer than 30 with what are termed "garotte robberies." A meeting of the Riding magistrates has been held to take this dreadful state of things into consideration, and one of the justices present expressed his belief that a much greater amount of crime escaped detection altogether than was discovered by the police and the constables. At Middlesex, where the Sessions Court may be almost said to sit like Theseus, *en permanence*, there was a pause for a few days, and when Mr. Witham returned to the bench the other morning, he found himself confronted by 43 prisoners, who had accumulated in that brief interval. At several of the assize towns it

was found that not one of the prisoners in the dock could read. Sir John Packington calculates that it is only every eighth person of the adult population of England who has mastered that accomplishment, and Earl Grey declared some time ago in the House of Lords, that, bearing in mind the relative proportions of population, there are more readers amongst the savages of New Zealand than amongst Englishmen.

Seriously, the state of the national morals is alarming, and it should be looked to. Mr. Disraeli has said that if he were asked for an evidence of the intellectual progress of the age, he should not point to telegraph, photograph or locomotive, but to a file of the *Times* newspaper. He was right. But is it not sad to think that the same witness who establishes our mental advancement proclaims our moral depravity? Day after day the *Times* comes to us dropping with blood. To give even the briefest summary of one half of the horrors and atrocities which the leading journal has recorded since the commencement of the present month, would exact every inch of our space. Dismissing, therefore, all ordinary frauds, perjuries, coinings, burglaries, bigamies, all common assaults, libels, and slanders, and the whole host of minor offences which shine like angels by the side of the demons which surround them, let us to illustrate our position, just collect a few drops from the red sea of blood in which our judges and jurymen have been swimming since the month began. December 1—James M^rGregor shoots himself through the head; John Dealey meets John Shea in the streets of Southwark, and stabs him in the breast "because he can't help it;" Charles M^rIntosh opens his wife's forehead with a carving knife; Jas. Weedon, indicted for the manslaughter of his child by starvation; the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, committed for falsifying the parish registers; Mary M^rNeill cuts the throat of her two children in Islington; one of them a lovely boy, but not his beauty, nor his innocence, nor his endearing little ways could save him. So the policeman found him "lying on his right side in the cradle; his hands were down by his side and a large pool of blood was under his right arm." December 2—(Sunday), and everybody at church. December 3—William Walker and Mark May steal £400 worth of property of Messrs. Sleight and Woolley; William Blenkairn, a fashionable young man, forges a check for £50 on the Union Bank; Sarah Allan throws her two little children into the Thames. December 4—John Hawker cast Sir Henry Seale, Bart., in action for adultery—damages £100; Alexander Bartholomew taken up on a charge of stealing £4,000 worth of pictures: John Walters, "a respectable young man" (hang his respectability!), charged with stealing a watch from Thomas Connor while the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon was holding forth on the Millennium at Park-street Chapel. Dec. 5—James Elliott, a sturdy laborer, knocks the right eye out of his wife; Anne Williams, John Williams, and Thomas King convicted of burglary at Hertford; B. Butcher and Charles Wormsley convicted of incendiarism at the same place; Mary Macdonnell pleads guilty at Oxford to the charge of throwing her child into a pit with the intention of murdering it; at Taunton, Mary Robins cuts and wounds her husband with the same intent; Sarah Wells convicted of stealing the money bags from Frome Post-office; John Moss and Wm. Young convicted at Liverpool of attempting to murder W. Lawton; J. Moah, a man possessing a respectable appearance, convicted of fraudulently applying £5,000, the property of the crown; at Clayton West near Barnsley, James Wharan murders his brother Jeremiah by stabbing him ten times in the side, John Fowkes committed to Leicester jail for shooting his brother through the heart. December 6—Richard Rayne and William Gladders committed to the jail at Newcastle-on-Tyne for the murder of Mr. Stirling, a young surgeon shot in the open day from behind a hedge while on his way to visit a patient; James Conroy, Michael Allen, John Simm, Isabella Anderson, Jane Anderson, Eleanor Anderson, and Elizabeth Conroy, committed to Durham jail for murder of Dorothy Bewike; Alfred Clarkon convicted at Oxford of cutting and wounding Edward Jones at Shelton, with intent to murder him. "The prisoner, who had got up from the sofa, smiled and asked the prosecutor to shake hands. The prosecutor put out his right hand, and the prisoner received it with his left. He then squeezed the prosecutor's hand, and immediately stabbed him in the neck with his right hand." William B. Ogden pleads "guilty" to having embezzled £4,264 the property of the Northumberland and Durham Banking Company; William Harrison stabs Ben Caunt in the eye. December 7—Thomas Coppard convicted at Kingston of throwing vitriol at Mary Jackson and Elizabeth Knight; John Venn, footman of Lord James Stuart, taken up for stealing £100 from his master, Robert Tucker assails his wife with a carving knife, T. B. Wavill brought before the magistrates for leaving his wife and children chargeable on Newington parish while he was living with Miss E. Collins. December 8—Jonathan Heywood found guilty at Rochdale of the murder of Martha Jones. He went to bed with her over night and cut off her head in the morning. William Jewson convicted at Durham of assaulting Wm. Robertson; Robert Hodgson and John Cook tried at the same place for throwing vitriol at Susan Crauford; Thos. Tutton, another "respectable young man," tried at Taunton for attempting to murder his father by frying his potatoes in arsenic, acquitted, and we wish him joy of the verdict.—Thomas Woods, Samuel Eastwood, Wm. Foyle, Wm. Blackman, and David Smith, tried at Kingston for the murder of John Donaldson, and found guilty of manslaughter (they did it with a ploughshare); Wm. Cooper convicted of an attempt to murder the passengers on the Midland Railway by upsetting the train. December 10.—Ralph Rayland, John Moncks, and Thomas Pakington, convicted of a rape on Ellen Haydock; Joseph Smith Wooller, tried at Durham for the slow poisoning of his wife, acquitted;—and properly so, we think—but the woman was poisoned by somebody, that is certain; Wm. Clarke tried for the murder of James Ratcliffe, by stabbing him with a pocket knife; John Gray tried at Oxford for upsetting a railway train; Robert Haddock, convicted of the murder of his wife, Philippa; they had slept together the night of the murder, and he brought into bed with him a blacksmith's large sledge hammer, with which he stove in her head in the morning; James Pager convicted of setting fire to a dwelling house at Salford, one Mary Gibbons being therein. December 12.—Henry Bacon and Henry Merchant tried at Chelmsford for an attempt to murder George Heigho; Robert Harvey indicted at Exeter for shooting at the Rev. George Tucker and Miss Jane Tucker, his daughter; Thomas Franks found guilty at Nottingham of cutting and mutilating his wife Mary.

Such are a few—only a few—of the horrors and atrocities that have come under the notice of our tribunals during the first twelve days of the current month. Battle abroad, murder and sudden death at home; this is the *morale* of our modern existence. Meantime, where are our teachers? where are our legislators? where our divines? where our guides, philosophers, and friends? Alas, my heart! Mr. Waddington is "under a cloud;" the Rev. Dr. Vaughan is awaiting his trial for a transportable misdemeanor; the Provost of Leith is already transported; the Young Men's Christian Association are crawling after the King of Sardinia; the missing clergyman has cut off to America, leaving his flock to find their way to Heaven, and our pious bankers are on the tread-mill! *Apròpos* of these last named worthies—Paul, Strahan and Bates—have been admitted into the fraternity of Madame Tussaud's waxen villains! "In obedience to the desire of the public," so runs the placard, "the fraudulent bankers have been provided with accommodation in the Chamber of Horrors." *O Tempora! O Mores!*

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.—We regret to learn from a private source of information, that the Most Rev. Dr. Cullen is at present seriously, but not dangerously, indisposed.

The Rev. Dr. Cahill is invited to Ennis to lecture there in January next, in aid of a public library.

The subject of a harbour of refuge on the eastern coast of Ireland has been revived within the last few days by many of the most influential commercial gentlemen in Drogheda, Louth and Meath. An important meeting has been just held in Drogheda, and a committee appointed to take the subject into consideration.

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.—Mr. William Horan, solicitor of Dublin, conducting agent for Mr. Meredith at the recent Meath election, has, on the recommendation of Lord Bellew and Sir William Somerville, been appointed Clerk of the Crown for the county of Louth. Mr. Horan has no need to complain of temissness on the part of his patrons.

PRESS PROSECUTION.—The *Northern Whig* has received the following from its Dublin correspondent:—"A conference of the law officers of the crown was, I understand, held on Friday, with a view to the consideration of the propriety of applying for criminal information against certain newspapers which have made attacks upon the Attorney General, in reference to the Bible burning prosecution. What the result is I do not yet know. Another meeting of the conference will, I believe, be held this coming week."

All accounts agree that the Redemptorist prosecution has done more good than harm. Kingstown is a place where Protestants are numerically stronger than anywhere in Leinster, Connaught, or Munster; for it is the abode of the rich and fashionable part of Dublin society. Great efforts have long been made to draw over the poor by a free use of money, by exclusive employment, by schools, &c. The success of this depends chiefly upon keeping things quiet. Men who in quiet times might let their children go to a Protestant school, unwillingly yet unable to resist the influence brought to bear on them, will suffer, as well as do anything, when their blood is well up. A man who knows the Irish well had been asked, How can the poor of Kingstown be best armed against all seduction? he would have said, First let a Mission be preached, and then, if possible, let there be a Government prosecution of the most eloquent and zealous of the Missioners. The excitement in the court when the verdict was brought in must pass away. Men were shouting, and literally dancing for joy. The Celt is no doubt impulsive, and when the heart is moved each people shows it after its own manner.—But we hear that a school of Christian Brothers is to be set up in Kingstown. That will not pass; and when any poor man is tempted to send his children to a school where they are not allowed to "let Protestant Bibles alone," as Baron Greece advises, it will be long before he forgets that he will be taking part against Father Petcherine and for his prosecutors.—*Weekly Register*.

PROSELYTISM IN CLIFDEN ON ITS LAST LEGS.—Owing to the zealous exertions of the Catholic clergy, and of the nuns lately located there, the unhappy poor wretches, whom the Jumpers had seduced, are all fast returning to the fold. The chapels are now being crowded to excess—many of the congregation being obliged to remain outside during the time of worship—these may be regarded as indubitable indications of the decline of the Souper system in Clifden.—*Galway Mercury*.

The *Limerick Chronicle* announces, in the following terms, the death of an "Established" pluralist:—"We are concerned to announce the death, at an early hour this morning, at Rathkeale Glebe, of the Venerable Charles Warburton LL.D., son of the late Lord Bishop of Cloyne, previously Bishop of Limerick. By the lamented death of Archdeacon Warburton the following become vacant:—The Rectory of Rathkeale and Chancellorship of this diocese, in the gift of the Bishop of Limerick; the Archdeaconry of Tuam, in the gift of the Bishop of that diocese; and the living of Queenstown, in the gift of the Bishop of Cork." The poor man [we are not acquainted with the bequeathments], we hope, left nothing towards the bad work of "souperizing" the most western portion of his too extensive charge.

THE LABOUR-MARKET.—The following is an extract from a Belfast commercial letter published in the *Derry Standard*:—"The most satisfactory state of affairs here, as well as in many other parts of Ireland, is the steady demand for labour. Manufacturing industry gives employment to its thousands and tens of thousands of hands, and this, too, at enhanced wages. In the country districts farm laborers are in full work, and except the present state of the weather may in some degree set aside outdoor labour, there is every probability that during the entire season all men willing to work will find a ready market for their labour. The quantity of wheat already sown in the counties of Antrim, Down, and Armagh is an excess of that of any year since 1846. The high rates received for wheat by our home farmers, and also the great improvements effected in the cultivation of that crop, have given it a peculiar popularity; and we may expect to see in the autumn of 1850 the most extensive breadth of land ever before seen under wheat in this country."