

ing into Carlou, either by the Ramsbach, or through Mam a Chulia, perform this operation on him. I'll bear a hand if I can be got within a call, and if we don't bring him to a pitch of modesty, there is not a cottager in Carlou.

Bryan gave a hearty laugh at the idea of the very unlikely delinquency, and Theresa's eyes rested on him for a moment with so sweet and confident an expression that a flying glimpse which he caught set his cup of happiness overflowing. However, he became for the moment the butt of sundry pleasantries, such as these: 'Ah, then, Bryan, sure the new bride won't go to Cloughbawn on a Sunday with nothing but a cap on her head?' 'Well, well, don't be too hard on the young man; where there's muck there's luck; better he vulgar and have a well filled stocking than be poor and proud like the Moneytimmer people.' 'Well, for my part, I am of the opinion of 'Lord Thomas' in the old ballad:

'Her oxen may die in the house, Billy,
Her kine within the byre:
And I shall have nothing to myself
But a fat fadge by the fire.'

The shadow of the sweet smile which Bryan had secured enabled him to endure this pitiless shower till Charles thought fit to resume his story.

Charley—Though I was unwilling to neglect my duty, I am sorry to confess that the dread of the cobbing drove me up into the tree, and down lay my three lazy vagabonds in the sunny morning on the shelter sod, and before you could say 'Jackstones' they were as fast as a church. Well, I began to think how pleasant it would be to be obliged to tell this breach of duty at my next confession, and to have neither profit nor pleasure by it. However, keeping my eyes steadily fixed on the pony where he was standing outside the area of the castle, with the bridle thrown over the post, I began to fancy myself following the hounds, with Tom Quigly sounding his bugle, the spotted beagles sweeping up the hill towards Coolage, and the gentlemen in the red jackets leisurely leaping the fences through Thomasmullogue, and the people on foot scouring across the fields, or standing on the brow of the hill to get a good view. I shut my eyes the better to enjoy the sport, and thought how pleasant it would be to be mounted on a black hunter, and tearing across the fields down from Coolage to the wood of Achealagh. Getting up over the hill at the upper end of the wood, I had just under me in the hollow the comfortable farm houses and orchards of Moneytucker, the church and church yard, with the old walls overrun with ivy standing among the tombs; the minister's glebe house, with its grove and lawn, looking so snug; and below that again, the mill and the ford, with the great big trees around them. Nothing could stop my horse. I felt as if I was on the point of tumbling every moment as he dashed down the hill, and through the copse near the bridge, and past the mill, and on through the rushy fields to Davidstown Chapel. Here the hounds were all left behind, and the fox was getting through a swamp to a tuft of shrubs on a little island, and nothing less would please my hunter than to plunge after reyard through the slime and sedges floating on the pool. Oh, by the pipe! down he began to sink, and the fox, coming to the edge of the island, with Sleeveen's caubeen stuck on his head, and his toes out through the upper leathers of his brogues, and a well seasoned dudden in his mouth, began to grin at me. Down I was sinking, and my legs feeling like icicles, when I opened my eyes with a shiver of fright, and before me was the side of the castle so white in the sun, the belt of firs, the green lawn in front, and all so calm, and as if they were looking at their own images down in the depths of the clear lake. My first glance after the frightful feel of a moment was at the pony's station, but neither pony nor rider could I see.

Now I was in a pretty dilemma. The 'master' might have proceeded to the stables in the direction of the old castle, and then extended his ride without delay; and in that case he might be on us in a few minutes, and my proper course would be to waken up my rascals at once. On the other hand, he might make a considerable halt at the garden or stables; perhaps he was only entering them that moment; but I could make no guess as to the length of my slumber, and if I roused my charge too soon I would be rewarded by a cobbing of the milder kind.

This view of the case kept me undecided, and my mind was painfully employed, and began to get confused, balancing the pros and cons, and striving to inspect the subject from every convenient point, when what should I see but the pony and his rider coming steadily from the Colaght side along the walk, and seeming to enlarge in size as they approached. I strove to shout to the sleepers, but though my tongue and lips moved, I could not produce a sound. My terror was redoubled as the horseman now assumed the foxy visage of Sleeveen, with red bristles sticking out from his sharp muzzle, the *stigeens* altered into gigantic turkey cock's claws, and the pony changed into something between a crocodile and an elephant.

I gave myself up when I found the open jaws of the enormous fox just over my head, and slowly closing the spiked teeth to make mince meat of me. It seemed as if the grove, the bridge, the castle, the old trees, and the lake were all possessed of life, and waiting in awful silence for some dreadful explosion. My heart ceased to beat, and my blood to flow, and it became impossible for body and soul to keep together a moment longer. All at once relief came; my blood began to flow again, and my opened eyes rested on the upturned calm face of the master, who was inspecting my unsafe position from the back of the wise looking pony right under my perch. I was preparing in a great hurry to descend, but he motioned me to remain as I was, and after enjoying my fright and confusion for a few seconds, he proposed this question to me as coolly as if I was a pupil undergoing an examination at a table covered with a green cloth. 'My lad,' said he, 'do you know the badness of a sentinel found sleeping on his post?' 'No, sir,' said I, trembling all over. 'Then, I

suppose, I must tell you:—a volley of musketry at twelve paces, you dog. Is this your plan for obtaining a character for trustworthiness and sincerity—leading yourself to the designs of these lazy rogues?' 'Sir,' said I blubbering, 'I did not give way to them till they threatened me with a cobbing.' He made me explain what a cobbing was, and though he tried hard to look severe, I saw by the struggle going on at the corners of his mouth and eyes, that he had some trouble to keep down a laugh. 'Well, well,' said he, 'as I see you were in some degree forced to this, I'll say no more on the present occasion; but now lay this simple principle to your conscience; that idling or allowing others under your charge to idle when you are expected to be on duty, is as much a wrong as if you stole the value of your time from your employer's pocket. Be assured that whatever you may fear from such worthies as these, is little in comparison to the loss of your employer's confidence, and the upbraidings of your own conscience.—Now I will ride off without disturbing the repose of your tyrants, and when I am out of sight, wake them up without making mention of what has happened. This is the only plan that will save your limbs from the dreaded cobbing; but remember that for the future I expect very different conduct from you.' I obeyed his directions, and the next time that Sleeveen and Co. laid siege to me, I told them in plain terms, that I would neither neglect my duty, nor allow those under my charge to do so; and that if they attempted to cob me, I would first give one of them a black eye or a bloody nose, so that they should not have all the sport to themselves; and then that I'd lodge a complaint of their conduct,—if they called me an informer twenty times for it. So I got myself out of their clutches by showing a little firmness; and I hope that with God's help, the little adventure will be of service to me during life.

Mr. Roche—Ah, what a riddle human nature, at least Irish human nature is! I'll be bound that with all this deficiency in doing their duty, any of these men would go through fire and water, and risk their lives either to save any of the Castle family from harm, or give them any direct pleasure.

(To be continued.)

LETTERS APOSTOLIC OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE PIUS IX. TO ALL PROTESTANTS AND OTHER NON-CATHOLICS.

You all know already that having been raised, although undeserving, to this Chair of Peter, and, consequently, charged with the supreme government of the Universal Church, and with the trust divinely committed to us by Christ our Lord Himself, we have deemed fit to call around us our Venerable Brethren, the bishops of the whole world, and to assemble them for the Oecumenical Council which is to be celebrated next year, in order that in concert with our Venerable Brethren, who all called to a part of our solicitude, we may adopt all such measures as are opportune and necessary, both to dispel the darkness of the many pestilential errors which are daily gaining strength and spreading everywhere to the great loss of souls, and also to build up and magnify among the Christian nations entrusted to our watchfulness the reign of true faith, of justice and of the true peace of God. We rely fully on the close and loving bond of union, which wondrously links our Venerable Brethren to us and to the Apostolic See; for at every period of our supreme Pontificate they have invariably given the most conspicuous proofs of their fidelity, love, and reverence towards ourselves, and toward that See, and therefore we confidently trust that as in past ages other General Councils have done so, in the present age, the Oecumenical Council we have convened will, by the inspiration of Divine grace, produce abundant and joyful results for the greater glory of God and the everlasting salvation of men.

Therefore, sustained by this hope excited and urged on by the charity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave up His life for the salvation of the whole human race, we cannot refrain on this occasion of the future Council from addressing our Apostolic and paternal words to all those who, though they recognise the same Jesus Christ as their Redeemer and boast the name of Christians, still do not profess the true faith of Christ, and do not share the communion of the Catholic Church. And this we do in order that, with all zeal and affection, we may admonish, exhort, and entreat them seriously to consider and examine whether they are treading the path traced by Christ Our Lord, which leads to eternal salvation. No one can deny or doubt that Jesus Christ himself, in order to apply the fruits of his redemption to all generations of mankind, built on Peter his one only Church on earth, that is to say His One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, and gave it all power necessary in order that the deposit of the Faith should be preserved inviolate and in its integrity, in order that the same Faith should be taught to all peoples, to all races, and to all nations, in order that all men might become by baptism members of his mystical body, and that the new life of grace, without which no one can ever deserve and obtain eternal life, might always be preserved and perfected in them: in order that the Church, which is His mystical body, might of its own nature always remain stable and unmoved until the consummation of the world, and might supply all its children with all the means of salvation. Now, whoever will carefully consider and reflect on the condition of the various and conflicting religious societies separated from the Catholic Church, which from Our Lord Christ and His Apostles has unceasingly exercised through its lawful pastors, and still exercises the Divine power given to it by Our Lord, will be obliged to admit that none of these societies, nor all of them together, can of themselves constitute and be that one Catholic Church which Christ Our Lord built founded, and called into being; nor can ever be, called a member, or a part of that Church, since they are visibly separated from Catholic Unity. For, as these societies want that living authority instituted by God, which teaches men above all the things of Faith and moral discipline and directs and rules them in all those things which pertain to eternal salvation, they have continuously changed in their doctrines, and thus mutability and instability in these societies know no cessation. Everyone perfectly understands, everyone sees clearly, and manifestly that this is utterly opposed to the Church established by Christ our Lord, in which truth must always continue stable, and subject to no change, as a deposit given to that Church to be preserved in its integrity, and for the custody of which the presence and help of the Holy Ghost have been promised to the Church in perpetuity. Everybody knows that from these conflicts of doctrines and opinions social schisms arise from which innumerable communions and sects take their birth, and spread more widely, day by day, to the great injury both of Church and State.

In truth, whoever recognises religion as the foundation of human society, must perceive and confess with what force this division and discrepancy of conflicting principles and religious societies acts upon civil society, and with what violence this negation of the authority established by God to govern the opinions of the human mind and to direct the actions of men, both in private and in social life, has excited, promoted, and maintained those deplorable commo-

tions and revolutions by which almost all nations are grievously agitated and afflicted. Therefore, let all those who do not possess the unity and truth of the Catholic Church (St. Augustin, ep. lxxi. c. cxviii.) embrace the opportunity of this Council, in which the Catholic Church, to which their forefathers belonged, gives a new proof of its radical unity and its invincible vitality. Let them satisfy the wants of their own hearts, and strive to extricate themselves from a condition in which they cannot be secure concerning their own salvation. And let them not cease to offer prayers to the Lord of Mercy, that he may throw down the wall of separation, dispel the mists of error, and guide them back to the bosom of Holy Mother Church, in which their fathers found the salutary pastures of life, and in which alone the teachings of Jesus Christ are preserved and handed down in their integrity, and the mysteries of heavenly grace are dispensed.

For ourselves as Christ our Lord has confided to us the charge of His supreme Apostolic Ministry, and as we are therefore bound to fulfil most zealously all the duties of a good Shepherd and to include all mankind in our fatherly affection, we address these letters to all Christians separated from us, entreating and exhorting them again and again to hasten their return to the one fold of Christ. For we desire for our soul their salvation in Jesus Christ, and we dread having one day to render an account to Him, our Judge, if, as much as in us lies, we do not show forth and afford to them the way to obtain eternal salvation. In all our prayers, supplicating and giving thanks, we cease not, day or night, humbly and strenuously to implore the eternal Shepherd of souls to give them abundance of heavenly lights and graces. And since, although unworthy, we are His Vicar upon earth, we long most ardently with our stretched arms for the return to the Catholic Church of our erring children that we may lovingly welcome them to the home of their Heavenly Father, and enrich them with his inexhaustible treasures. For, from their desired return to truth and communion with the Catholic Church, mainly depends not only the salvation of the individuals, but of all Christian society, and the whole world will not enjoy true peace until there be one fold and one shepherd.

Given at Rome at St. Peter's, on the 13th day of September, 1868. In the twenty-third year of our Pontificate.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

A DISTINGUISHED CONVERT.—We are happy to be able to announce that Dr. Gregg, the Bishop of Cork Cloyne, and Ross, has become a convert on the question of disendowment. In a lecture delivered to the young men of the Church Association his lordship alluding to the movement in behalf of religious equality, boldly exclaimed:—'Our Church is being attacked by the foe, who seeks to take away our income. Let them take it. It is trash.'—[Freeman.]

DUBLIN, Oct. 17.—Mr G F Train has published an address to the American people bidding the Irishmen to vote for General Grant for President, and adducing proofs to show that the Democratic party is friendly to England. He denounces Tammany Hall, and declares that the voters of the Fifth Congressional District of New York must take him as an independent candidate or not at all. In conclusion, he states that though the amount of their claims has been proffered to his creditors they will not release him unless he is elected to Congress; and even in that event it is possible they may still continue to hold him in jail.

DUBLIN, Oct. 27.—The house of a Mr. Wigmors, near Cork, was entered last night by a body of men and a quantity of arms and ammunition carried away. The culprits are supposed to be Fenians.

Eight shocks of an earthquake were felt in various places of Cork County, Ireland, yesterday.

The child of a rag-collector, named McDonnell, had her face eaten by a pig, recently, at Cordigliu, in consequence of which she died.

The Dundalk Democrat remarks:—'During the present week all has been quiet in Dundalk, and it is likely that matters will remain so for some time. The prevalent opinion among those competent to judge is, that if the three candidates go to the poll, Sir George Bowyer will be elected.'

The state of the society in Skibbereen must be very alarming. The local magistrates seem to consider extraordinary precautions necessary to prevent insurrectionary outbreaks. An application being lately made to them by an amateur dramatic corps for permission to use two swords and two guns in a performance to be given in the town, they declined to entrust so formidable an armament to the hands of the people, without previous consultation with the stipendiary magistrate.

DUBLIN, Oct. 19.—The Marquis of Abercorn, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, has refused to receive a Limerick civil deputation in favor of the Fenian prisoners at present confined in the different convict prisons under rules of sentence for felonies and treasons committed during the recent rebellious risings. The Corporation of Limerick ask the pardon of the men by royal warrant from the Queen. The Limerick corporators are almost exclusively Gladstone electionmen, the Lord-Lieutenant being a High Church Tory.

A New English candidate, Mr. Munster, has addressed the electors of Oasbel. He reads his address in a most characteristic manner which offers the true index to his object. An Irishman would have spoken of some political subject of interest to the electors, but Mr. Munster—the Englishman—more Irish than the Irish themselves, ends by declaring that he will devote his best attention to his 'dear Ireland.' The following passage is more like the conclusion of a Valentine than that of an election address: 'I can assure you that one thing about me is Irish and I trust to be enabled shortly to let you find it out for yourselves, and that is my heart, every pulse of which beats true to the best interests of dear Ireland.'

LEGAL CHANGES.—Rumours of the following legal changes are current in Dublin, and are very generally believed. Judge Keating is about to resign the Court of Probate, where he will be succeeded by Attorney-General Warren. Dr. Bill will obtain the Attorney-Generalship. The vacancy in the Bankruptcy Court will be filled by the Solicitor-General (Mr. Harrison), who will be succeeded by Mr. Purcell, Q.C. Mr. Frederick Shaw will resign the Recorder-ship of Dublin, which he has held for nearly forty years, and his place will be supplied by his brother, Mr. Charles Shaw, the present Castle Adviser, who will be succeeded by Mr. Exham, Q.C. These changes involve the acquisition of permanent emoluments, amounting to nine thousand a year.

The Dublin Nation of Oct. 10 says:—Mr. Keenel Digby is now the accepted candidate of the popular party in the Queen's County; and we rejoice to say his return may be looked upon as certain. This young gentleman enters early on public life; he brings to it rich gifts and advantages of intellect and fortune. We may, without egotism, indulge to day in some satisfaction at the rescue of Queen's County from Ascendancy Toryism on the one hand, and from anti-Catholic Garibaldianism on the other. If we had studied our own leisure we would not have concerned ourselves any more than did our Liberal contemporaries with the precious choice of the Club—the vulgar itinerant reviler of the Catholic religion, Mason Jones.

Denis McGrath has been arrested on the suspicion of being the second individual who committed the highway robbery near Doon, late on the night of the 24th of the last month, on an old farmer named John Ryan, who was on the occasion accompanied by his son Michael. It will be remembered that the younger Ryan succeeded in capturing one of the robbers, and that he and his father had recourse to

summary but savage vengeance on the culprit, whom they tied to their cart's tail with a rope and dragged him for a very considerable distance along a rugged mountain road. Old Ryan's life being considered in imminent danger from the severe injuries he received at the hands of the robbers, who not only took his money but beat him in a most brutal manner. He was unable to attend at Tipperary for the purpose of identifying McGrath, who has been consequently remanded to the County Jail. Brian, too, who received condign punishment at the hands of the Ryans, is in a very dangerous condition, and has not been able to leave his bed in the County Jail since his arrest.

We are informed, upon authority on which we think reliance can be placed, that the Government have decided upon dealing with the Irish railways in a thorough and comprehensive manner. The various reports of the commissioners show the absolute necessity of some action being taken on the subject and the great benefit which would result to the country from the adoption of some well considered plan of administration.—Railway News.

The Freeman's Journal tells a serious story about the Irish Chief Secretaryship, to the effect that the post went begging for a time owing to the reluctance on the part of some to whom it was offered, to 'take a new responsibility that is likely to attach to it during the ensuing session—namely, that of defending the Government against a charge of opening letters, which is to be brought against them by an Irish M.P. The Freeman says that the Irish Government made the late Freeman troubles the pretext for doing this so frequently that they are likely to get into great trouble.

A correspondent of the Belfast Observer says, in reference to the late Orange riots in Golland:—Judge Keogh's instructions to the Catholics to keep at home when insulted, or attempted to be assaulted, have now been proved to be worth just—a whistle. You may guess whether or not I am right in this statement, when I tell you that the constabulary have received instructions from the Castle authorities not to prosecute the Orange rioters for unlawful assembly and breach of the Party Processions Act at Golland on the 12th of August. Let Judge Keogh look to it.

Dr. Thomas Drew, of Sandy Row, writes another letter to Mr. Johnston, of Ballykibber, which ends with the following paragraph:—'I am supposed to have exhausted my subject when I plead for 600,000 tenants in Ireland, to whom 8,000 proprietors refuse to grant leases, and when I protest against any ungrounded claim upon the votes of the tenantry. I have not at all exhausted my subject. Had I not felt unkindly toward many of the class of land agents as being courteous, genial and humane (as far as they dare), I would have found it my duty to open up their anomalous state. They must not be angry with me if I now venture to protest against the uniting of land agency with the magistracy as one of the social curses of Ireland!'

GLADSTONE AND DISRAELI.—The political lives of Gladstone and Disraeli, up to this, prepare us for anything from them in the way of change—and, now that the highest office in the empire is the prize for both, the temptation to change will, of course, be far stronger than ever before. And this will be the way to test the sincerity of their changes. If either makes a change for the better while in office, the thing will look well—but if he proposes in opposition what he did not in office, there will be fair room for suspicion. Conversations attended with much material benefit to the convert are generally looked on with doubt. But all this is no affair of ours. On the very want of party principle, to which we have referred, the hopes of Ireland can be most securely founded. The proverb tells us what befalls honest men when rogues fall out. Let us apply it in our case. May the shadows and quarrels of Disraeli and Gladstone never be less till honest Ireland has come by her own!—[Wexford People.]

JAMES STEPHENS.—I notice a paragraph at the close of the report of Mr. Train's letter last week, in reference to Mr. James Stephens, which is erroneous in some particulars. Dr. D (whom I have not the honor to know) states that he had received a letter from Paris announcing that James Stephens had gone to Spain to assist with his counsel the Republican leaders. The letter simply deceived the doctor.—James Stephens has not left Paris. Dr. D further states that 'Prim and Stephens are intimate friends.' That will be news I fancy, to Mr. Stephens, and as surely to Juan Prim. One interview hardly constitutes an intimate friendship. Personally, I may add, that the present movement in Spain is not Republican, nor its leaders Republican. Of the Junta of twelve elected into Provisional Government at Madrid, only two are Republican. There is not in Europe to-day a country more attached to monarchial traditions than Spain. This may be news to Mr. Train; but nevertheless, it is the fact, as he will be forced to admit when he reads the vote that will be given by the Cortes in course of election.—[Par's Correspondent of the Irishman.]

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, Prime Minister, etc., has hoisted the banner of 'no surrender,' with great flourish and 'proud defiance.' In his address to his constituents he declares in the plainest language that his party will oppose the Disestablishment of the Church unflinchingly, and in order to give the declaration a sufficient no-Popery flavor, he adds an insulting insinuation as to a certain foreign religious agency party which, under guise of hostility to Protestant supremacy in Ireland, really seeks to rule for itself. The address on the whole seems framed with the deliberate intention of arousing Orange favor, particularly in Ireland, so that we may expect a turbulent electoral campaign. What confirms us in this view, is the fact that Disraeli has just appointed an Irishman to an English bishopric. One Dr. Magee has been appointed Bishop of Peterborough. Englishmen as bishops in Ireland are plenty enough, but an Irishman as bishop in England is really a startling novelty. For the last century, at least, no such an appointment has been made; but now the wily 'Ben' sees his chances of office grow so shaky that desperate means must be resorted to, and hence this little sop to the O'ange lambs of Sandy Row and elsewhere. Who wouldn't shout for the man who opens up the fat livings in England to our countrymen? Who, indeed!

THE IRISH FISHERIES.—The fisheries along our coast are far from being productive. The Fishery Commissioners appear to have been an industrious class of officials for the last quarter of a century, by their investigations and their marvelously compiled reports; but, somehow, the fish are not to be had, or, if they be, nobody thinks it remunerative employment to go catching or selling them. The oyster and salmon fisheries are marked by the large falling off in the takes this year and last. It seems strange that, with all the modern theories adopted by the Commissioners about oyster and salmon cultivation, and with the novel constructions and new laws and rules, that the fish have not been taken. We don't pretend to be well versed in matters piscatorial, but in visiting the ports of this country a person cannot fail to observe the sparse supply offered for sale. It appears to our humble judgment that the best way to test the productiveness, especially of the deep sea fishery, would be by the employment of suitable vessels—capacious and sea worthy, and well found in gear and hands. These vessels could be supplied by Government. The deep sea fishery along this coast justified the pre-eminence which it at one time received, and so large was the number of persons engaged in fishing, and so impressed were tourists by this fact, that some thirty years ago it was invariably afforded a prominent place in their writings on the varied features of the West coast. Notwithstanding their commendation and the supervision of the Fishery Commissioners, the ground has been abandoned. A few years have only elapsed since we heard it stated by an experienced seaman—a

Government pilot, familiar with our West coast—before the Royal Commissioners, that fish were to be had in abundance as of yore, but that the people were not living in the coast, or in the islands, in such numbers as formerly, and those remaining had not the boats or the gear suited to the requirements of the deep-sea fishery. We believe that if our suggestions were put into practice the statement of this experienced man would be borne out and confirmed, and that it would be found 'there are as good fish in the sea as ever were caught,' and as 'much of them.' We would prefer seeing three fishing boats of the required tonnage and sea worthiness actually fishing, to reading the most voluminous reports of the most elaborate theory that is in the power of a fishery commission to make.—[Mayo Examiner.]

The Liberal programme for Ireland has long been before the world, and Mr. Gladstone has nothing to add to it, unless it be a most emphatic protest against paying to one set of religionists the money taken from another. It will belong to future parliaments to decide what shall be done with the funds to accrue from the gradual extinction of the Irish Establishment. No doubt they will find enough to do with it, and will at least have many applications.—The great object now is to remove the grievance which embitters and perpetuates all the differences in the social and political life of Ireland. Universal endowment is out of the question, so universal disendowment is the only thing possible. The claim of the Protestant Church on the ground that its wealth and respectability made up for its numerical inferiority Mr. Gladstone disposes of with the remark that if a minority is ever to be endowed it should be the poor minority, not the rich; and all the customary arguments in favor of Establishments can only read as a satire upon what we find in Ireland. It is absolutely impossible but that such a Church should always simply stand for the conquerors in forcible possession of the national Church property. In the eyes of the very poor peasantry of this Isle it is wrested from them, and squandered among their heretical masters. Hence polemics everywhere in Ireland, from the bowl to the castle, mixed up with every question, and adding virulence to every sore. The result of leaving half a million zealous, wealthy and enlightened Protestants to look after their own religion at their own cost Mr. Gladstone forbears to speculate upon, and may be safely left to the future. Mr. Gladstone observes that the half-way legislation of temporary bills and expedients which the present Government lately entered upon compelled, and indeed precipitated, his motion of disendowment; every day, indeed, was adding to the promises and pledges which it would soon be necessary to sweep away. This would have to be done at last, and the sooner the better, before more harm is done, before more Universities are promised more grants lavished, and more redistributions attempted in the Establishment itself. Mr. Gladstone had to be quick, and the result is that the Parliament about to expire has put on solemn record by a very decided majority, that, seeing it is impossible to endow all three Churches in Ireland, it has been necessary to disendow the Church of the small and wealthy minority.—[Times.]

EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND.—A RETROSPECT.—INTERESTING STATISTICS.—If we really wish to form opinions of any substance or value on that painfully important subject, the condition and prospects of the Irish population, it is well worth our while to turn our attention for a moment from the barren volumes of political speculation to which we are treated, to those statistical returns out of which—if we use them rightly—all that is really trustworthy on the subject must be collected. Especially valuable are the emigration returns, for in these more, perhaps, than any other chapter of political arithmetic, lies the key to the past, present and future of Ireland only, but of the great countries beyond the Atlantic also. These documents cannot lie. They may deceive us, if we misunderstand them, and do not apply the necessary correctives in considering them; rightly used as has been said, they are infallible. Emigration from the United Kingdom reached its highest amount in the year 1852—namely, 869,000 persons—of whom a quarter of a million went directly to the United States without counting those who made their way thither from Canada. In 1855 it fell suddenly to 176,000. By that time the first great exodus consequent on the Irish famine had worked itself off. The population of Ireland had considerably diminished, and the source of emigration was beginning to run comparatively low. Since then the amount of emigration has fluctuated considerably; during the first years of the American war it never diminished, then recovered itself, but has never much exceeded 200,000 persons. The number of Irish emigrants amounted in 1865 to 100,674; in 1866 to 98,890; in 1867 to 88,642. It would be hazardous to lay too much stress on so small a diminution as this. But there are signs which seem to show that it is regular and progressive, not accidental. In the first place, the actual number whence the supply is drawn diminishes also. Not only does the actual population of Ireland continue to fall off, but the annual drain carrying off the young and leaving, comparatively, the old and the children, lessens the reproductive power. The proportion of persons between the ages of twenty and thirty-five in the population of the United Kingdom, say the Commissioners of Land and Emigration, in their report of 1867, is about one in four, or twenty-five per cent., while their proportion in the emigration even of the present day, is more than one in two, or fifty per cent. We give the result in round numbers, and not as they do, precisely. 'We find,' they continue, 'that between 1851 and 1861, when there was nothing to produce an injurious effect on the general health of the people, the natural increase of the population was far below what it had been between 1831 and 1841. Between 1851 and 1861 there was a decrease of the population of Ireland from 6,615,794 to 5,764,343, or 751,251. But during that period there was an emigration exceeding 1,210,000 souls; there must, therefore, have been a natural increase of nearly 460,000 equal during the ten years to about twenty per cent. per annum. In the six years since 1861 there has been an emigration of 617,387. Assuming the natural increase of the population at the same rate as in the previous decade, and the emigration at the same rate during the last six years, the population at the coming census of 1871 can scarcely exceed 5,300,000 souls. But for the reason we have stated above, the rate of natural increase will probably be less than during the ten years preceding 1861.' If we add to our estimates of the drain that which results from emigration from Ireland into England and Scotland, which the commissioners, we know not why, do not seem to take into account—the diminution would apparently be still greater and the consequent retardation of emigration greater also. One item, not quite so inconsiderable as might have been conjectured, must also be set off against these emigration returns, that of re-emigration from North America back to the United Kingdom; chiefly, we believe, Ireland. This amounted in 1865 to 33,743, in 1866 to 32,236. 'In recent years the average number has not much exceeded 20,000. To these tokens of decline in the national exodus, another, though somewhat indistinct, must be added. 'The amount of money remitted by settlers in North America to their friends in the United Kingdom' had grown until it reached in 1854 the enormous sum of £1,730,000. Then it fell off rapidly, and has never recovered itself; to anything like that amount although the last three years show something of an increase. The figure for 1867 is £543,029. The Commissioners, however, do not place much confidence in the accuracy of their returns. Another very remarkable fact as bearing on the condition of the bulk of emigrants in general, including the Irish as the most important element, is noticed in the report of 1867. 'In the last few years the employment of steam vessels in North American emigration has greatly increased. In the year 1863 the proportion