

IRISH INTELLIGENCE

BY THE GREAT WESTERN.

The agitation of the Repeal of the Union continues with unabated violence. At the Dublin Corn Exchange, on the 5th, the Repeal Rent amounted to £904, the largest yet received, except that of the previous week, which included some extraordinary returns made at Mr. O'Connell's great meeting in Tipperary.—Troops have been poured into the country in great numbers. At the close of last week the force in Ireland amounted to six divisions of Artillery; six regiments and a squadron of Cavalry; twelve battalions and twenty-two depots of Infantry.

The usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association took place on Monday, the 12th, at the Corn Exchange, Dublin. A Presbyterian clergyman, named Lawrey, from the north of Ireland, filled the chair, and in the absence of Mr. O'Connell, appears to have played the first fiddle. The amount of the rent for the week was announced to be £1,717 11s. 10½d. The enthusiasm was beyond all description, the immense mob outside the building pouring in the cheers from the inside.

The Repeal demonstration at Kilkenny, on the 8th is described as having been great. There were, it is said, upwards of 300,000 people present, including from 11,000 to 12,000 horsemen. Mr. O'Connell in addressing this vast multitude, said,—“Is there a band within hearing? If there be let them play up ‘God Save the Queen.’ (More than a dozen bands here played up the National Anthem, the entire vast multitude remaining uncovered. At the termination of the air, three hearty and deafening cheers were given for the Queen.) I will now give you another subject to cheer—three cheers for the Queen's Army,—the bravest army in the world. (Tremendous cheers.)—Three cheers for the Irish people—the most moral, the most brave, the most temperate, and the most religious people on the face of the earth. (Great and long continued cheering.) After assuring his hearers that nothing could prevent the Repeal being carried if the people were peaceable, he said—I suppose you have heard of the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel having come down to Parliament one fine evening, and declared that they would prevent the Repeal of the Union even at the expense of a civil war. We will not go to war with them, but let them not dare to go to war with us.—(Tremendous cheering, which continued some minutes.) But they have sent over 36,000 artillery, cavalry, infantry, and marines here, and I am very glad of it, for they will spend 36,000 shillings every day while they remain in the country.—(Cheers.) It would be a kind of little repeal of the union in itself.

There was an adjourned meeting on Tuesday at which Mr. O'Connell attended. He ridiculed the bustle among the officials and the military; the much talked of rebellion was invisible; but the soldiers would be employed in aiding to collect the poor rates next winter—in distressing blankets and pots with that view.”

He had just heard of a gentleman who had brought his family from Wexford to Dublin, to be safer in consequence of the rebellion that was to break out that morning! Mr. O'Connell proposed an address to the people of Ireland. The novelty in it was some replies to two principal objections against repeal. One objection was, that there would be a Catholic ascendancy; the answer was, that there was no danger of it; that in reducing the Protestant establishment, regard would be had to vested interests and the rights of incumbents; that the funds would not be devoted to any other establishment; and that the Catholics would have no object in desiring an ascendancy. The other objection was the fear of the landlords at the contemplated “fixity of tenure” for tenants; the reply was much argument in favor of that alteration of the law, as tending to the prosperity and peace of Ireland. The address was adopted. The rent received on that day was £310

The style of Mr. O'Connell's addresses will be gathered from the annexed extract from a dinner speech at Marlow. Speaking of the imagined purpose of the British ministry to subdue the Repeal movement by arms, Mr. O'Connell said: May not they send us to the West Indies as they lately have emancipated the negroes, to fill their places (hear, hear.) Oh! it is not an imaginary case at all, for the only Englishman that ever possessed Ireland sent 80,000 Irishmen to work as slaves, every one of whom perished in the short space of twelve years beneath the ungenial sun of the Indies (oh, oh, and hear hear.) Yes, and Peel and Wellington may be second Cromwells (hear and hisses;) they may get hunted truncheon, and they may, oh, sacred Heaven! enact on the fair occupants of that gallery (pointing to the ladies' gallery) the murder of the Wexford ladies (oh, oh!) But I am wrong: they never shall (tremendous cheering and waving of handkerchiefs.) What alarms me is the progress of injustice (hear, hear.) That ruffinly Saxon paper the ‘Times’ [loud groans.] the number received by me this day, presumes to threaten us with such a fate, [oh, oh!] but let it not be supposed that I made that appeal to the ladies as a flight of my imagination [hear.] No: the number of 300 ladies, the beauty and loveliness of Wexford, the young and old, the maid and matron, when Cromwell entered the town by treachery, three hundred inoffensive women of all ages and classes were collected round the cross of Christ, erected in a part of the town called the “Bull Ring” They prayed to heaven for mercy, and I hope they found it [hear:] they prayed to the English for humanity, and Cromwell slaughtered them [oh, oh, and great sensation] I tell you this three hundred of grace and beauty and virtue of Wexford were slaughtered by these English ruffians. Sacred heaven [tremendous sensation, and cries of “oh, oh!”] I am not at all imaginative when I talk of the possibility of such occurrences anew [hear, hear:] but I assert there is no danger of the women, for the men of Ireland would die to the last in their defence. [Here the entire company rose and cheered for several minutes]

Having lashed his audience into frenzy, he then soothes them,

I tell them we will keep within the law and commit no crime (hear :) that we will stand by the constitution, and let them not dare to try our patience beyond what it will endure, for it is not safe to drive even cowards to madness; and oh, it is much less safe to drive those who are not cowards (tremendous cheering.) I said a while ago that I disliked speechifying [hear, hear.] but this is not a speech that I have been giving to you—it is history [cheering.] The people have placed unlimited confidence in me [hear and cheers.] and I should be bound to say in the language of affectation that I do not deserve it (loud cries of “you do” and cheers;) but I believe I do (hear and tremendous cheering.) A singular fortune is mine [hear, hear:] I believe I am the only man living or dead, that enjoyed forty year's uninterrupted popularity and confidence.

A Voice: That you may enjoy twice as many more [cheers.]

Mr. O'Connell: No, that cannot be: for long before that time I shall have gone before my God to answer for all the acts of my public and private life.

WARLIKE DEMONSTRATIONS.—The general order for the arming of soldiery at Divine service, which I mentioned yesterday, is producing considerable alarm throughout the country. It was certainly a very ill advised and most unwarrantable proceeding. I subjoin some additional extracts from the provincial papers:—

Waterford.—The climax of military gaud was completely capped here on Sunday, the troops marching to their respective places of worship in battle array, regularly equipped for combat, with gun, sword, and ammunition, as if going to fight and not to pray. Guards and sentries in every instance were advantageously posted outside the churches, and every other precaution incident to military usage adopted to guard against any sudden onslaught on the part of the rebels.—The coincidence was rather incongruous that Dr. Dalry preached a sermon on the occasion in behalf of the Protestant Orphan Asylum, surrounded by “men of arms” as an evidence, we presume, that church ascendancy is still, as in the beginning, to be upheld and perpetuated by the sacred text of “pike and gun.”—*Waterford Chronicle.*

From Wallmer and Smith's Express

The debate in the House of Commons on the Irish Bill, on Friday night, was one of the most animated which has taken place during the session; the policy of the present as compared with the late Government was reviewed by the friends and opponents of each with more or less success, and a good deal of acrimony. Lord John Russell's speech, in particular, was unusually strong and pointed; it has received a large amount of praise from the party of which his Lordship is the recognized leader. Indeed, at the present movement, Ireland absorbs the exclusive attention of the statesmen and public writers of England. Matters have come to a crisis no less rapid than critical; but hitherto, beyond sending large bodies of troops to subdue

any outbreak that may occur, the government has done nothing to arrest it. But it is clear, from the Minister's tone, that their patience is exhausted. A few days will probably witness the development of their policy. The subject is surrounded with difficulty, and requires to be handled with no ordinary tact. A false or an unfortunate move would end in upsetting the ministry, and perhaps convulsing the country. Great men rise with great occasions. It will be seen ere long whether England's Minister is equal to the emergency, not merely of making Ireland pacific, but, what is of far more consequence as regards the welfare of the empire at large, render her contented. Various are the panaceas propounded for that purpose; Peel's choice will make or mar him as a statesman. Mr. O'Connell declared, on Thursday, at the great meeting at Ennis, that the Government were more disposed to conciliate than to coerce, and that if they were prepared to sever the Church from the State in Ireland, he would meet them in “excellent humour.” He stated that Peel and the conciliatory party in the Cabinet had prevailed. In London, however, the belief is quite the other way, and that the Duke of Wellington's recipe for quieting the Irish by force had found the greatest number of supporters in the Cabinet, leaving Peel and the moderate party in a minority. The language used by Lord Stanley and Sir James Graham, during Friday's debate, in contradistinction to that of Sir Robert Peel, is calculated to strengthen the latter impression. A little time, however will decide the question. The rent is expected to reach the enormous sum of £3000!

O'Connell at Mallow, commenced his evening speech thus:

I am a proud man. I own it. I am a proud man—I never qualified it—I never will deny it. [Cheers.] I may be succeeded at for the declaration, for I own it—I am a very proud man. I am glad of the gradual growth of the great cause, until it has accumulated at length into so powerful and gigantic a shape, that in its career it becomes like the mighty avalanche of the Alps, such in their career as it left the mountain top, increasing as it comes down, and bears with its very obstacles, until, overshooting all obstructions, it pours irresistibly forward, annihilating towns, villages, streams, and lakes, and alters the entire face of nature in one gigantic convulsion. [Cheers.]

In the course of his speech, Mr. O'Connell stated, that he was told by a distinguished person, who had it from the Queen's lips, that she never authorized Sir Robert Peel to use her name as he had done in the House of Commons, for putting down the Repeal agitation. He also stated that in a few weeks he had addressed 2,000,000 of his countrymen, and that when he got 3,000,000 of Repealers he would proceed on a new track. Alluding to the rumors abroad for putting down the agitation, he said the government had resolved upon not coercing them; they wished to “coax the birds of the bush.” If they are prepared to sever the church from the state in Ireland, he should be much obliged and delighted with the change, and meet them in excellent good humor. “The real sinew—the arms,” as Mr. O'Connell says, flowed in abundance. £1,200 at Ennis £600 at Mallow, and Heaven knows how much from Athlone on Sunday; and no one need wonder if the repeal rent for the next week far exceed £3,000.