

abused, and held in prison, how few are found to lift hand or voice in their defence. Even in this country there are many professed Catholics who share the indifference so prevalent elsewhere. These are the hesitating principles and timid men accept with the dogmatic utterances of the promulgated by the prelates and priests of the Church. They blame the prelates and priests of the Irish Church for their action in respect of the university education. It is these men who tell the university education. It is these men who tell the university education. It is these men who tell the university education.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

MONTY'S MIND OF VERY REV. DR. CROKE.—Monty's mind of the late Very Rev. Dr. Croke, P.P. of Charleville, was celebrated last week before the Rt. Rev. Dr. Keane, Bishop of the diocese. The Cork Examiner gives an exceedingly interesting account of his life and labors, from which we extract the following:—Born in the year 1782—a year memorable in the annals of our history—he formed one of the surviving links between the times of persecution and the comparative liberty which our Church at present enjoys; and his memory was stored with anecdotes of those disastrous days when a priest of this diocese—the Rev. Peter O'Neil—was inhumanly flogged, and afterwards transported because he would not reveal the secrets of the Confessional; and a Bishop—the Most Rev. Dr. Coppinger—was obliged to fly in the dead of night to escape the emissaries that were sent to arrest him. He was the grand-nephew of the Most Rev. Dr. McKenna—a distinguished prelate who conferred inestimable benefits on this diocese by the establishment of a school in the Irish College in Paris for the education of his priests. His family was remarkable for the number of priests it supplied to the Irish Church, both in past and present times, and he used to boast with grateful pride that his grandmother could count back for more than a hundred years priests of her family who labored in the sacred ministry, and helped to keep alive the torch of faith during the worst period of the Penal Laws. These heroic confessors are worthily represented in the present day by two nephews of the deceased dignitary, the Most Rev. Dr. Croke, Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, and the Very Rev. James Croke, V.G. of San Francisco.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A POINT OF ORDER.—UNIVERSITY TESTS (DEALING) BILL.—Mr. Callan, addressing the Speaker, said he had to ask a question of which he had given private notice to the hon. member for Brighton. It was to ask the Speaker whether the second reading of the University Tests Bill, Dublin, fixed for the 2nd April, could be permitted to proceed, the bill having been materially altered after it was introduced and read a first time? Mr. Fawcett admitted that the facts had been correctly stated by the honorable member. He introduced the bill on the first day of the session, but he did not have it printed, because there was some probability that the Government Bill on the same subject would pass the house, and so render the bill unnecessary. In the discussion on that measure, many objections were made by the Prime Minister and other hon. members to his bill, and his sole reason for altering its provisions was to remove those objections as far as possible. He ventured to say, on behalf of himself and the three hon. members whose names were also on the bill, that they never once entered their minds that they were interfering or disregarding even a technical rule of the house. He deeply regretted that they should unintentionally have done so, and he begged the house to accept his assurance that the error was entirely unintentional (hear, hear). But having admitted that, of course the next question was, what had they better do? So far as he understood it, the leave which was given for the introduction of the bill was still operative. He should, therefore, beg to be allowed again to present another bill to the house, and to move that the order for the second reading on Wednesday be read and discharged; and if that were done he should fix the second reading of the bill which he intended to present for the same day (laughter).

The Speaker.—The house has laid down a clear course for members to take if they desire to make any essential alterations in bills of which they have charge at any stage. The course is to ask the leave of the house to withdraw the bill and to present another bill. That, I understand, is the course which the honorable member for Brighton now proposes to take; and believing that the house will agree with me that that is a proper course to take, I now propose to submit the question to the house that the order of the day for the second reading of the University Tests (Dublin) Bill be read and discharged, and that the bill be withdrawn. If the house thinks proper to agree to that course, the next step to be taken by the hon. member, as I understand it, is this.—The order of leave for introducing a bill being still operative, it will then rest with him to ask the house to present another bill in lieu thereof. The first question is, that the order of the day for the second reading of the University Tests (Ireland) Bill be read and discharged.

After a few words from Mr. Synan, who protested against any attempt to prevent the house from dividing on the first reading of the bill. Leave was given for its presentation. Mr. Fawcett, conducted by Mr. O. Morgan, accordingly advanced to the table, amid some cheering from both sides of the house, but chiefly from the Opposition benches, and presented the new bill under the title of the University Tests, Dublin, No. 2 Bill.

Amidst renewed cheers the bill was at once read a first time, and the second reading was fixed for the 2nd of April. LOSS OF LIFE ON THE WICKLOW MOUNTAINS.—On Friday, the 14th March, two men named respectively William Thorpe, of Stratford-on-Avon, and Richard Wynn, of Eadestown, in the vicinity of Ballyglass, started on foot for Rathdrum, whence they intended to go by train to Wicklow, to be present on business at the assizes. The route they intended to pursue was an old military road through the mountains. The day was most severe, and the road was dangerous even on a fine day to persons unacquainted with it, as they were, being bounded on either side by precipices and bogholes. Their friends expected to meet them in Wicklow on Monday, but as they were not there, their suspicions were justly aroused that they had perished in the mountains. Police were sent from several stations, and many friends of the missing men went in quest of them, but up to the present time (12.30 a.m. Saturday) without success. When last seen they were on the mountains

in a place called Knocknamunion, one of the bleakest spots in the entire county. There are many conflicting rumors about, but it is certain that this is about the last place they were seen. The place abounds with precipices, and there are chasms fully twenty feet deep, filled with snow, a fall into any of which would be certain death. Taking all things into consideration there can hardly be a reasonable doubt but that they have been lost in some of these. The man Thorpe leaves a young family entirely dependent on him for support. Wynn was an aged man. The greatest sympathy prevails with the friends of the missing men, and "no stone has been left unturned" to relieve the suspense more insupportable than the knowledge of even the worst. The bodies of the men were discovered on the 23rd of March, by a party of men who went in search of them. They were covered with snow in a place called the Black Rock. They would have probably remained concealed but for a dog that accompanied the party. An inquest was held on the bodies on Monday, the 24th, when a verdict in accordance with the reported facts was recorded.—Correspondent of Freeman.

THE PRESS ON MR. FAWCETT'S MEASURE.—The Times says the attempt to burke the University Tests Bill by so summary a process has failed, but Mr. Fawcett is probably by this time persuaded that his chance of getting it read a second time on Wednesday next is almost desperate, while all hope of getting it through Parliament, even supposing its second reading should be carried, must be abandoned. We are quite aware that if the Prime Minister absolutely refuses to countenance the Dublin University Bill it must be dropped before the end of the session, but the Government is bound to consider the consequence of the line of action they contemplate. The Liberal members from England and Scotland kept very well together in support of the Government University Bill, but there was a universal feeling of relief when it was defeated, and the country has acquiesced in its failure with undisguised satisfaction. If the Government appeared next Wednesday allied with the Irish Roman Catholic members in refusing to look at the Dublin University Bill, Liberal candidates, whether seeking election will separate themselves from Mr. Gladstone's Irish Educational policy, and this must of course mean the breakup of the party upon dissolution. Forewarned ought to be forearmed. If Mr. Gladstone will not support Mr. Fawcett's bill, but insists upon the adoption of his own scheme, his bill becomes a cardinal part of his policy in any appeal to the country, and all who have any influence on the result are bound to take care that the Liberal party is not shipwrecked by being steered on this rock through inadvertence, or through contempt for the consequence.

The Daily Telegraph says:—Mr. Fawcett, we maintain has committed a blunder which is flagrant in itself and which may have serious consequences. It passes comprehension how he and his friends could have fancied that they would be permitted to cut and carve a bill after they had laid it before the house. No part of the code which governs the proceedings of legislation is, as the Speaker said, better understood than the rule, that a bill ceases to be the property of any member from the moment it has been laid on the table. He may not withdraw it or substantially alter it unless the house shall give him permission; and the reason is plain; there could be no real fair play on any side if members had the privilege of moulding their measures in secret and shifting the provisions to catch the passing winds of opinion. We hold fast by open, formal process, and it is no more allowable to alter a bill behind the back of Parliament and go on as if nothing had occurred than it would be to evade any other established usages by the observance of which business is conducted. The rules of Parliament are the codification of its experience, and even when they seem most technical they usually rest on a basis of sound common sense. That which has been broken by Mr. Fawcett is peculiarly intelligible, and the most unskilled of minds can see at a glance the flagrant impropriety of substantially altering a bill which the house has read a first time. It is a marvel indeed that none of the members who joined him in voting against the Irish University Bill did not warn him of the pitfall into which he was going. That service might surely have been done by Mr. Bouvier, who knows the forms of the house as well as any of those who leagued with Mr. Fawcett to defeat the Government. But no warning was given, and the member for Brighton will have good reason to congratulate himself if the error should not be fatal to the bill. He cannot go on with it till after Easter, and even then he would find it difficult to secure a night for a discussion in time to give the measure a reasonable chance of passing through its stages. If there should be no discussion on the second reading until several weeks after Easter, it would be in a hopeless plight, for the time at Mr. Fawcett's command would then be so small that half a dozen stout Irish members could easily talk the bill to death. The most copious of speakers in the world would find that an easy task. We suspect, therefore, that whatever may have been the general chances of passing the measure, they have now dwindled down to a very small unit. It may be found to have met shipwreck on a point of form, and the lesson will not be thrown away. It should teach members to learn the elementary rules of the assembly in which they sit.

The Standard says:—Mr. Gladstone could not help exhibiting his implacable resentment at the oft-repeated attempts of Mr. Fawcett to save him and his party from disaster, but the demand of the house was too unanimous, and he did not venture to press his objection to a division. The Ultramontanes, at first inspired by Mr. Gladstone's patronage repeated their complaints in every key but found to their astonishment that Mr. Gladstone's authority over the house was a delusion. The house repudiated his guidance, and they submitted without a division. The occurrence will not easily be forgotten by any who witnessed it. An unscrupulous faction struggling against the precedent of the house in defiance of the opinion of all parties within it, their efforts supported by the leader of the house, a chorus of disapproval, not only from the chief men, but from the very rank and file of his own party; at the close, even his Roman battalion sinking away, conscious that the magic of his leadership was gone, that he was only luring them to disaster—these are incidents that make up an extraordinary passage in the career of a Prime Minister of England.

The discussion of the Irish University question has been revived by the publication of Professor Fawcett's Bill. It is warmly commended by the Roman Catholic journals, and condemned by the Roman Catholic organs. The Freeman says:—We have great respect for the ability and honesty of Mr. Fawcett, but the Dublin University Tests Bill says little for his legislative wisdom. Professor Fawcett has brought forward a measure which will, he hopes satisfy the Irish Catholics. According to that measure Trinity is to be reorganized, and the work of reorganization is to be intrusted to a body elected from the Fellows, Professors, and graduates. Inasmuch as all the Fellows of Trinity and the vast majority of the Professors and graduates are Protestants, it is easy to see that the new 'Council of Organization' will be a purely Protestant body, with probably an ornamental 'Catholic' or two in its ranks for the sake of appearance; and it is this purely Protestant body which is to re-arrange Trinity as to make it acceptable to the Catholics! The English Dissenters strongly complain of the unjust way in which they are treated at the English Universities. What would be thought of the sanity of the member who would propose to submit the claims of the English Dissenters to the Convention

of Canterbury? And yet the claims of the Irish Catholics are to be referred to a body the majority of which will be composed of Protestant clergymen. The action of the Council of Organization would assume one or other of two forms. Its regulations may tend to perpetuate the 'status quo', to preserve Trinity in her old position as the stronghold and citadel of Ascendancy. On the other hand, it may honestly endeavour to carry out the idea of Mr. Fawcett, and convert Trinity into an institution purely Godless and Secularistic—in fact, a fourth Queen's College. Irish Catholics can never accept the education of a Protestant University; they can never accept the education of a Secularistic University. If Mr. Fawcett's Bill has the effect which he hopes for, it will make Dublin University Secularistic; if it fails, it will leave it Protestant. This dilemma is fatal to the Bill as a settlement of the claims of Irish Catholics. Whatever way matters may turn out, it would appear equally certain that no relief can accrue to the Catholics. This is a fact which the ruling men at Trinity know well.

THE IRISH LIBERAL MEMBERS AND MR. FAWCETT'S BILL.—The Irish Liberal members have achieved a well won victory, the full effect of which possibly may not be realized at once even by Professor Fawcett himself. In this instance the Irish representatives have worked together with a will. The Irish members, in accordance with the requisition which you have already published, assembled in the Conference Room at two o'clock this afternoon to decide upon a definite course of action, and to be prepared for any emergency. The members present were:—Mr. Mitchell Henry, Mr. McCarthy Downing, Mr. D. C. Heron, Sergeant Sherlock, Mr. J. T. Power, Dr. Brady, Mr. K. T. Digby, Mr. P. Callan, Mr. R. P. Blicherhasset, Mr. W. E. Redmond, the O'Connor Don, Mr. J. Martin, Colonel French, Mr. W. Stacpoole, Mr. E. J. Synan, Mr. G. Greville Nugent, and Mr. T. McClure. On the motion of Mr. Mitchell Henry, seconded by Mr. McCarthy Downing, Colonel French was called to the chair. Mr. Callan was requested to act as secretary. Messrs Heron and Synan expressed very decidedly their concurrence in the opinion as to the soundness of the preliminary objection taken by Mr. Callan to the second reading of Mr. Fawcett's bill, and it was unanimously arranged to give every support to the honorable member in the step he was about to take. After some conversation, in the course of which there was a strong expression of opinion that every opposition should be given to the bill. Mr. McCarthy Downing moved and Mr. G. Greville Nugent seconded, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the second reading of Mr. Fawcett's University Tests (Dublin) Bill should be opposed." The resolution was adopted with only one dissentient, viz., Mr. McClure, who wished to remain unfettered, being in favor of the entire abolition of tests, though opposed to all the other portions of the bill. After some further conversation, on the motion of Mr. Heron, seconded by Mr. Digby, the meeting was adjourned to same hour and place on Monday next. As Mr. Fawcett's new bill will stand ninth or tenth on the paper for Wednesday next, it is not improbable that the second reading will still be further adjourned.—It is believed that the Government will make no effort to help Mr. Fawcett in the matter, but there are already rumours abroad which justify me in saying that you need not be greatly surprised if you hear that he will sink everything but the abolition of tests, as a frantic effort to get a bill of some sort through this session.—London Cor. of Dublin Freeman.

An article in the Pall Mall Gazette, copied approvingly into the Times, supplies a good illustration of the manner in which the "liberty" taken by the Irish members in opposing a measure condemned by the unanimous voice of their countrymen is regarded across the Channel. The Gazette is astounded at the insolence, and, at the same time, disturbed by the lesson of the vote. If Irishmen can upset administrations, things have come, in the opinion of the Gazette, to a very serious pass indeed. "The fact," it says, "that the Papists are coming by rapid steps to occupy the position of a political party which other parties must try not only to withstand, but weaken, have several sides to it." The Pall Mall Gazette views all its sides, and then comes to the conclusion that the conduct of the Irish people in constitutionally expressing their feelings in Parliament must be put down, if necessary, by the sword. Of course, this very liberal sentiment is not expressed quite so nakedly as we have put it; but such and no other is the intent and meaning of the article. It is the growing danger from an Irish party—that is, the danger that Irishmen may use their lawful power in Parliament for their country's good—and, mindful of the advantage of giving a hateful thing a bad name, it begins by smearing the term "Ultramontane" over the Irish party. Then comes the proposition that this Ultramontanism must be put down just as the Northern States of America put down the Southern Confederacy. Already, we are warned, "an inarticulate growl is heard in many quarters which may one day swell into a roar"—all because some forty Irish Catholic members voted against the University Bill. And then, lest there should be any mistake about it, the meaning of the roar is given:—"Well, if you must have it you shall have it. If we must either submit to you or cast off a great deal which we have hitherto treated with civility, our choice will not be difficult. Whatever may be true, you and your creed are unquestionably false; and by the heavens above and the earth beneath—nay, by the breeches pocket and all that therein is, we will not only not be bullied by you, but we will consider very seriously how far we are justified in allowing you to bully your dupes. One in its history the English nation had occasion to express in an emphatic way its opinion of the Pope and all his works. If it is baited beyond a certain point, it will be apt to express the same opinion still more emphatically and with a wider sweep; and if it does, it is to be hoped it will make much cleaner work than it did before." We feel that we owe our readers some apology for quoting into our columns such a piece of swaggering blackguardism as this. But at a time when crafty appeals are made to Irish Catholics to ally themselves with "the Great Liberal Party" it may not be amiss to show, from the words of one of its favoured exponents, what the tone and spirit of that party really are. The men who go about with coarse menaces of this kind have little title to our support. We can afford to despise the threat, and to scorn the vulgar bully who utters it, but it is clear that Irishmen march not under that flag. For the rest, we can assure the rowdy of the Pall Mall Gazette that his misgivings are not misplaced. He is not done with "the Papists" or with the Irish party. Whatever anguish it may cause the "Liberals" for whom he speaks, however they may write under the indignation, they have only begun to witness the operation of the Irish Vote. Its effects will be felt in the division list, not by way of an isolated incident, but over and over, until the justice which this country claims is rendered to her in full. The Irish party in the next Parliament will be made, we venture to predict, of stuff very different from that of the men who were reluctantly coerced on Tuesday week into acting for once an independent party. They will enter the House of Commons part, and pledged to a fixed and definite line of policy, and that policy they will be commissioned to act on in season and out of season until the object it aims at is accomplished.—Nation.

DUBLIN, March 28.—Mr. Justice Lawson is still engaged in trying the cases arising out of the Belfast riots in August last. He yesterday pronounced a sentence which cannot fail to strike terror into the hearts of intending rioters in future. Two men named Rooney and McKavanagh were convicted of

having compelled an inhabitant of Lesson-street, Belfast, to leave his home and go to another district. One of the most cruel modes of showing the rancour of the contending factions was the expulsion of families from their dwellings if they happened to live in districts occupied by a hostile party. Hundreds of persons suffered great hardships in consequence of these notices to quit, which were executed with unrelenting rigor. Mr. Justice Lawson, in sentencing the prisoners, observed that they had been found guilty of the most serious offence which had come before him during the present assizes, and he would make an example of them which he hoped would be remembered if any future proceedings of a similar nature occurred, and would prevent persons of their character from interfering with the peaceable inhabitants of the town. The sentence was seven years' penal servitude. The announcement created a profound impression in court.—Times Dublin Cor.

THE ENNIS MURDER.—A further investigation took place at Ennis relative to the murder of a farmer named McCarthy, in the neighbourhood of that town. The inquiry was held in private, but it transpired that Sub-Inspector Madders, of Corrofin, produced a vest, supposed to be stained with blood, which had been found in Howard's house, and that a witness proved to threats of vengeance having been uttered against the McCarthy family if they persevered in taking the farm. The result of the investigation was that the Howards have been remanded for eight days.

EXTRA POLICE IN NORTH TIPPERARY.—Lord Lisnane, Lieutenant of the county of Tipperary fixed on one o'clock Saturday, 29th ult. for holding a meeting of the magistrates of the North Riding of Tipperary at Nenagh Courthouse, for the purpose of taking into consideration the reduction of the constabulary force in this riding.

THE QUEEN AND THE MAGUIRE TESTIMONY.—Mr. Murphy M.P. for Cork has received a letter from the Premier stating that her Majesty has been graciously pleased to contribute £250 to the testimonial to the late Mr. Maguire, M.P.

It is stated by the Globe that in consequence of an interview between the Catholic Bishop of S. John's, Newfoundland, and the Rev. Robert O'Keefe, the Callan dispute is likely to be settled.

Great distress for want of food is reported to prevail on the islands on the Irish coast of Galway. The sheep even are starving. Subscriptions have been opened for the relief of Islanders.

GREAT BRITAIN

THE "BISHOP OF THE PERIOD?"—Under this title the Church Herald describes, in bitterly sarcastic language, the average Anglican Bishop of these times. We call the following choice bits from the article:—

"There never has been a time when, as now, the Bishops of the Church of England, taken as a body—for there are very notable and respected exceptions—were so painfully commonplace and notoriously unremarkable. The scholarly Greek-play Bishops of a former generation were what they were. The older race of Bishop of the stamp of Slute Barington had died out. As a successor to Bishop Phillpotts of Exeter we have the Editor of Essays and Reviews. Now we are blessed with popularity-hunting pigs, gaitered chatterboxes, flimsy scholars, smug vulgaritans; men whose principles, whether good or bad, are so deeply buried in the dark recesses of their own consciousness, that neither themselves nor anybody else have ever been able to find them out.

"Where the true 'Bishop of the Period' came from, it would be utterly impossible to say. No one could be sure. His past is a long blank, his origin wholly undetermined. He may have been first heard of, first obtained notoriety, at Oxford or Cambridge, where he proposed to marry a tailor's daughter, but, on second thoughts changed his mind; and then, to make up for the impending mistake, took to political agitation and began to co-operate with the Whigs. For, of course, 'the Bishop of the Period' is a Whig—and something more."

"Christian dogma was always his intense aversion. The Athanasian Creed he abhors and—as he openly avows—does not believe. From time to time he served the Whigs efficiently, supplying them with wits when wanted (which was often the case), and with personal help at elections when required. For them he had cleverly cooked evidence for Parliamentary Committees; defended a Prime Minister, against the 'stupid Tories,' in the pages of Jupiter Transvaal.

"Public opinion is his sole guide. This he painfully worships. Not what is true, or good, or honest, or sound; but what is politic, popular and wise. To him the 'Infallible Doctor of the Church Universal' is the British public—and the organ of that high authority is the Times newspaper. Cunning and clever, he keeps as chaplains, lick-spittle creatures of the baser sort, who hoist moral storm-signals to see which way the wind blows, or who act as clerical detectives in plain clothes, and inform his lordship of their earnest labors.

"As regards talking, he is never silent except when asleep. He can discourse with consummate wisdom on every subject under the sun. He begins with the virtues of native gannet and the literary ability of Lord Macaulay; and ends with the advantages of Mr. Forster's delightful Education Act, and the blessings of Mr. Gladstone's Ministry. He can dilate on the temptations of the keepers of seaside lodging-houses, as well as on the complicated machinery of the drainage-outfall at the mouth of the Thames."

With much more to the same purport. "The Liberals," says the Church Herald (Anglican) "cannot at all understand the action of the Irish Roman Catholics in the division which broke the back of the Gladstone administration. But they will learn it by degrees in due course. The Romans have a very distinct policy; so distinct that no sensible person can mistake its features or purport, and they will be very insane not to carry it out. They are resolved to have a denominational education; and if the British Parliament will not grant this the Home Rulers will soon see that an Irish Parliament does. Why should English dissent and Scotch heresy thrust their nose into our nostrils down Cardinal's Callan's throat? For ourselves we admire the action of the Roman Catholic Irish members, and only wish that the English Church owned as faithful and obedient members of Parliament. Her position would be very different from what it is if she had."

silenced Prussia, when hardly anyone dares to say as much in "free" England? The Times bages the new year by propounding that what would be wrong and unjustifiable for others to do was lawful and right for the "strong" Bismarck. When such crawling cowardice and cringing servility is the spirit of the "leading journal," what is the spirit of the people whom it leads?—Catholic Opinion.

THE PRICE OF COAL.—The question of the hour is not the dangers of the Ministry, nor the coming Budget—but coal. There are millions of people in Great Britain who do not care one pin whether Mr. Disraeli or Mr. Gladstone is in power, but there is nobody—save the happy few to whom money is no object—who does not care about the price of coals. The winter of Great Britain is not very cold, but it is exceedingly disagreeable; dwellers in it are compelled to spend much time indoors, and a blazing hearth has long been the synonym for comfort. It is, then, with deep interest that readers will turn to the proceedings of the House of Commons Coal Committee which commenced its sittings yesterday. The sole witness examined was Mr. Mead, Director General of the Geological Survey, his testimony was purely statistical. He told the committee that the consumption of coal was annually increasing at an alarming rate having grown from 1,040,000 in 1870 to 1,600,000 in 1872. His evidence exploded the belief that it was an enormous foreign demand that caused the coal famine. Out of every 12 tons brought to the pit's mouth only one is sent abroad. It is at home the consumption has increased, and is increasing, the enormous quantity of 40,000,000 tons, or a fourth of the total produce, being used in the manufacture of pig iron, and its subsequent conversion into bars. Of the 160,000,000 of tons produced last year, only 17,500,000, or about one ton in nine, was used for domestic consumption. The evidence of Mr. Mead, though important, does not throw light on the great recent increase in the price of coal, or such facts as that, while at the London Coal Exchange the price of coal was yesterday lowered 1s 6d per ton, at the pits it was raised from 3s to 4s per ton.—Dublin Freeman.

ANOTHER PROBABLE MINISTERIAL DIFFICULTY.—A rock ahead of Mr. Gladstone is the 25th clause of the English Education Act, the repeal of which will be moved by the Nonconformists and opposed by the Roman Catholics and those English Conservatives who are in favour of Denominationalism. Thus a crisis, analogous to the University crisis, may arise. It would bring great difficulty, also, to Mr. Disraeli, involving another English alliance with the Roman Catholics, which could be but momentary, and would antagonise the Irish Protestant education policy. On the other hand, it would further split the Roman Catholics from Mr. Gladstone, and leave his party weakened and demoralised; but the crisis arising by a defeat of the Ministry on such a question would supply an issue whereupon the Conservatives could dissolve. Mr. Disraeli is in no better favour with his earnest followers since his explanation. They say Lord Derby alone could bring help from the opposite quarter, and candid Liberals say the same.—Correspondent of Evening Mail.

PROSPERITY ON PAPER.—Under the able management of our Chancellor of the Exchequer, the revenue amounts to the amazing total of £76,000,000. Happy we. What a prodigiously wealthy nation. Perish individuals. A surplus of nearly five millions sterling for us all and a coal and meat famine for every one.—Punch.

Punch represents a gentleman at dinner lulling up a horse shoe, and saying "You my word it's too bad! This is the second time the cook has forgotten to take off the shoes."

LORD BYRON AND DR. LUSHINGTON.—It is rumoured says the writer of the Guardian's "Table Talk," that Dr. Lushington's secret about Lord Byron was not died with him, and will be made public before long.

UNITED STATES.

DESPERATE FIGHT BETWEEN WHITES AND NEGROES—100 BLACKS KILLED.—NEW ORLEANS, April 15.—The steamer South-West, which arrived this morning, brings stirring and important news from Grant Parish. The whites have re-taken Colfax, and there is not a negro to be found for miles around. From the passengers we glean the following:—The negroes had strongly entrenched themselves in the Court House, and built breastworks three or four feet high. There were, it was said, about 400 men armed and equipped thoroughly, and on Saturday at 12 o'clock about 150 men, who had gathered from the surrounding parishes, made an attack on the breastworks, and a brisk fight was kept up till somewhere near three o'clock. The breastworks were then stormed and captured, the negroes taking refuge in the Court House, the doors of which were barricaded. After some further fighting the negroes threw out a flag of truce, and several detachments of men advanced on it, when they were fired on by the besieged party, wounding several, one of whom was Captain Hanworth, who was shot in the bowels, and it is feared, fatally wounded. They retreated outside of the breastworks, and, as the only means of dislodging the negroes, the Court House was set on fire, and they were shot as they came from the burning building. It is reported that between 80 and 100 negroes were killed, and that there were none afterwards to be found for miles around. The captain of the South-West makes the following report: We arrived at Colfax on Sunday evening about eight o'clock, and while the people, and the sheriffs at their head, supposed they had captured the town, after having had conflict with the negroes it was reported to me that about 100 negroes had been killed and many wounded. The fight lasted from twelve o'clock until nearly five p.m. The Whites are now in possession of Colfax, and when we left, late last Sunday night, every thing was quiet.

ROBBERY DETECTIVES.—A serious but rather ludicrous rumour is current concerning the recent personal experience of the English detectives, who came here a short time ago to arrest the alleged perpetrators of the great forgeries upon the Bank of England. As the story goes, the foreign officers expressed a desire to the New York detectives to be shown the sights of the city, and accordingly the local officers, acting in an unofficial capacity, accompanied their visitors upon a night's round of the most notorious resorts. Previous to the starting, however, the English officers were advised to leave their watches and other valuables at their hotel, lest they should be stolen during the excursion.

The officer who was to sail for Havana a few days later to arrest Bidwell scorned the idea, and set out for his night's amusement. Toward morning, it is said, he became sleepy, and, taking a nap, he subsequently discovered that he had been robbed, not only of his watch and pocket-book, but also of the papers for the extradition of Bidwell, which he had foolishly carried in his pocket. Of course he was greatly dismayed at the loss of these important documents, but they were restored to him by Superintendent Kelso, who had received them from Capt. Leary of the City Hall Precinct. They had been surreptitiously left at the station house on the day following the alleged robbery. The watch and pocket-book are said to be still missing. The New York police are reticent on the subject, but while the story lacks confirmation it is generally believed in police circles.—New York Times.

A little boy who sang, "I want to be an angel" in Sunday-school with so much energy that he almost choked himself, confessed to an enterprising reporter that he really wanted to be a captain on a canal boat.