

wise guidance of O'Connell and his brilliant colleagues, his voluntary society had almost grown into the importance of a Provisional Government. It comprised a fair representation of the old nobility and gentry, all the Catholic clergy, and almost all the laity. It had its foreign allies in France, Bavaria, Rome, the United States, Brazil and India. At home its proclamations were more effectual than the Viceroy's; abroad, its debates were read with as much interest as those of the Imperial Parliament. For five years that unparalleled and menacing spectacle overawed the empire, striking fear even into the lion heart of Arthur, Duke of Wellington. At last, in April, 1829, the British government capitulated to the Irish Association, and the second "Catholic Relief Bill" became the law, not only for Ireland, but for one-fifth of the human race. During the last years of the contest, O'Connell had no more zealous agent in the northern province than the popular young curate of Moville. The name of Inishowen had not even then lost all its terrors for Dublin Castle, and he kept it continually *in terrorem* over the parties in power. His speeches at the Baronial meetings previous to "Emancipation" (as the act of '29 is popularly called), are said to have been like his early sermons, full of pith and power. Unluckily they have shared the same fate, and we must, therefore, accept their merits upon hearsay. What is more to our purpose is, that Mr. Maginn, amidst all these exciting