

SHIPBUILDING IN BELFAST.—This branch of industry is in a pretty forward state in Belfast, as there are no less than four vessels being at present erected, two of which are in a very advanced condition. On the Queen's Island, the firm of Hickson & Co. are building for a Liverpool house, a large iron vessel, of upwards of 2,500 tons.—*Ulsterman.*

The *Banner of Ulster* gives us cheering news of farming progress:—"Never at any period of Ireland's history, not even in those ancient days about which so much of the romantic has been written, were the tillers of the soil so busily engaged, or so well able to push forward the finish of spring cropping as they have been for the last couple of months. Every hand is at work; and although we have had what may be called a late season, the amount of labour already finished far exceeds that which was farmed at the end of last April. Vegetation has been rapid beyond all precedent, and that progress if followed up by equally rapid movements on the part of our farmers. The average area of soil under crop in the counties of Antrim, Down, and Tyrone, during the past season was 236,576 acres, 308,663 acres, and 282,151 acres respectively. We should say that, taking a moderate view of the additional breadth of land brought under the plough and spade this year, the total of the three counties will run clean up to one million of acres!"

IRISIMEN IN THE FRENCH SERVICE.—General McMahon, Commandant of the Division of Constantine in Algeria, is appointed to the command of the first division of infantry of the army of the North, in place of General Roguet, retained at Paris as aid-de-camp to his Imperial Majesty.

WELL SAID, MR. HOLMES!—Mr. Valentine Holmes, of Philadelphia, for some years Consul at Belfast, had an appropriate complimentary address presented to him recently, by the merchants of that city, on the termination of his official residence among them. In his reply, Mr. Holmes said:—"But among the various projects which I understand are in contemplation for the purpose of developing the resources of the country, there is one that I feel called on to notice more particularly, as it may, at no very distant day, lead to, and open a more direct trade and intercourse between you and the United States. I allude to the proposed extension of the Northern lines of railways to the West of Ireland. The importance of the enterprise, in my opinion, can hardly be overrated; for, the construction of these lines will most assuredly attract the attention of capitalists to the position of those unrivalled bays which abound along the Western shores of Ireland, and which possesses so many natural advantages for convenient ports and safe harbours."

In *Stuart's History*, published in 1819, the notice of Brian Boru's ring or collar is as follows:—"A ring of gold was found about thirty eight years ago, near Crieve Row (Craobh ruadh), the site of the ancient Palace of Eamhain Macha, or Emania. It was part of a round ingot of very pure gold, bent into a sort of ring, while belonging to a larger bar, and cut off a little beyond the points which terminated the circle. It weighed upwards of 20 ounces, and was purchased by James Macartney, Esq., and afterwards sold in Dublin at £4 per ounce."

A writer in an English Protestant paper calls attention to the fact that the Presbyterians of Ulster receive annually the sum of £30,000 from the public revenues to which Catholics largely contribute. What are the doctrines of this favored sect, we learn from "The Late Report of Commissioners of Irish Education Inquiry," published by order of the House of Commons. At p. 20 of this document we read:—

"The Synod of Ulster, in which there are at present 197 congregations and 200 Ministers, thirty-four or thirty-five of whom hold Arian doctrines; there may be some others neutral, says the Rev. H. Cooke. The Presbytery of Antrim and the Synod of Munster contains sixteen congregations and twenty Ministers, of whom seventeen are reputed Arians." The Rev. Mr. Carlisle states in said report that "those who held the doctrines of the divinity of Christ were looked upon as men of little science or talents." In p. 19 one of the four presidents and several of the managers and visitors of the institution were Arians—p. 27, the majority of the managers and visitors, thirty in number, are Arians. The Rev. Messrs. Bruce, professor of Greek, Hincks, professor of Hebrew and head master of the classical school, McEwen, lecturer of elocution, Montgomery, master of the English school, were also Arians. Rev. H. Cooke, pp 164 and 169, says wherever Arians have got possession of the academies, they invariably produce members of their own description. Rev. Mr. Bruce says that he has the charge of souls in Belfast, and teaches that Christ is not God—he denies the doctrine of eternal punishment. The Rev. Thomas Hincks, p 82, says—"I do not believe Jesus Christ to be God in any sense of the word—nor can I see clearly that the Holy Ghost is God. I know that two out of the three Archbishops deny the divinity of Christ, as for the third I can't say. I know that many of the Established Clergy deny it also. I have been recommended to the Belfast Institution by the Primate, also by the Archbishop of Dublin, the late Bishop of Cashel, the present Bishop of Cork, and the Bishop of Limerick, also by many Clergymen of the Established Church. I belong to the Synod of Munster, the greater number of which are Arians. In obtaining my testimonials of the said Bishops and Clergy they could not but know my opinions of Arianism, which I have professed and taught these thirty years." Mr. Montgomery, in page 47, says—"I wish to state distinctly that I do not believe in the doctrine of the Trinity—I am inclined more to the new light of high Arianism. I teach the boards in college, and expound to them two chapters in the New Testament daily on week days, and seven or eight chapters on the Sabbaths. I can't say whether the Arians or Christians amongst us be the more numerous." Arianism, says the Rev. Mr. Carlisle, was imported hither by Samuel Clark and his party from Scotland. "Geneva," says the Rev. Mr. Cooke in his evidence, "is now Arian or Socinian altogether." Yes, the place where John Calvin and John Knox taught publicly that "Christ made atonement only for the sins of the elect, and that the rest of mankind were created to be damned, and that no amount of crime unrepented of could deprive the elect of eternal happiness." Mr. Editor, if you compare the Irish Catholic claims and the teaching of the Catholic College of Maynooth with the Belfast Institution, the contrast must strike you; yet the Belfast Institution, though being in the minority, and rather of anti-Christian principles, is by far better supported by the English government, and less objected to, by the Protestant Alliance than the out-and-out unmistakable Christian College of Maynooth.

THE POOR IRISH IN ENGLAND.—On the arrival of the Elk steamer at Belfast, from Glasgow, on Thursday week, two thin clad women, accompanied by three children, were landed on the quays utterly destitute, having been sent from Glasgow by the authorities there under the provisions of the Poor Law Removal Act. The cases of these women present features of extreme hardship. One of them Sarah Frazer, or Jennings, left this country when six years of age, and has been for the last twenty one years in Glasgow, where she married, and has two children. The other woman, who also married in Glasgow, and has one child, has been resident in this city for the last seventeen years. Both their husbands were laborers, and some days since, being unemployed, they left their homes for the purpose of seeking work. On the following Wednesday, the women were forced to apply to the workhouse for temporary relief, but when it transpired that they had been born in Ireland, the officers, without making any further inquiries, forcibly detained them till the sailing of the steamer, when a car was procured and they were conveyed on board, getting only a loaf of bread each. The poor creatures, with their children, suffered considerably during the passage, and on arriving here expressed the greatest affliction at being sent away from their husbands. Captain McBride, Deputy Harbor-master, on learning the particulars of the case, very humanely procured them relief, and had them sent back to Glasgow by the same steamer after having seen them comfortably provided for on board. They left quite happy in the hope of being reunited to their husbands on their arrival.—*Belfast Paper.*

IRISH PAUPERS IN CORK.—On Monday a case was brought before the borough magistrates, at the police office, exhibiting the outrageous character of the proceedings taken, under the existing law of settlement and removal, in regard to our poor country people. In the present instance an employe of one of the English workhouses brought over a number of women, who had resided many years there, and landed them on the quays, to find their way home to their respective localities. Some belonging to Limerick he sent on; but one poor Kerry woman he refused to transmit to her destination, leaving her in our streets a burthen on local charity. He was charged before the local magistrates, in her case, for not acting legally under his warrant, and turning the woman adrift in Cork without her consent. This morning it seems a fine of 20s. was recorded against him by the bench, but on his refusal to pay it, they declined taking any step to enforce the payment. This we regard as wise rather than useless, for it only encourages such conduct as by creating a complete conviction of impunity for it in the mind of the offender. If the case were one in which the fine could not have been enforced it was worse than ridiculous to impose it, and if it could have been enforced it was quite inexecutable not to enforce it.—Such a penalty as 20s., in any case, was to have no effect, however. The whole law calls loudly and emphatically for alteration.—*Cork Reporter.*

A TENANT-RIGHT LEADER.—At Thurlow Quarter Sessions, before Mr. Sergeant Howley, there were seventeen ejections for hearing, and some civil bills against certain tenants on the Portlanning estates, at the suit of the receiver under the redoubtable Mr. John Sadlier, the pseudo champion of tenant-right, and placeman under the late cabinet. Messrs. Maloney, and Kickey moved in all the ex-brigadier's actions, which were brought for non-payment of rent; and Mr. Magrath Cahill appeared as counsel, and Messrs. Bourke and Dwyer as agents, on behalf of most of the tenants. Mr. Bourke called the attention of the Court to the startling fact that most of the parties were served on Good Friday, the solemn anniversary of our Redeemer's death as if to remind them of a kind of Easter gift that was in store for them under the Sadlierian system. His Worship having heard some remarks from the other side, ruled that the service was defective, Good Friday, like the Sabbath, being regarded in the eye of the law as a *dies non*; and directed to have the processes nulled.

DEATH BY POISON.—A MYSTERY.—A fine young man, aged 19 years, died at Commons, near Duncormack in this county, on Friday morning the 20th instant. His name was Michael Duke. The facts that came out on the inquest were as follows:—A man named Clancy found a woman's pocket on a pathway between Robinstown and Shanico, which contained a black silk glove, a reel, and a cake, which it appears contained a large quantity of arsenic. Clancy gave the pocket with its contents to his servant, Mary Magrath, who took it home, and laid it on a shelf, intending to give the cake to her sister's child, the cake looked so nice. However, on Thursday, a Mrs. Dumphy and her two children went to Clancy's, when Mary Magrath gave them the cake, of which they all partook and went home, taking some of the cake with them. They had not arrived home very long when they all took sick in their stomachs. Michael Duke, the deceased, was sitting by the fire at Dumphy's, and when he heard what was going on, he said out of bravado "you have very delicate stomachs, give me a bit of the cake and I will eat it," which he did, and went home to his father's, where he was taken very ill, and discharged a large quantity of blood and froth from his stomach, and died the next morning at five o'clock. Dr. Boyd, of Banuow, made a *post-mortem* examination, and found the stomach showing every symptom of arsenic. A piece of the cake was produced at the inquest and appeared full of arsenic. The verdict was, "death caused by voluntarily eating part of a cake which contained a large quantity of poison." Mrs. Dumphy and her two children are still very ill, but likely to recover under the skillful treatment of Dr. Andrew Furlong.—*Wexford Independent, April 25.*

NEW WEXFORD RAILWAY.—The new line from Bagnalstown to Wexford is progressing favorably.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The total sum received up to this time by the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund, exceeds three quarters of a million sterling.

The *Daily News* of Thursday states that an uneasy apprehension prevails that the Government are silent because they have none but unsatisfactory news to communicate. The news from Vienna is contradictory in the extreme, all that can be inferred from such conflicting tidings is, that the actions of the ruler of the two great German powers are still inscrutable perhaps even to themselves: As to our own rulers, their hesitation to come forward and tell the truth unreservedly seems to indicate that they are still without a plan, and that they are rudderless at the mercy of the stream of events.

The *Glasgow Commonwealth* fears that much of the welcome with which Louis Napoleon has been received must consist of actual sympathy with that unconstitutional system of rule of which he is the representative. There is a growing tendency to laud and admire that kind of government which Louis Napoleon typifies—the government of a Cæsar, or single man, resting on universal softness or suffering—and to enlarge on its advantages as compared with constitutional government. Many begin to long for a Cromwell to say once more. "Take away that baffle;" and, if Louis Napoleon is not what they want, yet there is so much of the general style of what they want about him, that when he comes among us they show, their appreciation of the fact by cheering him.

At this moment England has not a single Ally in war or diplomacy who is not a Catholic. France, Sardinia, and Austria are her confederates. The Protestant States are neutral or hostile. Holland is neutral, Hanover is neutral, America is hostile, Prussia is hostile. If a religious war is to be kindled at home, it is not likely to end at home. If England is saved from ruin by the courage of Catholic soldiers and the alliance of Catholic States, we shall see whether these States will be content that she shall insult and tyrannise over their fellow Catholics in this country. There was no reason to justify the Christian subjects of the Sultan in seeking protection from the Christian Powers of the East and West, which could not justify the Catholics of Ireland in seeking protection from the Catholic Powers of Europe, if they cannot get it in the British Parliament.—*Nation.*

The veteran commander Lord Dundonald, the Lord Cochran of other days, again writes to the morning papers, offering to prove that, by the adoption of his plans, carried out by private individuals, under the sanction of Government, £1,000,000 would be sufficient to accomplish the destruction of Cronstadt, Swaborg, Helsingfors, and Sebastopol. In a subsequent letter he says "that these objects cannot be attained by authorities who confide in iron-encased batteries as means to subdue powerful fortifications! Nor by those who nicely discriminate between the lawfulness and humanity of warfare, wherein one-half of each contending force shall be sacrificed, from that in which the loss shall be thrown entirely on the enemy—which they, unwisely, deem 'a horrible mode of warfare,' although in truth, proceedings which terminate hostilities most speedily are the most humane. I have privately and confidently made known to several of the most talented and scientific authorities in the kingdom my secret plans; and I freely sanction any of those who have favoured me by accepting that confidence to state publicly his opinion of their practicability and power."

DESERTERS FROM THE ARMY.—The war office returns of deserters from the army and regiments of embodied militia, made up to Saturday last exhibited a large increase on those of the preceding months.

The Vienna Conference will cost England £30,000. Lord John Russell and his wife, 6 children, 3 governesses, and 13 servants, besides, 11 attachés.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.—It is a society headed by the Quakers, who are the Greeks of English commerce—the Jews of the Corn Trade. It is a society which has taken its orators from the Anti-Corn-Law-League. It is a mistake to suppose that the Peace Society means Peace: it only means non-intervention, and it only means non-intervention where trade is interfered with. It does not say, "Arbitrate with the Kafirs; negotiate with the insurgent Ionians; offer the other cheek to Dost Mahomed; were drab at Tehern; split the difference in the Kingdom of Arva; grant Leinster and Munster to Young Ireland." It merely says, cultivate European alliances, and don't bother the Americans about Emancipation; and if your great powers will keep all the new railways going, the heavy gorges safely sailing, and the jennies serenely spinning, each of you may do what you will—establishing consulates as you go—with the weaker barbaric uncommercial outsiders, Kafirs, Sarawak pirates, for the English, Algerians for the French, and Turks for the Russians.

A circular has been issued signed by Lord Shaftsbury, the Hon. A. Kinnard, Mr. R. Bevan, and Mr. Wilbraham Taylor, on the subject of the suit against Archdeacon Denison for false doctrine. It concludes:—"The next step is about to be taken, under the authority of the best legal advice. Considering the importance of the question at issue to the very existence of the Church of England, and that every member of the Church is deeply interested in the result, we the undersigned earnestly recommend the case to your consideration with reference to the fund raised for defraying the necessary legal expenses." The Rev. H. E. Head, who some years ago got into legal difficulties with the "Bishop" of Exeter, has published this circular in the *Eastern Standard*. Refusing to subscribe, he says:—"I have no sympathy with but very much abhor, Archdeacon Denison's persecution. The authority of the best legal advice is not always identical with the authority of Scripture. The very existence of the Church of England will not be benefited or adorned by ruinous and scandalous litigation. To be 'deeply interested' in the deprivation of Archdeacon Denison, is no requisit of Church membership. And in times like these, when crimes, I do not say of gigantic, but of colossal magnitude, are unpunished or praised, to single out for our anathemas an archdeacon against whose moral character no shadow of an imputation had been cast, is not the zeal authorized by Scripture. In conclusion I remark, that those who wish to strike at the root of the evil of which your Lordship so heavily complains, should set themselves to repeal the Act of Uniformity, and the vicious system of subscription consequent thereon."

The total number of paupers receiving parish relief on the 1st of January, 1855, was, in England, 839,164 (against 934,419 in 1849); in Scotland, 78,929; and in Ireland, 86,819 (against 60,747 in 1849). In Ireland the paupers have been gradually decreasing since 1849, and in a very large ratio annually.

UNITED STATES.

CONVERSION AND DEATH IN DETROIT.—The Hon. James A. Vandyke, who some years ago was mayor of Detroit, was one of its most prominent and wealthy lawyers, and had held many offices of honor and emolument, departed this life on the 7th inst., at his residence in Jefferson Avenue. As Mr. Vandyke found his end approaching, he hastened to solicit from Bishop Lefevre admission to the Catholic Church, and was baptised at St. Ann's Church on Friday three days before his death. *May his soul rest in peace.—N. Y. Freeman 19th inst.*

BISHOP HUGHES AND SENATOR BROOKS.—Archbishop Hughes has published his promised statement. It is a lengthy and elaborate document. He states that he requested two respectable lawyers, Messrs. Glover and Wetmore, to examine the registry books and make a fair return of all the property entered in his name. The result, which is given over the lawyers' names, shows 77 lots, instead of 101 cited by Senator Brooks; on all of which fifteen Catholic congregations have their churches, schools, and pastors' residences. That the value of all this amounts to the net sum of \$139,360, instead of nearly \$5,000,000 claimed by Mr. Brooks, and that the Archbishop does not own a farthing's worth of property personally in all these lots, though he is consulted, according to a rule of the Church, in the disposal thereof by the pastors and trustees who manage their own affairs entirely; that he could not touch a particle of the property without being guilty of dishonesty, and without turning the priests and "congregations into the streets. He charges the Senator with having cited property as his which the register's books show he had conveyed away long ago for the use of various congregations and religious establishments. He states further, that the Cathedral and Calvary cemetery are in the hands of a board of trustees, who manage all their affairs; the Archbishop only receiving from them a sum sufficient for a decent maintenance, and on which he has frequently refused to receive a proper advance. He has shown pretty clearly that Mr. Brooks has included in his catalogue leases long since expired, and of course no longer the property of the former lessee that he has quoted as distinct conveyances, deeds only confirming former deeds; and that he has falsely represented Bartholomew O'Connor as a "trustee" of Christ Church, the fact being that no conveyances from trustees appear on the books at all.—*N. Y. Citizen.*

THE CROPS.—From all parts of the country, except Texas, we have very favorable accounts of the growing crops. In Texas, though not equally in all parts of the State, a protracted drought is creating much anxiety. In Georgia, where fears for the crops were lately entertained, in consequence of the long absence of rain, the condition of things has entirely changed. Rain has fallen in copious showers throughout the State, and the crops now promise to yield abundantly. All fears of famine are removed, and the newspapers are rejoicing that the price of breadstuffs, kept up by the recent panic, must now decline. From other Southern States the reports are encouraging. From the interior of our state, from adjoining states, and from the west we hear cheering accounts. The farmers are prosecuting their labors vigorously and hopefully, and putting a much larger extent of land under cultivation than in any previous year. Many of the more intelligent and enterprising are varying their crops and improving by their past experience. The effects of the promise of a beautiful harvest will soon be felt in New York, and with greater prudence in our speculations, and a wiser system in managing our business, we may speedily recover the ground which we have lost the past year.—*N. Y. Sun.*

THE ARREST OF BAKER.—Lewis Baker, charged with the murder of Bill Poole, was brought to his port yesterday by the bark Grapeshot, which had been dispatched to the Canary Islands to intercept him if he should be on board the brig Isabella Jewett. The greatest excitement prevailed throughout the City so soon as the arrival was noised abroad. The faithfulness of the great majority, upon the sailing of the Grapeshot, will be remembered, and many eulogies were pronounced upon Judge Stuart, through whose energy and zeal for justice the arrest had been effected.—*N. Y. Times, 16th.*

THE MARYLAND PILGRIM'S CELEBRATION.—The landing of Leonard Calvert and the catholic Pilgrims at St. Mary's, Maryland, in 1634, was celebrated at that place on Tuesday 15th inst. Hon. Jos. R. Chandler, presiding. This is the two hundred and twenty-first anniversary of that event; but we believe it is the first time any celebration took place. The Plymouth Rock Pilgrims for many years have had a monopoly of glory. They are not half so well entitled to it as the Maryland colonists, who understood the principles of liberty and toleration, and were the first to reduce those principles to practice—the first to establish religious equality upon the soil. And it was from them, and not from the narrow-minded Massachusetts settlers that the doctrine was transferred into the Constitution of the United States. The Pilgrims of New England wanted liberty only for their own sect—the pilgrims of Maryland proclaimed it to all.—*N. Y. Citizen.*

THE LIQUOR LAW.—The people of New York and of Massachusetts are making preparations to resist the law in all legal and constitutional ways. We fear that the resistance will be violent in some quarters. The country will pay dearly for this silly experiment forced upon it by the fanatics.—*Boston Pilot.*

Mr. Hiss, the "Smelling" Committee man, has been dismissed from the State Legislature of Massachusetts as a blackguard. The Hon. gentleman is indignant at such treatment, and protests that his colleagues are as big blackguards as he is, a statement we firmly credit.

"PRAYERFUL" OPPOSITION TO THE ANTI-LIQUOR LAW.—We have been greatly amused by an anecdote told us the other day by a gentleman from central New York. Riding in the cars, the conversation turned upon the Liquor law, when a bright intelligent-looking lady remarked that she had been a great advocate of the prohibitory law, but that now she was prayerfully opposed to it. Our friend, who hopes good effects from the prohibition, whatever he thinks of its principle, asked the lady what she meant by being prayerfully opposed to the law. "Well," she replied, "I have been praying over the matter, and I have got some new light on it! You see, it will be the poor Irish Catholics that will be most affected by it, and if they once stop drinking, what will they do with their money? Why, they will give it to the 'Priests,' and then we shall see ten churches built for one we see now! So I am now prayerfully opposed to the law, and hope it may not come to anything."—*N. Y. Freeman.*

RELIGION vs. DRESS.—A correspondent of the Boston Herald writing from Lowell says—we do not know with how much truth:—"There are plenty of churches here. I attended service yesterday at one of the most prominent ones. Dress appeared to be the lead principle, among those present, while religion was mere side issue. The house seemed more like a place of fashionable resort than a temple where a God may dwell."