

tnes, and the sacred honour of its inhabitants in defence of their sovereign and their country against foreign aggression. The Germans continue to be as unpopular as ever. On the evening of the 8th inst., some of the populace who had gone to congratulate the Tuscan Ambassador on the formation of the Counsel of State and the organisation of the civic guard in the Grand Dukedom of Tuscany and Lucca, proceeded thence to the Hotel of the Austrian Ambassador which is convenient to the Jesuit College, and shouted "Death to the tyrants;" "Death to the Jesuits." Two officers of the civic guard who had joined in the cries, were arrested next morning. If not punished, they will be severely reprimanded. One of the Buonaparte family was also implicated, but he started off to Venice to attend the scientific congress that is to meet shortly in that city.

Every week we have a parade in one or other of the magnificent villas in the neighbourhood of the city, by the detachment of the civic guard to which the proprietor belongs. Last Thursday, Prince Torlonia, the banker and tobacco monopolist, invited his men to parade in his villa, and supplied them with the most delicate refreshments. On that occasion an address was delivered, and a political poem recited, which were well received. They were conceived in the extravagant style of such rhapsodies, and abounded with the usual phrases about liberty and independence, swords and heroes, death and glory.

The Government have been obliged to forbid the ridiculous parade of children dressed and accoutred as civic guards, and actually mounting guard at the different posts with all the gravity and airs of the grown-up children in other quarters of the city. It was calculated to throw ridicule on the whole concern, but it shows how universal is the military ardour of the population.

There have been disturbances in Milan and in Sicily. The Emperor has requested permission to send 40,000 men to Naples through the Papal States. It is hoped the Pope will not grant it.

A.

[From the Cork Examiner, September 24.]

THE REV. MR. BRENNAN'S RETURN TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The glorification trumpeted abroad by the advocates of proselytism over two Catholic clergymen who some time ago joined the Priest Protection Society, has turned out to be a short-lived joy. The principles of the society, when tested by experience, do not it seems, prove sterling gold. It would not suit the Priest protectors to make their motto "*vestigia nulla retrorsum.*" What they gain to-day they lose the next. We on a late occasion published the Rev. Mr. Beatty's abjuration

of the society, and his return to the faith we were told conviction has induced him to abandon. To-day the second of the two paraded converts, the Rev. Mr. Brennan, wishes us to proclaim to the public his regret for the step he had taken, and his return to the faith of his fathers. A public announcement of this kind, painful as it naturally must be, argues that Mr. Brennan is not now following that to which there is nothing but tinsel allurements to draw him:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMAN.

Phibsborough, Sept. 21st, 1847.

SIR—I have seen a paragraph copied into your paper some few weeks ago, setting forth the apostasy of two priests, with some lay persons, from the Catholic church. That statement, I am sorry to say, was unhappily too true. I must acknowledge myself to be one of those unfortunate victims, who, forgetful of the high calling of the priesthood, forsook his *all*, and went over to the Priest Protection Society on that occasion. This terrific abandonment of what should be dearer to me than life, I now desire, if possible, to repair, by a public avowal of my return to the faith of the Catholic church. I trust you will have no objection to make that avowal public, through the medium of your valued and widely circulated journal. For the present I shall not trouble you with any remarks relative to the false and flattering deceptions I must be supposed to have recently embraced and admired, as my great end and object now is to repair if I can the great scandal I have given. My only hope is to run at once into the arms of my crucified Redeemer, for pardon and for succour, in this truly trying time of need. May the Almighty and Merciful God give me a true spirit of sorrow and compunction for all my past transgressions, and strengthen and enable me to see clearly into their intensity and enormity. This is the earnest desire of your very obedient servant,

P. BRENNAN."

For the Cross.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

By giving insertion to the following lines in your valuable Paper, you will oblige a Subscriber.

Died, on the 22nd ult, at Meadowgreen, in the Township of St. Andrews, County of Sydney, Alexander McDonald, Surgeon, aged 26 years, eldest son of the late John McDonald, Adjutant.

The untimely death of this promising and amiable young man, has cast a gloom of the deepest sorrow, not only over the very interesting family to which he belonged, but over the whole community, who, without exception, consider his death a great common loss.

Our lamented friend after having terminated with honour his collegiate studies in the Medical College of New York, returned to his native Coun-