

traced not less to his moral than to his intellectual vigor. He was listened to with a respectful attention because he made an impression that he was sincere; it was felt that his tongue would not give expression to a sentiment to which his inmost soul did not give an echo; there was no apprehension that the genius which dazzled by its brilliancy could mislead, because it was kept by the weight of his integrity from going astray. He was one of those who would not follow the multitude if going wrong, and never could he bend the knee to Baal, however supple or numerous in adverse times might be the knees of his worshippers. You, Sir, need not be told that I allude to the late distinguished representative of Meath, for which the Treasury benches would have given a score of their covenant-breaking followers. The more Ireland feels his loss the more vigorous will be the exertions to rise up those who, by zeal and numbers, will strive to give aid like his to the honest and faithful representatives of the people.

No doubt you, Sir, are no stranger to the correspondence that passed at the close of the last century between Lord Castlereagh and several of the most exalted dignitaries in Ireland, nor are you ignorant that one of the great objects of this correspondence on the part of the minister was to bring within the pecuniary influences of the state the whole body of the Irish Hierarchy. To publish this correspondence at the time would have been a premature revelation of the designs of the minister. More than three times the period recommended, between writings and their publication, was allowed to pass ere this correspondence saw the day; nor was it deemed prudent to give it to the world until all those who had a share in the correspondence were in their graves. On that correspondence the only opinion I have now to offer is that, in dealing with statesmen and the whole train of their subordinate officials, it should teach the most prudent and most experienced a great amount of caution; and if this be the case with a few, how much more inconvenient is it to open opportunities to the young; the inexperienced; and the confiding of enunciating opinions which, when they least dream of it, may be turned to the disadvantage of the Church, for which they would cheerfully sacrifice their lives?

Whether you and your ministerial associates contemplate the realisation of the project of Lord Castlereagh, I will not undertake to affirm; but were you to entertain that design, I hesitate not to express my conviction that the most effectual machinery for its accomplishment may be found in those measures of a Clerical income tax that are now in practical operation. The answers, written or oral, of the Bishops and Priests of Ireland will be deemed too precious to be kept under a bushel. I should not be surprised if they were already embalmed in the blue books; and should not deem it expedient to wait too long, they need not be preserved for a posthumous publication. It is in vain the minister will be told of the repeated unanimous resolves of the Irish Hierarchy; never, under any circumstances, to become connected by state pensions with the government. The resolves of Bishops or Clergy have weight in swaying the legislature only when they are backed by the weighty influence of the representatives of the people. This income tax on the revenues of the Clergy will, if it succeed, be the first link in the chain by which it has been so long sought to connect them with the state. And as it has been again and again promulgated by our highest authorities that such a connexion would be detrimental to religion, the people and their faithful representatives will not fail to exert themselves in having the Clergy eased of the burthen and freed from the snares of a tax, one of the most obnoxious and harassing as well as one of the most insidious and enslaving that can be found in the records of fiscal legislation.—I have the honor to be, Sir, with all due consideration, your faithful servant;

JOHN, Archbishop of Tuam.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE FRENCH SISTERS OF CHARITY.—DROGHEDA.—On the 8th of November, the Catholic people of Drogheda witnessed an event which will be ever memorable in the history of our country—the introduction of the first branch of the French "Sisters of Charity" into Ireland. The reception given them was worthy of Ireland, and eminently due to the dignity and importance of their blessed mission. The Primate of all Ireland, the Most Rev. Dr. Dixon, with all the Clergy of the parish—Secular and Regular—and all the Clergy of the vicinity, assembled in the vestry of the Church to meet them on their entrance to the town. The first visit was made to the house of God; to commence their labours under the auspices of religion. The Primate, the Clergy, and the people, assembled to welcome the first entrance of the pious daughters of St. Vincent, and call down the blessing of God on the beginning of their labours. His Grace addressed the vast assembly, and thanked the Catholic people of Drogheda for attending in such numbers to testify their joy on the occasion. His lordship's discourse—so appropriate, so eloquent, so instructive—produced the deepest impression on all present. His Grace entered into a brief history of the sanctity and learning of the "Island of Saints" in olden times—and of the Missioners sent from Ireland to all parts of Europe. After having traced the similarity of the Catholic spirit of the two countries, and passing a deserved eulogium on the labours of the "Sisters of Charity" at the seat of war, and throughout the whole world, on his own behalf and in the name of the Clergy and people of the town and vicinity, he welcomed them to Ireland. After the discourse was finished, his Grace gave Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Secular Clergy attended in surplice and soutane—the Regulars in the respective habits of their Orders. When the religious service was concluded, the Sisters retired to the Presentation Convent, where they enjoyed the cordial welcome and kind hospitality of the good Religious of that most excellent community.—Drogheda Argus.

The charity sermon preached on Sunday, Nov. 3, in Cork, by the Very Rev. Monsignor Woodcock, on behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, realised £110.

THE PARSON AND THE PRIEST.—A Contrast.—A Carrickfergus correspondent writes as follows:—"On this day (Friday, Nov. 2) our petty sessions were held before Messrs. E. P. Shirley, Hunt, R.M., French, Norant, Johnston, Holland, and the Rev. Mr. Reid. After the disposal of a few cases, the Rev. Mr. Reid left the bench to prosecutor Elizabeth Fee for stealing some of his potatoes. Patrick Rafferty was examined and stated that the accused was gathering potatoes for Mr. Reid; he caught her while going towards her father's house, she having with her about half a stone of potatoes. For the defence the accused said she was merely going to a fire at the railway bridge to toast the potatoes; she did the same when working for Mr. Plunket and others. It was usual in the country. The bench sentenced her to pay a fine of 5s and costs, or, in default, a week's imprisonment. On the poor little girl being brought to the dock, she said, in reply to a question put to her, that she had not one shilling in the world. The Rev. Dr. McMahon, of this town, then stepped forward, and, with the kindest feelings, paid the fine, to the astonishment of the poor but overjoyed little girl. This acted the parson and the priest.—Dundalk Democrat.

OPERATION OF THE INCOME TAX.—On Friday the Recorder delivered his judgment in the case which had come before the court on Tuesday. The point involved in the case was an important one, viz., whether a tenant, in deducting income tax from his landlord, had a right to charge the tax on the gross rent or upon the net rent after deducting poor rate. His worship, having referred to the various acts and decisions throwing light upon the question, said that the tenant was only entitled to deduct the tax on the net rent, after the poor rate was deducted.—Cork Constitution.

NOTICES TO QUIT.—We believe that an unusual number of people have received notice to quit at the present term, not with the view of being dispossessed, but raising their rents. We could name two or three proprietors who have not been amiss in taking advantage of the present prosperity of the agricultural interest. We are glad, however, to observe that the noble lord who owns Ballinasloe and the surrounding estates does not intend in this way to make any additions to his rental.—Western Star.

ATTENDED EVICTIONS.—A correspondent informs us that on Friday, the 2nd Nov., the sub-sheriff of this county, John O'Hara, Esq., proceeded to the lands of Dartfield, within four miles of Loughrea, to eject some seven or eight families for non-payment of rent, at the suit of Mrs. Blake. The sub-sheriff, as a protective force, had fourteen of the constabulary under the command of Head-constable Higgins. On the arrival of the sheriff and police they were met by about one hundred and fifty of the peasantry, who were prepared to resist the evictions. The sheriff at once perceived that it would be madness to attempt to carry out the object of his visit, and, in consequence, withdrew until he is able to obtain a military escort.—Ib.

STATISTICS OF RECRUITING IN THE NORTH OF IRELAND.—The following statement, furnished by the Belfast Mercury, may not be without interest at the present time:—"At the present moment the demand for recruits, to keep up the strength of our cavalry, and infantry regiments, is very great; but the supply is by no means equal to meet it. The numerous recruiting parties in Belfast are beginning to complain of the scarcity of young men, and they have reason to complain when we take into consideration the fact that they are now unable to pick up in the month scarcely one-fourth of the number they obtained in the same period this time twelvemonth. They state that the country lads are getting too cunning for them. It appears that the young fellows give the preference to the militia in the first instance, and that then, after serving in a local corps for a short period, they enter the line. The object in so doing is to get a double bounty. In joining the militia they get a bounty of 6l.; in entering the line, by volunteering, they get a bounty of 8l., with 1l. in addition for extras. In this way they obtain 6l. more than they would if they joined the line in the first instance. Hence, the recruiting sergeant says the country lads are getting too cunning for them. For some time past an active recruiting was going on in Belfast for the land transport corps; but an order to cease recruiting was received here on Saturday last, as enough men for the present had been obtained for that corps. The height for those joining that service was five feet two, and the bounty 5l.; with rations, and 1s. 3d. per day. The term of enlistment is ten years, with the privilege to well-conducted men to receive their discharge at the end of five years. The entire number of young men who enlisted for the Land Transport Corps and the line during the month of August last, and were passed by Colonel Adair, inspecting Field-officer for the northern district, which includes the whole of the province of Ulster, was only 99; for September, 71; and for October, 156. Since the war commenced with Russia, Belfast alone has contributed a large number of recruits to the army. From the month of May, 1854, till November, 1854, there was 609 recruits attested at the Belfast Police Court; and from the 1st of November, 1854, till the 1st of October, 1855, the number was 851; making the total of 1,460. This number does not include the recruits who were supplied for the militia, the Sappers and Miners, and the various depôts that were stationed in Belfast since May, 1854. These may be set down at, for the militia, 1,000 men; for the depôts, 200; and for the Sappers and Miners, 50. So that from these figures it will be seen that the town of Belfast alone has contributed its fair quota to keep up the strength of the British army."

THE ASSASSINATION OF MISS HINDS.—The atrocity of which this unhappy lady was the victim continues to keep the press and the public in a state of excitement. Reward after reward is offered for the apprehension of the assassins; but in vain. There is something about the excitement created by this murder that presents the depravity of human nature—at least in this part of the civilised—in a startling and most repulsive aspect. It is but a short time since a poor man named Smith was murdered in that part of the country; leaving, we believe, a family of six children behind him. The "Anglo-Cell," the local paper, says, "Poor Smith! No theories were devised to avenge his death; no correspondents issued daily bulletins about him. He was a poor man, and though a week intervened be-

tween the discovery of his dead body and fearfully shattered head and our publication, no paragraph alluding to him found its way into a newspaper in the meantime." Certainly not! Why should it? Is it for the respectable "Evening Packet," the aristocratic "Evening Mail," the loyal "Express," or any other "respectable" paper make a fuss about spilling the red puddle of a poor man's veins, or dashing out his plebeian brains? But when a landlady is murdered, of course not a moment is to be lost in putting the intelligence into the public. There must be daily intelligence sent forth; meetings must be had to denounce the crime and seek means to arrest the criminals; and a pretended "liberal" landlord must come forth and declare his intention to punish or exterminate the innocent for sake of the guilty. And all the while the poor man's blood cries from the ground and no one heeds it. This excitement about the murder of Miss Hinds is not owing merely to detestation of crime—those who pretend to say so are liars; for the slaughter of Smith was just as atrocious, yet it passed unheeded. The excitement does not proceed from an appreciation of the value of life; for the life of Smith was far more valuable than that of Miss Hinds. Her death was a loss to no one but herself; his death reduced to misery and despair a whole family. The one was poor; the other was a landed proprietor; that makes all the difference. Mercy or justice is not to be expected by the poor, if they are at all put in comparison with those for whom our intensely corrupt—our atrociously foul—our devilishly dishonest state of society has reserved all its favors. Why, even at the meeting recently held to devise means for bringing to punishment the murderers of Miss Hinds, when Mr. Armstrong proposed that there should be measures taken to discover the assassins of Smith, a gentleman—of course he was a gentleman—poo-pooed the suggestion, and said, in what appears to us to have been downright ribald mockery, that Smith was murdered by his own friends! A friendly act indeed. But, as we said the man was poor; and what about his death? Such is the light in which murder is regarded by the press and gentry of Ireland. If the victim belongs to the "quality," no amount of excitement or indignation can be too great; if he is poor—pshaw, let his blood rot and his memory perish. The gentry of Cavan have offered a reward of £500 for such information as shall lead to the conviction of Miss Hinds' assassins. This is right; but they offer not a penny for the apprehension of those who slaughtered Smith, and left his children desolate. For the murder of a poor man let there be no excitement on any account. This is the fashion now-a-days with our crime-hating people, and our respectable wolfish-hearted and spaniel-souled journalists. We cannot consider such as better than assassins in soul; and as the negro said, "if de debil don't take such fellars, I don't know what Gorra Mighty keeps a debil for!"—Fermanagh Reporter.

MISS HINDS' MURDERERS.—The Waterford Mail says—We understand that one of the miscreants who was concerned in this abominable crime was arrested on Monday while at work as a navvy on the Cork and Youghal railway.

MR. BEECHAM.—The latest accounts from Moorock Lodge, the residence of Mr. Ramsbottom, represent that Mr. Beecham is going on very favorably. At every police station throughout the county the Lord Lieutenant's proclamation offering £100 for the discovery of the assassin, has been posted. Government has ordered the police force in the district to be augmented. Barrack accommodation has been provided for them. It is stated that some months ago Mr. Ramsbottom received several threatening letters.

There has been another murder—in the neighborhood of Moate—and although the Western Star assures us that it is by no means connected with local disturbances, we perceive that the unfortunate man was a bailiff, and that the crime is stated to have been perpetrated by the "peasantry." Everywhere we see symptoms of renewed war between landlord and tenant—on the one side, a violent return to rack-rents under threat of instant eviction, and on the other, a fearful violence of feeling, and disposition to revert to agrarian crime. This horrible internecine war again impends in Ireland. Take one striking symptom of the course in which the landlords are proceeding. We have this week received a document subscribed by the tenants of an estate at present for sale in the Incumbered Estates Court, declaring that the leases which are returned in the rental have been taken by them at impossible rents, under threat otherwise of instant extermination. The facts are so extraordinary that we hesitate to publish them without fair and full inquiry. The landlord organs, on the other hand, apply the most barbarous incentives to their class. A correspondent of the Mail suggests that in every distracted district martial law should be at once proclaimed—justice executed at the drum-head—the convicted murderers, and all accomplices, hanged summarily on the spot—hanged by the hands of a vile executioner; but by a deputation of the Tenant Farmers of the district, acting under the influence of the bayonet. While these abominable doctrines are openly preached and accepted by Irish landlords, it is folly to talk of the violent ideas of the tenantry. Too plainly it seems the old alternative—rolling rack-rents or eviction, is presented to the tenantry. Too plainly, it seems, the people, despairing of relief from Parliament, are falling back on unlawful resources of redress. And the British Minister has more important things to think of than a war of class upon class in Ireland.—Nation.

A MODEL CANDIDATE.—Another candidate for the borough of Armagh has just appeared in the person of Mr. C. Fitzgerald Higgins, who dates his address from Trafalgar-square, London. According to his own showing his principles, political or religious, are of the most accommodating nature, and totally free from the remotest taint of bigotry or partizanship. What, for instance, can be more satisfactory than the wording of this passage from his electoral address:—"You will naturally feel anxious to know what particular line of politics I shall advocate in the event of your choosing me for your representative. My answer is plain—Whatever you please. Although a Catholic, in religion, yet I am not bound by the church; and you have only to direct me how I will act, and I shall endeavor to advocate your interests." In reference to the foregoing confession of faith the Northern Whig observes,—"Commentary on this would spoil it altogether; we know but of one declaration of principles that will compare with that of Mr. Higgins. During a 'No Popery' riot in London, Grimaldi's house was surrounded by the mob, and was in imminent danger of being assailed, when the

immortal artist in buffoonery put his head out of the window, and said, 'Gentlemen, dere be no religion here!' The mob executed the plea as valid, and proceeded to wreak their virtuous indignation on some less candid householder, who would confess that he had religion. If this address be not a hoax—of which we ought charitably to admit the possibility—we must say that Mr. Higgins is worse than Grimaldi, for the latter was a fool by profession."

THE RUSK ROMANCE.—A half a century ago there lived near Rusk in the county Meath a rich but eccentric old gentleman named Richard Wilson; old and rich gentlemen, especially of half a century ago, are invariably eccentric. He was the father of several children, though never married; but as he had been the architect of his own fortunes, no law of entail prevented him from disposing of his wealth as he might think fit. He was a good staunch old Protestant notwithstanding his neglect or disregard of "the holy state"; we have no evidence that he attended regularly at Church, but we have that he hated the papists; for his son John had a mortal fear that his father should know he had married a papist wife, and so disinherited him. In time "Old Dick," as he was commonly called in the locality, was gathered to his fathers—by his will be divided his property between his several children, directing the course of succession through their lawful heirs. He had a son John, at the time of his father's death, a Captain in the Militia. Like his father he was said to be avaricious and peevish, and like his father, it was said, he was a parent but not a husband. He was known by some to be a visitor in private at the house of a Mrs. Booth in Dublin, and was very intimate with one of the Misses Booth; whether she was Mrs. Wilson was not well known, but it was known that she was the mother of his children. She died. Captain Wilson ordered the funeral, and it is said that "Mrs. Wilson" was the inscription on the coffin-plate. The children were sent to a tenancy home in Kildare, where, it is stated, they were reared in ignorance of their parentage, or as the children of the tenant; whether this was because of their being illegitimate, or of the fathers peevish nature, none could say. On the 8th of February 1845, a servant of Captain Wilson brought a letter to his solicitor directing him to prepare a will leaving his landed property to his nephew Mr. Hartley, and desiring that the will be brought to him to have it signed and perfected as soon as possible. Next morning the solicitor proceeded to Rusk with it. Capt. John Wilson was dead. His children by this time had learned enough to induce them to claim not only the property, but their social positions as his lawful children. No one appeared to dispute their claims at the time, and they came into possession of the property. In time a disputant did appear in Captain Hartley. In the course of his search after legal evidence, that the late Captain Wilson had never been married, we believe Captain Hartley stumbled upon evidence that he was, or at any rate on such evidence as that he with rare and commendable honor, at once withdrew all proceedings which went to impugn the legitimacy of his cousins, and a compromise was entered into between them. All now seemed settled, and the children long robbed of lawful children's rightful privileges and position, a father's care, a father's love, a father's patrimony, were at length, it seemed, about to enjoy, at least, a moiety of justice. Not so thought the law advisers of the Crown; by the advice, it would appear, of her dear friend, (and ours) the Right Hon. Attorney General Wm. Keogh, no less a personage than Queen Victoria begged to be considered as the heiress of Captain Wilson! Of the motives said to actuate the adviser, we offer no positive opinion—neither shall we characterise the means employed to deprive Mr. Wilson of his property and brand him with illegitimacy. But how escaped he when so powerful a claimant sought his property, when so clever a guide directed the course? Sitting in his study chair a reverend old Protestant clergyman's eye lit upon some notice of the case—A pause—a flash of memory across a long vista of years—what! could it be—in days long past and gone ere the silver touched his locks—Lord Avonmore—Miss Sidney Booth—a stranger named John—what John? him whom he had married to Miss Sidney Booth at Lord Avonmore's urgent request in 1849! Yes, it was the same Captain John Wilson! Other proofs appeared also but this was enough—the Crown and Mr. Keogh were defeated, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Dane triumphed; in so far as the jury "refused to find"; and so Mr. Wilson once more enjoys his property and Queen Victoria must do without it. So ends the story.—Nation.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The general orders of the day contain a severe reprimand to the numerous applicants for leave of absence, to proceed to England, on the most flimsy pretexts.—"The Commander of the Forces has been much surprised at the numerous applications for leave of absence which have lately reached him from officers of all ranks in the army." He has to remind them that they are still in the presence of a powerful enemy; moreover that they have duties to perform in camp not less important than those in the field; and that the instruction, discipline, and well being of the troops are subjects which require the earnest attention of all good soldiers."

The United Service Gazette says that the Duke of Cambridge has formally signified to the Commander-in-Chief his desire to be again employed on active service.

The government, it appears, considers that the West India fleet is not yet sufficiently reinforced to withstand successfully the projected buccannering expeditions of the Yankees. Three line-of-battle ships, and a steam-sloop have, within the last month reinforced this fleet. On Wednesday an 18-gun sloop, the Malacca, sailed for that station. The Sanspareil, screw-liner 70, is preparing for sea with great haste, also, for the West Indies; while a steam frigate and two steam-sloops are mentioned as fitting for that destination. The collection of such a powerful squadron off the coasts of America can have but one result, to irritate the Americans to the highest pitch. As to the buccannering expeditions, if any are fitting out, it is impossible that the vessels intended to be used can be line-of-battle ships or heavy-armed steam-frigates. Is Lord Palmerston afraid that we are going to have peace in the East; and so, to keep his hand in, begins to prepare a pretty little quarrel in the West?—Press.

The gunnery ship Hotspur, 44, in Hamoaze, is to be fitted as a floating Catholic chapel, for the use of Irish militia expected at Plymouth.