

The Cardinal then adverted to the charges that the convents were pecuniary speculations. The portion alleged to be contributed by each nun was too high; it was not true that £300 might be taken as the lowest; in Rome that was nearly the highest, and the great majority were far less. In Belgium the portion was only £60. It was absurd to talk of accumulations of property; the cost of the building and a hundred other things, besides the maintenance of the inmates, swallowed up all the resources, and these establishments were almost invariably poor, and constantly appealing to the public for assistance. As to the funds being managed by the Rota, or the Propaganda, they had no more to do with the convent funds than the ladies and gentlemen he saw before him.

He felt that the necessity imposed upon him of replying to the loose and vague assertions of that lecturer, had prevented his doing justice to the general subject, or giving them any idea of the great work now being carried on by the religious houses. There was, however, one caution he felt it necessary to give them. It was not to judge of the convents of the Catholic Church by what he saw published concerning those imperfect, and he might say, miserable attempts at imitation of conventual life in Protestant establishments. The two systems had nothing in common. He knew, of course, what the drift of platform eloquence would be upon this subject. It would be said, "If Protestant convents are so absurd and bad, what must the Catholic ones be?" He begged to say there was not the slightest resemblance between the two. If those things which were published concerning the Protestant religious houses were to be believed—he did not now go in to the argument of their truth or falsehood—but if what was published concerning them was to be believed, he would say that these were things which could not by any possibility have happened in a Catholic convent; it was utterly impossible that in a Catholic convent any religious could be sent out in the night to travel; were any superior to go by railway a distance in the night, and the knowledge of the fact were to come to the bishop of the place the next morning, the very next post would carry a letter suspending that superior from her office at once. In the matter of "obedience," too, the Cardinal declared that no such extraordinary acts as those spoken of in regard to Protestant establishments could possibly take place in Catholic nunneries. The "rule" of the house would protect the nun from the caprice of the superior, and the former was not bound to do anything but what was in conformity with the "rule."

But at the same time he would say that he did feel sympathy for the Protestant ladies who had been so ill spoken of in regard to these establishments. Even the aspersion after that which was in itself good and noble, did not deserve obloquy, reproach, or scorn; it did deserve compassion, better direction, and prayer. And when he saw, too, a minister of the same religion called by such epithets as "that unmanly fellow," again and again repeated, and coupled too, with the statement that the lecturer dared not speak farther of him for fear of his saying something unbecoming of a clergyman—it did appear to him to show a want of understanding of the desire to rise from ordinary virtue to something higher and better. The Cardinal concluded by an appeal to the better feelings of the country upon this subject, urging those who heard him not to be carried away by empty declamations and groundless assertions in regard to a system that did so vast an amount of good, and in-stancing cases of the devotion of many of the religious in cases of extreme danger and difficulty.

After the conclusion of his lecture, however, Cardinal Wiseman came forward again, to supply an important omission. He had overlooked a statement which, if he neglected to notice it, it might appear as if he was desirous of avoiding it. He alluded to the circumstances in this pamphlet relative to the nunneries of Tuscany, the disclosures which had led to the reform of some and the suppression of others.—This was represented to have happened within the lifetime of many present on the occasion when the lecture he quoted from was delivered; now he knew not of whom that assembly might have been composed, but, as these transactions took place some seventy or seventy-two years ago, he put it to them whether it could be fairly so described, and as we were to speak of convents as they are, and not as they were, this consideration was important. But now as to the fact alluded to; it was true that that investigation did take place, it was just as true, that horrible details were given in evidence, but it was equally true that he did not believe one word of that evidence. The inquiry had been instituted by a man who, altho' holding the position of Catholic Bishop, was almost a greater enemy to the Church than even a declared Protestant would have been. He set about the inquiry with the determination to sap and undermine the religious orders; and they all knew how easy it was to get evidence of any kind under such circumstances. If ever there were two women out of their senses, they were those whose evidence was taken on that occasion; any one who read that evidence would be convinced that it was so. In fact, this was only one of those cases the parallel to which history presented in abundance. When Philip the Bad desired to destroy the Templars, they well knew that members of the order were forthcoming to swear to any amount of infamy—all of which history now disbelieves. It was the same at the time of the suppression of the monasteries of this country by Henry VIII; nor were more recent examples wanting where charges of the most atrocious kind were sworn to—as in that of one of our large public schools—but where the allegations were denied to this day, and were universally received as being the result of the intimidation practised upon those who were called as witnesses, and who were induced to say anything that was suggested to them.—This was the simple explanation of the atrocious details of the evidence in the case of the suppressed or remodelled Tuscan convents.

His Eminence then pronounced the benediction, and the audience separated. The proceeds of the tickets sold went to the charity schools attached to the chapel.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

His Grace the Lord Primate of Ireland has received £700 from the Rev. Alexander Peyton, and Rev. George Mullen, collectors for the Catholic University of Ireland in America, from Charleston, Savannah, and other towns in the Southern States.

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. JAMES HUGHES, P. P. OF CLAREMORRIS.—With deep sorrow we

have to announce the death of this distinguished clergyman, who, for over forty years was an ornament to his church, a living bulwark of liberty, and a devoted and self-devoting friend of the poor. Our lamented friend, breathed his last on yesterday morning, at his residence, in Claremorris, County Mayo. Father James Hughes was President of the Deanery of Claremorris, and Parish Priest of Kilcolman, in the Archdiocese of Tuam. He was a native of Corofin, parish of Cummer, in the Deanery of Tuam, and for more than forty years discharged the duties of his order with a devotedness which is only paralleled in the traditionary zeal of that Church which he adorned by his numerous virtues. He died at the age of sixty-six, of a rheumatic affection—the effect of severe labor and an excess of exertion in the discharge of his sacred duties.—*Freeman.*

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. JOHN ALBERT RYAN, D.D., O.S.D.—We (*Cork Examiner*) regret to announce the demise of this venerable and distinguished Ecclesiastic. He expired, after a short illness, on Saturday evening, in the Convent of his Order, in this city, having nearly attained the 78th year of his age, and being in the 60th of his religious profession. During a part of his life he labored on the mission of the United States of America, and for some years presided over the Irish Dominican College of Lisbon. He possessed eminent abilities and extensive theological information, and during the more active portion of his career was celebrated, both in this country and in America, for the chaste and nervous eloquence with which he preached the Word of God, a duty which he continued to discharge until he had reached the seventy-first year of his age.

We regret to record the death of the Venerable Mother Teresa Meagher, at the Ursuline Convent, Thurles, after a long illness, borne with the most pious submission to the will of God. She was sister of the Rev. John Meagher, P. P., Toomevara.—*Tipperary Vindicator.*

A lady belonging to a nunnery in Limerick has given £1,000 to the formation of a similar institution in Roscommon.

DEATH OF THE VENERABLE VICAR-APOSTOLIC OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF SCOTLAND.—Dr. Andrew Carruthers, Bishop of Ceramis, and Vicar-Apostolic of the Eastern District of Scotland, died at Edinburgh, on Monday morning, May 24th, aged eighty-three years. May he rest in peace!—*Tablet.*

RECEPTION AT THE PRESENTATION CONVENT.—It is with pleasure that we direct the attention of our readers to the beautiful and imposing ceremonies which took place at the Cathedral on last Tuesday morning, when four young ladies, Miss Caulfield, and Miss Halpen, both recently from Ireland, and Miss Harding and Miss Mullaly, natives of this Island, received the white veil of the Presentation Order from the hands of the Right Rev. Doctor Mullock.—*Pilot, Newfoundland, May 22.*

CONVERSIONS.—The Hon. Mrs. W. Law has been received into the Church by the Bishop of Southwark. The Hon. (late Rev.) W. T. Law, with nine children, had previously been received.

The Rev. Henry G. Brasnell, formerly Curate of the Rev. Dr. Mill, at Braisted, in Essex, has also been admitted into the Church at St. John's, Islington.

The former of these conversions is due in a remarkable manner to the intercession of Our Blessed Lady. A Novena for the son of Mrs. Law was on the point of commencing when he received the grace of conversion. The mother's name was then substituted, and before the Novena had terminated she too was granted to the prayers of the Faithful. Truly Our Lady has done great things for us in this her own month.—*Correspondent of Tablet.*

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CRIME AND OUTRAGE—INFAMOUS CHARGES AGAINST CATHOLIC CLERGYMEN.

The following letter has been received from the Lord Bishop of Killaloe:—

"Nenagh, May 28th, 1852.

"Dear Sirs—I regret exceedingly that I was not able to attend the meeting of the Tenant League held in Dublin a few days ago, and had not then an opportunity of recording my disgust and abhorrence of the atrocious and calumnious accusations preferred before the 'Crime and Outrage Committee' against that patriotic and meritorious body. I thought it was notorious that all the members of the Tenant League used all possible endeavors to prevent any violation of the law and outrage of every sort; then I thought it impossible that such vile and unfounded imputations would be cast on them publicly. But we live in awful times—I am, dear Sirs, with great respects, your faithful servant in Christ,

† D. VAUGHAN.

"Messrs. Lucas and Bindon."

The following letters appeared in the *Freeman* of Tuesday, June 1st:—

"Crossmaglen, 29th May, 1852.

"Dear Sir—In yesterday's number of the *Daily Freeman* James O'Callaghan is reported to have stated before the Crime and Outrage Committee that I said to him in presence of the Rev. Mr. Lennon:—

"That I would not, as a Clergyman, administer Sacraments to a man, in the extremities of death, who, I conceived, let his land too dear."

"And he is then reported to have proceeded with his evidence in these words:—

"Pray, said I, how are you to arrive at the knowledge whether it is let too dear or not? I will judge of that, said he. I asked him, how would you deal with a murderer or a paricide? He said, Oh! I would attend to them."

"To this monstrous statement I beg to give a full and direct contradiction; and hereby most solemnly declare that I never made use of the words thus sedulously imputed to me, or any other words that could, by possibility, be perverted into so wicked an import. —I am, dear Sir, your obedient humble servant,

"JOHN CAMPBELL, R. C. C.

"Dr. Gray, *Freeman's* Office, Dublin.

"P.S.—It is expected and requested that any news-

paper which reported the calumny will insert this my contradiction."

"Crossmaglen, May 29th, 1852.

"Dear Sir—In yesterday's *Daily Freeman* the following statement is reported to have been made before the Crime and Outrage Committee by James O'Callaghan:—

"Mr. Loy said, turning to the altar, I understand there are law processes and decrees against the people in this neighborhood for rent; my good people, do not pay any of them until you have reserved enough for your families; this is your first duty—these gentlemen have had the lands long enough."

"To the above statement, as reported, I give hereby direct contradiction, and pronounce it untrue in all its parts. I declare, most solemnly, I never made use of the above words, bearing any such meaning.

"By giving insertion to the above, you will oblige your truly,

"THOMAS LOY, CREGGAN.

"Dr. Gray, *Freeman's* Journal Office, Dublin.

"P.S.—It is requested that any newspaper which reported the calumny will insert this my contradiction."

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH BETWEEN HOLYHEAD AND HOWTH.

It is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure that we announce the completion of the first step of this great undertaking. A submarine telegraph between the coasts of England and Ireland is now an accomplished fact, and is an event of the utmost importance to the present and future interests of this country. On Tuesday morning, at four o'clock, the Britannia steamer started from Holyhead with the telegraph cable on board, preceded by H. M. Steamer *Prospero*, a vessel furnished by the Admiralty, as a pilot to the expedition. The steamers proceeded at a low rate of speed, varying from four to six miles an hour, paying out the wire with the greatest care and precision as they receded from the English coast; and at length, after a passage of little more than sixteen hours, and without the occurrence of any *contre temps*, arrived at Howth harbor amid the cheers of those who had assembled to witness their approach. The vessel reached the eastern pier shortly after eight o'clock, and as they were coming in the guns of the Britannia were fired by an electric current transmitted from Holyhead, thus placing beyond a doubt the completeness of the communication between the two countries.—*Saunders.*

We (*Freeman*) have now the satisfaction to communicate the gratifying intelligence that the first message from Howth to Holyhead was transmitted at half-past eight o'clock last evening, and an answer instantaneously received. The Irish public will at once anticipate that that message was an hurrah for the Irish and American Packet Station.

The telegraphic communication being now, we may say, completed between London and Galway, the establishment of an American Packet Station on the west coast of Ireland cannot be long delayed. The mercantile necessities of the empire will now force on what every government has hitherto denied for the advancement of Irish interests.

But we must not to-day indulge in anticipations as to results. Our present duty is to detail the latest facts connected with the completion of the stupendous undertaking.

The Britannia and *Prospero* made their second start from Holyhead shortly after two o'clock, a. m., on Tuesday morning, the Britannia "paying out" the cable steadily, and constantly testing, by the indicators on board and ashore, the perfection of the communication.

The voyage was unmarked by any incident of importance, and was, happily, free from any accident. The cable fell so straight, and sank so evenly, that only three miles more than the straight line across the Channel were paid out. This, in a course of sixty-five miles, was really extraordinary.

A few minutes after three o'clock, p. m., the vessels were sighted by our look out, and at eight o'clock p. m., the *Prospero* entered Howth harbor, the Britannia outside near the Island of "Ireland's Eye," through the Channel near which the cable was subsequently brought to shore by boat.

The moment the Britannia had arrived at her destination, and communicated the fact to Holyhead that the Irish shore was reached, the final grand test was applied to the telegraphic cable, by connecting the wire with one of the ship's loaded guns, and passing the word "fire" to Holyhead. The answer was the immediate discharge of the gun on board the Britannia. The hour was then just half-past eight o'clock. The work had been performed in little more than eighteen hours!

Messages were now rapidly interchanged, and a salute of the Britannia's guns fired from Holyhead. A letter had arrived in Dublin, directed to a gentleman who had left for Holyhead by the mid-day steamer, and whose presence was immediately required in London. A message was sent to seek him out. Within half an hour he was discovered, and he responded, "I am here." "You are wanted in London." "I shall start by the next train."

Another hour and the cable was ashore, the connection completed with the land wires, and the indicators at the Dublin terminus of the Drogheda Railway, in Amiens street, were conversing with those at the terminus of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, in Holyhead.

MR. NAPIER'S PROPOSED MEASURES.—The London correspondent of the *Dublin Telegraph* says that at a meeting of the Crime and Outrage Committee, on Friday, Mr. Napier proposed the re-enactment for another year of the coercion bill of 1845, which was opposed by Mr. Keogh, Mr. Scully, Mr. O'Flaherty, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Bright, and ultimately rejected by a majority of ten votes to three. Mr. Napier then proposed that there should be an amendment and consolidation of the Whiteboy acts, but the proposition shared the same fate of the former. He then proposed the re-enactment of the 2nd. and 3rd Victoria, chapter 74, so as to accomplish the restoration of that clause which at one period rendered even the innocent possessor of Ribbon documents liable to the penalty of transportation. The Committee, however, refused to sanction the Attorney-General's suggestion; but they recommended the re-enactment of the clause in a manner so modified as to prevent the possibility of the innocent suffering. Mr. Napier has placed on the journals of the House of Commons notices of his intention to move on Thursday next for leave to introduce bills for continuing for twelve months the Whig coercion bill of 1848, and for consolidating and amending the Whiteboy acts and the acts against unlawful societies.

Dr. Gray is cheered on by the northern press, and has every chance of sitting in St. Stephen's next session, so that tenant right will have a few honest representatives ere three months—a consummation to be devoutly wished for.—*Munster News.*

The Incumbered Estates Commission is rapidly disposing of Irish landlords. The sales on one day this week disposed of estates to the enormous amount of £166,000. The money paid in some cases realising nineteen years' purchase. One of the noblest properties in Ireland, that of Coolnamuck, county Waterford, and the estate of Oranmore, have fallen by the unsparing hammer. It is worthy of remark, that the beautiful domain of Lord Gort, sold three weeks ago, is now the property of a religious community. Messrs. Spooner and Drummond have a new cause for anger in the fact that Loughcuter Castle is to be converted into a Popish Convent. It is a grave Papal aggression for Irish nuns to spend £17,000 in the purchase of a broken nobleman's property. Popery is certainly looking up. "Sign the petition against nunneries," oh bamboozled bigots of Ireland!—*Nation.*

A subscription is being made in Cork for the distressed family of Mr. O'Donohue, one of the Irish political exiles.

THE CORK EXHIBITION.—The *Cork Reporter* states that the various articles sent in to the National Exhibition number over one thousand collections, including specimens of the fine arts, in all their ramifications, as well as the more practical and useful manufactures, together with a varied collection of the mineral resources of the country. The reception of goods at the buildings, although four days after the period announced by the committee for their reception, continued unabated, and cart-loads of cases and ponderous packages were hourly arriving.

Confidence increases that the Queen will come, not, of course, to the opening, but probably about the period we intimated. The Channel fleet, it is stated, will remain in the harbor during the greater part of the two months that the Exhibition is open, and this will be no small addition to the attractions of the time. Government have consented to provide one hundred police for the protection of the building and property, without any charge to the committee.—*Cork Constitution.*

AN ATTEMPT TO CONVERT IRELAND.—The last attempt to gull the people of Liverpool—and goodness knows they are gullible enough—has proved an utter failure. The facts are as follows:—A meeting was called at the Collegiate Institution, the object of which was nothing more nor less than the conversion (!) of the entire Catholic people of Ireland to Protestantism! The plan laid down was as follows:—"The promoters of this public swindle anticipated a rich harvest; but, as the sequel shows, they were disappointed. The proposition made to the meeting by the parties alluded to, was to purchase land in Ireland, and let it out in small farms to parties who were willing to join the Protestant religion! Strange as this may appear, it is a fact; and on the occasion of the meeting, some reverend speakers held forth in the most eloquent style, at the conclusion of which the audience were strongly solicited to come forward and subscribe liberally; but, alas, there was not one shilling collected, and the whole affair has caused the utmost amount of merriment ever since, and the "Reformers" are quite in the dumps.—*Dublin Telegraph.*

SENTENCE ON MR. BIRCH.—The Dublin Court of Queen's Bench was crowded to excess on Monday by persons anxious to hear the sentence pronounced upon James Birch, the proprietor and editor of the late *World* newspaper, who, it will be remembered, pleaded guilty to a charge of publishing certain foul and atrocious libels on Mrs. French, a widow lady, the daughter of Mr. Brewster, Q.C., who had been leading counsel for Sir W. Somerville, in the trial Birch v. Somerville. Mr. Justice Crampton animadverted with great severity on the conduct of the prisoner in publishing the atrocious libel of which he confessed the authorship, and sentenced him to twelve months' imprisonment.

PROTESTANT MEETING IN THE MUSIC HALL.—Pursuant to an invitation, addressed to "the Protestant electors and non-electors of Dublin," a gathering took place on Tuesday evening in the Music Hall of the parties thus invited. The majority, however, seemed to be composed of the last named section. The number of respectable persons present was few. The chair was taken by the Rev. Mr. Prior. The principal speaker of the evening was the Rev. Mr. Gregg. The Rev. gentleman proposed a vote of confidence in the present member, Mr. Grogan, and in Mr. Vance, who proposes to represent the city of Dublin on ultra Protestant, or Orange principles. The Rev. Mr. Gregg's speech was fraught with the usual common-place diatribe against Popery, Maynooth, &c. A difference of opinion arose between two over-zealous Orangemen in the body of the hall, and a row rapidly began—fist-cuffs and cudgels were at once in requisition, and a scene of indescribable confusion ensued, previous to which, however, the resolutions were declared carried. The second chair was taken by Mr. W. Rudkin, and quietude having been partially restored, the occupants of the platform concluded the proceedings by chanting "God Save the Queen." Thanks were accorded to the chairman, and the meeting separated with the usual Kentish fire, &c. The neighborhood was all quiet again shortly after ten o'clock.—*Dublin Freeman.*

FIRES IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTY ANTRIM.—The *Coleraine Chronicle* mentions the recent occurrence of a number of fires in the vicinity of the new line of road from Bushmills to Ballycastle—viz., an outhouse near Beardsville, supposed to have been set on fire by an incendiary; the dwelling-house of Charles Hill, of Broaghgambon, from which the inmates were with difficulty rescued; the cow-house of John McMillan, of Island Macullion (accidental); the bog of Moyraigue, which threatened the destruction of many houses, besides a number of accidental fires not specified.

ENGLISH CAPITAL.—Mr. Murray, agent of the Provincial Bank, has bought several estates in Galway and Mayo, in the Incumbered Estates Court, for which he gave within a small fraction of twenty-seven thousand pounds. It is understood that he was the agent of parties in England, who had lent money on the lands. The distemper amongst cattle is prevalent in the south-west districts. We hear this week of one gentleman in Limerick losing fifteen valuable milch cows within the last few days.

THE CROPS.—With great pleasure we notice the state of the crops in this neighborhood; we never saw them as good or as far advanced at this season; the potato crop looks very fine and healthy. We have received several specimens of early potatoes.—*Monaghan Standard.*