

petite force grand supper, to which he was that night invited by the Lord Barterborough, came into the cell to see if he could not convert the convicted Popish priest from the errors of Rome, as he called them, to those of the Church of England Protestantism.

"If you only want to convert me from one set of errors to another," said the captain, catching at the chaplain's blunder, "I would as lief keep to the errors I have, as exchange them for a newer, and, perhaps, not a better, suit of errors."

"Oh, sir, I only meant from the errors of Rome to the pure doctrines of our church by law established."

The captain, personating as well as he could the character of the priest, again declined the services of the hired chaplain. But the zealous functionary of the establishment would attend to no protests, nor regard any remonstrances from him whom he wished to convert, whether he was willing or not; whereupon the captain's patience failed him, and getting up from his iron bed, on which he reclined, he pushed the chaplain out of the door. The cries of the poor church official in distress brought the head jailer to the spot, who, upon closer examination, found to his consternation that, instead of the priest, he held a captain. He burst forth into a pitiful cry that alarmed the soldiers on guard, who rushed to the spot to see what was the matter, and who, on arriving at the cell door, picked up the governor, as he was called, lifeless apparently, from the floor. The first impression of the by-standers was that he was poned by the prisoner; but, after the application of some restoratives and remedies, he recovered himself, and they found that he had lost his senses at the prospect of losing his situation on account of allowing his victim to escape.

The chief military officer, a Colonel Clive, was apprised of the disaster of the priest's escape, and a council of war being called, the captain, heavily ironed, was ushered into their presence under a strong military escort. He at once acknowledged his part in the stratagem for the release of his brother, asked liberty to exhibit his military commission in the Chasseurs de Vincennes, in the service of the French monarch, and, upon receiving permission by having the shackles taken from his hands, he produced the paper, which the commanding officer read, and holding up his hands again to his guards, he said—

"You may bind me in as many irons as you please, but, as a French officer, I protest against being treated as a criminal." His spirited manner and the candour of his confession, as well as his devotion to a beloved brother, gained the respect, if not the admiration, of the English commander; and, though he was ordered back to his prison, the rigours of his captivity were greatly mitigated by order of the colonel. The next thing that engaged the attention of these officials was the recapture of the prisoner escaped, and upon a muster being called and the drum beaten, three hundred out of the five hundred of the dragons of the town were despatched, in parties of from twenty-five to sixty, in pursuit of the fugitive.

(To be Continued.)

NAPLES.

An "esteemed correspondent" of the Standard writes the following from Naples:—
"Your kind insertion of a few remarks I venture to forward to you from Naples regards me to the state of matters prevailing there emboldens me to trespass a second time on your space and the attention of your readers. The youngest amongst us have watched the rise, the growth, the maturity, and the decay of many developments of human credulity. We have had the Peace Congress and the Sardinian frauds, Napoleon worship, and table-turning, spirit-rapping, and the railway mania. "We have watched them in their cradle and believed their hearse with tears," as Gratian said of the Irish Parliament; but of all the moral obsequies we may ever be called on to attend there is none, I think, we shall more readily follow to its place than a certain funeral car, hung with tri-colored draperies, now on its slow but certain way to the already over-crowded cemeteries of confessed failures. Not inconspicuously shall we part with the vanished delusion, and the *hic jacet* the future will inscribe over the corpse of Italian unity will scarcely be belted out by the tears of sorrowing millions, and certainly not by Neapolitan millions. It is, besides, consoling to know that the deceased will be interred with all military honors that the victors of Pontelandolfo and Casaldino have in their power to bestow, that possibly fresh hecatombs of murdered peasants may be offered to the vexed manes, and that we, the survivors, may even enjoy the melancholy satisfaction of seeing the soldiers of France join in rendering affectionate homage to the dismembered remains, and piously gathering up some spare handfuls of the ashes in that war which has already done such a wondrous work of resurrection in Italy, and may be as easily and effectually appealed to by the grandson of Joachim Murat as by the son of Charles Albert. *Requiescat!* Who dare add "in pace," who sees the hatred and revolt the past year has sown deep in the heart of Naples?—
"Hopes had still lingered of a better order of things; of fusions of interests between Northern and Southern Italy; of an improved administration of justice; of a more humane prison system; of a greater security and confidence in the public finance; of liberty of the local press—that sweet sign of a popular government which, feeling itself established in the best interests of the people, fears no discussion of its acts; of a more tolerant and kindly spirit towards the supporters of the old monarchy, which won at least on the bastions of Gaeta the respect all generous minds concede to gallant defeat, and to woman's heroism and misfortune nobly borne; of abstention from calumny the vilest and most baseless against the private lives of the exiled dynasty, and that sovereign who has so steadfastly refused to deprive Rome of her old right of sanctuary in their regard; of a stricter code of public morality, and of a considerable diminution in the number of political prisoners by trial or discharge. I found none of these things on my return here, after some space of absence. It is a reign of military despotism that now reigns triumphant in Naples, and the Royalist party are simply treated as persons out of the pale of the law. Under the old French Directory you had only to accuse your mortal enemy—say, for example, the bore of your social circle—of the crime of "incivisme," which might mean anything from untrusting a pig-stick to singing "Ca ira" on the anniversary of a popular disaster, to ensure his looking out on a "liberated world through the national window;" and if you substitute "reaction" for the former, mysterious offence, and a fusillade, if in the rural districts, for the guillotine, there is a strong family likeness between the two revolutions; and though the junior is far from full-grown, she is, on the whole, a worthy scion of her ancestor. The comparison was suggested by Riccio's in his official circular, when he signified the insurgent passions of the Abruzzi as Chouans or brigands; and though no man need

blush to stand side by side with Cattilinean, Stofflet, and the Royalist chiefs of La Vendee, I think few will be tempted to follow on Baron Nettino's parallel, and claim for himself or his friends a comparison with Carrier, Lebon, and Fouché, and the generals of the Directory, who ravaged Anjou, Brittany, &c., with fire and sword. Claimed or not, the position is a just one, and can scarcely be refused by men who allow deeds to be done in their name and sanction proclamations which for savage ferocity are unsurpassed by the soldiers of the First Republic. I send you one verbatim, which will scarcely, I think, be credited as possible in a Christian country, and which is one of many that have been issued within the last month in the southern provinces.

[After quoting the general order, which has already appeared in our pages, the writer proceeds:]—

We were told long since by the Turin press, and it is easily asserted in the Chambers, that brigandage was suppressed, but what are we to think of the state of things that necessitates the proclamation of such orders as these? Is Colonel Fantoni the representative of the apostolate of liberty that has gone forth from Turin on a mission of love and peace to Italy, and does his work look like that of a friendly occupation of an army of deliverers? That it is going merrily on is proved by every Italian journal published, and I think no better evidence than this precious manifesto is needed to show the means by which the reaction is kept down. Fifteen villages sacked and burned to the ground attest it, and thousands of starving peasantry, deprived of the common necessities of life by the system of devastation carrying out in Capitanata at this moment, are living witnesses to an oppression that cannot be borne much longer. If you will look at the places indicated in the above order you will see that they cover an area of great extent, and to an entirely pastoral and agricultural population the results are, I need not say, utter ruin. At Avellino, where the reaction was strongest in the autumn, the prisons are swarming with suspected persons—all treated as the worst criminals might be after conviction, lying on stone floors and fed only on a little bread and a miserable mess of beans. Priests, lawyers, honest tradesmen, torn from their homes and thrown into prison on the most frivolous charges, and kept without trial or prospect of trial for months. It is the same thing in the superior prisons in Naples, and that you may not accuse me of speaking without data, I give you the names of several of the persons lately and some now confined in Santa Maria Apparente, the state prison of Naples.

- 1. The Duke of Cajanello and a number of other persons were accused of reaction, and only liberated after eight months' imprisonment, without any legal examination or trial, at the request of the Emperor of the French.
- 2. M. Trotta and another batch of political prisoners were imprisoned for thirteen months, and then set free as innocent persons.
- 3. Signor Domenico Magetta, a notary of Cervinara, is still in prison, having been there more than a year without examination, or even knowing what he is accused of. He has sent numbers of memorials to the proper authorities, but without any result; and though he was never a soldier in his life, this gentleman was arrested in the street as a Bourbonist officer.
- 4. The Capitano de Blasio, who was arrested as a suspected person, and who, in order to make him confess himself guilty, was beaten nearly to death. The Piedmontese police pushed their cruelty so far as to insert pieces of wood under his nails, which they drove into the flesh of his fingers. After six months in prison, he was liberated (without trial) as innocent.
- 5. Lieutenant Testa, arrested also as a Bourbonist officer, was subjected to the same torture, and for twenty-four hours had frozen water thrown over him every five minutes. He also was liberated as innocent after seven months' detention.
- 6. M. de Angelis, who was arrested fifteen months since, and has not been able to obtain the commencement of any proceedings in his favor.
- 7. Three ex-soldiers, tried at Salerno as reactionaries, and acquitted, were sent to Naples to the commandant of the fortress. They were escorted by the gendarmes to the Vicaria Prison, where they were forgotten for eight months, and have only been released through the good offices of the Delegate de Simora.

In this one prison of Santa Maria Apparente there are no less than three hundred prisoners, the most recently committed having been there more than four months. Among the most remarkable is the Comte Theodule de Christen, who so gallantly distinguished himself at the siege of Gaeta, and at the subsequent battles of Arioli and Banco, and who was arrested in my presence on the 7th of September last, entirely on suspicion and because he was known as a Legitimist officer. No sort of compromising document was found in his luggage or on his person, and yet he has been kept *in secret*—that is, in rigorous solitary confinement—for the last five months, without trial or even knowing what he was accused of. He was only allowed to see his advocate last Friday for the first time, though the *process verbal* has been prepared for two months, and even yet his counsel has been unable to procure a copy of it for the necessary purpose of preparing his defence, as it is only a few days before the actual trial the counsel of political prisoners are allowed access to their clients, and there is no trial by jury in Naples, though the Code Napoleon is nominally in force in Piedmont.—These are all facts for which I can fully answer, and I might add numberless others; but these I think suffice to show the working of the revolution where it has full sway and is unchecked by the public opinion of other nations. It is the interest, too, of the Liberal English press to indulge largely in that species of lying which consists in giving nothing but what tells for its own party. What will Mr. Gladstone and others who have written on Neapolitan prison cruelties under Ferdinand say to these and hundreds of similar instances, which every one in Naples knows to be too true, but which would be highly inconvenient to the Italian theories of the *Times* correspondent? Let him deny them if he can; and let him reconcile them, if possible, with the reign of truth, and justice, and mercy—of constitutional government that the election of Victor Emmanuel was to inaugurate. We have heard much of the prisons of Nisidee, where M. Poerio and his fellow-conspirators were incarcerated there; but will their advocates be consistent and enter an indignant protest, in the name of good faith and humanity, in favor of the Royalist soldiers taken at Campobasso, who are still the occupants of those miserable cells, half-starved, and deprived of every comfort due to honorable foes and prisoners of war? Their treatment is a crying disgrace to their conquerors, and there is nothing more remarkable in the Piedmontese soldier than the utter want of common feeling for fellow-soldiers that they have crucified to the brave men whom the fortune of war has thrown into their power, and who have in every instance been treated as criminals. It is all part of a system of injustice which refuses to give even the credit of loyalty and honorable motives to men who carry their lives in their hand for a cause as desperate as it is devotedly served; which stigmatises as brigandage a peasantry prisoned to free themselves from grinding tyranny; which treats all difference of opinion as crime; and which inflicts bodily torture when it has a purpose to serve, while no severity of its adversaries has escaped its virulent denunciation. I pass over for the present minor points to which I may call your attention at a future period; but I fear I have already occupied too much of your valuable space, and it is only the crying nature of the facts and their strict adherence to bare truth that has induced me to trespass so long on the time and patience of your readers.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
ANGELICUS.
Naples, Feb. 22nd.
P.S.—I forgot to mention that the Five per Cent. Fundholders' dividends became due last week in Na-

There are 82,000 holders, 25,000 were paid their interest, the other 57,000 are told they must wait till April 31st at soonest, thus reducing their 5 per cent. to 3 1/2 per cent. They have also required the whole of the young ladies at the "Miracoli" convent to sign a declaration of loyalty to Victor Emmanuel, and all, down to a child of ten, refused, after the commissioners had spent several hours in threats and promises. At length he broke up their school and put all the pupils, who are girls of noble birth, into carriages and sent them back to their families, and the building is to be made a barrack.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

PROFESSION AND RECEPTION IN THE CONVENT OF MEROY, ENNISKILLEN.—On Sunday, the 2nd March, the Most Rev. Dr. McNally presided at a profession and reception in the Convent at Enniskillen. Miss Doyle, county Cork—in religion, Sister Mary Charles Borromeo—made her solemn vows of profession. Miss Kennedy, county Clare, and Miss Moyrahan, county Kerry—in religion, Sister Mary and Sister Anne—were received. The ceremonies commenced at seven o'clock, a.m. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Rev. T. B. McElroy, Monaghan. The other clergymen present were—The Very Rev. Archdeacon McMeel, P.P., Enniskillen; the Rev. Mr. Doyle, Professor in the Glenties Diocesan College, Fermanagh, and brother to the lady who made her profession; the Rev. Daniel Smyth, C.C.; Rev. Thomas Snollen, O.C.; and the Rev. P. J. McCulloch, C.C., Enniskillen. The Bishop returned to his residence at Monaghan early on Monday. His lordship has announced the following appointments:—He has appointed Archdeacon McMeel to be Vicar-General of Clogher; and the Pope, at the recommendation of his lordship, has conferred the dignity of Dean of the Chapter of Clogher on the Very Rev. James Joseph McMahon, D.D. and P.P., Carrickmacross.—*Cor. of the Dublin Nation.*

CONVERSION FROM SOUPERISM.—On Sunday, the 23rd inst. in the Catholic chapel of Errismore (Connemara), I had the pleasing satisfaction of witnessing the solemn reception into the Catholic Church of Anne Hodgson, a poor woman who, with her two children, have during the last seven or eight years, been a prey to Superstition. Some few weeks previous she had her poor little innocent ones—Tom and Esther—the former about four and the latter about two years of age—baptized in our holy faith by the Rev. Mr. Flitley, the zealous and indefatigable pastor of this district.

LONGFORD ELECTION.—This staunch old toy journal and strenuous repudiator of Orange Bigotry has the following remarks on the Longford Election and the Longford Conservatives—"In electing Col. White, we believe, the Irish national party of popular Liberals went hand-in-hand with the Conservatives of the territorial interest. It was one of those elections full of cheering hope for Ireland, in which, as in the case of Colonel Vandeleur in Clontarf, and Mr. Leader in Cork, and others, the Priests and the people were in thorough accord with the gentry and Clergy, and sections of the population so long estranged from each other, found a common ground of Irish patriotism. As regards the Priests and the people, their line of conduct has been vigorously taken. They have found them a champion after their own heart in Major O'Reilly. But, we are now told that the Longford Conservatives will not vote for Major O'Reilly, because he is exclusively devoted to the Roman Catholic interest, and because he commanded the Irish legion which went out to Italy to take service under Lamoriciere. We would scorn to believe that the bulk of the Conservative electors, either in Longford or anywhere else, would be induced by even the widest discrepancy of mere opinion between themselves and the independent candidate, to submit to the insult which is designed for them. The Whigs, of course, will support their new proselyte. Some place-seeking Conservatives, too, no doubt, will think this sort of traffic in office a very convenient arrangement, and will hold it more cruelly in Major O'Reilly to interrupt a course of dealing which they themselves may find very desirable at a future time. But the main body of Longford Conservatives, who must have some regard for their own honor and that of their constituency, will never, we are persuaded, brook the singularity of degradation with which the Ministry seeks to brand them. True, Major O'Reilly is not a man of their principles, nor of ours. But we can fight that battle out another day. For the present, the question is simple enough:—The Treasury officials have found that there is one constituency in Ireland which will submit to be trucked like a bale of goods, and that the county of Longford is that constituency; then comes the question: Will the electors of Longford confirm that finding? In dealing with this matter they must recollect that the Romanist candidate is not personally a man whose choice will be discreditable to them. The Irish Brigade, though it was not successful, did not disgrace us as those people did who went out from hence to take the pay of Garibaldi. They fought bravely at Castelfidardo, and they did not steal each other's kits, nor rob the old women's hen-roosts in the Neapolitan villages. But, at all events, the Longford Conservatives will not forget that the greater the points of difference between themselves and Major O'Reilly, the more emphatic and the more defiant will be their protest in answer to the Downing-street contumely, if they elect that gentleman in preference to Lord Palmerston's deserter. We shall own ourselves very much mistaken in them if they do otherwise."—*John Bull.*

LONGFORD ELECTION.—REJOICINGS IN LOUTH.—The news of the triumphant return of Major O'Reilly was received throughout the county with the greatest enthusiasm. On Thursday last, as soon as the final result of the contest became known, bonfires were kindled in and around Dundalk, and the hearty peals of cheering which were heard on every side, told how widespread was the sympathy entertained in Louth for the man and the cause. On Saturday last it became known that Major O'Reilly would reach his residence at Knockabbey, on that evening. This was the signal for the renewal of the rejoicings; and, from Dundalk to Knockabbey, far as the eye could reach on every side, the hills seemed literally a blaze of light. Crowds of people thronged the roads, and every little village had its illuminations. I have just learned that similar displays were made in the adjoining counties of Monaghan and Cavan, thus stamping the victory in Longford with a character of national importance.—*Morning News.*

The *Evening Mail*, no friend, we need scarcely say, of Major O'Reilly, or of the principles he represents, tells us:—"There is no doubt that the triumph which Major O'Reilly has obtained is of the most transitory kind. Colonel White, we presume, will certainly petition against the return, and if he does it will be declared void—not as some of our contemporaries allege, on the ground of violence and intimidation, of which there does not appear to have been more than is usual in such conflicts, but because, through the blunder of the High Sheriff, the provisions of the statute were disregarded in the fixture of the polling days. Notwithstanding the talk of bludgeon-men and intimidation, we have reason to believe that no elector was prevented by physical violence from tendering his vote." This we presume effectually settles the question of violence and intimidation, if it were not further placed beyond all doubt by the fact, that out of 2,800 voters on the registry lists, no less than 2,300 voted, a proportion almost unprecedented in Irish county elections. Had Colonel White been able to record on his side the votes of every man on the list who did not appear at the hustings, they would not have been sufficient to balance the majority of Major O'Reilly. That amounted to 574, while there were unpolled but 430 electors. In the face of that fact, we should like to see the allegations in a petition on the ground of intimidation.—*Cork Examiner.*

The *Weekly Register* says:—"The entire absence of any allusion in the Dublin newspapers to riot or disorder at the Longford Election during the contest, made people open their eyes in astonishment when the defeated Government, through Sir Robert Peel, and the beaten candidate, Mr. Luke White, declared after the close of the election, that the return of Major O'Reilly was the result of mob violence and intimidation, and announced that the battle for the seat must be fought over again before a Parliamentary Election Committee. To this threat, however, we attach little importance, a petition being in such cases the blanket usually placed beneath a beaten candidate to break his fall and mitigate for the moment the mortification of defeat. Few men are endowed with the philosophy of resignation in unexpected discomfiture and humiliation. The Longford Election gave a staggering blow to Ministers for their Italian policy, and more especially to the Irish Secretary for his insolent attacks upon the Archbishop of Dublin, and for the 'Cromwellian ring' of his harangues to the 'Prentice-Boys' of Derry and the Orangemen of Belfast. We can easily comprehend their soreness, and even make some allowance for Sir R. Peel's rash explosion the other night, when answering Mr. Lefroy's question, while smarting under the wound which he has been himself in a great measure the cause of inflicting upon the Government of which he is a member. But Sir Robert, like all men afflicted with a rash temper, overshoot the mark. He proved too much, and therefore foiled himself. He indulged in violent language when describing the alleged outrages of the popular party against freedom of election, and promised that the violators of the law should be prosecuted. But as he also stated that the county swarmed with infantry, cavalry, and police (in Ireland a regular military corps), directed by no less than three stipendiary magistrates, common sense asks why were not the persons guilty of the imputed crimes seized in flagrant, brought before the Government Magistrates, and committed on the spot, either summarily or for trial at the Quarter Sessions or the Assizes? Is it not extraordinary that with all this parade of military and civil force, enough to subdue the whole county if in open revolt, not one person was taken up for an infringement of the law or a breach of the peace? If there really were such scenes of riot and disorder as Sir Robert Peel described, what were the stipendiaries about? Where were the police? What became of the High Sheriff and the military? Were they all buried in such profound sleep that even the fury of the population of a whole county engaged in savage deeds of violence could not wake them? or were they passive spectators of the 'fun'? Some people might be disposed to describe the proceedings of 'the Castle' as an attempt to overawe the electors into a tacit consent to the re-election of the Government candidate. At all events, it is quite clear that the conduct of the Sheriff, the stipendiary magistrates, the military, and the police whom the Government had despatched to Longford before the election to protect the friends of the new Lord of the Treasury against any possible attempt at violence or intimidation, is utterly inconsistent with Sir Robert Peel's tale of anarchy, unless we assume that Sheriff, magistrates, military, and police were leagued with the mob in violating the law and breaking the peace.—This of course will not be pretended, and the inevitable conclusion is that the Chief Secretary drew upon his heated imagination for his facts—a conclusion which is sustained by the following letter of the High Sheriff:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY EXPRESS.

Longford, 5th March, 1862.
Sir,—My attention having been called to the account of the Longford election contained in your paper of this morning, I beg to say that, although I attended the polling at the town of Longford in my official capacity, I did not either see or hear of the violence mentioned in your leading article, nor was the intervention of the military rendered necessary at any period from the conduct of the mob. Trusting you will publish this letter, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WALTER NUGENT, High Sheriff.

DUBLIN.—The Longford election proves what all observing persons must long since have been convinced of, namely, that Tories and Whigs are ready to condescend against Catholics, whenever we make a stand for the plenitude of our Religious and civil rights. Although the Orange and the Conservative, no less than the Whig journals, are quite convinced that Major O'Reilly entertains no extreme opinions on national politics, and that his return for Longford would secure an able and influential opponent of Lord Palmerston's Government, yet because he is the adopted champion of Catholic feeling, they, one and all, rally round the Whig Lord of the Treasury, and call on all loyal Protestants and independent-meaning placemen or expectant—Catholics to come forward and defeat the Ultramontane candidate. The *Packet* and its kindred organs appear to be unconscious of insolvency, while extending their shield to protect Catholic laymen from alleged clerical tyranny and foreign domination. The nomination took place on Friday, although the Court and the town were crowded with people, the proceedings passed off without more than the usual banterings and popular interpellations common to the hustings. During the three days following, the funds of both candidates dispersed themselves over the country, and never was canvass more actively conducted. The Government regard the struggle as of so much importance that every official and every expectant having property or influence in Longford received instructions to use it in supporting Colonel White. It is further stated that Lord Palmerston himself has written to some of the landlords, urging the importance of that issue, and praying their influence. The popular enthusiasm never before reached so high a pitch as during the election. During the polling on Tuesday, the streets of Longford were almost impassable, while, between dragoons, police, and people, yet no riot or disturbance occurred. The High Sheriff, Captain Walter Nugent, son to Sir Percy Nugent, and son-in-law to the Right Hon. More O'Ferrall, is a Catholic. There were three polling places—Longford, Grannard, and Ballymahon, and in one only had White a majority on the first day's poll. Upon 1,876 votes polled, the first day, O'Reilly had 1,085; White, 791; majority for the Catholic candidate, 294. At 11.30, yesterday, O'Reilly's majority in Longford was 285, and in Grannard, 331; at 12.30, in Ballymahon, White had a majority of 184, and although the official declaration at the close of the poll has not, as I write, reached Dublin, no doubt is entertained of O'Reilly's return, and by a majority of close upon 500. (It is actually 576) This is, beyond doubt, the greatest blow yet struck against the Palmerston-Russell-Peel Government in Ireland, and a blow which will soon exhibit its full results.

The assizes will have closed in nearly all Ireland this week. So little understood, by most persons at the other side of the water is the actual condition of this country, whether as to poverty or crime, that I deem it useful to glean a few official facts, which cannot fail to impress themselves upon those who may take the trouble to consider them in connection with recent discussions in the House of Commons. That there is severe distress in many of, and pressure in all parts of Ireland is now too evident, and, tested by the calendars, and by the charges of the Judges, let us inquire, have the suffering poor shown a spirit of turbulence, has property been pillaged, life been endangered or taken, or the general stability of social order been disturbed, during the past six months, privation? The county Cork contains 537,496 souls, or a population exceeding that in each of the twenty-seven of the Sovereign States of Europe. Severe distress prevails, and not alone in the Western districts—Skull, Skibbereen, and Bantry—but also in Bandon, Kanturk, and other towns in the most favored localities in the county. Respecting the county Cork, Mr. Justice Keogh, addressing the Grand Jury, said:—"Sir George Colthurst and gentlemen of the Grand Jury of the county of Cork, it is very creditable to

this county, that notwithstanding its vast extent and population, there are only twenty-nine cases appearing upon the calendar, and more than half of these are for larceny. The other cases are of the most ordinary description, and there is not one amongst them calling for any special observation on my part. Of these cases, eleven are of simple larceny, and five for stealing straw from a workhouse. Is there a Duchy, or Grand Duchy, or a Principality in Europe, with a population of half-a-million of people, of whom a similar statement could be made by a criminal judge? The *ex-Officio*, Poor Law Guardian, of this Kanturk Union, a portion only of whose letter Sir Robert Peel read to the House of Commons, suppressing the remainder, and refusing to give the writer's name, has now publicly avowed its authorship, and published the letter itself in the *Cork Examiner*. The following suppressed passage from the letter of this gentleman, O. B. Egan, Esq., J. P., to the Chief Secretary, contains sufficient admission for my purpose.—"That an unusual amount of distress unfortunately exists here is also too true, but not of that extent as to warrant its being used as a famine argument."

Under the acute suffering of insufficient food and fuel, a suffering so general that Sir Robert Peel's volunteer witness just hesitates to call it a *famine*, here is the extent of imputed non-convicted crime, in a population exceeded in each of only half the States of Europe, and scattered over a country 110 miles long by 70 broad. One committal for every 15,814 of the population, and the convictions in Ireland average only one-third of the committals! And of the 29 committals, 16 are simple larcenies, 5 of them for the horrible offence of paupers irregularly removing their ration of their straw, from off the workhouse premises! Turning from the county to the city calendar, and remembering in connection with the severity of popular distress, the extent of the population, the exposed state of a vast amount of property, in a large sea-port, the influx of foreign sailors, and the adverse influence of a garrison, the facts stated in the charge of Baron Hughes must be deemed eminently gratifying:—

His Lordship said—"Gentlemen of the Grand Jury of the county of the city of Cork, your assize exhibits but six cases for trial at the present assize—that is, there are but six persons to be arraigned in respect to offences committed and returned to this assize for the last six months; and of these six cases three are old offenders, having been convicted on more than one occasion, at former periods. Gentlemen, I am aware that the calendar does not represent the actual state of crime for the period of six months, but I have been furnished with materials showing the proper return in respect of that period, and I have ascertained that the entire convictions before your learned Recorder for that period of six months amounted only to 97 cases. Gentlemen, I give credit for that state of facts, not only to the magistracy and to the gentlemen resident within your borough, but also to the people themselves, as exhibiting a disposition to refrain from crime. But there is another element which satisfies me as much as any one of those I have referred to, that the absence of crime is also to be referred to the mode pursued of administering the laws in this city. Gentlemen, I have no doubt, whatever, and I believe it is the experience of every jurist, that punishment following immediately on crime tends to check and lessen offences, and when I find that criminals within the borough tried and sentenced within a few days, and at most within a fortnight, from the commission of the offence, it satisfies my mind that the course of administration does, in effect, check the commission of crime within the city. I believe your city contains 80,000 inhabitants, and to find that the criminals do not exceed something over 100 is certainly very creditable to every person concerned. In this city, with so vast a population, there has not been a capital execution for the last forty years.

The Protestant constitution of the Grand Juries at the present Assizes, as adverted to in my letter of last week, continues to engage public attention. Cork County has 64 Catholic magistrates, yet there are only three Catholics on the grand panel, although some thousands of Catholics in the county possess a leasehold profit rent of £100 a-year, or are £50 freeholders, the qualifications required for a Grand Juror. The High Sheriff, Mr. Harding, is blamed for this anomalous state of things. He, himself, is a Catholic, one of the few in Ireland who subscribed to the Peel Scholarship Fund, shortly after which he was selected for the office of High Sheriff. In Clontarf, as already stated, there was but one Catholic Grand Juror; and in Roscommon, even Capt. Balfe, the late High Sheriff, was excluded, contrary to all precedent, from the panel.

The Assizes of Armagh suggest matters for reflection not quite so agreeable as those to which I have adverted in the case of Cork. There, while the general peace of the country, as indicated by the absence of any ordinary crime, is satisfactory, the conflict of religious strife crowds the Jock with whole batches of men whose hands have wielded deadly instruments against the lives of each other. The Dermacash riots of the 12th of July, 1860, have only now yielded their last victims. The Orange aggressors who insulted and assailed the unoffending inhabitants of that Catholic locality, some of whom they murdered, were tried on two former occasions in Armagh, but complaint having been made that the Catholics, who, in self-defence, had repelling their assaults and injured many of the Orange party, had not been prosecuted by the Crown, a large batch of Catholics was now brought to trial by the Attorney-General. In the charge of Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, his Lordship deprecated in the strongest terms the offensive and illegal Orange processions, and that sectarian strife which have led to such lamentable results in Ulster. Thirteen of the Catholic traversers pleaded guilty to the indictment for riot and assault, and, as well as four or five others who had suffered from dangerous gun-shot wounds, submitted, unconditionally, to the Court. The Attorney-General (Mr. O'Hagan), in the course of an admirable address, recommending the prisoners to the favorable consideration of the Court, said:—

"I hope most earnestly that what has been done may tend to the maintenance of peace and order, and may bring the people into more harmonious relationship with each other. I trust and hope, my lord, on the one side, that those who have heretofore engaged in the foolish and wicked party processions, which have had the effect of insulting many of the Queen's subjects in this district, and of outraging the statute of the realm, have been taught the folly and wickedness of that course, and that they will hereafter be obedient to the law. Upon the other hand, my lord, I hope and trust that what has been done in these cases will teach every one that, even though these processions should continue, and should sometimes occur, illegality is not to be answered with illegality, and that outrage is not to be answered with outrage—that the law is equal to its own vindication, and that no man, whatever may be his feeling—whatever may be his view of the conduct of others in transactions of this description, is justified or will be permitted to resort to violence—that every man and every party must appeal to the tribunals of the country which are ample for their protection. Upon the whole, my lord, I trust that the result of these proceedings will be to prevent disorder, and, so far as may be under the circumstances of this country, put an end to that sectarian strife which has marred the prosperity and destroyed the happiness, for so long a time, of this very noble province."

We have heard so much of the ideal blessings of a system of mixed education, whether in Primary schools or in Colleges; but when we come with vulgar eyes and human tests, to examine this Utopia of Sir R. Peel and the National Board, the delusion vanishes, and the social Paradise is found to be no other than a Pandemonium. In the National Schools in the county Cork, there were, in the quarter ending 31st December, 1860, only 857 Protestant and 54,002 Catholic pupils; nor were these few Protestants uniformly scattered through the schools, a large portion of them being in 17 Workhouse, 2 Jail, some Model,