

which had ruined his prospects. How they were his and Johnny Smith's position, passed their examination. Edward, a wealthy country gentleman, highly connected, handsome, and with a good second-hand prospects as most young men in the country had elder brothers. Young Smith was but a son of a grocer, had not a decent connection in the world, and felt ashamed of his name. Smith, especially as many of the young men who were passing their examination along with him had drunk his father's tea all their lives, sweetened by his father's sugar. A few weeks after Edward was the penniless son of a ruined gentleman.

His acquaintance with the Smiths did not finish in the least after John's departure. He died at Putney two or three times a week. The Smiths liked him, and he was glad to have a friendly house to go to; for nothing in the world is so friendless as the feeling of being alone and unknown in a large city.

On one of these occasions Edward Ashwood met a Mr. McDougall, who was largely connected in the sugar business. He was an agreeable, gentleman-like person, of an old Scotch family. Being a fourth son, he had been obliged to seek his fortune early in life. His uncle, on the mother's side, was a merchant in London; and he was at the age of fifteen consigned to that uncle's care, and placed in his counting-house, where he plodded on and worked hard for many years, receiving but a small annual stipend, and having the run of his uncle's house. At length his uncle died at the ripe age of seventy, and having no son to whom he could bequeath his business, he left to Mr. McDougall under certain conditions. He was to pay out of the yearly profits a sum to Mrs. Carr, his aunt, besides a large amount to an only daughter. This rather crippled Mr. McDougall; and he considered the best solution of the difficulty was to marry Miss Carr, his cousin; which he accordingly did.

Mr. McDougall took a great fancy to Edward, and invited him frequently to his house. He was informed of the disagreeable circumstances which had induced Edward to come to town, and assisted him by advice as to the best legal men to employ. He liked Edward's frank, open manner, and often thought of some means by which he could benefit him advantageously to himself. He asked Edward if he would have any objection to business. Poor boy; his thoughts had gone to the army all his life, and he came at pleasure over India's burning plains and Canada's freezing regions; for how far will not thought carry us. He had since boyhood delighted only in martial music, and loved the sight of a red coat. How changed were his fortunes. What a contrast the plodding, weary desk-life presented compared with the gay, exciting life of a soldier! His hopes, however, were buried in this respect, and he considered he should be refusing a good offer, should he object to Mr. McDougall's plan. He therefore wrote to his father for his approval of this new mode of life.

Mr. Ashwood not only consented, but entered warmly into it. It relieved him of a terrible anxiety; for he much feared that Edward, not having the means to become an officer, would enlist as a private soldier. He had not communicated his fear to Edward, lest it should put the idea into his head, but every day he dreaded such intelligence.

So Edward took his seat in Mr. McDougall's office. He at first disliked the work, and thought it tedious and flat. He had lived in the country all his life, and went in or out of the house as fancy dictated. The strict punctuality of Mr. McDougall's house of business worried him; he found it a perpetual *genie*; but he was of a very determined character; and seeing nothing else for it, he soon accustomed himself to those annoyances.

Mr. McDougall invited him to his house frequently; in fact gave him a general invitation there, whenever he wished to go; so Edward was, on the whole, better off than he might have been. The arrangement Mr. McDougall made with him was that he was to have two hundred pounds a year for some years, and then he was to be employed, when he was well acquainted with the business, in buying sugars in the West Indies. He was often very uneasy as to the honesty of those abroad to whom he entrusted large sums of money; and it occurred to him what an advantage he would derive from having a steady, active, willing young man, on whom he could depend.

Mr. Ashwood, no doubt, felt severely wounded in his feelings of pride when he contemplated the respective positions of his two sons: the one, a clerk in a merchants' office; the other depending on an agency, which had been given him more from kindness than any other motive. When you consider that he had owed five thousand pounds a year; you will, no doubt, admit, that the change was indeed a hard trial to a proud worldly-minded man. How fortunate the now thought himself in having allowed Fanny to marry Mr. Merton. She, at any rate, was comfortably provided for.

It was arranged that the Ashwoods must leave Warrenstown. Every thing on the land was to be sold; and a day was appointed for the auction. How could the family remain in the house, and hear in the distance the noise of strangers selling their cattle, their sheep, their horses! especially as they knew well all the gentlemen of the country would be there, and that many disagreeable remarks would be passed on the family. Some would say that Mr. Ashwood's pride must have a fall; others, that Mrs. Ashwood was not the grand lady she used to be. The Ashwoods were not popular; at least Mr. and Mrs. Ashwood were not so, whatever the young people might be; and consequently few people were really very sorry for them. Some secretly rejoiced at their misfortune; and the Ashwoods knew this. They had never been ever kind to those in the neighborhood who could not be of some use to them; and this was well remembered. Such is life. The family, therefore, which now consisted only of Mr. and Mrs. Ashwood and Maria—left Warrenstown with sad and sorrowful hearts. How melancholy

they felt as the carriage drove to the hall-door for the last time. As the trunks were put on carts, and the signal to drive on at last given! Mrs. Ashwood sobbed bitterly. Her husband tried to bear up courageously; it was a hard task to do so; but his resolution was overcome when he finally passed the bounds of his property, where there was a beautiful young plantation he had made in early youth, just before his father's death—and he remembered well how his father was driven there in his little low pony phaeton, and with what delight he viewed his son's work. What a melancholy day this was; well might poor Maria rejoice at its close, for she had suffered keenly during the tedious journey.

The party remained in London only long enough to see Edward, and then crossed over to France. They fixed their residence in a small town in Picardy. There they resolved to wait till the affairs of the bank were arranged, that they might know how much they could count upon as having at their disposal. But such matters are generally slow; law does not travel at railway speed. Here they felt themselves very miserable and depressed. There were but few English. Mr. and Mrs. Ashwood had never paid more than one or two flying visits to France since their marriage.

Their reason for choosing Picardy as a place of residence was the proximity of Grande Foret, where Kate and Fanny were formerly on a visit with Madame de Chateaubourg; but Grande Foret had now lost its attractions. Madame de Chateaubourg was obliged, in consequence of some family disagreements, to leave the place a few weeks before the Ashwoods came to France. Madame de Chateaubourg had endured a great deal of persecution from her husband ever since she left Grande Foret, of which she was very fond. She went to Italy with her two children, who did much to comfort her and raise her spirits, and proved, by their affectionate and loving care of her, how much they loved her.

(To be continued.)

## IRISH INTELLIGENCE

We understand that a young lady, the daughter of a highly respectable Protestant solicitor in this city, lately deceased, has gone 'over to Rome' and entered a convent of Sisters of Mercy in England, with the intention of embracing the religious profession in that useful order. —*Waterford Citizen*.

Mr. De Vere's proposal for a State Endowment of the Catholic Church in Ireland, the recommendation of the Times that the Irish clergy should be paid by the State, and the letters read and speeches made at the National Association of Ireland in connection with the subject, open up one of the widest and most important questions which have ever occupied the Catholics of this empire.

The Most Rev. Dr. Leahy writes:— 'The question of a State provision for the Catholic clergy is, I perceive, again introduced. I take this opportunity to say that I, for one, am for the voluntary principle, and for it alone, and I am opposed to any measure that would make the Catholic bishops or priests of Ireland the stipendiaries of the State in any shape or form. Although I do not by any means assume to speak for others, I believe I but express the sentiments and feelings of the bishops and priests of Ireland.'

Mr. O'Neill Daunt, another member of the Association, writes:—

'We complain of the grievance of one State Church; and by way of removing the grievance, it is hinted that we are to have two State Churches! But it is with proud satisfaction I am able to announce that any possible scheme of state-endowment, whether by a share of the present temporalities, or by treasury stipends, would be unanimously rejected by the Catholic hierarchy of Ireland. Our Prelates see the Catholic religion thrown for support on the voluntary contributions of its faithful votaries, and they see that it is full of strong life, and that it grows and flourishes. They are not so unwise as to exchange the proved, tried system of voluntarism, which is fraught with spiritual health and vigor, for the opposite system of state support, which certainly has not promoted the expansion of Protestantism.'

But, descending to the lower ground of mere expediency I am convinced that in seeking the removal of the present grievance, any deviation from the principle of voluntarism would be fatal to our prospects of success. That principle is the great bond which now unites us to the English Dissenters. If yielding to any insidious influence, we were so foolish as to deviate one hair's breadth from voluntarism—if we listened for a moment with approval to an offer of state endowment in any mode or form for the Catholic clergy of Ireland—we should deservedly exchange the invaluable alliance of the English Dissenters for their bitter hostility. . . . If our clergy became pensioners of the treasury, the confidence of their flocks, which they now possess, would be greatly diminished and religion would be greatly damaged.'

Dr. O'Brien, Dean of Limerick, says:— 'If England has made many mistakes regarding the amelioration of this country, if she has done her grave injustice, I say she never committed a greater mistake than in thinking of purchasing the Catholic clergy (applause). We would look upon the reception of a pension from England as purchase. Pension means nothing else than that by the force of corrupt gold she should disavow the priests from the people of Ireland (hear, hear). The priests have been accustomed to lead the people, in times of persecution and oppression they have stood by them, and if it be necessary to suffer injustice to the end, and to share oppression, even if extermination be the consequence of their fidelity, the priests will never desert them (loud applause).'

Soon after the return of the four Archbishops from London, a general meeting of the whole of the Irish hierarchy was held to receive their report of the result of the deputation to the Cabinet on the Education Question, after which meeting the propositions of the bishops on the whole subject were forwarded to Sir George Grey more than a month since. No answer having, as yet, been received by the prelates to their propositions, although there were grounds for expecting such before the opening of Parliament it appears extraordinary—to use no harsher term—that it is through a newspaper report of a Presbyterian deputation—a communication numbering only one-eleventh of the population—the hierarchy of 78 per cent of the Kingdom should first be made acquainted with the answer of the Imperial Cabinet to an important section of their propositions. This whole subject, and the recent proceedings have roused the popular passions, and the following resolution, prompt action, taken on it by the Committee of the National Association, at its meeting on Tuesday, Alderman McSwiney, J.P., in the chair, indicates the determination to move firmly yet temperately in the matter. 'That in reference to the question of freedom of education—one of the objects sought by this association—public attention having been called to the answer of the Lord Lieutenant to the memorial of the Presbyterian General Assembly in Dublin Quoted on the 2nd inst., when his Excellency is

represented, to have stated that 'There is not the slightest intention on the part of the Government to disturb the principle of the national system of education in Ireland.' The O'Donoghue, M.P., be requested to ask explanation of the Government in the House of Commons how far this statement represents the intention of the Cabinet.'

Already applications have been made from different quarters, urging the association to take action in the forthcoming election in Louth, as if the Lord Lieutenant has correctly stated the intentions of the Cabinet, in the matter of education, the Chief Secretary, the Right Hon. Mr. Fortescue, is seriously committed, and the more so, inasmuch as in his address, at the late election, he went far towards advocating the claims of the bishops in the matter. The Association will take no steps, however, in so grave a matter, without the fullest assurance as to the true state of the case, and the gravest deliberation, in a special meeting, if necessary. Sir Robert Peel complicated the Government on the same question; let Lord Wodehouse take warning from the example.

Sir John Gray has already given notice of motion on the Church, and Major O'Reilly, on the Education Question. The former is likely to exceed all his previous public efforts in treating that great subject—one to which he has devoted months of the closest time and research aided by all that has ever been written on the question, for and against the temporalities in Ireland.—*Cor. Weekly Register*.

IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT.—Easter coming so early this year, the opinion gains ground that if the Reform Bill is brought on at all before then, the second reading will not be fixed for any day this side of the Easter recess. If so, the session will be the lightest one for the next two months, and very unusually heavy after that. In common decency, 'the negro party' can scarcely get up any considerable row about Jamaica till after the Commission reports; so that, if the Reform Bill should be deferred till the time I have referred to, there will be nothing to fight about but the Fenians or the Established Church in Ireland for some weeks to come. Accounts received here in private circles represent the state of society in Ireland generally, and in Dublin particularly, as being very unsettled indeed. Among other things it is stated that, to the knowledge of the Dublin detectives, there are about four thousand strangers in that city who have only turned up since the Fenian trials, and who have no ostensible occupation there, but who seem to be in no want of money, and who have been observed to take part, either as simple spectators or as an exciting element, in more than one street row. It is further alleged that though these men have done nothing as yet to put themselves within the power of the law, the police believe they are in Dublin for a purpose, and keep their eye upon them accordingly. There is no fixed payment for the judges acting on a special commission; but I am informed on good authority that Mr. Justice Keogh and Mr. Justice Fitzgerald will receive not less than £3,000 each for their extraordinary judicial services at Dublin and Cork.—*Dublin Correspondent of the Liverpool Albion*.

The Landlord party who came up, last week, to hold their class meeting in support of Law and Order, and largely did they muster, had an orderly, moderate, and influential gathering, the few resolutions passed being, on the whole, unexceptionable. That, however, is all that meets the public eye; behind the scenes alone could the cause of this moderation be understood. It had been arranged by the Orange party, under the Marquis of Downshire, the Earl of Egliskillen and other noble brethren, to recommend the Executive to withdraw all the troops from Ulster, leaving the preservation of the Peace in that Province to the Orangemen—with what object it is not necessary to state—and also to strongly urge the most severe measures of coercion against the country generally. On this becoming known, a private meeting of Liberal Landlords, to the number of thirty, none of them below the rank of Deputy-Lieutenant, was held, and intimation given by them that, in order to prevent collision, on so grave an occasion, they solicited an interview with the Conservative section, in order to consider the proposed resolutions, and come to an understanding on the course to be adopted at the meeting. The interview was granted, its result being the mild and unobjectionable declarations made at the meeting.—*Cor. of Weekly Register*.

THE ORANGE SOCIETY.—It is now thoroughly understood that the Orangemen are arming. At Dundalk several cases of rifles and bayonets have been seized by the police. It was at first supposed that these weapons were intended for the Fenian circles, but it turned out that their destination was the Orange Lodge of Ulster. The cases were conveyed to hardware merchants, whose politics are anything but those of the Fenians; and had not the police opportunely seized them, the rifles and bayonets would now be in the hands of the Northern Orangemen. The Liberal papers of Antrim and Londonderry notice the preparations of the Orange Lodges as a most significant and alarming fact—a view which we put forward in the *Herald* last week. We trust that not a day will be lost after Parliament assembles without the Government being interrogated by some Liberal member on the matter. The public have a right to know the extent to which the arming of the Lodges has been carried, and whether the Government sanction or permit it. We deliberately assert that nothing more dangerous to the peace of the country can be imagined than the equipment of the Orange masses in the North, in anticipation of an armed conflict. The Orangemen are but too anxious to take the field against the Catholic inhabitants, and the fact that the latter are now able to defend themselves effectively, rather increases than diminishes the peril to the country threatened by the preparations of the Lodges.—*Tuan Herald*.

THE AMERICAN FENIANS.—Fresh arrests on charges connected with Fenianism have been made. The color sergeant who was arrested in Limerick is still in custody there, one of the charges against him being that he admitted an American colonel, named Byrne, into the Castle Barracks. Another person has been arrested for tampering with the soldiery at Fermoy, and attempting to administer the Fenian oath, and a man named Hugh Byrne, an American, has been arrested in his bed at Ballinglass. No documents were found, but he was remanded. It would seem, indeed, that the American Fenians are almost too cunning to be reached by the law as it at present stands. They hand over their documents and arms to some deluded Irishmen, and devote themselves to the easier and more pleasant work of sowing sedition, while their unfortunate dupes risk everything in their defence.

ILLEGAL DRILLING.—From reports that reach this city almost daily, it appears that the Fenian drillings are carried on about this country with as much vigor as ever. The usual caution is observed by the parties, sentries being posted around wherever they assemble, and as a consequence it is almost impossible to surprise them at their work. Last Sunday a body of about sixty men were drawn up in a field in the neighborhood of Ballinacraig, and put through various military evolutions. They were seen from a distance by a gentleman belonging to this city, but on his endeavoring to get close to them and witness their movements, the usual whistle was given by the sentries, and the men broke up into groups of three or four and went rambling about the place. In several other districts the Fenians have been seen by passers-by most diligent at drill, but on the slightest attempt at approach it ceases, and the foot-ball is resorted to.—*Cork Constitution*.

A police inspector and four detective officers surrounded a most respectable house in the neighborhood of Pleasant street yesterday, and made a diligent search in it and about it for Stephens, but without getting any trace of him.—*Correspondent of the London Times*.

A supplement of the *Dublin Gazette* has been issued, containing the announcement that the following counties and parts of counties will be proclaimed on the 14th instant:—The county of Roscommon, the city of Armagh, the county of Cavan, the county of Wicklow, the county of Wexford, Longford, the baronies of Moydow, Ratholine and Surtut. Accounts from various parts of the country express the great satisfaction of the population at having their respective counties proclaimed. Many Protestant families in the south and west have been for weeks afraid to go to bed.—*Times Cor.*

Corporal Mulvhill was tried to-day by court martial for treasonable language towards the Queen and government.—*Id.*

HEAD CENTRE STEPHENS.—The opinion is fast gaining ground that the escaped Head Centre of Fenianism is in this neighborhood.—*Limerick South-Corn Chronicle*.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.—We understand that on Saturday last an order was issued by the authorities for a return of the number of persons employed in the various government and other public offices, who are capable of bearing arms.—*Freeman*.

ADDITIONAL TROOPS FOR IRELAND.—On the 2nd instant the 60th Royal Rifles, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Gibbs Rigaud, passed through Liverpool en route to the Curragh of Kildare, via Dublin. This regiment has been recently stationed at Dover, whence it came direct to Liverpool. The troops embarked on board the City of Dublin steamers Windsor and Trafalgar.—*Daily Telegraph*.

SUPPOSED ARREST OF STEPHENS.—It has been generally believed that Head Centre Stephens had not left Ireland. Consequently the police have made several arrests, and a great number of searches in different parts of Dublin, but hitherto without success. A new arrest is now reported, that of a beggar, who was found under circumstances of great suspicion plying his trade near Thurlis. The prisoner is described as answering in all personal respects to the missing Head Centre, while his 'make up,' though decidedly artistic, was a little too transparently fictitious to provide for his passing securely under the eyes of the police.—*London Shipping Gazette*.

A man named Arthur Williams has been committed by the City of Dublin magistrates for having incited a crowd to assault the police in Kevin-street, on the night of the 28th ult., and with having made use of seditious language in the public streets. The prisoner shouted 'To h—l with the red rag of England, and hurrah for Fenianism!—The day of the Irish Republic will soon arrive.' When brought to the station-house he exclaimed, 'To h—l with her Majesty—to h—l with Judge Keogh.' He was also charged with having assaulted the constables while in the execution of their duty.—*Mail*.

At the Belfast Police Court Thomas Henry O'Brien, Lieutenant in the 88th Irish-American Volunteers, and John Peter Dunn, who had also been in the American army, were brought up on remand, charged with being members of the Fenian Society. The prisoners were arrested on the 18th of January in Gordon O'Neill's public-house, by Sub-Inspector Harvey and a body of police. The prisoners were respectively dressed, and appeared to be men of more than ordinary intelligence. A parcel containing a number of drill books were found at their lodgings. The prisoners were let out on their own recognisances to appear when called for.

The most important arrests that have been made up to the present in this locality in connection with the Fenian movement have taken place at Carrick-on-Suir. Under orders from (we are led to believe) Sir Hugh Ross, Commander of the Forces in Ireland, the military authorities at Carrick-on-Suir have placed under arrest Colour-Sergeant McCarthy, Corporal Brennan, a native of Carrick, where his father formerly occupied the position of porter at one of the banks; and private Kiely, a native of Dungarvan, all belonging to the 53rd Regiment, a detachment of which is now stationed in that town. While these arrests were being made, a party of five policemen, under Mr. M'Loughlin, S.I., went down to the factory recently erected in that town, one by one, in order not to create suspicion, and took into custody four men. The police also arrested three other civilians, who, with the four men of the factory, were lodged in the bridewell. The names of the seven are—P. Morrissey, Wm. Dobbin, John Ryan, alias, Brien; John Maher, Richard Hoare, and Wm. Maher, who was recently allowed to stand out on bail, having been in jail on the charge of having pikes concealed in his premises. A preliminary investigation, which, of course, was private, was held at the bridewell, before Samuel Hanna, R.M., and Lorenzo H. Jepson, Esqs. All the parties are charged, on the informations of a Constable Talbot, with having attended Fenian meetings and being Fenians. The magistrates remanded them for examination. The important feature in connection with the arrest is the alleged complicity of the three soldiers—McCarthy, who has been thirteen years in the army, Kiely, and Brennan—in the unfortunate movement that now agitates the country. On these men being brought before Messrs. Hanna, Wilson, and Jepson, and the charge read to them, they made no answer. If what rumour states be true, McCarthy has been actively engaged in seeking to draw his comrades from their allegiance. We believe he has been heard to boast that he is a cousin of Stephens, the Head Centre.—*Clonmel Chronicle*.

THE FENIAN WEAPON.—Nothing is more indicative of the folly and weakness of the Fenian project than the active manufacture of pikes. What a reliance! What would be thought of a people bent on revolt who busily employed themselves in the manufacture of bows and arrows, and really bows, and arrows may in present circumstances have the advantage over pikes, for the arrow is a missile though a poor one. It is sad evidence of the unteachable Irish nature that they have learned nothing in rebellion. Here they are where they were in 1798, and there is not a head amongst them but the pike head. But the world has not stood still since '98, when the pike head had its best day, and nevertheless could not win the day. Our army is not now what it was then; its weapons, its composition, its leading are all improved. Vinegar Hill would now be shelled in half an hour, and the rifle would pick off mobs of pikemen half a mile off. If the Fenians imagine they can beat the Queen out of her kingdom with a dagger of lath, they may consistently put their trust in wooden poles with iron points at the end of them; but for their own sakes, before they try the rash experiment, let them compare the capabilities of these poor weapons with those of the rifle and the new artillery. They expect fire-arms were told; but why, then, manufacture so many pikes? And in '98 there were 'gunsmen,' as they were called, *par excellence*, but to be counted by scores, while the pikemen were to be counted, if counted at all, by hundreds and thousands. And what came of it? The army to be dealt with now would not be badly-led raw militia and yeomanry, always ready to take flight, but well trained soldiers, confident in their leadership and the superiority of their arms and tactics. Against such troops pike-shooters would be about as available for missiles as pikes for close quarters. Such being the case, the seizure of pikes seems a mistake, and a malignant enemy would offer a handsome supply of tools so harmless against well equipped troops. It is true they might be turned against unarmed men, and so be formidable for assassination, but for war they are a mockery and a snare.—*London Examiner*.

PROTESTANT OFFICIALS IN A CATHOLIC UNION.—In the Sligo Poorhouse the clerk is a Protestant; the master ditto; the matron ditto; the porter ditto; and last week a Protestant teacher was appointed. There are 505 inmates in the house, nearly all Catholics.

The Dublin correspondent of the New York News writes as follows relative to the probable capture of Stephens the Fenian leader:—

'I fear things are going badly with James Stephens. He is all but hunted down, and if the information I have received be correct, he stands but a poor chance of escaping for another week. I will now state a few facts about him which you will not find in the newspapers, but for the accuracy of which I can safely vouch. On Wednesday last while the streets were filled with military and police, Stephens quietly spent the evening in a house not fifty yards from Nassau street, one of the leading and most frequented thoroughfares, situated in the most central portion of the city. On the following evening he was seen walking on the South Circular Road, with four other men, and on a yesterday he was tracked by a female detective to a house in Angbrim street, distant more than two miles from the house in which he found refuge on Wednesday. The information was soon conveyed to the detectives; a body of police were marched to the spot, and a cordon of men formed round the whole street, to prevent the escape of any one. The houses in the street were then carefully searched but Stephens was not to be found. The fact is that Stephens has his detectives as well as the Government, and that he is far better acquainted with the movements of his enemies than they are with his. Still I incline to think that he has had a very narrow escape this time, and everybody knows what becomes of the pitcher which goes once too often to the well. By the way, I should mention that another reward has been offered for his apprehension. On Sunday last a proclamation was posted throughout the city and suburbs offering a reward of one thousand pounds for such information as will lead to the arrest of James Stephens, and a reward of one thousand pounds is also offered 'to any person or persons who shall arrest him; and a further reward of three hundred pounds is offered for such information as shall lead to the arrest of any person who has harbored him.'

An incident of rather grave character occurred last week—one that may lead to serious political consequences. A deputation of graduates from the Queen's University, consisting, in point of fact, of four lads from Belfast, and Sir Robert Kane's son from Cork College, waited, about a month since, on the Lord Lieutenant, praying the Government to refuse the promised charter to the Catholic University. This deputation was, soon after, followed by one somewhat more influential, Lord Lurgan and a few respectable laymen being of the party, superadding to the prayer of the former the more general request to perpetuate mixed education as that most suited to the special circumstances of Ireland. Next came the Presbyterian General Assembly with no less than three deputations, one in support of the Queen's College and Queen's University, as they are, to the denial of all modification which would include the Catholic University in their legal benefits; another praying for a new scheme of intermediate or grammar schools, founded on the same principle as the Queen's Colleges; and lastly, a glowing declaration as to the working of the same principle in the National or primary schools, with a prayer that aid to denominational schools may be refused, and the so-called mixed system preserved intact. To one only of these deputations did the Lord Lieutenant commit the Government: in replying to their demands, that of Friday last, in reference to primary schools. On that occasion Lord Wodehouse warmly endorsed the laudations of the Presbyterian memorial in favour of that system, stating, amongst other encouraging things, that—'There is not the slightest intention on the part of the Government to disturb the principle of the National system of education in Ireland.' Casuists might understand this as a diplomatic ruse to silence impending clamour on the part of that presumptuous and turbulent sect, the Ulster Presbyterians, the best endowed, the most rapacious, the most inconsistent, the most Orange, and the least Irish section of the Queen's subjects in this realm; because though meditating many reforms in that system, its principle—whatever Lord Wodehouse understands by that—is not to be disturbed. That such an unworthy equivocation may be the design is rendered probable from a kindred circumstance. A circular is in circulation in Ulster, drawn up, it is understood, by the Very Rev. Dr. Bagot, Protestant Dean of Drogheda (Newry) attempting to prove that the admission of the Catholic University as a college of the Queen's University alters in no way the principle of the latter; but, instead, that it is calculated to degrade the position of the former and elevate the Methodist College, Belfast, and the Presbyterian Magee College, Derry, to a level with it. This circular issued with the connivance of the Government, coupled with the declaration of Lord Wodehouse is not an assuring sign that the Education Question is in so hopeful a position towards settlement as most Catholics were led to suppose, whilst a far worse aspect remains to be reported.

GALLANT RESCUE OF A BOAT AND CREW.—On Tuesday last, the 16th instant, was witnessed in the bay of Killybeg, one of those intrepid actions which cause the hearts of spectators of such a scene to beat high in admiration of that courage which, in hope of saving human life, prompts the hardy fishermen of our coast to use, on no occasion, the offer of reward to induce them at all times to attempt the rescue of those in despair off our coast. On the morning named above, a fishing boat owned by James McIntosh, of this town, left the shore manned by a crew of six, to fish long-lines. They had scarcely finished shooting their lines, when the wind which had previously been pretty steady from S.W., suddenly veered to N.W., blowing fearful gusts as it generally does from that part at this season. Those in the boat immediately perceived the imminent danger they were in, and at once made what little sail they could hoist, leaving their lines behind, and attempted to reach the land. A short time proved to them that this was totally impossible, as they were going a lee fearfully, and in a heavy cross sea at the time almost swamping them. Their great danger now became apparent to those on the shore, and the distress of the wives, mothers, and friends of those in the frail boat was becoming very painful to witness—the banks being lined by a large number of persons whose hopes for the safety of those in the boat were each moment becoming fainter. They were at last observed to lower sail and attempt to row. This they continued to do for a considerable time, but in the face of such a gale they could barely keep the boat up. At last, after witnessing their efforts till delaying an attempt at rescue longer would give no chance at all, as the men were evidently getting weaker and the boat going a lee and into a heavier sea, ten fine young fellows on the instant volunteered and in an incredibly short space of time they were shooting before the gale at the speed of an arrow, reaching the distressed boat in a very short time, and, having divided the crews, the exertions of the fresh men soon began to tell; for the boat forged ahead, and after a long and very severe pull right in the 'teeth of the storm,' these gallant fellows landed both boats safely amid the plaudits of a large assembly on the beach. The bravery displayed by the rescuing crew in the above case merits not only the highest praise but is deserving of a reward from the Humane Society.—*Newry Telegraph*.

SWINE DISTEMPER.—Accounts reach us of the continued great mortality amongst swine in the neighborhood. The distemper which has so long prevailed would appear not to be dying out, nor becoming less virulent. A loss scarcely calculable in this cause sustained by the poorer classes, and we don't find that any steps are taken to provide a remedy.—*Tyrone Herald*.

APPLES PRODUCED IN JANUARY.—Specimens of apples grown in the open air, and which have just been taken from the tree, were left at this office yesterday. They are the largest we have seen at this season, and were produced in the garden of Joseph P. Smart, Esq., Kilmacnam.—*Irish Times*.