

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE AGGREGATE MEETING.

The following are amongst the number of letters received by the committee for making the arrangements for the great aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, on the 29th April:—

"Mullingar, April 21st, 1851.

"GENTLEMEN,—I send back your form of requisition for holding an aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, on the 29th inst., with my signature attached. The objects contemplated have my warmest approbation. Simultaneous meetings for the same purpose, in all the chapels of Ireland, on Sunday, the 3d of May, would, in my opinion, be productive of much good, and I shall be most happy to co-operate with the committee, in carrying such a resolution into effect. I also most cordially concur in the opinion, that it is incumbent on the Catholics of Ireland to form a defence association, for the protection of the religious rights of the Catholics of the United Kingdom. The insane threats of the minister, coupled with the unchristian and atrocious sentiments which were uttered and cheered in the imperial parliament, are sufficient to remove from the mind even of the most moderate, every doubt of the urgent necessity of such an association.

"The authors and abettors of religious persecution are the deadliest foes to human liberty, as well as the worst enemies of the throne. It is most disgraceful to the boasted freedom of England, and unworthy of her statesmen, to waste the time of the legislature in the discussion of penal measures, which if passed into laws, would be entitled to the same respect and obedience as the demand of the highway robber.

"I have the honor to remain, gentlemen, your obedient and humble servant,

"JOHN CANTWELL.

"To the Committee of the Aggregate Meeting, &c., &c."

"Bellast, 20th April, 1851.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in returning to you the requisition signed by our bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Deuvir, and all the resident local clergy, together with a number of the most respectable Catholics belonging to our communion in Bellast. I can assure you and the other gentlemen acting with you, that I only express the feelings of my co-religionists here, when I state that they will not yield to any Catholics in Ireland, in giving their most determined opposition to Lord John Russell's infamous penal-bill. I may also state, that it is probable we shall send up to Dublin a deputation to represent our feelings and attend the meeting fixed for the 29th inst.

"I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

"C. McDONNELL.

"John Reynolds, Esq., M. P."

Letters promising co-operation have also been received from the Mayors of Limerick, Waterford, Wexford, Drogheda, Kilkenny, and Clonmel, and from the chairman of the town council of Kells, &c.

**PENAL LAWS.—GREAT MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF DUBLIN.**—The aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin, held on Tuesday, is not to be confounded with the other aggregate assembly, which is fixed for the 29th inst. The latter is to be a meeting, in a quasi representative character, of the United Catholics of Ireland, and will be held in the Rotundo. The meeting in Conception Hall was purely local, though great and encouraging in its proportions. The speeches and resolutions, applauded and adopted with cheering unanimity, proved the difficulty of the task which the Prime Minister—Lord John Russell, and the prime persecutor—Walpole, have severally undertaken. Let them rest assured, that however they, or either of them, may "provide" and "amend," they will find provisions or amendments utter failures in practice, should they ever become law.—*Freeman*.

We have the satisfaction of being able to announce that the preliminary arrangements for holding an aggregate meeting of the Irish Catholics, have been crowned with the most satisfactory results, and give the most perfect assurance of the entire success of that important movement. Threatened as the Catholic people now are, with the re-imposition of penal laws, affecting not only the outward practice, but the very essence of their religion, it becomes them, as they value their honor as men, and their faith as Christians, at once to assume the attitude of defence, and to assume it in such form as may convince the ministers and parliament of England, that it has not been adopted as a mere holiday display, but that it is a position taken with a fixed determination to maintain it, if needs be, at the cost of fortune and life. That such will be the tone and attitude assumed by the people of Ireland, as represented by the aggregate meeting on Tuesday next, we have now the strongest reasons for hoping. The proceedings of the preparatory committee, the cordial promise of co-operation that have been received from the country, the approbation of the venerated Hierarchy of Ireland, and, above all, the magnificent requisition which has just been prepared for publication, and will be found to exhibit one of the most influential displays of names ever presented by any similar documents in this country—all encourage us to entertain sanguine expectations of a triumphant result.—*ib.*

**THE AGGREGATE MEETING.**—Every post brings new and important accessions to the preparatory committee, and even the least hopeful—may even the doubters and discouragers, who, three days ago, would have dissuaded from the attempt to arouse the country to an attitude of defence, will recognise in the array of names already at the disposal of the committee, conclusive evidence that the heart of the country is yet untouched, and that there still remains enough of manhood and of resolve, to defend the penal code, whether it be fashioned in the mould of a Russell or a Walpole. The Irish hierarchy have signed the requisition in such numbers that we need not hesitate to affirm, that the movement has the entire sanction, and will have the active co-operation of that venerated body. Three Archbishops and sixteen Bishops have already attached their names to the document which calls on universal Ireland to meet, and speak aloud in defence of the faith of their fathers, and to proclaim their resolve to maintain inviolate the sacred principles of religious liberty. Nineteen of the prelates having already actively joined the movement, we cannot doubt but that a few more posts will bring the adhesion of the entire body.

**PREPARATORY MEETING IN LIMERICK.**—Tuesday a meeting of the Catholics of the city of Limerick, convened on requisition by the Mayor, was held at the Town-hall to co-operate with the committee in Dublin preparatory to the meeting on the 29th inst., of the

Catholics of Ireland. The meeting was very numerous and very influentially attended. The Mayor in the chair.

**THE AGGREGATE MEETING OF IRISH CATHOLICS.**—The *Cork Examiner* says—"If there is to be resistance, the sooner it is planned and organised the better. While the spirit of the country is yet unbroken; while yet no rusty chain of past tyranny has been fitted to the limbs of a people long rejoicing in the possession of freedom; while the Emancipation Act is still intact, and powerful as a barrier against oppression—even now is the time for a bold, determined, and unflinching resistance. Not a single inch of ground must be yielded up without a struggle; and we say the time has come when the hot and eager enemy must be met with every manner of opposition that can baffle and drive them back. The light is a holy one—in defence of our Church—in maintenance of our civil rights—in vindication of our religious liberty."

We understand that in the country parts of Ireland the peasants are beginning to inquire when the war will begin. They expect that an attempt is to be made to grab up their religion with the hangman's knife, and they expect soon to be called upon to die in defence of their Faith against Lord John's myrmidons.—*Tablet*.

**DEATH OF THE REV. T. BRENNAN.**—We regret to announce the demise of the Rev. Thomas Brennan, C. C., of Dunmore, which took place on Easter Sunday morning at Tuam, where he had been attending the solemn ceremonies of holy week.—*Requiescat in pace.*—*Galway Vindicator*.

**THE RIGHT REV. DR. BROWNE, BISHOP OF ELPHIN.**—His lordship, we regret to state, for some time past, been laboring under severe indisposition. There is, however, a decided improvement during the last week in his health; but he is not yet sufficiently recovered to take his usual part in the ceremonies of the church connected with this holy season. We hope, in a very short time, to have the pleasure of announcing his lordship's perfect restoration to health.—*Sligo Champion*.

**THE REV. DR. CAMELL.**—This eminent Divine is about to visit Liverpool to deliver a series of controversial lectures at St. Mary's Catholic Church. The event is looked forward to with great interest, more especially by the Irish residents there, and to whom recent events have tended to endear the Rev. gentleman.

The tectatofers of Danganon have erected a new Temperance Hall in the Union-place, which they intend opening on the 25th instant.

**CORK ELECTION.**—Mr. Sergeant Murphy has what the correspondent of the *Times* calls "the agreeable recreation of a walk over" in Cork.

Amongst the curiosities at the Great Exhibition, one of the strangest articles is a coat of Irish froeze, from the establishment of Messrs. Keane and Co., Limerick, which may be altered into nine different and distinct shapes!!!

On Monday night the wife of a poor man of the name of Egan, residing in the village of Brusna, gave birth to three children—two sons and a daughter—all of whom are apparently healthy, and doing well.—*King's County Chronicle*.

**EMIGRATION.**—On Saturday, the 14th instant, the *Town of Wexford* steamer, Captain Murphy, left our quays for Liverpool with 340 emigrants, on their way to the land of the West, and among them were but few who went forth, singly and alone, from a family, solitary adventurers, having no personal tie to any one spot on the earth's surface. No—at present the hundreds who are leaving our shores are entire families, united neighbors, who, born together, are taking wing together, cheering up each other by mutual friendship, and determined, so far as possible, still to be near each other in the land of their adoption. These parties presented singular and interesting appearance; well clad, well provided with luggage, and in a stranger's mind must give rise to no ordinary reflections, as to what extraordinary causes lead to these results. Of the entire number who left our quays on Saturday there was not one whose external appearance denoted destitution.—*Wexford Examiner*.

Dundalk was crowded on Tuesday last with large parties of emigrants from the districts of Louth, Tullinstown, and Inishkeen. They seemed to be of the better class of small farmers, the most valuable portion of the Irish population. To-day we observed many emigrants from the interior of the country—the very class we require at home—preparing to go to Liverpool by the steampacket.—*Dundalk Democrat*.

The *Lady Campbell*, Captain Hodge, for New York, left this port on Sunday, with 110 passengers; and the *Medina*, Captain Knox, sailed yesterday, anchored in Passage with 109 emigrants on board for Quebec. As the *Mars* steamer, for Liverpool, left the quay yesterday she could not have less than 200 persons on deck, who were emigrating to America; and the *Jenny Lind*, Captain Power, awaits a fair wind for Passage to Quebec, with 141 passengers.—*Waterford Chronicle*.

**HAIL STORM.**—On Monday evening last, between four and five o'clock, one of the most terrific hail storms that we have ever witnessed took place in this neighborhood. Some of the hailstones were as large as small pistol balls; and in many of the public buildings and private dwellings, a considerable quantity of window glass was broken. After the hail had subsided, a few peals of thunder were heard. We fear the young crops and fruit-trees may have sustained serious injury. From inquiries we have made, it appears that a similar storm came on within about ten miles of Derry, but at an earlier period of the day.—*Derry Journal*.

**SUDDEN DEATH.**—On Friday last, as a farmer named Bernard Rice, of Ballymacilward, parish of Derrigahy, aged 74 years, was returning home from the Bellast market, he fell down dead on the road at Hanna's-town Turnpike Gate.—*Belfast News-Letter*.

**DEATH FROM STARVATION.**—On the 12th inst., Thomas O'Meara, Esq., coroner, held an inquest on the body of a poor itinerant pedlar, named Francis Toohey. After the examination of witnesses, who deposed to the deceased being suffering, sometime previous to his death, from extreme poverty, the jury returned the following verdict:—"We find that Francis Toohey came by his death at Carraglass, near Borrisoleigh, of destitution and want of the common necessities of life."—*Nenagh Guardian*.

There are 1,866 paupers at present in the Clogheen workhouse, of which number 360 are in hospital. The amount of rate uncollected is £3,128 8s. 3d. A new rate upon the eleven electoral divisions of the union has just been struck.—*Tipperary Free Press*.

DUBLIN POLICE.—SATURDAY, April 19.  
(Before Mr. Porter.)

**THE PRIEST'S PROTECTION (!) SOCIETY—A PRACTICAL CAUTION TO TRACT DISTRIBUTORS.**—Michael Minnehan, a respectable looking person, appeared on summons to answer the complaint of Edward Spence, for assaulting him.

Mr. C. Fitzgerald, sen., attended for the defendant. The complainant, a young man miserably clad, stated that he had been sent out to circulate "little letters," and that having left at defendant's house, at Kilmainham, a copy of one of the "letters," he proceeded to another house in the neighborhood in order to leave another there. He was in the act of ringing the bell at the gate, when the defendant followed him from his residence, and, coming up to him, said, "You bloody Orange fellow, how dare you leave such a paper at my house." He, immediately after saying that, struck him a blow on the side of his head, and knocked him down.

Mr. Fitzgerald said he at once admitted that his client had struck the complainant; but he did so while laboring under feelings naturally and justly exasperated, as his worship would at once see by the kind of document that Spence had left at his house. [Mr. F. then handed a paper or tract to the magistrate. It was in the form of a small primer book, and issued by the so-called "Priests' Protective Society." It purported to be a "Proclamation from the Priests' Protective Society of Ireland to the Roman Catholics of Ireland." It stigmatized the Catholic religion in language the most foul and opprobrious—denouncing it as "anti-Christian and idolatrous"—that the Pope incited the practice of idolatry, &c., &c. Having read the tract, Mr. Porter said that he belonged to a church of which the Queen was the head, not in a spiritual, but in a protective capacity, and those to whom this document was addressed regarded the Pope as their spiritual head. He conceived that if a document of similar character and tendency, treating of the Queen in the same language, were addressed to Protestants, it could not be looked upon otherwise than as insulting to the feelings of the Protestant community. He looked upon the matter contained in the paper before him not as argumentative but as abusive, and the complainant, he considered, had brought the consequences upon himself. Those persons who were so much inclined to enter into polemical controversy should understand that the just things that could be expected from men's minds were their religious opinions—that certainly kicks, abuse, or insulting language would never effect such an object. He did not think that publications of the present sort could ever tend to establish anything but bad feeling amongst all classes of Christians.

The complainant said he did not know that there was anything contained in the paper that could be hurtful to the feelings of any person.

Mr. Porter—But you should make yourself acquainted with the character of those documents before going about to circulate them. He (Mr. Porter) considered that the use of the words "the blinking image of the Virgin Mary," which he found in this document, was most offensive and most unjustifiable; and when the plaintiff, in circulating language such as that, was visited with consequences of the kind of which he then complained he should not feel surprised at it. He (Mr. Porter) did not think that that was the way to speak of one whom, in looking over the Scriptures, in which all classes of Christians believed, they found hailed as "blessed amongst women," and that "all generations shall call her blessed." He, as a Protestant, and many other Protestants also, he was aware, did not approve of language such as that set forth in the tract before him.

Complainant—But he made three attacks upon me, your worship.

Mr. Porter thought that the defendant would not have at all interfered with him had not the complainant gone to his house, and delivered there that most offensive and unjustifiable paper that had been produced to the bench.

Complainant—But Minnehan told me afterwards that he was only sorry he had not given me more of it.

Mr. Porter—Well, I suppose you might consider that in the light of an apology (laughter). As to the defendant, Minnehan, he had certainly taken the law into his own hands and broken it; but he (Mr. P.) would take into consideration and make allowance for the natural temper of a man whose religious feelings had been not only affronted, but insulted. Believing, as he did, that the complainant had brought it all upon himself while engaged in an unjustifiable transaction, yet, as a civil magistrate, he could not look upon the defendant's conduct in any other light than as being unjustifiable in point of law, he should impose a penalty upon him, and that penalty was that he be fined fourpence.

Complainant—But am I not to get the price of the summons?

Mr. Porter—No, you shall get no costs.

**A MAN STABBED BY A WOMAN.**—On the 5th ult., while buying a kid, an altercation arose at the market place of Templemore, between a man of the name of Davoren, and a woman named Catherine Wade—when the latter, in the excitement of the moment, seized a butcher's knife, and with much force plunged it into the side of the former. No hopes are entertained of Davoren's recovery. The woman was arrested on the spot.—*Nenagh Guardian*.

The wife of a soldier of the 17th regiment, quartered at Galway, threw herself into a rapid and deep mill race a few days ago, owing to a quarrel with her husband; she passed under the mill wheel, breaking with her force two of the buckets, yet escaped without the slightest injury, and was afterwards picked up at a lower part of the river, and saved from drowning.

A poor woman in a state of fever, who was sheltered in a hut in the county of Westmeath, was burned to death a few days ago by the hut taking fire by some accident.

**MURDER.**—On Monday night a brutal murder was perpetrated at a place called Ruskeen, within eight miles of the town of Thurles. The victim appears to have been a poor industrious farmer, and that the deed of blood had been committed by midnight plunderers, whom he had detected in the act of stealing his cow. An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday by James O'Meara, Esq., Coroner. A verdict was returned in accordance with the facts.—*Nenagh Guardian*.

**DEATH OF A WOMAN BY DRINKING ARSENIC, MISTAKING IT FOR MAGNESIA.**—A very distressing occurrence has taken place at Whitehouse, near this town. Some days ago, a man named Manning found a paper

package on the road from Belfast to Whitehouse, and on opening it he discovered that it contained a white powder. He brought it home to his wife, who, examining it, pronounced it to be magnesia. The poor woman happened to be teazed with what is commonly called "heartburn," for which magnesia is a partial remedy, and she mixed the powder in water, and drank it off. Shortly after she was seized with a violent retching, pains in the stomach, and other effects which follow the absorption of a poisonous ingredient into the human frame; and, when the true facts of the melancholy circumstances were made known, it was found that the poison had so far entered into the system as to baffle surgical skill. The poor woman died in great agony.—*Belfast Mercury*.

**BURGLARY AND CAPTURE OF THE BURGLAR.**—On Saturday last, a man who gave his name Mick Farrell, of Ballyeden, called at the house of Edward Kavanaugh, of Bricketstown, who lodges travellers, and took up his abode for the night. He paid for his bed next morning, and took his departure. On the following night, about two o'clock, a noise was heard by Kavanaugh's sister, when the former jumped out of bed, and finding the door broken open, went out and saw a man running away, whom he pursued, and succeeded in capturing after a severe struggle, the fellow having a knife, with which he studiously defended himself. It turned out that he was the identical Mick Farrell, alias Hanton, an old offender, and that his first visit was for the purpose of reconnoitering. He now lies in the county prison. Kavanaugh, who is a respectable industrious man, deserves much credit for his spirit and address, in leading the way to rid the country of such a dangerous and desperate character.—*Wexford Independent*.

A caretaker in the employment of Mr. Joseph Higgins, at Greenane, near Clonmel, was severely beaten by a gang of five ruffians, on Saturday, who were prevented from stealing timber belonging to that gentleman.—*Limerick Reporter*.

**OPHTHALMIA** has broken out in the Westport workhouse.—There were over 40 cases last week.

**BIGOTRY IN THE ARMY.**—A correspondent informs us that the colonel of the 2nd (or Queen's Own) regiment, now stationed in Clonmel, in the indulgence of a bigoted and proselytising disposition, refuses to receive Catholic recruits unless they become converts and leave the old Faith. He adds—"This is too bad, now that they are driven to choose between starvation and taking the Saxon shilling."

**"REVENGE CARRIED BEYOND THE GRAVE."**—The Rev. Mr. Beechlin, P.P., Newcaste, in a letter to the *Cork Examiner*, gives the following account of the conduct of certain proselytising agents towards a poor woman named Kitty Fitzgerald, who received, during her last illness, the grace of repentance and reconciliation with the Church:—"This poor woman's husband was of Protestant parents, and died long since in the same Faith. But Kitty was Catholic until the 'flesh pots' made her conform. She was a church-going person for twenty years, but when she found her last end approaching, she sent for her Priest. I attended her, and, in presence of several of her neighbors, she expressed her contrition, and begged to be reconciled to her God through the grace of the Sacraments, which she received at my hands. She lived three days after I visited her, and requested in her dying moments to be interred with her husband and son in the Newmarket churchyard (Protestant). Accordingly, her remains were conveyed by a large concourse to the Iron Gate; but lo! no farther could they go, for there the sexton's stool, with the keys, saying that, without the special permission of her employer, she durst not allow them in with the body of such a deceiver; whereupon the boys, with expressions not fitting so solemn an occasion, I admit, went off to the Catholic burial place, and there deposited the deceased, amidst the prayers of the Faithful. Sir, did not my name appear to this statement, it might pass for romance, but there is no exaggeration in it, I assure you. The public are informed that in England, on a late occasion, a Protestant Clergyman was reprimanded by his Bishop for refusing to read the burial service over a dissenting brother Clergyman; yet he did not refuse him a last resting place. But here a creature is denied a grave, near her husband and son, to which, in my judgement, she has a strict legal right; and that merely because she returned in the last awful moments to the Faith of her ancestors and of her choice?"

**NOVEL PHENOMENON.**—A correspondent of the *Courier des Etats Unis*, dated Paris, March 27, contains, among other items, the following facts:—"A few days ago, the steeple of the Church of Larignac, Department of the Loire, was carried away by the fall of an aërolite, which shone brilliantly under the rays of the sun. The Academy of Sciences, informed of this event, appointed a committee of three persons specially charged with studying the nature of this remarkable aërolite. A first examination appears to establish that the matter of diamond predominates in the gangue of this celestial body, which is in part schistus and ammonical. This meteoric substance is a novelty, and has not yet been comprised by philosophers in their scientific classifications.

**THE SOCIALISTS OF PARIS.**—On Sunday afternoon a workman caused a crowd to assemble on the Boulevard St. Martin by addressing gross insults to every well dressed lady who passed. "Wives of aristocrats," he cried, "your laces and velvets shall be burnt; your husbands shall be hanged, and you shall be sent to the guillotine." Shortly after, seeing a carriage come up containing several ladies splendidly dressed, he cried, "You see that lady in that magnificent velvet cloak; I will burn it," and at the same time he rushed to the carriage, clung to the door, and threw a bottle of vitriol on to the lady's dress. The spectators indignant at this act of fury, arrested him. When questioned by the Commissary of Police, he said that he had long been tormented by the fixed idea of destroying the splendid toilette of some lady, and had purchased vitriol to effect his design. It is supposed that he is mad, and he was sent to the Prefecture of Police.

"How is it, Charley," said a coachman one day to his brother-whip, after a serious upset, "that I always spreads 'em, and you always throws 'em on a heap?" "That," says the *Times*, "exactly describes the two modes of dealing with the surplus. The Ministerial proposition is to spread the surplus; the protectionist is to throw it on a heap."

Three packages have lately arrived at Liverpool from Rome, containing casts to be used in the execution of the monument to the late Sir Robert Peel.