

**THE PROTESTANT ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Protestant religion—if we may believe the Protestants themselves, as well as the godless herd of Voltairian Socialists, who diffuse and adopt their anti-Catholic virulence—is a most tolerant creed. The upas tree of persecution never flourishes in the mild and genial air of Protestantism. Persecution would wither and die in such gentle and balmy climates, and it is only in Catholic countries that persecution exists. This erroneous notion, which is industriously diffused by Protestants, is reluctantly adopted by too many Catholics. Wearing by its loud and incessant reiteration, the ultimately and silently assent to it. But nothing can be more at variance with reality. In Ireland we have only to look around us to see its absurdity and fallacy. To be sure we have heard a great deal of persecution in Italy; but we see a great deal of persecution in Ireland. Is it no persecution, is it not, indeed, the most shameful persecution, to plunder millions who are labouring for a bare subsistence, and this in order to maintain the most richly-endowed Church in the world? Did persecution ever take a more cruel and insulting appearance than when it insults the myriads who are wasting in misery in Ireland by compelling them to feed rich and plethoric Parsons, numerous as rooks and corpulent as prize cattle? As no people are poorer than the Irish, so no class is more opulent than the heretical Clergy. Were there in Europe an exhibition of fat Parsons, as there has been in America an exhibition of fat babies, the hungry Irish might win the prize from the world. Unfortunately the only prize we receive—our sole reward for feeding them—is malignant vituperation and brazen Billingsgate from the lips of the Parsons themselves. Here is the broad fact staring us in the face—the Irish Catholics are every day in the week subjected to imprisonment if they do not pay Ministers' money and rentcharge, in order to subsidise the Parsons in idleness and obesity; and yet it is said we are not persecuted, forsooth. We maintain that this is not only persecution, but a persecution shameful for us to endure. In the civilised world there is no enormity so great, so scandalous, or so unjustifiable as the Anglican Establishment, as it exists in Ireland, and the compulsory subsistence of this anomalous Church is the most grievous persecution that ever was inflicted upon man in an age professing to be tolerant. The history of the Establishment is written in blood, and its consequences are conspicuous in poverty and proscription. The British nation, which saddles us with this Establishment, must be entirely destitute of a tolerant mind—must be ruthlessly bigoted. There is one quality without which this imposition upon the nation could never have been successfully carried on—a quality with which the heretical Church, in its corporate capacity, seems bountifully endowed—we mean cool and intrepid assurance, both in assertion and demand. Owing to this quality, it is able, while fleecing the Irish Catholics, to carry favour with English Protestants. As things exist we owe the alienation which prevents a cordial union of Ireland and England to the Anglican Establishment—to it we owe the lamentable fact that every enemy of British power turns his eyes to Ireland as the point where English interests may be most easily and effectively assailed. Ireland is regarded by foreign malice as the well-spring of that weakness which silently saps and undermines the foundations of the British empire, and prepares its ultimate and ruinous fall. In short, the weakness of Britain is the persecution of Ireland. Religious intolerance, harassing the Irish people and producing dissatisfaction, renders the foundations of British power perilously insecure. For the sake of the Protestant Establishment—to compel the people to submit to it—the Legislature armed the landed proprietors with powers which would not be tolerated in any other nation on earth. And this again was rendered necessary by the very origin of the Establishment which was transferred to Ireland by the conqueror, and propagated there solely by the sword and the penal laws. At present this gigantic Establishment is imposed upon our burthened shoulders chiefly owing to our own apathy and slavish submission to the load. But the evil does not end here. By our patient endurance of this grievous injustice—the Protestant Establishment—we invite oppression and injustice in every form of fiscal imposition.—*Tablet*.

**STATE OF THE COUNTRY.**—Mr. Maguire M.P., of the *Cork Examiner*, thus describes the present condition of Irish farm laborers:—"The return of the last year's expenditure for the relief of the poor in each union in Ireland, shews the total amount so expended was £757,712 8s 2d; of which sum £463,858 was expended in 'Maintenance,' £127,417 in 'Salaries and Rations of officers,' and £162,721 under the head of all other expenses making a total of £290,138 in the two latter terms. The entire cost of out door relief was only £3,715 6s 2d, and for this sum the number so relieved was 9,008. The total number of persons relieved in the 163 unions, or maintained at a cost, as I have stated, £463,858, was 310,600 or at an average of somewhat about £1 10s per head. I may also mention, but from other sources of information, that the present workhouse accommodation is more than double the demand now made upon it; that the number of inmates of the workhouse in the April of this year, in which month the greatest severity has been of late years experienced by the poor, was some 16,000 less than in the same month of the preceding year; and that the total number of males classed (rather arbitrarily, and not accurately) under the head of 'able bodied,' little exceeded 5,000. Strictly speaking 500, really able bodied would be far nearer the mark. I may also inform you that the average minimum wages now paid for continuous work throughout Ireland, even including the poorest districts of Connaught, is stated on the best authority, to be 6s. per week. In many districts it is 7s. and in some it is 8s; but in the latter case, the place of employment is in the neighborhood of towns. The advance in the wages of farm servants both male and female, is astonishing. It is much more than doubled—it is in many instances quadrupled, boys now being in the receipt of £3 a year and their keep."

The Mars left Waterford, via Liverpool, for New York, on 11th inst., with 150 passengers.—*Chronicle*.  
**RESTRICTION.**—Towards the end of March last the dwelling house of George Marshall, Esq., at Springfield, near Rathangan, was robbed while that gentleman was attending Divine Service at Thomastown Church. The greater part of the plate, jewelry, &c., was restored a few days ago through the medium of a Catholic Clergyman, who derived his knowledge of the persons implicated through the medium of the confessional, and then used every influence in his power to obtain the restoration of the stolen valuables.—*Leinster Express*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

**PRIVY COUNCILLOR.**—A circumstance has occurred which is exciting very great attention in political circles. One of the late Lords of the Treasury, and a recent convert to Popery, having had occasion the other day to take the oath which is administered to those who have been chosen Privy Councillors, objected to that part of it which recognises the ecclesiastical supremacy of the sovereign, stating that he could not take it without doing violence to his conscience as a Catholic. Will it be believed, making this representation he was told to omit my part of which he disapproved? Incredible as this may seem, it will be found to be true; and if we are not misinformed, the circumstance will be brought before Parliament.—*Morning Advertiser*.

The War Office appears to have at last set to work in earnest for the embodiment of the Foreign Legion. Depots are forming at Shoreliffe and Heligoland for the embodiment of 5,000 men, and General Stutterheim has been appointed commander of the force, Colonel Kinlock inspector, and Colonel Woodbridge commander of brigade. In a very short time there will be collected at Dover a force of 5,000 men, well officered, well organised, and ready to take the field.

An order has been received at Woolwich Arsenal to send out immediately to the Crimea 20,000 shells—10,000 13 inch shells, and 10,000 10 inch. The order was received at Woolwich within twenty-four hours from leaving Sebastopol.

**THE MILITIA.**—Mr. Peel states that at the present time the number of men under arms in the embodied regiments of England and Wales, exclusive of the regiments which have sailed for the Mediterranean, is 25,000 rank and file. The regiments which have gone abroad are four in number, and muster in all 3,000 bayonets. It follows that the total embodied force of the two kingdoms is 28,000 rank and file, and that since the 29th of March there has been a diminution of no less than 16,000 men.—*Press*.

**AN "HONOURABLE PEACE."**—In the House of Lords Lord Grey gave notice of his intention to move an address to the Crown on the 21st May, deploring the failure of the Vienna negotiations, and expressing an opinion that the proposals of Russia were of a nature to afford a fair prospect of peace. Mr. M. Gibson is to propose a similar resolution in the House of Commons.

"Peace with Honour, or War with Victory," are England's terms and the watchword of Palmerston. Peace with Honour! War with Victory! As well talk of burning snow or black sunlight. Neither is possible. Russia, it has been proved, will only make Peace upon her own terms, which are not honorable to England. War with Victory is even more unlikely. There is not a chance of taking Sebastopol. The Allies lie there as if caught in a trap. They can neither penetrate the town nor the inland. They dare not storm nor take the field. They can only harass the Russians with stenchpots! Meantime, the three Cabinets of Russia, France, and England present aspects that promise still more desperate and determined war. Last week all Europe heard with astonishment that M. Douyn de Lhuys, the only French statesman who has made an independent character for himself under the French Empire had been obliged to retire, because he had ventured to make proposals too tame at Vienna. It is just announced that Nesselrode, the veteran Premier of Russia, and from the commencement, always believed opposed to this war, has also resigned to the utter triumph of the orthodox high Moscovites. It is of hardly less importance, that the Times has discovered and announced a split in the British Cabinet on the same question. It appears that Lord John Russell, who seems destined to be the ruin of England, heads a section of the Cabinet who are for peace at any price. "Our own Plenipotentiary," says the Times, has returned to us, but remains in our Cabinet to exert that influence which a year and a half ago was put forth to urge us into the war, in order to bring about a dishonourable peace. What change the air of Vienna or the contact with Russian and Austrian Plenipotentiaries has wrought upon Lord John Russell we do not pretend to know, but it is now said that, with that versatility peculiar to minds not of the highest order, nor sustained by lofty and consistent principle, Lord John Russell is now seeking to undo the work of last year—to renounce the career on which we have entered, to throw away the task we have undertaken, and to abandon the discretion of Russia the ally whom last year we promised to defend with all the weight and power and all the prestige of our influence. In this ignoble task he is, we fear, seconded by no inconsiderable number of his colleagues. The division in the Cabinet is, we are told, clearly and distinctly marked, and would long ago probably have resulted in open discord and disruption, had the smallest encouragement been afforded from without to the craven desire of peace at any cost.—*Nation*.

A parliamentary return moved for by Mr. Locke King gives some particulars regarding the killed and wounded in the Crimea since the commencement of the campaign. In the cavalry there were killed 11 officers, 14 non-commissioned officers, and 146 men; in the artillery 6 officers, 5 non-commissioned officers, and 35 men; in the Sappers and Miners (Royal Engineers), 1 officer and 1 man; in the infantry 64 officers, 62 sergeants, and 1,000 men, and 9 officers of the staff—making a total of killed of all ranks, 1,360. The total number of wounded was 4,546, 181 men in the cavalry, 21 officers, 21 sergeants, and 151 men; in the artillery, 9 officers, 10 sergeants, and 149 men; in the engineers, 3 officers, 1 sergeant, and 9 men; in the infantry, 186 officers, 236 sergeants, and 3,698 men, together with 22 officers of the staff. Of the 241 officers of all arms of the service thus wounded, 20 died in consequence of the injuries received. The number of horses killed during the campaign was 381, while those who died from other causes amounted to 1,466.

The London correspondent of the *Evening Post* in treating of the new movement in England in reference to "Administrative Reform," says—"You must not suppose that this movement is connected with any particular party; although the Derbyites are endeavouring to appropriate it for their own purposes; and Lord Ellenborough has already broached his 'want of confidence' motion. The Tories may possibly gain some temporary advantage; but it is much more to be apprehended that the movement may lead to an ultra-democratic combination, especially as the Times since the failure of its remonstrance against the Newspaper Stamp Bill, has been very democratic in its tendencies."

**THE NORTH WEST PASSAGE.**—Mr. Mackinnon has given notice that, on the 11th of June, he would move for a select committee to take into consideration the claims of Captain M'Clure, his officers and men, to receive a reward from the nation in consequence of their discovery of the North West passage.

**ENDOWMENT OF MAYNOOTH.**—A meeting of Protestants was held on Monday at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Dr. McNeill in the chair, to discuss the propriety of continuing the endowment of the College of Maynooth. The Chairman earnestly opposed the grant, quoted the opinions of several bishops against it, and denied the statement recently made by Mr. Horsman in the House of Commons, that it was understood that one of the objects of the Act of Union was the establishment and support of an endowment of Maynooth. The rev. gentleman produced the Act of Union, and, after reading it, said that the word "Maynooth" was not in the act. The Rev. Hugh Stowell, of Manchester, after denouncing the insidious efforts made in behalf of Popery, moved a resolution to the effect, "That, as a matter of history, the pecuniary assistance originally rendered by Great Britain to the College of Maynooth was not an annual grant, but merely a donation in aid of the funds of an institute established by Roman Catholics themselves; and that as a question of policy the continued and increased support to the College of Maynooth has proved an utter failure." The resolution was carried, and another to the following effect was also adopted:—"That, as matter of principle, the national endowment of the College of Maynooth is at variance with the spirit of the British constitution and opposed to the laws of Almighty God, and therefore dangerous to the best interests of the State. A petition to both Houses, founded on the resolution was then agreed to.

**CRIME IN THIS COUNTRY.**—The other day, on the Maynooth debate, a Mr. Horsfall said, that in Protestant England there were only four capital crimes in a million per annum. The Times of Thursday mentions those instances; and we venture to say that if an account were kept of those thus reported (which are not one-tenth part of those which occur), there would be at least a hundred times as many as this gentleman stated. The first of the three instances we mentioned, as reported on Thursday, was a case of a brutal fight in Cumberland, in which a bystander kicked one of the combatants so as to cause his death. Of the other two instances, one was a "shocking murder of a young woman by her lover," and the other was a deadly and determined attempt to commit the same crime. A fourth case may be added, reported as occurring at Littlebourne, Kent, where a woman murdered her children and then killed herself; quite a common kind of case. Such are the murders, or attempted murders, reported for one day, in one newspaper.—*Catholic Standard*.

**THE MILLENIUM.**—On Monday, a "World's Convention" was held at St Martin's Hall, under the auspices of Mr. Robert Owen, to inaugurate the millennium. Mr. Owen once more explained the principles which, in his new world, were to secure, "without money and without price, to every man everything the heart could desire in superfluity." At the close of his address, the machine called "The Deviator"—or rather, a pictorial representation of it, was exhibited, making terrible havoc among the Russians at Sebastopol. A petition to both houses of parliament, praying that steps might be taken to carry out Mr. Owen's scheme, was adopted and the meeting separated. Mr. Owen on Monday completed his 56th year, and, in the course of his address, pained his audience with the prophecy that he should die before another birthday, his mission being nearly fulfilled."

UNITED STATES.

**THE GROWING CROPS IN THE UNITED STATES.**—The fine weather gives every one encouragement relative to the growing crops, and gives confidence in the future. Everything regarding the approaching harvest is seized upon with the greatest interest, and everything connected with finances and trade hinges upon that event. From the South we receive more satisfactory accounts of the weather. As the season advances, the public mind will be more intensely absorbed in this matter.

Two agents of the English governments, who have been endeavouring to enlist recruits in New Orleans, for the army in the Crimea, were arrested in that city recently.

**AN ATROCIOUS OUTRAGE.**—The Mobile Register gives the following details of an atrocious outrage committed in that vicinity by the Protestants. It appears that the proprietors of the Dog River Factory had given a piece of ground on which has been erected a building for school and religious purposes. The services have been occasionally supplied for some time past by Catholic Priests from the Spring Hill College. The Rev. Father Nachon (S.J.) has, for the last eighteen months, being in the habit of officiating at this chapel. On Sunday morning last, while in his buggy on the road to the factory, and about a mile from it, he was stopped by four men. They inquired if he was a Catholic Priest; being answered in the affirmative, they desire him to get out of his buggy. The Rev. Father, thinking their manner suspicious, hesitated a moment; but, on reflecting that some person might be sick and in need of his services, he complied. Upon reaching the ground, he was seized and dragged of the road into the woods, where he was held by two of the villains, while the other two beat him severely, the one with his fist about his head and face, and the other with a large stick on other parts of his person. Having brutally beaten him in this manner, one of them drew out a dirk or bowie knife, and holding it towards their victim, told him that if he ever attempted to go to the factory for the purpose of preaching, he would feel that weapon; that the punishment now inflicted was nothing to what he would suffer if he persisted in coming down. They then left him to pursue his way as best he could. Bleeding and faint, he managed to reach the factory, and it was some time before he was sufficiently recovered to return home with an escort which was provided for him. We heard, last evening, that the Rev. Father is in a very precarious state, and badly bruised about the head. The police are on the track, and we hope that the perpetrators of this outrage, on the person of a defenceless and unoffensive minister of God, on his way to perform the function of his ministry, will meet the punishment his enormity demands.

**MODEL LAW MAKERS.**—The *New York Herald* which has exerted its large and ill-gotten influence to fill up the ranks of the Know-Nothings, is now forced to admit the horrible and unparalleled conduct of the men

whom that faction sent into power in Massachusetts. After stating that the last sessions cost the State Sixty thousand dollars more than the session for 1854, it says:—"It is not pleasant to dwell upon the personal conduct of these legislators, their conduct while upon committees, their indecorous and unparliamentary behavior in the House, their shuffling and contemptible trickery in the Nunnery investigation and Hiss affairs, their disgraceful behavior while travelling on official business, their open lechery and shameless debauchery at Lowell, Springfield, Hartford, and other places, their obscene conversation and undignified conduct at a saturnalia just before the close of the session; but the public has a right to know these facts, as a record of the past and a warning for the future. "The last act of this model legislature was to rob the State coffers of nearly forty thousand dollars, by certifying that the aggregate non-attendance was only that of the absence of one man for the whole session; whereas the fact is that the daily absentees have numbered from seventy to one hundred and twenty! The last Legislature of the state of New York was bad enough, but it was excelled in debauchery, robbery, ignorance, and stupidity, by the 'assembled wisdom' of the old Bay State, the boasted home of refinement, patriotism, enterprise, and education."

**DWINDLING AWAY.**—A correspondent of the *Calendar* gives, from the *Vermont Chronicle*, some startling statistics in regard to the rapid decay of Congregationalism in one of its old strongholds, Windham County, in that State. The growth of the Church is equally remarkable by way of contrast. How will they stand twenty-five years hence? There are twenty-three towns in Windsor County, and twenty-six Congregational churches. To these twenty-six churches there have been added, says the writer, "for the last ten years, by profession, but 248 persons, viz: in 1845, 22; in 1846, 16; in 1847, 23; in 1848, 15; in 1849, 23; in 1850, 22; in 1851, 8; in 1852, 17; in 1853, 54; in 1854, 48. This gives an average annual addition to each church of hardly one person for that period." And "how long, (he inquires) at this rate, will it take the churches to become extinct?" Again he says, still speaking of the county, "the total membership for 1836, was 3500. Since that time the membership has been regularly decreasing, and in a fearful ratio. The Minutes for 1854, show a total membership of only 2600, and this must be further reduced by deducting 437 non-residents, leaving the resident whole number but 2163. A diminution of one-third in eighteen years is fearful." Truly it is so, and another eighteen years of the same rate of downward progress will give a death-blow to Congregationalism in the county, if it has not already received it. And yet, notwithstanding this great falling off in membership, Congregationalism has been the popular religion in the county, has had no prejudice to contend with, and encountered no opposition!

**PROFANITY IN THE PULPIT.**—In a review in a late number of the *Churchman*, whose fair type, white paper, and beautiful head, it is always a pleasure to see, to say nothing of the pleasure and instruction afforded by its personal, the following anecdote is quoted of "in Senior Ryland," a distinguished Dissenting clergyman of former time in England:—"He took his place on Tuesday evening at Surney Chapel, and preached a most striking sermon from Daniel's words of Belshazzar:—'But the God in whose hands thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, has thou not glorified?' After an introduction, giving some account of Belshazzar, he impatiently and abruptly broke off by saying, 'But you cannot suppose that I am going to preach a whole sermon on such a d—d rascal as this; and then stated that he should bring home the charge, in the text against every individual in the place in four grand instances.' The reviewer remarks upon this;—"A similar piece of profanity has been related of bold and popular clergyman of our own country." This allusion is, doubtless, to Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, who has alleged to have entered his pulpit one very hot Sunday morning, and taking out his white handkerchief, and wiping his forehead exclaimed, "It is d—d hot," which he repeated, adding, "Such were the profane words which I heard uttered this morning in the very vestibule of this church, sacred to the worship of the Most High!" and which he proceeded to denounce.—*Knickerbocker*.

**THE PECKSNIFFS OF BOSTON.**—The Rev. Elijah Welles, aged 70 years, once a man of talent and of mark—a teacher of elocution and an Orthodox clergyman of the Pecksniffian, city of Boston died at Deer Island, the pauper establishment of that city. He had been a lodger in a poor woman's house, and such was his physical exhaustion for want of food, that he was carried to the Island with great difficulty, and died soon after he landed at the Almshouse. He was refused all other relief; but being a native was suffered to die in one of his native institutions, instead of being transported.—*Albany Atlas*.

**MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.**—At a late anti-Maine Law meeting in Faneuil Hall, Boston, over five thousand persons endorsed a long string of resolutions, of which the following describes the characters of the Know-Nothing order of law making:—  
*Resolved*, That the recently enacted and so-called Maine Liquor Law, is a compound of fanaticism, folly, and political corruption. *Resolved*, That the said law is a palpable and gross violation of the Declaration of Rights, which underlies the Constitution and all the laws of the State. It is there said that all men have an inalienable right "to acquire, possess, and protect property." This law, annihilates several millions of property by the stroke of a pen, in one day.  
*Resolved*, That the spirited and tendency of this law are in direct opposition to the true principles of a republican Government, under which all special legislation and arbitrary distinctions in commercial transactions are justly odious.

**ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR NEWSPAPERS.**—No subscriber worth retaining will object to the pay-in-advance system. Those who went to hear Jenny Lind sing had to pay in advance, and what were her divinest strains compared with those which flow from Editorial pens? You can't take a seat in a rickety mailcoach, or fly from the track railroad car, without paying in advance for the risk of being killed. If you would hear a concert or literary lecture, or see Tom Thumb, or the Siamese twins you must blank down your twenty five cents, before you can pass the threshold. Nay, if any one has so little regard for his own character as to want to read Barnum's anti-biography, he must first pay for it. And yet men hesitate and cavil about paying in advance for a paper furnished at a price on the very brink and utmost verge of prime cost.—*Cleveland Herald*.