

The Rev. Theobald Mathew has remained in London since his return from Madeira, for the purpose of obtaining medical advice. His friends will be glad to hear that his health is improved.

THE IRISH ASSIZES.—COUNTY WICKLOW.—The commission was opened by Judge Crampton, and the grand jury, having been sworn, his lordship congratulated them on the absence of crime in their county. There was literally nothing to do by counsel or attorneys in connection with the criminal business; for the only bill of any importance was one in which two lads were accused of setting fire to some corn; and the grand jury ignored it. The result was, that the learned judge soon rose, as there was nothing to do but disposing of one or two petty larcenies; and this significant fact speaks highly, indeed for the peace, good order, and tranquillity of the county of Wicklow.

TIPPERARY.—We this day have to announce a fact unparalleled, we believe, in the annals of the criminal judicature of Tipperary. At the ensuing assizes, which will be held for the South Riding in this town on the 19th instant, there are only thirteen prisoners for trial, and the heaviest offence charged is that of larceny!—*Tipperary Free Press.*

There is only one case for trial at Carlow Assizes, and of a trivial nature.

THE NEWTOWNLIMAVADY RIOT CASES.—In common with the peaceably disposed portion of the community, we had hoped that the trials arising out of the unhappy riots at Newtownlimavady last year were at an end, especially as party feeling has now subsided in that quarter. We understand, however, that thirty one cases of this description are set down for trial on the 24th inst., that new witnesses have been summoned, and that the whole affair is to be again revived. For the sake of all the interests concerned, it is greatly to be wished that some mode of amicable arrangement could be adopted, so as to avoid the irritation which this renewal of the subject is sure to produce.—*Northern Whig.*

FLOGGING IN THE MILITIA.—It is stated by the *Galway Express* that a stripling soldier of the North Mayo Militia has been flogged at Castlebar for drunkenness.

THE IRISH IN THE BATTLE OF THE 18TH.—In answer to a correspondent, the *Nation* replies:—"Yes, the only success in the last attack upon Sebastopol, and the most brilliant success of the siege, has been an Irish success. While French and English were both completely driven back, about five hundred Irish soldiers, the 18th Royal Irish Fusiliers, penetrated into the town, and for seventeen hours held their ground there, amid showers of shot and swarms of bayonets. All that heroes could do they did, and for seventeen hours they were left there unsupported, in the midst of countless enemies, to be shot down like dogs. The French General, it is said, asked Lord Raglan to support them and attempt the town through the passage they had opened—but the old Marshal refused, and left the gallant fellows to make their way out again as well as they could. 250 of them expiated that daring feat, and paid with their lives for planting the British flag the only time it ever waved over the Russian stronghold. The fact is not encouraging to enlistment in Ireland. It was also due to an Irishman that any benefit whatever was derived from this courageous attack. A Cemetery near the town was, it seems, the strategic point to be gained by General Eyre's attack, and it was gained; but after the defeat at the Redan, the English General abandoned it. An Irish officer, Lieutenant Donnelly, perceived next morning the mistake that had been made in time to occupy the place with about thirty men, who kept out the Russians until they were reinforced, and the place has since been turned into a battery."

The death of Captain Mansfield, 44th Regt. is announced, from the wounds received in the assault of the 18th of June, against Sebastopol. He was third son of the late Alexander Mansfield, of Monistown, Latten, county Kildare, and was in his 28th year.

DEATH OF AN OLD WARRIOR.—A correspondent has sent us an account of the death of Thomas Convery, a gallant old tar, 94 years of age, a native of Newry and a Catholic, who fought under Nelson at the Nile and Trafalgar, and enjoyed the generous pension of £8 per annum, to support himself and his wife, who survives him.

FORTUNES OF WAR.—A fine tall young (Irish) artilleryman, who fought at the Alma and Inkermann, passed through this city on Tuesday. At Inkermann he lost his two arms, his body having escaped untouched. Another soldier, whose business was, we believe, to feed him, accompanied the wounded man. So much for war.—*Waterford News.*

Michael Connors, says an Irish paper, invalidated of the Royal Artillery, returned to Limerick on Thursday week, with the Crimea medal and loss of both arms, from the explosion of an ordnance gun in the batteries, while ramming home the charge. Her Majesty was pleased to order him a pair of artificial hands, which cost £25, and the connecting apparatus extends to the elbow joints.

PRINCE ALBERT AND MODEL LODGINGHOUSES.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert has forwarded a donation of £100 towards the erection of model lodging-houses for the poorer classes in the city of Waterford.

THE TWELFTH OF JULY IN THE NORTH.—On the 10th of July a strong body of the county Kildare constabulary force, under the command of Sub-inspector Galway and Head-constable Dobbs, proceed by train to the vicinity of Portadown, Lurgan, &c., in order to be present in the vicinity of those places on the 12th of July. All passed off tranquilly. There was no demonstration of party feeling amongst the adult population. A Presbyterian clergyman attended at a spot about two miles from Portadown, where a large assemblage of Orangemen were addressed by the Rev. gentleman as to the propriety of refraining from any infringement of the law. The crowd separated quietly. A few youths in the neighbourhood of Lurgan and Portadown paraded the roads, making a noisy procession. They had constructed an effigy with a caricatural imitation of ecclesiastical robes, mitres, &c. Several amongst the crowd had firearms, and amused themselves by firing at the figure. Unfortunately the man who bore the pole received a shot in the head from a musket carelessly aimed. The sufferer was afforded prompt surgical aid. No hope, however, is entertained of his recovery.

We read in the *Freesman's Journal*, that the Liverpool Orangemen had a field day on the 12th, in commemoration of the battle of the Boyne. The public peace was preserved, and thousands of persons repaired to the place of meeting, Wavertree, to view the silly doings of the bigots.

Mr. Jas. Haughton, of Eccles street, Dublin, the teetotal advocate, exhorts the farmers of Ireland not to sell their grain to brewers or distillers, who convert it into liquid poison. Sell it, he says, to the miller who will prepare it to be a blessing, not to the malster who converts it to a fiery curse upon body and soul. Mr. Haughton is a humbug; but he ought to know something about the most humane way to dispose of grain. He threw many a bushel of it into the Liffey during the famine, after holding it up for high prices until it rotted!

OUTRAGE ON A CHAPEL.—John Compton, John Perry, James Harbison, Wm. Abernethy, and Henry Libburn, were charged at the Stewartstown Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, for maliciously breaking the windows of the Catholic Church of that town; but notwithstanding the positive evidence of two witnesses (Catholics) of unimpeachable character, the accused were discharged by the magistrates—Sir Thomas Staples, S. R. Magill, and St. George Wilcocks, Esqrs. Both witnesses swore distinctly to having seen the accused raise the stones and throw them at the chapel windows.

PENAL LAWS AND PROTESTANT CONVERTS.

To the Editor of the Weekly Register.

Sir,—In my last letter I gave you the account of a Protestant Archdeacon who died calling out for a priest; to whom, however, his family refused access. You are not to consider this a rare case: it was common enough, beyond a doubt, among the higher classes during the continuance of the penal laws; it is common enough now among the lower, for the influence of landlords, and above all, the immense sums of money sent over from England, and spent in providing, in one form or another, for all who call themselves converts to Protestantism, does the very work among the poor which the penal laws did among the rich—they make it the overwhelming interest of the widow and children of any of them who has made a hypocritical profession of Protestantism, that he shall not avow himself a Catholic on his death-bed. The penal laws were strong upon this. Death sets a man out of the reach of pains and penalties. It is only through his family that he can be touched. A relapsed Papist, therefore, was specially deprived of all power to make a will; and men like Earl Nugent, whom I mentioned last week, were forced to conceal their return to the church, or their children would lose their property. There is a well-known instance in the case of the late Lord Dunboyne, the representative of a distinguished Catholic branch of the Butler family. He was a weak-minded man, who inherited the title and estates of the family after middle life, and when he was already Catholic Bishop of Cork. The Devil knows men's weak points—his was family pride. The world would be the loser if the Dunboyne family and peerage were to become extinct. This, he pleaded, would happen if he died without children (for he denied, I am assured, the claim of the gentleman who now assumes the title, and who, it is said, I know not with what truth, has never brought it before the Committee of Privileges). He therefore demanded of the Holy See permission to be secularised and to marry; and being denied, his zeal to prevent the family from being represented by Protestant heirs, made him turn Protestant himself; he married a Protestant lady, but never had heirs. Of his Protestant life stories, curious but I believe true, are told. He is said never to have omitted his Office, which he usually said walking bareheaded in the garden—his friends believed, for penance. His wife was much scandalised one day by finding him receiving the confession, *in extremis*, of a poor man who was dying without a priest. But though these things showed which way the wind blew, it was not till his death-bed that he was received into the Church. He had left a large sum to the College of Maynooth, and the object of his next heirs was to set this aside, on the ground that he was a "relapsed Papist." The matter was at last compromised, and the College got part: before that, however, there was a curious scene in court. Most of your readers must have been edified by seeing the priest carrying the viaticum in procession to the bed of a dying man, in the cities of Belgium, or of the southern nations. In Ireland nothing like this was or is possible; and it is still, I believe, carried in a small silver box, worn by the priest on these occasions next to his heart. I have been told by priests that the special reverence with which an Irish priest is usually greeted by the poor, who accidentally meet him, arises from this custom. He is so often bearing the Blessed Sacrament, when no visible token of it appears, that the custom has sprung up of greeting him, in a manner which would not be un-Christian if such should be the case. A priest attended Lord Dunboyne's death-bed, and was seen through the key hole to produce the well known silver box. The inference was that he was admitted to the Sacraments of the Church, and that his will was invalid. This had been foreseen by the lawyer engaged for the will, and when the witness described the box he had seen, the counsellor took a similar box from his pocket, and asked, "Was it like this?" "Yes," said the witness. "Gentlemen," said the counsel, turning to the jury, "this is my snuff-box; will you take a pinch, and see what poor evidence this is that Lord Dunboyne was received." After death a man might be received without penalties, and Lord Dunboyne is said to have ordered that his corpse should be decked in the robes of a Catholic prelate, and his Protestant friend returning, found it had so been done. An instance lately came to my knowledge, your readers may depend on it, which shows how similar is the effect of English gold at this day to that of Protestant laws fifty years ago. A poor woman, named Roberts, in the parish of Carigaholt, county Clare, who had been converted to Protestantism four years before, died some months back. The Protestant newspapers have made this a great case against the priest, the Rev. Mr. Hannon, who attended, they say, against the wish of the family, assaulted the husband, threatened the Protestant clergyman, and anointed her against her will. The real facts were nothing unusual. Mrs. Roberts, when she found her time come, cried out, like Archdeacon K—, "For God's sake and the Blessed Virgin, send for a priest." There is always some Catholic friend; in this case, it was a sister-in-law, to go for him. The husband and daughter were passive. The husband can prove that he sent for the Protestant minister, and retains the worldly advantage which induced him and his wife to call themselves Protestants, and thus the blame of invading a Protestant's death-bed is thrown upon the priest. He has intruded himself in spite of the wish of the family. I hear there has been a private police examination in this case, and it is not unlikely that it may come before Parliament as a gross case of priestly violence. You may, however,

depend on the facts as I have stated them. I know another case in the same parish, in which a mother secretly brought the priest to attend the dying daughter; and sent publicly for Mr. Hamilton, the Protestant clergyman; to bury her when dead. Her remark on the matter was characteristic—"Eh, now," she said, "and who is it that gets any harm? Sure if I did not, should not I lose the thing I am getting. I took good care of my daughter's soul, and I am easy; for where the soul is in the day of judgement, there the body will be sure enough, whether it is the parson or the priest that reads over her in the graveyard."

Where facts like these are notorious, as they are here, Protestantism does not gain in moral dignity by the proceedings of the proselytising societies. Grievous evil no doubt is done; for souls are lost, not by being Protestants, but by being nothing. By the way, Mr. Editor, I have often asked, is there any instance of a Catholic wishing to become a Protestant on his death-bed. We hear much of the tyranny of the Church; dit it ever tend to this? I never heard of a case in any country, whether among those who have been educated as Catholics who have joined the Church. Considering how common a thing it is for Protestants of both classes to send for a priest when dying, I think the contrast remarkable.—Your obedient servant, A SAXON.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The London *Times* of the latest date, says:—"We have great pleasure in announcing that Sir William Molesworth is to succeed Lord John Russell in the direction of the Colonial Office."

CATHOLIC MISSIONS.—Catholic Missions form the subject of one of the most interesting chapters in the history of missionary enterprise. In heroic self-devotion and disregard of life, in fixedness of principle and submission to the dangers and hardships inseparable from their lot, no men ever excelled—few have equalled—those who have striven to extend the widespread dominion of the successor of St. Peter. But the narratives of their adventures are of a characteristic kind, and, to be thoroughly understood, must be read with a feeling of respectful toleration for their peculiarities.—*Athenaeum.*

REPRESENTATION OF LONDON.—We understand that a movement is now being made with the view of getting up a requisition calling on Lord John Russell and Baron Rothschild to resign their seats for the city.—The ground on which Lord John is to be called on to resign is, that he grossly misrepresents the sentiments of his constituents on the question of the war; while the reason which is to be urged for the resignation of the Baron is, that he does not represent them at all.—*Morning Advertiser.*

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.—The *Scotsman* says it is more than likely that the annual visit of Royalty to this country will be omitted this year. The contemplated visit to the French Emperor in August, and the critical position of public affairs may account for this. It is now positively stated that Her Majesty may not enter Paris till Monday the 20th, remaining there till Saturday the 26th, and so avoiding the awkward questions that might arise from having a Parisian Sunday as one of the gala days.

Sir Charles Napier received a summons to attend at Court for the purpose of being installed a G.C.B. He however, declined the proffered boon. The reason assigned by the gallant Admiral, if not officially given, is well known to his friends. "I have been," he says, "censured and degraded, and have been denied the opportunity of clearing my reputation. Yet am I now offered a G.C.B.—*United Service Gazette.*

COAST DEFENCES.—Works of considerable importance for the defence of the southern coast are now in progress in Sussex, the expenses of which were set down in the Ordnance estimates at £10,000. From Romney, in Kent, to Newhaven, there were 74 Martello towers, which were erected when England was threatened with invasion by the first Napoleon. They are about a quarter of a mile apart, about 35 feet high, and fitted for one gun on a dwarf traversing platform. Each of these is calculated to hold 12 men, and underneath are magazines and stores. Near Eastbourne is the Langley Redoubt, mounting 9 8-inch guns; and the Circular Redoubt at Eastbourne mounts 11 24 pounders. A new battery is in course of erection at Cockmore; when completed it will mount 6 24 pounders. At Blatchington and Newhaven new fortifications are also being erected. The latter place is becoming a port of considerable importance, and at the mouth of the harbor extensive works are in course of construction. They are to present an angular front to the sea; internally there will be brickwork. The batteries will be composed of earth-work, 30 feet thick, rising 9 feet above the level of the eastern pier. The dimensions of the works are 112 feet from each of the angles in the interior. The magazines are of brickwork, and fifty feet square. Each front of the batteries will mount three guns of heavy calibre on swivels. At Brighton there is a battery of six 24-pounders; and thence to Little Hampton the coast is unprotected. At the latter place new fortifications have been just completed and armed.

The British people, for all that Mr. Cobden says to the contrary, are resolved to go on with this war; to persevere, in spite of losses, disgraces, and even apparently irretrievable disaster. The war may have to stand that greatest, and severest, and truest of all tests—the ordeal of failure. Success is no test. It gilds a bad cause as much as it recommends a good one. Knaves and tyrants may prosper and give thanks. To suffer the loss of friends, to pay largely out of the pocket, to bid farewell to private wealth and national prosperity, to smile on disaster and welcome poverty, all for the sake of a good cause, make that cause sacred, honorable, and heroic. These are the things that bring us back to the nobility of ancient days. We cannot command success; but England is satisfied that her cause is good, and she will persevere all the more that she has to do so through many obstacles and in much discouragement. What cause so good as to have escaped those trials?—*Times.*

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—An account of the public income and expenditure for the year ended the 30th of June last past, has just been published. It shows that the grand total amount of the receipts was £61,153,840, and the grand total amount of the expenditure £73,055,171, leaving an excess of expenditure over income of no less than £11,901,331.

VISIT OF THE LONDON MAYOR TO PARIS.—The office of Lord Mayor of London has from time immemorial been considered the embodiment of dignity and consequence, and the Lord Mayor has in past years been

regarded as the incarnation of solid conservatism and sober, sterling sense.—However, even the Lord Mayor of London is not immaculate, and cannot always be depended upon to maintain the high bearing which becomes his exalted position. The present Mayor is evidently no admirer of the Maine liquor law; if we may judge from the following account given by a reliable Paris correspondent of some curious capers which he recently cut upon the occasion of an official visit to Fontainebleau:—"On this occasion the Lord Mayor and several of the Aldermen of London (who were then the guests of the municipal authorities of Paris) were accompanied by M. Edouard Thayer, whose loquacity is proverbial, and who speaks English with great fluency and correctness. After several hours devoted to sight-seeing, a splendid dinner was served up to our dear guests, to restore them a little after the fatigues of the day, at which the municipal officers of Fontainebleau were present. At first all went on harmoniously; but after a good supply of champagne had been imbibed, M. Thayer's tongue was loosened, and on the occasion of a toast offered to the union of France and England, he pronounced a discourse which, advancing from one quarter of an hour to another, gradually assumed the most magnificent proportions. The Lord Mayor was anxious to show that in long-windedness no nation surpassed the British; and scarcely had M. Thayer ended, than he arose and gave free vent to his eloquence, making a reply half as long again. But the astonishment of the guests exploded in shouts of laughter, when they perceived that the champagne, mounting into the head of the worthy civic chief, was causing him to utter the most absurd and extravagant language. This flow of words, however, far from diminishing, seemed constantly increasing, until the senior alderman, seating himself by the side of the Mayor, pulled him by the sleeve, as a hint that it was time to stop. His honor, however, took the interruption in no very good part, and with a volley of oaths of the most energetic character, requested his colleague to leave him alone. This was only a prelude to a regular 'mill' between these worthy city fathers, which all the Frenchmen present hastened to quell. The Lord Mayor, furious at the interruption, wished to fight any one with pistols at six paces. Such were the melancholy effects of the champagne upon him. But by the next day the fury of the combatants had disappeared under the influence of slumber, and M. Thayer succeeded in effecting a complete reconciliation between them, as they breakfasted with him at his well covered table."

THE LARGEST STEAMER IN THE WORLD AFLOAT.—The steamer *Persia*, intended for the Cunard line, was launched on Tuesday afternoon (July 10), from the building-yard of Messrs. Robert Napier and Sons, on the Clyde, in presence of an immense concourse of spectators from Glasgow and elsewhere. When the engines are on board, and she is fully loaded, the weight of the immense mass will be 5,400 tons, at which time she will draw 23 feet of water. Her coal-cellar is constructed to receive 1,400 tons of coal; and besides the superb and roomy accommodation for 300 passengers, there will be stowage for about 1,200 tons measurement of goods, in seven water-tight compartments.—*Scottish Record.*

MORE BISHOPS!—The great want of the day is Bishops. Mr. Osborne some time since asked for "gig bishops," that is, a sort of bagman bishop, going round the country with samples of faith, hope, and charity. We have no objection, none, to such travelling episcopacy. The Cathedral Report, however, suggests twelve new Bishops of another sort, the round dozen to have each £3,000 per annum. Bishops, with trimmings, would stand thus:—12 New Bishops, £36,000 a year; 12 New Deans, £18,000; 48 New Canons, £36,000. Total, £100,000 a year." After all, no more! And when so much good is to be done, the money ought to be had.—and after this fashion. Deal with the bishops existing as it is said certain Hebrews deal with the Queen's sovereigns; namely, sweat them. That is, put them all in a bag, and shake out of their incomes the small £1000,000 needful.

A HINT FOR THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.—We are informed, says the *Bristol Times*, that it is not an unusual practice with some of our quay "imps," for one of them to purposely fall into the water, and two or three of his companions to jump in to the rescue, and thus secure both the benefit of the Humane Society's award and the luxury of a swim during the present oppressive warm weather.

The Rev. H. R. Ridley, Vicar of Stranton, repaired to Christchurch, West Hartlepool, on Tuesday, the 3d ult., to solemnise a marriage, but the bridegroom was so drunk that he sent him away unmarried.

A NEGRO FEMALE PREACHER.—One Mrs. Zelpha Shum, a "lady of color," has been preaching in the pulpits of various Primitive Methodist chapels. Her discourses are said to be much admired.

A GOOD RETORT.—Bishop Hopkins, of Vermont, having mentioned in his recent work, "The End of Controversy Controverted," that relic worship was very profitable in the Roman Catholic Church, Archbishop Kenrick replies in his work just published, entitled "The Roman Catholic Church Vindicated,"—"I am an utter stranger to any pecuniary gain attached to it. I have visited the shrines of the saints, and bent before their images, and seen thousands perform the like acts of devotion, but I have never seen or known the smallest sum of money to be given or received on such an occasion. It is only in places like Westminster Abbey, (?) which have passed into the hands of the stranger, that money is expected for visiting the shrines and tombs of the saints."—*Boston Pilot.*

The spirit of the present age is the spirit of the intensest worldliness and self-willed pride. It is not Atheistic, like the spirit of the last age. It is not Polytheistic. It believes in two Deities: God and Mammon. And never was the imperial government of Rome more obstinately determined on making the thousand gods of its conquered provinces dwell peaceably together in the Pantheon, than the spirit of the present age is on reconciling the worship of God and Mammon. Mammon has the heart of the age; and if God would be content with a temple, (a fine one, sometimes, when it gratifies the vanity of the builders,) with the bended knee, and with the service of the lip—on Sundays; that would be an arrangement profoundly acceptable to the taste of the age; provided, also, that God's temples may be torn down, and the consecrated earth carted off to fill up lots with—whenever the age wishes to dig the deep foundations of some Mammon's temple on the sacred ground.—*Church Review.*