THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. MARCH 5, 1858.

CHINESE FOOD.

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(From the Times Special Correspondent.)

In cookery the Chinese hold a middle position, below the French and above the English. There is a certain degree of philosophy in a Chinaman's smallest act-he never does anything for which be cannot give a reason. He sees an especial connexion between cookery and civilizationwherein he agrees with some great names among ourselves-and he conceives that the English must be very low in the intellectual scale, and must hold their high rank only by brute force. An Englishman's mode of feeling is, says John Chinaman, the nearest approach to that of the savages of Formosa. He does the chief work. of the slaughter-house upon his dinner-table, and he remits the principal work of the kitchen to his stomach. "In remote ages, before we became civilised," a polite Chinaman once informed me, "we used knives and forks, as you do, and had no chopsticks. We still carry a knife in our chopstick case ; but it is a remnant of barbarism; we never use it. We sit down to table to eat, not to cut up carcasses."

Sedentary and dyspeptic men of every race will think with the Chinese, that legs, shoulders, -Joins, heads, limbs, directly suggestive of the living animal, are common only to the banquet of an Englishman and a beast of prey. " Plain wholesome food" means a slice of red flesh and a crudely prepared vegetable, and requires animal beat, intensified by labor or exercise, to digest and assimilate it. It is the food of man in a state of nature. This "plain food" is only wholesome in comparison with those poisonous compounds of grease and carbonized or saturated meat which in our inferior bouseholds are so fifty designated "made dishes."

In London, where people's occupations do not prepare them to "eat like a hunter," civilization is invading the kitchen. Bad housewives say that "travel and the clubs have spoilt the men they will no longer contentedly feed like dogs or tigers. Young men, who in the aggregate rule society, vote a bousehold careless of the cuisine, to be mauvais genre; and old men, each potent in his particular circle, have learned from those great practical chymists, Ure, and Soyer, and Francatelli, that it is possible to enjoy the pleasures of the table without the penalty of an after sensation of a looming apoplexy.

In China, however, the natives see and are taught English cookery in its worst possible form. In Hongkong and Shanghai a dinner-table at the summer season is a melancholy spectacle of spoilt food. The creatures to be eaten were necessarby killed the same day, and the tough tissues are as hard as death stiffened them. This is not the fault of the Chinese cooks. Every Chinaman has a natural aptitude for cookery. I know one little, lean, thread-paper anatomy at Hongkong whose only teaching has been half-a-dozen lessous administered to him from the pages of a French cookery-book, and who will send you up a consomme aux œufs poches, a filet de bœuf aux champignons, a salmi of teal, a salad, waferlike fried potatoes, and a sweet omelette in a style cortainly not inferior to Vefour; for the salmi I'd back him against the world, and for the salad against any Englishman who ever inverted that best of Italian proverbs, " Molto d' olio, poco d' aceto."

I dare say my kint, that English cookery is not quite a perfect art, will be considered very impertinent; but it has been so much the habit to ridicule the Chinese as filthy feeders that if we are about seriously to consider their methods are in their natural state I do not know, for I have

more than the sharp, unmistakably feline claws to be detected in the hare soup of a small traiteur in the neighborhood of the Odeon is to be taken as an exemplification of French cookery.

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It is impossible now to get a real Chinese dianer at a Chinese private house. Your host thinks it an absolute necessity of politeness to serve his guest according to his country's fashion. I had looked forward to a dinner to be given by the Shantung Guild of merchants to the English at Ningpo in the new temple ; but, alas, the Shantung merchants hire the cooks of their English guests.

Yet Ningpo is famed throughout all China for the excellence of its learning and the perfection of its cookery-excellencies which, if my recollection of Oxford kitchens is not as rusty as my memories of its lecture-rooms, do not always go together. There is an examination at Pekin at which the Cambridge competitive system is adopted, and a sort of Senior Wrangler of the whole empire is declared. Some years ago Ningpo had the honor of producing the successful candidate, and great was the joy of Ningpo. The Ellis, or Lovegrove, of Ningpo, was then about erecting a new hotel, and, instead of calling it "The Imperial Dragon," or "The Ten Thousand Years," he called it " The Gallery of the Imperial Academician." Under that title it holds repute of having, out of Pekin, the best cuisine in China.

To this hostely, in reparation for our disappoint-ment at the hands of the Shantung Guild, I invited, in September last, a good portion of the beauty and fashion of Ningpo, accompanying the invitation with a pair of chopslicks for preparatory exercise. After nome deliberation the enterprise was thought worthy of patronage, for novelties at Ningpo are not numerous, and the invitation was accepted. A room was prepared, and the dinner ordered under grave advice ; and on the day appointed eight chairs, four of them containing English ladies, duly guarded by their lords, proceeded in procession through the city gate and deposited their burdens at "the Gallery of the Imperial Academician."

The salon was more like a slice of a verandali than a room. Its front was open to the narrow street .-The table was laid with the preliminary trifles provocatives to the coming repast. There was a small square tower built up of slices from the breast of a goose, a tumulus of thin square pieces of tripe, hardboiled eggs of a dark speckled color, which had been preserved in lime, and whose delicaey is supposed to be proportioned to their antiquity; berries and other vegetable substances preserved in vinegar, curious pile of some shell-fish, to me unknown. which had been taken from its shell and cut in thin slices, prawns in their natural, or rather in their arti

ficial red state, ground nuts, ginger, and candied fruite. Everything was excellent of its kind, and the unknown shell-fish particularly good in flavor. I am afraid to say that the tripe, boiled to an almost gelatinous softness, was a creditable piece of cookery, but I know many Englishmen who would have de-

voured the small heap with great avidity. There was at first an air of suspicion in the manner wo wandered over this light collation, but this soon gave way as the fruits, the pickles, or the she'l-fish commended themselves to the several tastes.

And now we sat down to the serious business of the day. Each guest was supplied with a saucer and a porcelain spoon-they had brought their own chopaticks. A folded towel, just saturated with hot water, was placed by each saucer—this is the Chinese napkin-and two tiny metal cups, not so large as egg-cups, were allotted to every guest. At my side, to share our feast, and see that the "rites" were properly performed, sat the gravest of Chinamen.-He wore his Mandarin summer cap, for he was the interpreter at one of the consulates.

The first dish was, in accordance with all proper precedent, the birds' nest soup. I believe some of us were rather surprised not to see the birds' nests bobbing about in the bowl, and to detect no flavor of sticks or feather or moss. What these birds' nests no book on ornithology and have never been birdsof preparing their food as one of the articles of nesting in the Straits. Their existence at table is

And now we became clamorous for bread. After a succession of not by any means gross, but certain-ly nutritions and mucilaginous dishes, the palate and the stomach craved some farinaceous food. Nothing was easier to procure. The boys, our own boys, accustomed to wait at our English dinners, brought in loaves at the lightest intimation ; but our arbiter edendi interposed. Bread at a Chinese feast is contrary to the "rites." We consoled ourselves by throwing at him a decl-

sive and unanimous opinion that this was the weak point of Chinese gastronomy.

The porcelain bowls in their courses, like the stars in their courses, continued in unpausing succession. The next named was "The Rice of the Genii," meaning, I suppose, the food of the genii, for there was no rice in the composition. It was a stew of plums and preserved fruite, whose sweets and acids were an agreeable counterpoise to the fish and meat dishes already taken. Then we had a dish of a boiled hairy vegetable, very like that stringy endive which they call in France "Barbe de Capuchin"-then stewed mushrooms from Manchuria. Then we relapsed into another series of fish and meat *entrees*, wherein vegetables of the vegetable marrow species and a root somewhat between a horseradish and a turnip were largely used. There was a bowl of ducks' tongues, which are catcemed an exquisite Chinese dainty. We were picking these little morceaux out with our chopsticks (at which we had now become adepts, for the knack is easily acquired) when we were startled by a lond Chinese "Ey Yaw." This imprudent ex-clamation drew our attention to the open front of our apartment. The opposite house, distant perhaps across the street about eight feet from us, presented the spectacle of a small crowded playhouse seen from the stage. It was densely crowded with halfnaked Chinamen. They were packed in a mass upon the gallery, and they were equatted upon the roof. I believe they had paid for their places. They had sat orderly and silent all this time to see the barbarlans dining. We might have dropped the grass blinds, but it would have been ill-natured; the Chinese did us no harm, and the blinds would have kept out the air, so we went on eating, like Greenwich pensioners or Bluecoat boys, in public.

So we continued our attentions to the ducks tonguos, and passed on to doers' tendons-a Royal These deer's tendons come, or ought to dish. from Tartary. The Emperors make preсоше sents of them to their favored subjects. Yeh's father at Canton recently received some from his Sovereign, and gave a feast in honor of the present. These must have been boiled for a week to bring them down to the state of softness in which they came up to us.

Exhausted, or rather replated nature could do no more. When a stew of what the Chinese call the car shell fish was placed upon the table no one could carry his experimonts further. An untouched dish is a signal for the close of the feast. The maitre d'hotel protested that he had 20 more courses of excellent rarity, but our Chinese master of the ceremonies was imperative, and so were we. Plain boiled rice, the rice of Szechuen, was brought round in little bowls, and of this we all ate plentifully. Confectionary and candied fruits, and acanthus berries in spirits, followed, and then tea. No unsteeped cooked fruit is allowed at a Chinese dinner. They have a a proverb that fruit is feathers in the morning, silk at noon, and lead at night. I was assured by competent authority that nothing had been placed upon the table which was not in the highest degree wholesome, nutritious, and light of digestion. We certainly so found it; for, adjourning to the house of one of the convices, we made an excellent supper that night.

The master of the ceremonies now looked round him with a swollen and satisfied air, and eruscit mons; from his mouth came forth a loud sonorous noise, which a certain dramatist has not scrupled to bedeck with knighthood, and to christen Sir Toby.---He, the Chinaman, seemed proud of his performance. We sat uncomfortable on our chairs, did not know which way to look, and some of us would have run away had there been anywhere to run to. Some one who could speak his language gave bim a hint which made him declare emphatically that it would be an insult to the founder of the feast if this testimony was not loudly given to the sufficiency of the entertainment and the plotion of the guests. It was with some difficulty that he was prevailed upon to turn over this chapter of the book of rites. And thus ended our Chinese dinner. Before we

entered our chairs we walked through the whole establishment, saw the reservoirs for preserving all the curious creatures we had been eating, and examined all the processes of preparation, and the casseroles and ovens in which other dinners were then being prepared. Everything was as clean and as regular as in a first-rate European establishment. Of course, I do not affirm that this dinner was to our tastes, but it was one to which education and habit might very reasonably incline a people. It was emimently light and digestible, and, like the Chinese themselves, very reasonable and defensible upon philosophic grounds, but somewhat monoton-ous, tedious, and insipid. We must recollect, however, that the higher classes in China never take exercise, and are necessarily a sedentary and dysneptic class of feeders. It was unanimously resolved that the bill of fare ought to be preserved and the dinner described, for, although several travellers have given the forms and ceremonies of a Chinese State dinner, and have indulged in a general jocosoness at the strangeness of its materials, no one has ever yet taken the trouble to inform himself as to what the dishes before him really did contain.

We recomend this frank avowal to the consideration of Catholic members who are supporters of the present ministry. The "struggle" in Sardinia has taken the form of sacrilegious plunder of the property of the Church and of the poor ; in Belgium it has developed itself in mob outrages against convents, and against the persons of religious men and women; in Ireland it is a vexatious and harassing persecution of two humble Priests, singled out for their zeal and earnestness for the cause of public virtue and honesty. But

in all three countries, blessed as they are with "Liberal" Government, the Morning Post assures us. "the struggle is precisely the same." Surely Catholics can see this plain fact, which their enemies so well understand. Surely those who agree with us in detesting the sacrilegious outrages of the Sardinian and Belgian infidels, and who applaud the noble exertions of Sardinian and Belgian Catholics, led by their Priests, and headed by their Bishops, will not withhold their sympathy, and more than their sympathy, their active aid and support, from the persecuted Priests, who are sought to be victimised in a struggle which Lord Palmerston himself avows is precisely the same as that so nobly maintained by the Oatholic peoples, Clergy, and Hierarchies of Sardinia and Belgium .- Tublet.

There has been a current report in quarters likely to be well informed that the Government intend to equalise the duty on spirits all over the three king-They have long been watching an opportudoms. nity of doing so, and it is only too likely the present period may be considered a favorable one for making the attempt.-Dublin Freeman's Journal.

The Poor law Commissioners have at length consented, on the urgent and repeated representation of the guardians of Killarney Union, that an apartment entirely separate from the dining-room should be appropriated exclusively for Catholic worship.

John Grace, Esq., is the first Catholic high sheriff appointed for the Queen's County, as his father, O. D. J. Grace, Esq., M.P., was for Roscommon .-- Roscommon paper.

The 5th Dragoon Guards are to be restored to the Army List. The regiment was disbanded in 1799 for disloyalty-a great number of the men having been engaged in the Irish rebellion ; but now, as the Freeman observes, "when men are wanted, and all the resources of the empire are summoned to defend English power in India, we have the disgraceful organ cancelled, and the 5th Dragoons restored at the xpress order of Her Majesty, and 'as a gracious act of Her Majesty's favor to her people in Ireland.' The Irish cavalry regiments are few, but they have ever been memorable in war, from the great Peninsular battles down to the bistoric ' charge of Balaklava, and we are confident the 5th Dragoons will not derogate from the glory of their predecessors or fellowsoldiers."

The 18th Light Dragoons (Hussars) were disband. ed in 1821, after a brilliant career in the Peninsula and at Waterloo. It was also an Irish regiment, and was long known by the name of Lord Drogheda's Light Horse, the regiment having been raised by the late venerable Marquis of Drogheda, who did not long survive the breaking up of his favourite corps. Many days, it may be safely predicted, will not pass over before men will be found to recruit the ranks of the two new regiments of Irish Dragoons. General the Hon. Henry Murray, the present colonel-in-chief, of the 14th Light Drsgoons, was licutenant-colonel commanding the 18th Hussars at the period of their disbandment. The late Marquis of Londonderry commanded the old 5th Dragoons when they were broken up nearly 60 years ago. The 5th and the Scots Grays were the only cavalry regiments who were permitted to wear the bearskin cap as a distinguishing head-dress, the latter still retaining the uncomfortable honour.

proselytisers."

Some short time since we drew attention to a list of killed and wounded of the 64th Regiment, consisting of about forty-five names, of which thirtyfour or thirty-five were decidedly Celtic. Lists have since been published, and nearly, if not fully, the same proportion of Irish names have appeared in them; yet the apologists of the Patriotic Commis-sioners have complained that Irish claims upon the Fund have been out of proportion to the Irish contributions! No wonder they were; but we have seen how unfairly and ungraciously they have been met. Dublin Evening Post.

CURIOSITIES OF IRISH LANDLORDISM .-- At the Carlingford petty sessions, last week, the following case occurred, which curiously illustrates another of the phases of Irish landlord K. Mulholland, Esq.

THE BOUPERS - OF BRIFAST / KIDHAPPING CATHOLIC CHILDREN, The Ultreman, at the close of an able article, headed "The Bouper Abroad," gives the fol-lowing instance of the rescue of a child from the hands of the soupers by its mother :-- "We would never probably have heard of that prosely tising institution near Moneymore, if we had not happened to see it with our own eyes, and inquired what it was. And, if we take this as a case in point, how can we tell what number of similar engines are at work through the province to undermine the faith of the Catholic poor of Ulster? An amusing story is told of that proselytising school, which is only a branch of the Belfast institution, and is principally supported from the funds of English and Irish proselytising societies. It is worth relating, as an instance of the length to which these fishers for human souls will go as well as of the fidelity to truth and religion of poor Irish Catholics. A poor widow, living, we think, near Cookstown, and named M'Donnell, heard of the Moneymore, or Cairndaisy School. She had a child deaf and dumb. She applied on its behalf to this benevolent' institution ; and the child was promptly admitted. But, by and bye, whispers reached her that the establishment was an engine of proselvtism ; and that her Catholic child was being educated as a Protestant. The mother's fear and horror were excited. She set out at once and travelled miles till she reached the school. She demanded her child at onco; and was met with a refusal. Nay, she was turned out, and the doors shut upon her. But an Irish mother-loving her religion and her child-is not so easily disposed of in that way. The poor wounan clamoured, and screamed, and thundered at the door, and fiercely demanded her babe. The directors of the institution sent to the neighbouring police-station. Two policemen came up to remove the mother. But, when they heard her story, they paused. It happened that one was a Catholic, and the other a Protestant; and the religious element stepped into the question. The Catholic said the mother should get her child. The Protestant contended that, as Miss Wright had been feeding and training the little girl, and had clothed her, she should keep her now. Power and possession had a momentary triumph. The poor mother went away without her child. But she had learned that the children were marched overy Sunday to the Protestant church. She went to some neighbours and begged from them a few articles of clothing, and then prepared har plan. Sunday camo; the children were marched two and two to church. The anxious mother was watching at the road side. When the little procession came up, she rushed forward with a cry, caught her own child, snatched the little creature to her breast, and ran off. A chase was set up; the mother was pursued and caught. But her child was now locked in her arms, and she would not give it up. She was then threatened with arrest, on charge of robbery, because the clothes which the child wore belonged to the institution. Fortunately, the poor soul was prepared for this. She tore of the clothes which her child wore and flung them at her pursuers, and carried her little one with the wearing apparel which she had begged from her neighbours. And then she walked off proudly, and in triumph, rejoicing that she had saved hor darling child-for afflicted as it was, she loved it with an Irish mother's love-from the hands of the hated

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HOW PROSSLYTISING LADIES GRT HUSBANDS .- We have rarely glanced at the advertising columns of the Times without finding in them, at least, one mys-terious notification to the effect that a certain spinster endowed with every virtue nuder the sun was free, able, and willing, to make a Heaven upon earth for any lord of the creation that would present himself forthwith, and pass muster according to certain stipulations named by the said fair incognita. But it has often struck us that angelic beings of this class, who are really desirous of changing their condition from single to double blessedness, would increase their chance of securing a sharer in their paradise, if they were to set forth their qualifications in some such form as the following :-- "A young lady, a Protestant, of some personal attractions, and strong religious tendencies, a member of the Ladies' Evangelical Alliance, of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the Societies for converting Heathens, Jews, Romanists, &c., is desirous of forming a matrimonial alliance on strictly evangelical principles. With the view of enumerating all her qualifcations for the change she is anxious to make in her condition, she thinks it would tend materially to facilitate her object to state that she has spent some ears in the Catholic States of the Continent, where she has been actively engaged in disseminating the doctrines of the Reformation, and spreading the light of the Gospel amougst the inhabitants of all creeds. During her Continental tour she has also frequently acted in concert, and corresponded with Sir Culling Bardley Smith; indeed, for a considerable period she was attached to that zealous gentleman's proselytising staff. There she naturally had frequent opportunities of enjoying his most editying society, and unreserved confidence, exclusively, of course, in matters relating to conversions from Popery to Protestantism. The advertiser has, in addition to a small competency, an extensive assoriment of Bibles, tracts, and "common prayers" on hand, and she is, moreover the proprietress of several Bible and Tract depositories in Turin, Florence, Rome, Naples, and other Catholic cities and towns of Italy and elsewhere. The number of bibles and other religious works is, she begs to add, just now exceedingly large, in consequence of the stringent meesures recently taken by the Italian and other governments in the Catholic States to prevent their further distribution. P.S .- The lady would have no objection as soon after the nuptial ceremony as might seem expedient, to resume her missionary labours either at home or abroad, attended or unattended by the gentleman whom she may decide on selecting as her future partner." This, owing to its length, might, we confess, be a somewhat expensive au-nouncement; but when such "unprecedented success" in a matrimonial point of view has of late attended most of the travelling proselytisers of the gentler sex, we think the outlay might be incurred with considerable advantage to the peripatetic aspirants to conjugal folicity. Have we not had several instances recently to prove how much ladies of a proselytising penchant are sought after? Did not Miss Conningham after her incarceration at Florence. Miss White after all her troubles in various parts of Italy, find a compensation for all their alleged persecutions in the arms of wedlock immediately on their return to their native shores? We say, therefore, to the Celebes in search of husbands-advertise! advertise! advertise! But be sure to montion your experience and skill in proselytising amongst your other accompliahments .- Dublin Telegraph. The Board of Trinity College have come to a decision with regard to the non-foundation scholarships which has given general satisfaction, more especially to the classes for whose benefit the boon was intended. Henceforward no member of the Established Church will be eligible for one of these appointments, and none but actual Dissenters and Catholics will be elected. Hitherto it was the practice, in the absence of one, or even all candidates belonging to the latter bodies, to fill up the vacancies from the next best answerers who had stood the regular scholarship examination, but who had been unsuccessful; the consequence of which was, in some instances, that stadents whose marks were below the required standard obtained a status for which they were not duly qualified. The non-foundation scholars have not the elective franchise, and their creed deburs them from accepting several small offices of trifling emolument which can only fall to the lot of members of the Established Church. Last year the four places were filled by two Roman Catholics, one Dissenter, and one Episcopalian. At next Trinity Term the latter will be disqualified, and in lack of candidates pro-Times.

their civilization, we must cast a glance homeward, lest we try them by a wrong standard.

The one article of diet of the ordinary laboring class is rice. "I eat the rice of a barbarian bong" is a mode of expression 1 think I have already mentioned. It is the most wholesome grain to eat unfermented, much more wholesome than the boiled wheat of the Arabs, more nutritious than the boiled lumpers of the Irishman .----If you look into a Chinaman's basin you see that his simple dish is well cooked. Every grain rolls separate as he shovels it into his mouth.

Below this level the beggars-the dangerous classes of all denominations-undoubtedly eat dogs and vermin. Habit probably breeds a taste for such food, but I take it the practice commences in necessity, not in choice. These people cannot procure a sufficiency of rice. I have seen them eating their dog broth, but neglected the opportunity of learning how it was prepared.

If we ascend a little in the scale we shall find the rice bowl seasoned with a little patch of some vegetable curry, morsels whereof are at distant intervals delicately taken up by the chopsticks.

When we go beyond this we get into a very doubtful class of comestibles. There are small travelling kitchens heated with charcoal, and upon which stand saucers or miscroscopic basins filled with very neatly prepared soups of flesh and vegetables; but every street has its halfdozen cook-shops. There are seething cauldrons in which dumplings filled with minced meat bob up and down, and which are by no means unpleasant to the palate of a hungry and incurious Christian. I have lunched from them more than once in the tea-gardens of Shanghai city, and ean aver that they are excellent to the taste, although perhaps no more trustworthy as to materials than English sausage-meat. There is also a frying of fish and flesh and fowl and a bubbling of oil in many pans. As these are ostentatiously obtruded under the noses of the passer-by the odor must be supposed to be exciting to a Chi-Daman's appetite. It is, however, decidedly the weak point of Chinese common rookery. Whether that oil be castor oil, as many say, but as Huc denies, or tea oil, or oil expressed from the cotton seed, or which other of the twenty different vegetable oils in use in China, is of little importance. It is so foul, and ranced that the stench it produces is intolerable, and the cookshops add most potently to the fearful scents of a Chinese town or village. Possibly the vapors drink that preparation may be very well satisfied from the pans of some of our own courts and with its Chineso substitute. The Chinaman had alleys would not be more inviting ; but the frying is not performed in the public way. This, however, is not Chinese cookery any company first.

apparent in a thick mucilage at the surface of the soup. Before this you come to a white liquid and chickens' flosh.' It was objected that this was a fude and tasteless delicacy. But remark that these two basins are only the suns of little systems. The same hands that brought them in scattered also an entourage of still smaller busins. These are succes of every flavor and strength from crushed fresh chilies to simple soy. Watch the Chinaman. How cunningly he compounds.

"But, Sir, you do not mean to say that you ate this 'mucilage' with your chopsticks?'

" No, Madame, we scooped it with our saucers and ate it with our porcelain spoons."

The next course was expected with a very nervous excitement. It was a stew of sea slugs. As I have seen them at Macao they are white, but as served at Ningpo they are green. I credit the Imperial Aca-domician's as the orthodox dish. They are slippery, and very difficult to be handled by inexperienced chopsticks; but they are most succulent and pleasant food, not at all unlike in flavor to the green fat of the turtle. If a man cannot eat anything of a kind whereof he has not seen his father and grandfather eat before, we must leave him to his ovsters, and his periwinkles, and his crawfish, and not expect him to swallow the much more comely sea slug. But surely a Briton who has eaten himself into a poisonous plethora upon mussels has no right to hold up his hands and eyes at a Chinaman onjoying his honest

well-cooked stew of beches de mer. During the discussion of this dish our Chinese master of the ceremonics solemuly interposed. We were neglecting the rudiments of politeness. No one had yet offered to intrude one of these sleek and savory delicacies, deeply rolled in sauce, into the mouth of his neighbor. Efforts were made to retrieve the barbarian honor, but with no great success; for the slugs were evasive, and the proffered mouthful was not always welcome.

The next dish was sturgeon skull-cap-rare and gelatinous, but I think not so peculiar in its flavor as to excuse the death of several royal fish.

This dish being taken from its brazen, lamn-heated stand, was succeeded by a stew of shark fins and The shark fins were boiled to so soft a conpork. sistency that they might have been turbot fins. The Chinaman must have smiled at the unreasonable prejudices of the occidentals when he saw some of us tasting the pork but fighting shy of the shark. Ho probably, however, did not know that the same occidentals would eat with relish of a fish they had themselves enticed to their angle by a worm or s maggot.

Next in order came a soup composed of balls of crab. I have tested this better prepared at Macao. It assumes there the form of a very capital salad made of crab and cooked vegetables.

Meanwhile the ministering boys flew and flattered round the table ; for ever filling the little wine glasses with hot wine from the metal pots. There were three kinds, the strong samshu for very occasional "spike;" the medicated wine, for those who, having once experienced its many flavours, chose to attempt it a second time; and the ordinary wine, which is so like sherry negus that any one who can drunk with each of the convives almost in English fashion, but in strict obedience to the Chinese rites. and ungallantly challenging the male part of the

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

At Drogheda, on Sunday, 31st ult. His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Armagh celebrated a "To Deum in commemoration of the escape of the Emperor of the French.

A new Catholic church is about to be crected at Ballyvaughan, county Clare, according to designs by Mr. M. B. Moran, architect, Dublin.-Freeman.

FATHERS CONWAY AND RYAN-THE DEFENCE FUND. -The general feeling entertained in favor of Fathers Conway and Ryan is abundantly testified in the accumulating subscriptions which are received for defraying the heavy expenses incurred in their defence against the Government prosecution pending against them. Bishops, clergy, and people, seem to be vying with each other in evincing their sympathy with these persecuted advocates and defenders of civil and religious liberty. It was for contending for the people's rights, and not for any personal advantages, that they have been entangled in the meshes of the law, and it is therefore nothing more than is due to these faithful shepherds of the flock that the gratitude of those whom they have served so well and zealously should be unequivocally and liberally shown by a people so distinguished for their gratitude and generosity as the Irish have at all times been .- Dublin Telegraph.

We ask the special attention of our readers to an article on the Mayo prosecution which we copy from the Morning Post, the organ of the Palmerston Cabinet. It shows the light in which the prosecution is regarded by the most able and the most dangerous of our adversaries, and proves that we have by no means exaggerated its importance. It tells us a the case excites not only the greatest interest in Ireland and England," but " an interest fully as great at Turin and Brussels, indeed throughout the length | sist upon every man's right to adopt whatever creed and breadth of Sardinia and Belgium." "The most feverish auxiety is felt on the subject by the whole body of the Romish Clergy and Hierarchy in Ireland, in England, in Sardinia, in Belgium, and in Spain-selves the enemies of intolerance wherever it is ex-nay, even in Rome itself." "The struggle is precisely hibited. We have always fearlessly denounced it in the same in Sardinia and Belgium as that between the House of Commons and the Mayo Priestly demagogues." | cannot consent to fill up our pages with long letters | perly qualified the scholarships will be left vacant .-So says Lord Palmerston's organ, and so say we. touching the peculiar doctrines of Romanism."

was the plaintiff, and Patrick Dullaghan and others were defendants. It appears that Mr. Mulholland became the purchaser some time ago, under the In-cumbered Betates Court, of a large portion of the Marquis of Anglesea's cetate, abotting on the Carlingford shore. While the property was held by the Marquis of Anglesca the tenantry were permitted indiscriminately to use the seaweed on the shores of the estate. However, when the property fell into the hands of Mr. Mulholland his agent passed over the estate, and finding that the tonantry at Ballagan continued to exercise their former privilege, he gave directions to the shore bailiff to prevent a recurrence of such conduct, and to tell the tenants they would not be permitted, as formerly, to use the seaweed. The caution of the bailiff was disregarded; the seaweed was carried off : and hence the present action. The bench dismissed the case, on the ground that the defendants went to the shore under the impression that they had a right to the weed, and that it would not be right to convict them for doing that which they believed they had a right to do. This case is only another specimen of generous, an couraging Irish landlordism .- Northern Whig.

The first step has been taken to vindicate the rights of conscience by protecting and rewarding John Byrne, the small furmer now under process of eviction in the County of Monaghan, for refusing to send his nine children to a prosclytising school. A preparatory committee has been formed in Dublin, and arrangements are in process for increasing that committee, and appointing trustees for a fund to be allocated to the purchase of a farm for John Byrne, equal in extent to that from which he will be evicted within a faw weeks, for having attempted to protect his poor children in the exercise of the dearest privilege of man-the right to worship the Almighty in accordance with the dictates of conscience, and without control or penalty from any human tribunal .- Dublin Eveniug Post.

A WORD IN SEABOX .- An extremely zealous Protestant journal (the Clare Freeman), a warm supporter of the Irish Church Missions, tenders the following advice to all parties engaged in that cause : We think it is not out of place to offer advice to those who eugage in the work of controversy on the Protestant side in this country ; and it is with that view chiefly we now refer to the matter. So long as bitterness of spirit on the one side is met with corresponding bitterness on the other no good result is likely to follow. We have been attentive observers. of the work of controversy as it has been carried on in this country for years past, and we have come to the conclusion that right theories in religion are often accompanied with wrong practice, and that if there were less wrangling about mere creeds and doctrines and more purity of life, and more divine love in the heart, among those who undertake missionary duties in Ireland, the cause of truth would be much more successful. We are at all times ready to expose and denounce any acts of violence or intimidation which may be perpetrated in the name of religion. We inhe believes to be true, and also to promulgate it without hindrance, provided he concedes the same liberty to those who differ from him. We avow ourour columns, and will continue to do so; still we