

insuperable barrier between his grand-daughter and religious ideas.

This seemed difficult. Gabrielle had nothing of the sardonic laugh of her mother and grandfather. Although full of childish liveliness and frolic, she was, above all, kind, loving, accessible to gentle emotions, and charitable towards the unfortunate. Mr. de Saint-Eudes could not help suspecting the existence of a sort of secret attraction between religion and this charming nature. He endeavored to avoid their coming in contact.

Owing to some remnant of old prejudices and respect for the world's opinion, Gabrielle's mother had her baptized. But she had never made her First Communion. They carefully selected her companions, rejecting all who had in them the faintest spark of Christianity. The only houses she visited were those where religion was held a ridiculous mummery. The only books put into her hands were infidel works, encouraging that belief.

The baron succeeded beyond his hopes.—When Gabrielle married she loved her grandfather respectfully, her friends and the poor tenderly, music and poetry passionately; and she prepared to blend these three shades of tenderness in her love for Xavier. As for God, she thought no more of Him than if He had not existed. Fearful to say, and awful consequence of an impious education. Our Lord Jesus Christ was, in her eyes, a mythological personage as much as Jupiter, Osiris, Odin, or Brahma!

IX.

After our conversation at Val-Thibault, God became the sole and constant thought of Gabrielle. She tired Xavier with questions which he was not prepared to answer. And, when the good curate came to the castle, Gabrielle hastened—joyful and anxious at the same time,—to tell him the prohibitory orders were annulled.—The whole evening was spent in religious discussions, or rather, in lessons given by the one and received by the other.

I returned several times to Val-Thibault.—Xavier and Gabrielle always received me cordially. The latter scarcely ever spoke to me of religion, but I learned that she had regular conferences with the curate. I doubted not that she was converted, and would be the means of her husband's conversion. I rejoiced at the thought that I was beginning to pay the debt of friendship and gratitude.

Alas! I was not done with receiving marks of Xavier's friendship. My poor Maurice fell sick; in eight days he succumbed to the same disease that had carried off his mother and sisters. I cannot say how painful this new wound inflicted before the older ones had healed!

Xavier and Gabrielle showed me, on this sad occasion, the attentions and affection of a brother and sister. Their presence was a blessing from Heaven. When I looked at this nearly ripe fruit which grace would soon gather, I felt that the least resistance on my part, to divine will, might retard that precious hour. I felt that in all my misery, I could yet, by a perfect resignation, do some good to these sympathizing hearts. Eight days after Maurice's death, I called for the last time at Val-Thibault.

'Dear friends,' I said to the loving couple who greeted me; 'I am going to Saint-Sulpice. No tie now binds me to this world. It is doubtless, to call me into His immediate service, that God has broken the last bond that connected me with His creatures. I am going to enter priesthood. All who suffer in mind or body, will henceforth be my family.'

I was doing a simple thing; I obeyed the voice of God which called me, and which I could not have resisted without preparing myself eternal remorse. Yet, Gabrielle was struck with my resolution.

'What strength must there be in religion,' she said, 'since, instead of driving you to despair, misfortune—so great as to make me tremble when I think of it—should lead you to a life of incessant devotion!'

'I wish you, however, to carry away from the world, the consoling thought that you have already reaped the first fruits of your apostolate. Your words had made a deep impression on me; I have been following a course of religious instruction. To-morrow I shall receive absolution, and on Sunday I shall make my First Communion.'

I thanked God, I thanked my friends, and after a tearful embrace from Xavier, I left —, to commence my theological studies.

Six months after my arrival in the seminary, I received a letter from Xavier:

'My dear friend,' he wrote, 'your lessons have brought their fruits; I also am a Christian. But with what a terrible blow God has struck me to bring about my conversion, and save a soul which grace—I must confess it—solicited since many years.'

We have lost our Sigismund. Our eldest, that dear boy in whom I found the charming qualities of his mother, died in our arms, in the most cruel sufferings. Gabrielle, so pious since your departure, sent for the curate; and our poor little one, to whom, for the last six months, his mother had seriously spoken of God and religion, understood perfectly the duty of a Christian in the presence of death. He died like a saint, repeating that he submitted joyfully to the will of God.

Gabrielle's resignation was admirable. She wept much, but lovingly, without bitterness. She exhorted me to submission, with courage and tenderness, with gratitude to God for the saintly death of her child; with all heart. Those accents went to my soul, and accomplished even more than she hoped. She wished only that I should not rebel against the decrees of God; I felt enough courage to bless them, to see in them the instrument of my conversion.

I have thought that nothing would gratify you more than to learn this result, which I know you to have asked in your daily prayers, since the time of Father Yvan.

Pray for us, tried now as you were once.
Your old friend,
XAVIER DE ZELTHER.'

When this letter was handed me, I had just

made my first step in the ecclesiastical career, by receiving tonsure.

I fell on my knees: 'Great God!' I exclaimed. 'How precious is a soul in THY eyes! If it be permitted to sound the mysterious ways of THY Providence, has it not been to save Xavier that I lost my wife, my daughters, and lastly my son? Has it not been necessary that Mrs. de Zeltner should see death strike her eldest-born, in order that the resignation of this mother, recently become a Christian, should have a final influence on my friend's determination? How many lives crushed for the salvation of a single soul!'

Now that by THY grace, O my God, I have been the first link of that chain which led Xavier back to THEE, I feel that I have acquitted my debt of friendship.

Shall we, frail creatures, ever acquit our debt of love and gratitude, to THEE, O my God!

THE END.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DUBLIN, MONDAY NIGHT.—The Lord Lieutenant was present at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in the Mansion House this evening. The company, which numbered about five hundred, included Cardinal Cullen, the Countess Spencer, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis and Marchioness of Drogheda, Lord and Lady Granard, and many other distinguished personages.

In responding to his health, The Lord Lieutenant, who was greeted with the warmest applause, having expressed his acknowledgments, went on to observe that he stood not only as the representative of the Queen, but also a member of an Administration which had been called to office by the voice of the nation.—But was his duty, as the representative of the Sovereign, to stand above mere party, and consult and act for the common good of the country.—Therefore, he would be always anxious to hear the opinions of all classes and all sects. He was glad to meet on that occasion the head of the Church of the majority of the Irish nation, but he could not look on the presence of Cardinal Cullen as a personal compliment to himself or to this Administration, as he found his Eminence was present on a past occasion when a different state of things existed. The presence of the Cardinal was a happy symptom of the dying out of those religious differences which had worked such evil to this country. His Excellency having referred to the late commercial crisis in England, proceeded to remark upon the satisfactory decrease of crime in Ireland and the increase of deposits in the savings banks. Referring to the Church question, he said he had no doubt that while it would be settled in a generous spirit, strict impartiality would characterize the policy of the Government.

The Lord Mayor rose and said—It is now my very great honour and privilege to propose to you the health of the illustrious Prince of the Catholic Church, his Eminence Cardinal Cullen. (Great applause.) His name is graven in the hearts of the people of Ireland (hear, hear), and wherever it is heard, no matter whether it be at home or across the Atlantic, in the confines of India, or in our numerous and far distant colonies, it calls forth from the Irish race a deep and earnest affectionate veneration (hear, hear). The highest honours that the head of the Catholic Church could confer upon him were freely bestowed, but his greatest dignity is to be found in his Christian meekness, charity and patriotism, and self-sacrifice for the welfare of the flock confided to his charge. It would be superfluous for me to dwell further on the merits of one less exalted in station than in goodness, and I will content myself by simply giving you the health of 'His Eminence Cardinal Cullen.'

The toast was received with enthusiastic applause. 'Air—And doth not a Meeting like this make Amends.'

His Eminence Cardinal Cullen responded, and said he was obliged and thankful for the kind manner in which they had received his humble name. He felt the compliment was not so much intended for himself as the position which he held amongst the great majority of the people of Dublin. It was generally observed that from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh, so were he to follow his own inclination he would speak of nothing except religious matters that afternoon. However, that would be out of place in a mixed assembly like that, and therefore he would confine himself to one or two words upon a point in which they all agreed, and that was Christian charity. He believed that Protestant, Presbyterian, and Catholic had all endeavoured to rival one another on that point (hear, hear.) They were all agreed in endeavouring to alleviate the miseries of human nature, and to promote everything that could tend to extend happiness on this earth (applause). He hoped the object of charity would continue to be so worked out, and that all denominations would persevere in their efforts without relaxing for the accomplishment of the one great common object. Referring to his own party he was proud of what they had done.—They had showed their charity in a practical way by the establishment of such institutions as the Mater Misericordiae and St. Vincent de Paul Hospitals—(applause)—which would do honour to any great and rich city in Europe (applause). They felt justly proud that the work had been promoted by the voluntary contributions of the people—the offerings of the Catholic people who contributed their mite, although poor and distressed, to the performance of this Christian work, showing how they value their religion, and rely upon the Ruler of all things. That spirit of charity did not always receive the reward which it deserved. However, he should say that the spirit of charity which had been observed among them, had not showed any decrease either at home or abroad (hear, hear). From the events which had lately taken place they had every reason to continue to hope—(hear, hear)—and to be satisfied with themselves in Ireland. They had at the head of the government a young and energetic nobleman who held evenly the balance between each party, and at the same time was determined to act with the government of which he was a member, and to carry out their benevolent views towards this afflicted country (applause.) Undoubtedly his Excellency would have difficulties to contend with, but he had no doubt with the advice and assistance which he would receive he would be enabled to surmount them. He was well acquainted with the details of the country, and he was most anxious to promote all its interests. The appointment of the Lord Chancellor to his present high position all the country hailed with satisfaction (hear, hear.) He was a man capable of giving the best advice in all cases of emergency, and would do everything in his power to carry out any measure calculated to promote the peace, harmony and prosperity of the country. With such advantages at the present moment they had reason to be confident, and be encouraged all present to continue their acts of benevolence, and add to their many charities (applause.)

The Lord Mayor next proposed the health of the Countess Spencer (applause.)

The Lord Lieutenant returned thanks, and proposed the health of the Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor responded and then gave the health of the previous Lord Mayor.

Mr. Joynt returned thanks.

The Lord Mayor next gave 'The Lord Chancellor and the Irish Bench' (applause.)

The Lord Chancellor, who on rising was loudly applauded, said—In thanking you, as I do most cordially, on behalf of the Irish Bench, I feel myself

at a little disadvantage. The toast to which I speak cannot have such a charm for you as that which has just preceded it. You have welcomed with fit enthusiasm the gentle and gracious presence which has come with its brightness 'to make a sunshine in a shady place,' stirring in our Irish hearts their ready admiration for the beautiful, and shedding lustre on the highest position in the land. I have to thank you for those who stand necessarily apart with some thing of stern reserve in their judicial isolation, and the contrast makes my task more difficult. But I know the Irish Bench commands the trust and reverence of the Irish people. And I say proudly it is not unworthy of them. I might tell you that it is learned an able. I claim for it no honour because of its learning, for men who have spent long lives in the practice of the law may be expected to know their business when they are charged with the administration of it. Neither do I dwell on its ability, because the elected chiefs of a great profession cannot be assumed to have reached its utmost heights without the demonstration of intellectual power. But I am bold to say that it has fairly won the confidence of the country, because its members have an earnest desire to their duty, and do it honestly as best they can (applause). I can speak of the Irish judges, perhaps, with as much authority as any living man, for by a singular fortune I have passed through all the grades of the judicial hierarchy. I have presided at Kilmacshoban. I have sat in the Common Pleas, and I have passed to the Court of Chancery, and I can say with perfect truth that in every department of our judicature purity, impartiality, and efficiency prevail—and this is surely a national blessing of the highest value. There have been places and periods to which the judiciary has compromised its honour and prostituted its sacred functions to the basest uses, in which it has been the utensil of a despot or the ruin of a crowd, cowering before authority or patting to the people. It is not so, thank God, in these kingdoms; it is not so in Ireland.—The judges enjoy a position of perfect independence. They are independent in the affluence of the provision which lifts them above temptation, in the dignity which hedges them around about, in the permanence of the tenure of their office. They have nothing to hope and nothing to fear (applause). They can hold in equal disregard the banishment of a court and the fury of a democracy, and maintain in times of trial, with equal faithfulness, the rights of the Sovereign and the liberties of the country. I believe that our judicial system is one of the peculiar glories of this empire; and I know not where, in its practical operation, it can be matched in the old world or the new. It was not always so. They are dark pages in the history of the law, as it is used to be administered in England and Ireland. But we have fallen on happier days, Justice is not only incurrupt, but generally beyond suspicion; and whatever may be the decisions of our courts, no man believes that they can be dictated by authority, or purchased by gold. It is the high mission of the judges to maintain this conviction by the wisdom of their judgments and the integrity of their lives. They should win respect for the administration of justice, by making themselves respected. They should teach the people to trust to it to aid it, and to love it—not by unworthy compromises or weak concessions, but by conduct, at once firm and gentle, considerate and resolved. They should display its terrors and enforce its penalties with unflinching determination, teaching the community that—

'Sorrow tracketh wrong.

As Echo follows song.'

But at the same time, demonstrating that punishment is not inflicted from caprice or vindictiveness; that passion and prejudice are far from the judicial mind; that it knows no distinction of party or of sect—of class or of condition—but bends itself, with absolute impartiality, to administer, mercifully when it may, sternly when it must, but always with tempered moderation, those—

'Just and equal laws,

Which deal unto the humblest folk,

As in a noble's cause'

(Applause.) Doing this the judges of Ireland have promoted among her people the diffusion and the supremacy of the spirit of law, which is one of the greatest needs of their condition, of that divine spirit which Coleridge has likened to the lute of Amphion and the harp of Orpheus, which lulls the rude violence to rest, and reduces to settled form the chaos of a disturbed society, and secures the essential safeguards of order, progress, and liberty to nations. In the troubled days of the past, its home was not amongst us, but year by year its happy influences have been more enlarged and its salutary domination more firmly established. The Irish have not lost the quality which was celebrated by the Attorney-General of King James. The ardent lovers of equal and impartial justice, and when they are convinced that their national institutions are accordant with its principles and suited to its ends, they will be grateful and content. They will reverence the law which once they hated as their enemy. Their sympathy will cease to be shown to its violators, and they will give to its ministers honour and respect. The chronic civil war of classes which has vexed us for many generations, and has still its passing outbreaks in blood and crime, will be forever ended. The peasantry will cease to be the avengers of their own fancied or real wrongs confiding in the tribunals of the country, they will seek legitimate relief and abstain from outrages which have so often ruined our hopes, and blackened our reputation. And so public confidence will be restored, social harmony will be promoted, and Ireland will at last enjoy a tranquil present, and a hopeful future. For the accomplishment of these great results the Legislature and the Judiciary must each perform its part. At least for the Irish Bench, I can promise that it will continue to do its duty. (Applause.)

The Lord Mayor said—Our next toast is the two great legislative assemblies of this empire which are, I think I may say, second to none of deliberative assemblies either of ancient or modern times in dignity or importance. (Hear, hear.) I regret that so many of our friends whom I would wish to be here are absent this evening. I give 'The House of Lords and the House of Commons' (Applause.)

The Earl of Granard returned thanks to the Lord Mayor for having connected his name with such an august assembly. He contrasted the policy of the present Government, with those which preceded it, and said that the people had reason to expect now that the grievances of which they so long complained, would be redressed. (Hear, hear.)

Some other toasts were then proposed and responded to and the proceedings terminated.

DUBLIN, FEB 10.—The speech delivered by Lord Spencer at the Mansion House on Monday evening has afforded the journals a theme of controversy. In the Liberal press its outspoken frankness is warmly commended. The Conservative papers express dissatisfaction at the introduction of political topics and criticize the declaration of policy with respect to the Church. They complain that the Lord Lieutenant has departed from the custom of his predecessors in referring to topics upon which public opinion is divided. It is not likely, however, that this feeling will be fixed or general. If politics were to be touched directly at all they could not have been more delicately handled, and it must be remembered that Lord Spencer represents the Government as well as the Queen. There can be no doubt that his address, viewed as the Ministerial programme for Ireland, will be read with unalloyed pleasure by the Liberal party throughout the country. —[Times Cor.]

The New Lord-Lieutenant.—The Government of Mr. Gladstone have been fortunate in sending to Ireland a Lord-Lieutenant with so many excellent qualities of mind and heart as Earl Spencer. We will hazard the conjecture that he will speedily become more popular than any of his predecessors since Lord

Carlisle's time. Nothing can exceed his *bonhomie*, and to this quality, so acceptable to the Irish people, he adds a degree of sterling talent and original thought which will raise him immensely in their estimation. The speech which he made at the Lord Mayor's dinner this week, when Cardinal Cullen was present, was masterly and comprehensive, every way worthy of a statesman. He seems just the representative of royalty in the sister kingdom best calculated by his natural and acquired powers to bridge over the transition between the old state of things and the new. With Lord Spencer the Liberal Irish party cannot fail to be pleased, and we may rest assured that he will give no needless offence to their opponents. The speech of Cardinal Cullen breathes the most perfect confidence in the honour and sincerity of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues. It seems that the Irish ascendancy party have adopted as their candidate for the forthcoming election Lord Claude Hamilton, fresh from the laurels which he has left behind him at Londonderry, where Mr. Sergeant Dowse, has triumphed over a trumped-up petition. The Liberals in the Irish capital have indeed the great physician, Sir Dominick Corrigan, who was defeated by bribery in November, to come forward again and his friends declare that he is certain to 'physic' the Conservative aristocrat.

The banquet offered by the Lord Mayor of Dublin to his Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop and his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant was more than a success. It was, we are inclined to hope, the inauguration of a new era. We publish elsewhere the speeches of the principal guests. Lord Spencer displays a tact and good feeling which we have not always encountered in an Irish viceroy. 'I stand here,' he said, 'as the representative of the English people—a people who have warm sympathies and hearty affections for the people of Ireland.' We hope this is true of those whom he represents; we are sure it is true of himself. 'I will do all I possibly can,' he added, 'to promote the real interests of this people, and the audience evidently put faith in the assurance. What, again, could be in better taste, or more worthy of a high official, than his manly and genial language about the Cardinal who was his fellow-guest at the same table? 'I hope I may be allowed to say that it gives me great pleasure to meet here to-night the head of the Church to which the majority of the people of Ireland belong.' This sentiment was uttered in the presence of another eminent guest, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, whose nomination is a welcome sign of that new reign of justice and kindness which the present Government has promised to introduce in that country. If our rulers are faithful to their pledges, we shall become at length a truly 'united' kingdom. Irishmen are generous and will forgive the wrongs for which atonement is spontaneously offered. If they are still in an attitude of doubt and expectation, it must be remembered that the past does not encourage sanguine hopes about the future. They may be pardoned if they still refuse to sing a *Te Deum*, till they are quite sure that this time England is in earnest, and that 'Protestant ascendancy' has become as odious to her as it was to Pitt, who, as Wiberforce says in his diary, quoted by Lord Stanhope, 'resented and spurred the bigoted fury of Irish Protestants.'

THE GREAT CONVENT CASE.—Our columns are crowded this week with the great convent case, which was proceeding in the Court of Queen's Bench when we went to press, and the investigation will probably extend far into the next week. It would be indecorous to make any comments on this affair while the proceedings are still *sub judice*, though anything we might say on the subject would hardly be likely to influence the jury two hundred miles off with which the adjudication must ultimately rest. The Times, in the middle of the present week, prematurely criticized the evidence, and was censured for doing so by the Lord Chief Justice. The trial once over, every Protestant journal in the empire will fulminate its wrath, and denounce in the strongest terms nuns and nunneries as institutions incompatible with the usages of modern life. For this the defendants in the action are, no doubt, fully prepared; but the most irritating feature of all in certain minds is, that this new and unexpected insight into convent life reveals none of the atrocities which rabid Protestants expected from it. There was no imprisonment, no restraint on personal liberty, no immorality of any kind disclosed. A more happy and virtuous community could not be found on the face of the earth, if we except one erring sister, the plaintiff, whose infirmities of character were a source of misery to all the rest; and, though the Lady Superiress was anxious to get rid of her, and implored her to leave yet for years she could not be induced to depart, and at length resented her expulsion as an injury involving damages, which she has estimated at £5,000! There is nothing in all this of which Catholics need be ashamed; but it is not what the Protestant portion of the community looked for or expected, because they had been taught from infancy, had read in wild novels, and been assured in still wilder newspapers, that in convents things were practised which could not be publicly named. The glimpses which the public get through the medium of this trial into the inner life of the pious ladies at Clifton show them to be constantly engaged in teaching the young, in pursuing their own devotions, in alienating themselves from the affairs of this world, and preparing themselves for a better one. In fact, the strictness of the discipline to which the good sisters submitted, not only without regret, but with cheerfulness and pleasure, brought out more distinctly the little blemishes of the lady who has brought the action. It is only Catholics who have daughters, sisters, or female relatives devoted to conventual life, can appreciate the moral which the evidence on this trial conveys. It is in the power of one ill-conditioned member to make all the others wretched, and so far from wishing to keep her in the establishment when her unsuitableness was discovered, the real wish of all was that she should depart as speedily as possible. Of course, the verdict will be in favour of the plaintiff. Every thing foreshadows this. In a legal contest of this kind, a Catholic has no mercy to expect from a Protestant judge and jury, when Catholic institutions are on their trial, and we are really sorry to see Sir Alexander Cockburn following the bad example set to him by his predecessor the late Lord Campbell, in the action brought in the same court, many years ago, by an apostate priest against Father Newman. Of all the trials since the Catholics of England were admitted to their civil rights, that trial in its treatment and result was the most disgraceful. It is now and ever will be a stain on the memory of the presiding judge, for although Father Newman brought numerous witnesses, females as well as males, from different parts of the continent at an enormous expense to demonstrate the real character of the opposite priest, yet the verdict and sentence were in harmony with the old law, even then repealed and exploded 'the greater truth the greater the lie!' But Father Newman was a convert from Protestantism—the greatest, in point of fact, of all the converts,—and what would have been deemed heroic in any one else was pronounced to be criminal in him. Father Newman, has, however, survived his imprisonment, and even Exeter Hall was obliged by the disclosures, to abandon and shun his victor. It is the recollection of Lord Campbell's disgraceful conduct and his deep Scotch bigotry on that occasion, which compels us to associate in the same paragraph Miss Saurin with the apostate priest referred to, by whom in other respects there is not a trace of identity. Anywhere but in a convent, to the life of which she was unsuited, the lady would pass unchallenged. —[Northern Press.]

An official announcement has been received in Dublin to the effect that it is the intention of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur to visit this country early next month. It is stated that his journey will extend to nearly two months, and that he will make a general tour through Ireland.

An application was made yesterday to the Court

of Queen's Bench for a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring up Miss Margaret French, who is at present an inmate in the Loreto Convent School, Bathfarham. It was grounded on an affidavit of Lady French, the mother of the lady, who stated that her daughter is aged over 19 years and entitled to judge for herself, and that she desires to live with the applicant, who is residing apart from her husband. She had frequently written letters to her daughter, but they were returned undelivered, and the Superioress had refused permission to her attorney to deliver a letter to Miss French. She did so by direction of Lord French, who had placed the girl at the school. The Court granted a writ.

At Ballinaspitilly Petty Sessions, County Cork, Mr. Blake, solicitor, applied for informations against Constable Clifton, accused of having shot Daniel Donovan, in an affray between the police and the people, at Kibbriton, 12 November last. Mr. Julian, on the part of the accused, resisted the application, and after the depositions, which had been taken at the request held on Donovan, had been read, the informations were received and made returnable to the assizes. Bail for Clifton's appearance was accepted.

LOSS OF A LIFEBOAT AND CREW.—A special telegram from the *Freeman's* Waterford correspondent, dated Duncannon, Friday, announces the loss of the Dunmore coast-guard lifeboat, with all hands. The boat was a new one, and was on her way to Duncannon when she capsized. The crew were five in number. The boat is not yet found.

REPRESENTATION OF DUNDALK.—A great deal has been said during the week on the arrangements stated to have been made relative to Mr. Callan resigning the representation of Dundalk, in order that Mr. Whitworth may be returned for the borough; Mr. Callan's election for Drogheda being guaranteed at the same time. We understand that some such arrangement has been proposed, and is under consideration; but we believe that until Mr. Callan is returned for Drogheda he will not resign the representation of Dundalk. From what we can learn it does not appear that such a private arrangement will satisfy a large number of the electors of Dundalk; and we hear it stated that unless Mr. Whitworth does for Dundalk some at least of what he has done for Drogheda, that Mr. Charles Russell will be called upon to address the electors. We want a string of enterprising men, who will give a stimulus to our local merchants, by providing industrial employment for our idle people, and if Mr. Whitworth extends his business, and erects a factory in Dundalk, as he has done in Drogheda, we have no doubt that the electors will cheerfully accept him, and return him for their borough free of expense.

Two of the companions of Captain Mackay, the Fenian, who were convicted as accomplices, were released on Monday after completing their full term of twelve months' imprisonment. On leaving the goal they were met by a number of their associates headed by a band, who escorted them amidst cheers, while their ears were regaled with the familiar airs 'Johnny, I hardly knew you,' and 'We'll rally round the green flag.' By way of keeping their hands in practice, the party broke the window of Mr. Richardson, the gunsmith, in the evening. A conference of those who are engaged in the movement for procuring the release of the political prisoners was held yesterday in the Oak room of the Mansion-house, for the purpose of considering the most suitable way in which to present memorials on the subject to the Queen. Mr. Isaac Butt, Q. C. who was among those present, suggested that they should address a memorial to the Lord-in-Waiting at one of the Queen's levees. A number of the Mayors of Irish municipalities might attend, and he hoped the Lord Mayor of Dublin would present the 'great national petition,' which he said had been signed by nearly 100,000 people. The Lord Mayor of Dublin and the Mayors of Limerick and Cork expressed their willingness to attend the levee, and it was resolved that the Mayors of the municipalities should be invited to accompany them. —[Times Cor.]

A fatal railroad accident took place at Stillorgan on Saturday morning, the victim being a young man named John Langton, recently employed as gardener by Dr. de Burg, Stillorgan. It would appear that the deceased was reading a newspaper at the railway station and became so absorbed in the contents that he proceeded to cross the line just as the 9.30 express train from Bray was arriving opposite the station. It is probable that the deceased was under the impression that the train stopped at the station, and that, therefore, he would have time to pass across the line safely. Such was not the case, however, and though the engine driver shut off steam at once and gave the necessary alarm, which induced the unfortunate man to endeavor to retrace his steps, the result was that the engine came into collision with him. When the train was brought to a stand it was discovered that Langton was dead he being actually cut into pieces. The remains were conveyed to the railway station, where an inquest was held on them next day by Dr. Davys, county coroner. — The deceased leaves a wife and two children to deplore his unhappy fate.

With regard to the Gladstone government, which has made so many promises to redress our wrongs, there is no doubt that there is a disposition in Ireland to confide in them. But if the Irish are now deceived, they will never confide in a British government again. They have put forth all their strength to elect members to support Mr. Gladstone in the work he has proposed to accomplish, and they expect he will at once commence his labours. They expect that he will put an end to the Protestant Establishment; that he will settle the land question on an equitable basis, and that he will conform to the views of the Hierarchy on the question of education.

What we want in Ireland in legislation in accordance with the views of the majority.—For many years England has carried out her own views in this country, and see what has been the result—poverty, vast emigration, dissatisfaction, rebellion and the suspension of the constitution. Let her now legislate in accordance with Irish ideas. If she does, then peace and order will prevail, and never till then.—How foolish England has been not to have done this long ago! Formerly she put chains on our limbs, and for the past forty years she has been removing them. Her short-sighted statesmen treated us as lunatics were treated under the old barbarous system. She bound us up, and fool that she was, she thought we should remain quiet. She now seems to have found out her mistake. Let her, then, make her reparation as soon as possible. The Irish are furious when wronged, but gentle when honestly treated; but if they are deceived, the result, we fear, will be that there will be five millions of desperate Fenians in the country. —[Dundalk Democrat.]

It is hardly possible to overrate the importance of the unsentinel for bribery by his agents of Sir Arthur Guinness the newly elected Tory member for Dublin. This result was anticipated in our last issue, and no other could have followed from the evidence adduced. The intensity of this triumph has been deepened by what has since taken place at Londonderry, where Mr. Sergeant Dwyer, the Liberal member, has been declared duly elected, notwithstanding the petition which was presented against his return by his opponent Lord Claude Hamilton. It marks a new era in the history of Ireland, that such places as Belfast, Newry, and Londonderry, until recently the strongholds of Orangism, should have so much of the Liberal element in them as to be able to send to the present House of Commons members favourable to the sweeping away of the State Church, and the promotion of measures for the elevation in the social scale of the great mass of the Irish people. When victories like these occur in Ulster, what may not be expected by-and-by from the more democratic sections of the neighbouring kingdom? The new law about elections is everywhere working well for the permanent interests of the three kingdoms; but