

PROSPECTS OF IRELAND.—A wonderful flush of prosperity is, indeed, rapidly diffusing itself over the exanimate face of the land. A dozen public returns and surer sources tell us that the wealth of the country is rising fast to a level of revived prosperity. The currency of the various banks had sprung up a clear million between the last returns in '51 and '52. Yet this is hardly half of the money which has found its way into the country again. Stocks are high, railways extending, trade pretty active. Our great manufacture—the linen trade—was never in so flourishing a condition. No less than forty new mills have been built in Ulster within the year, and an arm of the trade is stretching down towards Connaught. Another indigenous manufacture has of late taken firm root—I mean that of the sugar beet. An immense factory at Derry, and another at Cork, are projected. The two at Mountmellick and Waterford are in full working order. They promise to supply the market with from four to five tons of sugar per annum, at a far cheaper rate than the planter can afford. I believe it is the destiny of the beet to monopolise the sugar market of Europe; and that Ireland may have and hold a very considerable segment of it. She is certainly better suited to its cultivation than any other land of moist skies and dim sunlight. I need not say what a stimulus to Irish industry the Cork Exhibition has been, and the generous and magnificent design of Mr. Dargan will be; and need barely mention the zealous, indefatigable, and most useful labors of the Boards of Manufacture, who, if divided, have at least endeavored to make competition the soul of trade. Two further negative proofs of the position I am proving are afforded by the returns of the workhouses and of emigration. They have each fallen off by 40,000 from the return of the year before last. In America they attribute this to the hopes inspired by the League. I may also pause for a second to notice the striking progress in the collection and preservation of the literature and arts of ancient Ireland, which has been made within the last five years, in which it is correct to say that more has been done for Irish history than in the preceding five centuries. The most valuable historical archives of our race have been put upon permanent record. The great code of the Celts is being collated and printed at last. The prospectuses of an Irish dictionary, constructed by the most learned Irish philologists living, is about to issue. An Irish Musical Society will publish within the next year a collection of melodies larger than either Bunting's or Moore's. The ancient Celtic arts, poetry, and annals, are once more shining forth from the rust and rubbish of time again.—*Nation*.

PRUSSIA AND THE IRISH EXHIBITION.—At the instance of Baron Von Humboldt, who interests himself most warmly for the Dublin Exhibition, his Majesty has been pleased to promise to exhibit several articles from his treasures of art. Prince Charles proposes to exhibit a selection of choice weapons from his armoury, and the Minister of Commerce has desired the managers of the Royal manufactories to select some of their choicest productions for exhibition there. Since these signs of royal and ministerial goodwill to the undertaking have become known, numerous additional applications for space have been made to the agent here, by the most celebrated masters.—*Times*.

The *Freeman's Journal* states that the Right Rev. Dr. Blake, Bishop of Down, is seriously ill, at his house, in Newry.

The petition from Cork against ministers' money bears over 10,000 signatures.

THE CLERK OF THE CROWN.—The valuable appointment which was held by the late Mr. Pierce Mahony, has been given to Mr. Potter, one of the representatives of the City of Limerick, who had been Mr. Smith O'Brien's solicitor when that unhappy gentleman was prosecuted for the Ballingarry tumult. Mr. Sergeant O'Brien is a candidate for the vacant seat.

The Lord Lieutenant has appointed Nathaniel Barton, of Stralain, Esq., a deputy Lieutenant of the county Kildare.

The Irish estates of Lord Fitzwilliam, producing £30,000 a year, are about to be sold in the Encumbered Estates Court. A petition for this purpose was filed by the noble Lord himself.

In the Incumbered Estates Court on Saturday, the property of Mr. J. P. Somers, late M. P. for Sligo, held by lease for ever, at a nominal head rent, and producing a profit rent of £210 10s., was knocked down for £3,275, or at about 15½ years purchase on the present net rental. This estate was purchased by a Mr. Cogan, a Sligo merchant.

Within the last three years there has been a great decrease in the pawnbroking trade in Ireland. In Cork the pawn-offices have decreased from fifty-two to thirty-four.

THE GREAT WILL CASE.—Judgment was given in the Review Court in the apparently interminable will case of Kelly appellant, Thewles respondent. Baron Pennefather, after a minute recapitulation of all the circumstances, pronounced the unanimous judgment of the Court in favor of Mrs. Kelly, thus establishing the will of the late Mr. Edmund Kelly, of Rockwood, in the county of Roscommon, and reversing the decision of the Court of Delegates, before which the case was heard on a former occasion. By this decision property to the extent of over £300,000 reverts to the appellant.—*Dublin paper*.

ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS IN IRELAND.—According to the *Evening Post* , the plan of creating English agriculturists in Ireland has proved a total failure. In Tipperary the experiment has been tried to a greater extent than in most other counties; there were, it appears, upwards of 20 very considerable farmers in different parts of that county, of whom more than a moiety have returned home. The *Post* doubts "whether Lord Derby will, after all, have made much by changing his Irish for his English tenants." Wages were higher last year in Tipperary than in Somersetshire, and this year, owing to the increased emigration, they are likely to be higher still.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—The Kilkenny papers announce the death of Mr. Charles Kavanagh, of Borris House, in the county of Carlow, from the effects of injuries the lamented gentleman received by the accidental taking fire of his dressing gown on the previous Sunday. The deceased, who was in his 24th year, had but recently succeeded to the family estates by the death of his elder brother, and was to have been married on Easter Monday to a young lady residing in the county of Meath. He formerly held a commission in the 7th Hussars. Mr. Arthur Kavanagh, the youngest son of Lady Catherine and the late Mr. Thomas Kavanagh, becomes the inheritor of the family property.

On Wednesday, while Mr. Thomas Campbell was attending the funeral of his son, in the Catholic burial-ground of Londonderry, he fell down dead at the moment the coffin was lowered into the grave.

THE EXODUS.—The *Western Star* gives a melancholy sketch of the sufferings of the poor for the last two months, owing to the want of employment consequent upon the impossibility of proceeding with outdoor labor during the late severe weather. Great numbers were compelled to resort to the workhouses, and more who have been fortunate enough to receive remittances from their friends and relations in America are taking the necessary step to join the donors across the Atlantic:—"We have reason to know (continues the *Star*) that several of our poor people, who had intended to remain in the country for some time longer, in the hope of realising a small sum by their own labor, and thereby be enabled to make their voyage in more comfortable trim, on finding no chance of employment, thought better of at once taking their departure, fearing that if they remained for even a short time longer the money sent by their friends in America would be expended in trying to keep body and soul together, and thus, perhaps their chance of being able to emigrate, would have been gone for ever. Owing to this state of circumstances, we have had no cessation to the 'Exodus,' notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, which, heretofore gave some pause to the outward movement, but which in the present instance, as we have shown, has rather tended to increase it. That the emigration is becoming serious—alarmingly so—we believe is now pretty generally admitted, and some are beginning to ask if no means can be taken to keep the people at home. For our own part, we now despair of seeing a stop to the drain of our population except that which may proceed from sheer exhaustion; in other words, the emigration will cease only when the population is drained out; for it must be borne in mind that there is scarcely an instance of a family, or members of a family locating in the Republic, which does not send the means for an equal number of those left behind to join them before the lapse of many months. So that when you now talk to an Irish peasant of remaining at home, he at once tells you that his house is across the Atlantic; that he was long enough homeless in the land of his birth; and that he intends to lose no time in joining his people across the water; for it is another 'sign of the times' in which we live that the Irish peasant does not at present look upon a voyage across the Atlantic with half the dread his father felt at crossing St. George's Channel, when he was wont to proceed to England at harvest time to earn as much money as paid for their hovel and coney—in those days when the Irish peasantry were, in the language of the Devon Commission, 'the worst fed, worst housed, worst clothed' population on the face of the civilized world." Turning to the southern counties, the *Waterford Chronicle* thus reports progress:—"We have every prospect of the present emigration being very much augmented during the present year. Nothing that can be said or done will avert this; so that the best thing we can do is rather to endeavor to divert that emigration to what may be the best course in which to direct it. The accounts we are daily receiving from Australia of course has a tendency to turn attention almost exclusively to that quarter, the prosperity of the colony being now placed on so permanent a basis that it is no longer a matter of speculation as to the chance of a man succeeding there. Our Quay was literally alive yesterday with passengers to Liverpool *en route* to America. No fewer than 350 or 400 of our country people crowded the deck of the Mars steamer, quitting for ever that soil which, under wholesome government, is fully equal to the requirements of thrice its present population. We cannot but deplore that so many are going from our shores; but the hope we have is, that a check will speedily take place. Men will be sought after, and not, as they are now, seeking employment, or competing for land."

Government has ordered a thorough investigation into the loss of the Queen Victoria steamer. Captain Walker, R. N., has been sent to Dublin by the Board of Trade to hold the inquiry.

The inquest was resumed on Monday; when the assistant-keeper of the Bailey Lighthouse was examined. It did not appear that the lights had burned low, or that the glasses had been obscured by snow; but the witness admitted that the rule that the lights should not be left unattended had been neglected, he having gone to bed before the head-keeper took charge of the lamps. Frosty weather, by congealing the oil, would diminish the brilliancy of the flame. On Tuesday, Gregory, the principal light-keeper, was examined. He deposed that when he was aroused by the screams from the wreck, he found that the lights were burning well, and the windows were not obscured by fallen snow. Thomas Davis, first mate of the vessel, stated that he appointed a man to keep a look-out at the bow of the ship. Witness himself discovered the land while he was walking on the bridge. He ordered the engines to be reversed, but there was not time to prevent the vessel's striking the rock. After she struck Davis ordered the engineer to go on ahead, in order to discover what damage had been done before backing into deep water. Repeatedly the third mate reported that little water was coming in; then the master had the engines reversed, with the intention of rounding a peak and beaching the steamer on the sands, "and thus save both life and property." The ship was backed off the rock, and steered towards the beach; but she sank before she could be got ashore. Attempts were made to lower two boats; both of which failed by the crowding of the excited people, who let go the stern-tackles improperly, and the boats were swamped. Davis went down with the ship; but soon he got above water, and tried to save the master and the stewardess; then he lost recollection, till he was picked up by the boat of the Roscommon. In cross-examination Davis said he had done all he could. The jury returned the following verdict:—"We find that John Reardon, jun., came by his death by drowning, he being at the time a passenger on board the Queen Victoria steamer bound from Liverpool to Dublin, which said steamship was wrecked on the morning of the 15th February, 1853, off Howth, and that his death was occasioned by the culpable neglect of Captain Church and Thomas Davis in not slackening speed in a snow storm which obscured all lights, and they knowing they were approaching land." The Coroner said that, under that finding, it would be his duty to commit Davis for trial at commission upon a charge of manslaughter.—Mr. Curran applied to have Davis admitted to bail, which was at once acceded to, and a recognisance for his appearance was then entered into, himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF BELFAST.—We regret to have to announce the decease at Naples, of the Earl of Belfast, only son of the Marquis and Marchioness of Donegal. His lordship was but 25 years old.

CRIME IN IRELAND IN 1847.—On Wednesday, a man named Henry McErlam, was apprehended in the town on the charge of shooting Patrick McCarron, on the 13th of July, 1847, at Toom, county Antrim. After the commission of the offence the prisoner escaped to America, where he remained up to a very short time since, when he returned to Ireland, under the assumed name of Bradley, to see his friends. He had remained for a few weeks with his relatives, and was about returning to the United States on board the steam-ship City of Glasgow, when he was apprehended by head constable Sloan, of Carrickfergus. He was transmitted to Ireland on Thursday evening.—*Liverpool Paper*.

THE CALENDARS.—At the assizes which are about to commence, the criminal calendars will in general be very light, on account of the tranquil state of the country, Westmeath and two or three other counties only being exceptions. In south Tipperary the offences for trial are mostly of a minor character; but there are three cases of murder. The *Roscommon Journal* states that there are but eighteen or twenty persons for trial in that county, including two soldiers charged with an unnatural offence. In Mayo there are about fifty for trial, but, with the exception of eight or ten cases, the offences are of a trifling character.

PAUPERS AT THE DUNINGS.—The Chairman of the Kilkenny Board of Guardians stated, at the last meeting of the body, that the father of some pauper boys in the workhouse had forwarded £40 from Australia, with directions to have the children sent out to him.

PAUPERISM IN IRELAND.—It is shown by a return to the House of Commons, published on Saturday, that the expenditure for the relief of the poor in Ireland for the year ended the 29th of September last had decreased £280,700, compared with the preceding year, when the total disbursed was £1,166,954.

MAYNOOTH.—It seems that there is to be another field day for fanaticism on Wednesday next, when Mr. Scholesfield's proposition is to be taken into consideration. Of the result of that motion there can be no doubt. The Dissenters will then be beaten like spavined hacks.

Lord William Fitzgerald, whose intense "nationality" is above all suspicion, writes to the *Weekly Telegraph* a short letter, expressing his surprise that that journal should be such a stickler "for that useless and most noxious office, the Lord-Lieutenancy"—"a mark of Catholic degradation, as the Catholics cannot hold it." With the exception of the "lickspittles of Dublin," Lord William holds that the people of Ireland do not care a pin's point about the wretched concern, as was clearly proved in 1845, when Lord John Russell brought in his abolition bill. In a House of Commons consisting of nearly 300 members 17 only "were in favor of this mark of Catholic degradation."

DR. KAHN, THE ANATOMIST, AND HIS MUSEUM IN TROUBLE.—On Saturday, Dr. Kahn, the proprietor of the museum of popular anatomy, was summoned to appear at the Capel Street Police office, Dublin, by the police authorities, upon a charge of keeping open an exhibition at the Rotundo, in which objects of an "indecent and obscene" character were exposed to public view. Two police inspectors were examined for the prosecution, who deposed that in a small room they had seen a number of figures which, in their opinion, were obscene and indecent; but, on cross-examination, one of the witnesses said that there was a placard over that room, stating that only medical gentlemen were permitted to enter it. The Judge said there was nothing, in his opinion, in the exhibition, of the character libelled on; and, therefore, he did not think this was a case where the bench could receive information. Dr. Kahn said his museum was exhibited in London, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, and other places during the last eleven years, and that until he arrived in Dublin no objection was ever made against it by the police authorities or any one else.—And he might state for the information of the bench, that the Queen of the Belgians was so much satisfied by what she saw in the female department, that she directed her daughter to order her secretary to present him (Mr. K.) with a valuable present as a token of the opinion she had formed with respect to the beneficial tendency of the exhibition. The case was then adjourned to Saturday the 26th inst., and the parties left the office.

FATAL ACCIDENT WHILE SLIDING.—A number of boys were sliding in the Phoenix Park about six in the evening of Sunday, near the promenade leading to the Zoological Gardens, when the ice suddenly gave way, and fifteen or sixteen were immersed in the water. The police who were stationed round the place for the last week, provided with ropes, drags, &c., made every exertion to rescue the boys from their perilous position, and succeeded in getting out several of them. One unfortunate young man, however, named John Dowling, aged sixteen, son of a butcher in Thomas-street, was drowned, and his body was not recovered till next morning.

DISASTER AT THE VALENCIA SLATE QUARRIES.—On the night of Saturday last, at the slate quarry in Valencia, a tunnel-like excavation worked into the side of the mountain to the depth of some 200 feet or over, which was considered perfectly safe, gave way, and fell in, and, it is to be regretted, though no lives were lost, destroyed and buried under its ruins not only the apparatus of a regular line of railway for the conveyance of the large blocks raised from the quarry, but also the working implements and machinery of the quarry, to the loss and injury of one of the best, and most persevering, the kindest employer that ever put a foot on Irish ground, Mr. Blackburn. Whilst the public here at large regret and sympathise with his loss, that excellent man seems not to value it, as there were no lives lost.—*Tralee Chronicle*.

ANOTHER CASE OF SACRILEGE.—We regret to learn that another sacrilegious burglary, which, we are sorry to say, has been of very frequent occurrence in this district of late, was committed on Monday night last, at St. Malachy's Catholic Chapel, Long Commons, in this town. The perpetrators of this outrage abstracted therefrom a pair of valuable altar Candelsticks and also a number of Soutans. Several parties are suspected of having committed the sacrilege, but as yet it has not been brought home to any of them, as none of the stolen articles have been found. The police, however, are on the alert, and we sincerely trust the offenders will speedily be brought to justice, and receive that punishment which they so richly deserve.—*Coleraine Chronicle*.

UNITED STATES.

ANOTHER BISHOP EN ROUTE FOR ROME!—Bishop Wittingham, of Maryland, recently arrived in New York, en route for Italy, on account of ill health! It is stated that he will be absent about a year. An epidemic, observes the *Boston Times* , appears recently to have attacked the bishops of this country, which nothing but the air of Rome can cure.—*Catholic Telegraph*.

Scarlet fever is carrying off many children in the towns of Massachusetts as well as in Boston. At Newton Corner quite a number of children are sick of the disorder, and several have died the past week.

The foreign paupers supported by Massachusetts last year, number more than eleven thousand. The whole number of paupers was 27,737. It seems from this that all the paupers are not *farriners*.—*Boston Pilot*.

THE IRISH GIRLS FOR EVER.—In one of the mills in Lawrence, in this State, a collection was recently made for the Washington Monument. The Irish girls composed but one-third of the employed, yet they gave twice as much money to the praise-worthy object as the native girls.—*Id.*

LARGE FORTUNE TO A CONVICT.—A man named Robert Sutton, confined in the Auburn State Prison, New York, for robbing Judge Harris of Albany, has just received intelligence that he is the heir to ninety thousand dollars, by the death of a relative in England. He has yet some five years to remain in prison. Though a *millionaire*, he has neither liberty, fine linen, or sumptuous fare.

The "Rev." Miss Antoinette Brown has received two calls to pastoral charges. We hope she will receive another, and accept it, and that is to mind her own business and play the part which rightfully belongs to her sex.—*Boston Pilot*.

PROTESTANTISM IN THE UNITED STATES.—"The vast majority of those who attend the churches are not influenced by a religious motive. Old or eloquent preachers attract some; others go for the mere curiosity and conceit and amusement which are excited by all large assemblies. A large class go merely to be fashionable, especially those who are struggling upward in society and wishing to bring themselves into notice. Men of business and of the learned professions, and candidates for office, often frequent churches on the same principle on which they put their cards in the newspapers, and in order to establish confidence and appeal to congregational *esprit du corps*. It is sickening to think what *infernal* motives bring large numbers of people to our churches."—"The gangrene of rotteness is creeping through our churches." Such is the testimony of a Protestant clergyman! Could any thing be more humiliating coming from those who boast of possessing a "reformed religion," a "pure Gospel," &c., &c.—*Catholic Herald*.

GODLESS EDUCATION.—We have already mentioned that on Thursday last at Rochester, two boys were quarrelling in the street about a walking stick or some such trifle, when one of them drew a heavy clasp knife and stabbed the other to the heart, killing him immediately. The precocious ruffianism of a great part of the boy population in some parts of the United States is fearful, and the knife is so frequently used, it might almost be characterised as the national weapon. It appeared that it was far from the first time that this depraved lad had used his knife. One boy showed a lately healed scar on the inside of his arm from a wound inflicted by the same hand and weapon.—These boys were all only from 12 to 13 years old.—Only the other day in the streets of New York, two boys 14 years of age, attacked and nearly killed a man named Crawford, and robbed him of about three-quarters of a dollar in money. On the same day as the incident first related above, two men had an affray of the same fearful kind; one drew a heavy bowie knife upon the other, and ripped his abdomen so completely open as to allow the bowels to fall through.—*Patriot*.

PROTESTANT SUPERSTITION.—A correspondent of the *Chambersburg (Pa.) Whig* , writing from Fulton County, says that in the neighborhood of Sideling Hill, there is a certain religious sect, calling themselves the Christian Church. A lady, one of the members, was taken sick, and lay for some time, until she finally imagined herself bewitched, and a sister in the church was settled upon as the witch. A meeting of the session was called in due season, at which the minister presided, and the charge of witchcraft was formally preferred against the lady. Being a new case, and not provided for in the discipline, the session was puzzled as to the proper manner to proceed in the case. At length it was proposed that she should be asked to step over broomstick, as it had been said that a witch could not do so; but the accused got over it without any apparent difficulty. After a consultation it was then agreed that she should be tried in a pair of weighing scales with a bible to balance her, and if she was a witch the bible would be too heavy for her. Accordingly, she was taken to a mill and the experiment tried, but she proved too heavy for the bible. It was then intimated that probably her clothing prevented a fair test, and half a bushel of corn was put on the scales with the bible, to balance the clothing; but still the lady was too heavy, and the charge was formally withdrawn.

DISCOVERY.—Rev. Dr. Tyng, a Protestant minister of New York, has found out, the Devil causes the spiritual knockings. He says that he personally *accerted* with his adversary almost incessantly for the past three weeks day and night. If the annoyance continued to increase, the Dr. said he should resign the ministry. He desired the earnest prayers of his people on the eventual occasion.—*Roman Guardian*.

MORE DELUSION.—The *St. Louis Republican* of Friday last, says:—"We were shocked to hear last evening that an eloquent member of the bar of this city, whose name has been somewhat conspicuously connected with the folly and delusions of Spiritual Rappings, and become quite deranged."

TRUE!—The *New Orleans Catholic Messenger* truthfully remarks:—"When Catholics, and particularly Irish Catholics, who are generally so deeply attached to their Church, begin to despise the teaching of their spiritual mother, and to sneer at the authoritative decisions of their pastors, they go farther than any one else, and for that very reason, in the ways of error and perdition. Such has been unfortunately the case with some of the Young Irelanders who, misled by erroneous notions of patriotism and liberty, despised at home the admonitions of their parents, and are now in our cities, and even in New Orleans, shameless apostates, showing more hatred and bitterness against the Church of God, that brought up their childhood and youth, than the most rancorous sectarians."