

stained sawdust! Another angel tenanted Paradise. Onward—onward the old man came, his wild shriek echoing through the crowd. 'My child! my child! A reprieve! Too late, old man; she is dead!'

THE IRISH PRELATES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

"EARL OF MAYO TO THE MOST REV ARCHBISHOP LEAHY.

"Irish Office, 30th June, 1868.

"Most Rev Sir—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst, calling my attention to the answer recently given by me to Sir John Gray's question in the House of Commons, and that given by Lord Malmesbury in the House of Lords, in reference to the communications which have passed between us concerning a charter for a Roman Catholic University, and complaining that the negotiations on the subject were broken off by me in an abrupt and unexpected manner. It becomes my duty to call your attention briefly to the events which have taken place with regard to the proposals made by the Government in this matter. On the 12th March I announced in the House of Commons that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to propose that a charter should be given to a Roman Catholic University. I said that up to that time we had entered into no negotiations or communications with anyone, but that keeping in view the principles we thought indispensable—namely, and there should be in the institution an influential lay element, and that elective principle should be fully recognised—we were prepared to listen respectfully and carefully to all suggestions that were made to us, and to endeavour to suit the new University to the requirements of those for whose benefit it was intended. On the 14th March, therefore, I addressed to you a note referring to your letter to the Earl of Derby on the 23rd October, 1867, in which you stated that you had been deputed by the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland to enter into communication with Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of a charter for the Roman Catholic University. I said that I should be happy on the part of the Government, to receive from you any communication which you might be pleased to make on the subject. On the 19th March I received a letter, in which you put forward several objections to the proposed scheme, stating, at the same time, that you would do me the honour of waiting upon me during the ensuing week.

"A lengthened interview took place on the 24th at the Irish Office, in which you and your right-reverend colleague repeated, to a great extent, the objection put forward in your letter of the 19th. To these objections Lord Malmesbury and I listened with respectful attention; and, at the close of the interview, we requested you to place those opinions in writing at greater length and in greater detail than you had done in your first letter. A letter dated the 31st of March was subsequently received, in which, with great clearness and frankness, you set forth the alterations which you recommended should be made in the framework of the new institution, as it was described in a memorandum which I had the honour of placing in your hands. The alterations which you said that you considered necessary were principally based on the assumption that there was not sufficient scope given in the constitution of the University and its governing body for the exercise by the Roman Catholic prelates of their authority in matters appertaining to faith and morals, or over the books that were to be used by the students. In order, therefore, fully to provide for the exercise of that episcopal control which you appear to deem essential, you said that it was not competent for laymen or even clergymen of the second order, however learned, to judge authoritatively of matters relating to faith and morality, and that the very least power that could be claimed for the bishops in the senate would be that of an absolute negative on the use of all books that might be deemed objectionable and a power of veto on the first nomination of the professors of the University, as well as an authority for their dismissal. You also made propositions with regard to the election of the chancellor and the members of the senate, which would practically have put an end to anything like a system of free election on the part of the general body of the University. I apprised you in my letter of the 11th May, delayed, as I then informed you, by my unavoidable detention in Ireland, and my consequent inability to consult my colleagues, that these proposals could not be entertained; and on the 17th I received from you a note, which was but a simple acknowledgment of my letter.

"As no intimation was afterwards given of your desire to continue the correspondence and as no notice beyond formal acknowledgment was taking of my last letter, I could come to no other conclusion than that the communications were at an end. On the 29th of May, therefore, in answer to a question from Mr Murphy, I stated in the House of Commons that the correspondence which had been laid upon the table of the house had shown that the conditions which Her Majesty's Government thought necessary to attach to the granting of a charter to the Roman Catholic University had been declared by the right-reverend prelates who were deputed to act in the matter on the part of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ireland, and that, therefore, we had come to the conclusion that the matter should be considered entirely at an end. The answer given by the Earl of Malmesbury in the House of Lords on the same night though somewhat different in words, was substantially to the same effect. Again on the 12th June, in reply to Sir J. Gray, after referring to the dates of the communications which had taken place, I made a similar answer, and stated that it was not our intention to take any further steps in the matter. It could not have been supposed that a correspondence conducted in such a manner, extending over so considerable a period of time, and terminating in the way it did, was intended by you to have been re-opened. The questions as to which differences arose involved matters of the highest principle. Speaking on behalf of the Roman Catholic prelates of Ireland, you laid down in the clearest manner the maxims on the subject of university education which you considered necessary for the safety of the faith and morals of the youth of the country. We could not have supposed that requirements sanctioned by such high authority, so repeatedly made and so clearly expressed, could have been put forward only to be withdrawn. Under these circumstances, I can only repeat the answer I have already given in the House of Commons, that it is not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to take any further steps in the matter.—I have, &c.

(Signed) "MAYO."

THE IRISH PRELATES AND LORD MAYO.

TO THE RIGHT HON THE EARL OF MAYO, M. P., CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND.

MY LORD—Your letter of the 30th ult, laid before Parliament this week, demands some notice at our hands. After a long preamble it closes with the declaration that 'it is not the intention for Her

Majesty's Government to take any further steps in the matter of a charter for a Catholic University. Coupled with our denial of having spoken or written a word implying a wish on our part to break off the negotiation on that subject, that declaration of yours brings home to your Government and yourself the responsibility of having carried on the negotiation for a time, and of having thereby abruptly put an end to it. We should be content to let the matter drop here without adding another word were it not that, while declaring it was not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to take any further steps in the matter, you had fallen into the singular inconsistency of seeking at the same time to listen upon us the responsibility of your not proceeding any further. Accustomed though we have become of late to an extraordinary boldness of assertion on the part of public men, we were not prepared for the statement, come from whom it might, that we had to answer for the abrupt termination of this business; much less could we have expected it to come from your lordship, knowing as you did all that passed between us and, moreover, disdaining, as it is believed you would disdain, to have recourse to the petty devices upon which other men live. Yet, strange to say, with all this knowledge, notwithstanding that openness of nature for which you get credit from opponents as well as friends, you first hazarded in your place in Parliament the insinuation that we, not you, had broken off the negotiation respecting the Catholic University question, and you now repeat it with full deliberation in the face of our declaration that it is not we, and even of your own admission that it is you, who have determined to take no further steps in the matter. (Their lordships then proceeded to prove that it was Lord Mayo who had broken off the correspondence, and then say)—

Having disposed of your first reason for having concluded and announced in Parliament on the 22nd of May that we had broken off the negotiation, we pass on your long history of what took place between us as only enveloping the real question in a cloud of words, and we come to the one other reason which you say helped to land you in your conclusion. What is it? The conflicting nature of the principles in your plan of a Catholic University, and the principles developed in our letter of the 31st March. Now, it will be observed that whatever be the value of this argument, it cannot be put in as a plea along with the first one. Either must be abandoned, if the other be held. The one says you had concluded we had given up the correspondence from the letter of simple acknowledgement coupled with the lapses of eleven days allowed to pass over without a renewal of it. The other says, no; it was quite another thing that made you conclude we had declared off, namely, the antagonism between your principles and ours, which, however, revealed itself fully at our personal interview, and not require your waiting for eleven days, nor for one day—to understand his full bearing on the question. If it was the conflicting nature of the principles involved that produced your conviction then it was not the letter of simple acknowledgement with the eleven days' silence; but, if it was that letter and that silence that wrought upon your mind, then it was not the conflicting nature of our principles, seen at our personal interview, nor requiring a day's waiting to be seen, that made you believe we had indeed declared off. Whatever the value of your two reasons taken separately, both together are inadmissible. They cannot stand together. But let us see whether this your second plea does in reality carry with it any more weight than your first—let us see whether, indeed, the conflict between your principles and ours was of such a nature that on or about the 27th of May, and not before, it brought home to you the conviction and drew from you the announcement in your place in Parliament, that by reason of the incompatibility of the principles held on both sides we had finally rejected the proposals of Government and terminated the negotiation. If the conflict between our principles and yours convinced you on or about the 27th of May that there was an end of the business, surely it was equally convincing on the 11th of May when you wrote your letter of that date rejecting our suggestions; and yet you tell us that, notwithstanding the then manifest conflict of our principles, you then on the 11th of May and after, did still look forward to and were waiting for some further correspondence between us, and did not give up all hope of it till after the receipt of the letter of simple acknowledgement and the expiration of the fatal eleven days. Again, if on or about the 27th of May the conflict between our views and principles precluded all hope of our coming to a natural understanding, and made you think we neither had nor would have anything more to say, we beg to ask you were not the principles put forward by us on both sides at our interview in London precisely the same?—did not the same divergence between them then reveal itself?—did not you then comprehend their full drift and bearing on the question before us?—and yet you then asked us to commit our views to writing for further consideration. The conflicting nature of our views did not at that time in your estimation preclude ulterior discussion nor precipitate the end of the negotiation. Why should it afterwards on the 27th of May, the only difference that supervened being that the principles put forward *vis a vis* at our personal interview were subsequently committed to writing, though they still remained the same? So much, my lord, for the reasons by which you seek to shift the onus from yourself upon us the mis carriage of the Catholic University scheme. In truth, the position you have taken up is altogether indefensible, and your line of defence instead of covering only serves to reveal its utter weakness. And we beg to assure you we mean more of respect than the contrary for your personal character when we add, that the position you have taken up is not only weak but unworthy of one such as you. Retire from it, my lord, and leave it to some one who has no character to lose. In the fullest confidence of the truth of the aforesaid, we repeat, my lord, what we asserted in a former letter: It is not we who rejected your plan, but it is you who rejected every one of the suggestions you had invited us to make, and which you thoroughly understood when you asked us to commit them to writing. It is not we who abruptly put an end to our negotiation—it is you. It is not we who have to answer for its having ended in worse than nothing—it is you. It is not we who have sought to throw over upon others any responsibility that rested upon ourselves—it is you who have sought to shift upon us what justly attaches to yourself and your Government. Let the public judge between us.—We have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient servants.

† PATRICK LEAHY, Archbishop, & JOHN DEASY, Bishop.

Thursday, July 11, 1868.

OUR ALLIES AND OUR CAUSE.

The present political circumstances of Ireland are unprecedented since the year of Catholic Emancipation. Ever since that time Ireland has been the victim of the two great English Factories. The Tories have shown their ancestral intolerance and tyranny all along. Rude and open violence has been their single way of dealing with our people.—The Whigs have used us in a different fashion.—They have professed benevolence in all its branches—and bought the power to misgovern Ireland by bribing Irish Representatives with patronage and place. Thus, Ireland has been suffering for nearly forty years from Tory oppression and Whig corruption. Between both we have had a hard time of it. Well, when it became clear to all Irishmen thinking for their country that nothing was to be expected from the justice of the Tories, nor from the justice, or gratitude for long service and sacrifice, of the Whigs, it was resolved to appeal to the only sensitive point in English political parties—their love of emolument and power. Then it was that the policy of Independent Opposition was proclaimed throughout the land. The Independent Irish Party were

demoralized and broken up by deceased men and debasing arts. The plan of Ireland's true friends failed—not because it was a wrong one, but because it never got a fair trial. The principle was true, but there were false and foolish men who would not give it a chance. For a season Falstaff was great and prevailed. Have Whigs or Tories mended their manners since the shameful and disastrous failure of the Independent Party? The Leopard still shows his spots to the sun—the Serpent still crawls. The necessity for an independent policy and Independent Representatives has been proved by a long and calamitous experience. We can trust no English party unless so far as their interests are necessarily bound up with ours. So far may we trust but no farther. The Independent pledge was framed on the very justifiable assumption that no English party would voluntarily any good deed to Ireland—that pressure would always be required. That idea was perfectly correct. The Whigs came forward, without pressure from Ireland or any fear of losing Irish support, to attack the Irish Church Establishment—but they are not volunteers nevertheless. They are acting under a pressure that cannot be bought off. By a just retribution the Whigs, who have betrayed and misgoverned Ireland for so many years now find it impossible to get into office without coming forward as the professed redressers of an Irish wrong. No English question could be proposed which the Liberal party would receive and which the Tory Government would reject. The Reform question was taken from the Whigs by Disraeli—and carried beyond the point required by them.—there is no Irish question, except that of the State Church, on which the Tory Government would do so much as the Whig Opposition would do or ask. Therefore Mr. Gladstone proclaimed war on the Irish Establishment—and, so, the Abolition question became our first in order of time because it was the only one on which we could expect the help of the Whigs. We shall be glad to see them serve, even though it be not for our own sakes—and shall cheerfully help them to do it, as sensible men ought. But they will not help us beyond the Church question for our sakes we must not help them beyond it for theirs. When Torquigstone, the castle of Scott's Norman tyrant, could no longer be held by its defenders, the parties who had made common cause to besiege it separated and went each about their own business, leaving the crime-stained stronghold to settle accounts with the avenging Spirit of Fire.—And if it be our good fortune to see the foul fabric of religious Ascendancy stricken to the earth, then shall we and the Whigs break up fellowship and go upon our several ways—to be as foemen perhaps, but certainly not as allies, when next we meet.—That we are justified in expecting nothing from the Whigs after the settlement of the Church question, (if it be settled), is proved by the fact that after helping us to Catholic Emancipation they have deceived and misgoverned us for forty years. If the Establishment were abolished to-morrow we could not afford to leave the Irish tenantry as they are for forty years more.—Wexford People.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF THE REV. JAMES DONEGAN.—Died at Maguirebridge, on the 27th ult., of disease of the heart, the Rev. James Donegan, in the 40th year of his age and the thirteenth of his sacred ministry. The Rev. and much lamented deceased was son of the late Mr. Donegan, of Killisnope, nephew of the late Very Rev. Philip Donegan, P. P. of Drumlane, in the diocese of Kilmore, and brother of the Rev. Philip Donegan, P. P. of Tempo. Amiable in his manners and of retiring disposition, he, by a life of simple unostentatious piety, unwearied zeal and unostentatious charity, succeeded without an effort in securing the esteem of his brethren in the ministry, and the affectionate attachment of the flock, to the promotion of whose happiness every aspiration of his life was devoted. This was evidenced by the immense multitude of people who assisted at his funeral to pay the last tribute of respect to his mortal remains, but more by the paroxysms of unrestrained grief to which they yielded when they saw all that was mortal of him whom they so dearly loved about to be consigned to the cold earth. It is humbly hoped that those who read this brief obituary notice, but especially his collegiate companions, will offer to the Throne of Mercy a fervent prayer for the repose of his soul.

A KILKENNY PRIEST FROM ROME.—We have much pleasure in announcing the arrival in our city from the College of the Propaganda, in Rome, the Rev. John Feehan, eldest son of our respected fellow-citizen, John Feehan, Esq., who, with the zeal of a faithful missioner of Ireland, proceeds shortly to Hobartown, to spread the faith in foreign lands, as his countrymen have done since the days of St. Columbanus. Several other young clergymen from the Propaganda will accompany our reverend friend to his distant mission, and are shortly expected by him on a visit to Kilkenny previous to the departure. Father Feehan has already reflected honor on his native city by his talents, and we have no doubt that he will reflect still more credit by his future mission in the distant region of Tasmania. Mr. Feehan's second son, the Rev. Thomas Feehan, has joined the order of Jesuits at Milltown Park, Dublin.—Kilkenny Journal.

His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin delivered the closing address of the session for the members of the Historical and Literary Society of the Catholic University in the University Church, Stephen's Green, Dublin, on July 3. There was a very large and influential attendance of visitors, ladies and gentlemen.

On Sunday last, the foundation stone of the new Catholic Church at Besbrook was blessed, in the presence of a large congregation, which could not have numbered less than three thousand persons.—The walls of the edifice are already ten feet in height, and it is expected that it will be roofed before next Christmas. It is about 90 feet by 80, cruciform in shape, and when completed it will be an exceedingly handsome building, and creditable to the esteemed pastor of the parish, the Rev. Mr. McKeivitt and his people. The good work has been commenced to accommodate the workers at Mr. Richardson's great factory, around which a very handsome village has sprung up containing more than three thousand inhabitants. The Rev. Mr. McKeivitt is a circular scribe.—For the past year we have been celebrating Mass every Sunday for the mill-workers of Besbrook, in a hired room, the congregation standing in the open yard. John G. Richardson, Esq., the proprietor of Besbrook, and now also of the twelve townlands of Magherabally, has acknowledged the necessity that exists for a Catholic Church, and Parochial House, and has accordingly granted a site for both.—Dundalk Democrat.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGUS IN KILLARNEY.—The following is a correct and explanatory detail of the annual congregus in Killarney last week. It was held at the Palace, and those who conducted the examination were Dr. McCarthy, Professor Maynooth College; Dean Mawe, Tralee; Rev. R. O'Connor, Fritch. There were twenty candidates applying for eight places and vacancies—six at Maynooth and two at the Irish College, Paris. A free place was given in Maynooth to Mr. John O'Connor, St. Brendan's Seminary, for service rendered in this seminary. The following is the result of the congregus: First place, Patrick O'Leary, Dominican Seminary, Tralee; 2d, Malachy Scanell, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney; 3d, Jeremiah Riordan, Dominican Seminary, Tralee; 4th, David O'Leary, Dominican Seminary, Tralee; 5th, Patrick Callaghan, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney. The first place in the Irish College was given John Lee, of St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney, the second place in the same college was given

to Thos. Fitzgerald, Dominican Seminary, Tralee. The following were selected to fill up the vacancies which may occur in both colleges: Daniel O'Donoghue, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney; John Layne, of Mr. Lee's school, Listowel; John Brogan, of Mr. Collins' school, Dingle; Michael Power, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney; and Daniel Harrington, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney.—Tralee Chronicle.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Thos. F. Phillips, Esq., which melancholy event took place on the 6th ult., at his residence, Derryvehill, after a short illness.

Mr. Bright and Mr. Peabody spent the day on July 10th with Mr. Joseph Robinson, Oorbally House, outside Limerick, where they were entertained at breakfast and dinner, and where they met a number of gentlemen of the city and neighborhood. A portion of the day was spent fishing on the preserved waters thereabouts.

A conservative gentleman, Alderman Mackey, was nominated to the Lord Mayoralty of Dublin for 1869. The Majority of the Liberal party in the council supported the proposal.

THE MAYORALTY FOR 1869.—The Liberal party in Ireland have been surprised if not scandalised at the conduct of some of the Dublin Corporation in attempting to foist upon the metropolis a Tory Lord Mayor for the ensuing year, the year of all others which is destined to mark a new era in our history, and when every effort ought to be made to strengthen the hands of those who have placed foremost on their banner the glorious motto of religious equality. What do the Dublin Liberals mean by such conduct at this juncture? We have no objection to a Protestant Lord Mayor, if the council wish to elect him at the proper time; but surely no one who desires justice to Ireland can say that this is a fitting time to adopt such a course, when every effort is used by the ascendancy faction to keep the masses of the people still under the yoke of Orangism. What will Mr. Diarrell say to the Common and people of England—what can that wily adventurer say? Will he not point to this election as a proof of how little the metropolis of Ireland cares about a settlement of the church question, or indeed any other question which affects the interests of Ireland.—Kilkenny Journal.

THE TWELFTH OF JULY.—From Newry to Belfast, and from Monaghan to Derry, the Orange spirit, made more rampant by the intensely hot weather, was wild and furious at the late anniversary. Meetings, marchings, music, banners and all the other accompaniments of the saturnalia of the 'brethren' were visible on every side. Insult to the brave and high-spirited Catholics of Ulster was the object of all this insane and brutal conduct, which is so ruffianly and savage that it could not be matched outside of Ireland. There were meetings in Lurgan, Waringstown, Derrymacash, Newtownards, and other places in defiance of the law, the rebellious and disloyal ruffians who attended them, having carried banners, and played the usual party tunes. It is only right to say that owing to the good and peaceful conduct of the Catholics, conflicts did not take place in many districts. Had they gone out to meet the processions, and carried arms with them and used them, blood would have flowed in torrents unless the Orangemen took to their heels, as they are in the habit of doing, when they observe the slightest danger. But the day, we regret to state did not pass over without bloodshed. At Monaghan, a Catholic town, there was a sanguinary conflict, in which one Catholic is reported to have been shot dead, and several wounded. The Orange ruffians assembled in the early part of the day about two miles from Monaghan, and at five o'clock in the evening, heated by drink, they marched into town, playing party tunes, which so exasperated the Catholics that the latter rushed upon them, and scattered the cowards like chaff before the wind. Unfired, kicked, and beaten, the Orangemen fled and sought refuge in their lodges, from which they fired on the Catholics and the result has been, several persons wounded, and one shot dead. What atrocious characters these Orangemen must be, to enter a Catholic town in this manner, and insult its peaceable people. What were the authorities doing? Did they not learn that the Orangemen were only a couple of miles distant, and might they not have surmised that they might have ventured into the town? Were the police not informed of the approach of the 'brethren,' and if they were, could they not have guessed what would take place if they came in playing their party tunes? They should have known the feelings of the Monaghan Orangemen, which are the most malignant in all Ulster—the 'brethren' of that county being the most bitter and waspish in the entire country. But atrocious as the conduct of the Monaghan Orangemen has been, it has been surpassed at Magherafelt, where a party lay in ambush, and opened a murderous fire on a few peaceable Catholics, who, after acting as sentinels at their chapel during the previous night, were proceeding quietly to their homes. These cowardly ruffians were intent on murder, and it is more than probable that their fiendish desires will be gratified, for one of their victims is not expected to live. We must do the Government of Lord Aberdeen the justice to state that it took great pains to preserve the peace, by sending large forces of the army and police into Ulster. But the peace cannot be preserved whilst there are men amongst the Ulster magistracy who like to see Orange banners waving, and to hear party tunes. We firmly believe that the low scum of Orangedom would not be half so noisy or ruffianly only for the winks they receive from those who pull the wires, and set the rabble in motion. We do not say that any Ulster magistrates do this, but there are men of wealth—ferocious partisans—who move the Orangemen when they think it will serve 'the Protestant interest.' But the time has gone by when Protestantism could be served by such wicked devices. The days of ascendancy are gone, and when the monster Church Establishment receives the last blow, and is prostrate, it will have vanished for ever. We have frequently told the Catholics that they should never come into collision with Orangemen, without having firearms in their hands, not for the purpose of attack, but to defend their lives.—Let them be careful in the future not to meet such a murderous party, unless they are properly prepared, and then they may rely upon it that the 'brethren' will commit no outrage, but with their characteristic pick they will run away, and show the 'white feather.'—Dundalk Democrat.

CLONES, July 13.—While I write this town is in a most excited state—drums beating the 'Protestant Boys,' &c., and parties marching through the town in little groups, all wearing orange scarfs. The law is so openly violated that if numerous prosecutions do not follow the administration must give up all claim to be considered impartial.—Dundalk Democrat.

LONDONDERRY, July 12.—A very serious conflict between the Catholics and Orangemen took place at Desertmartin, near Magherafelt, county Derry on the Twelfth, when unhappily two men of the Catholic party were dangerously wounded by the Orange party, who, as usual, were armed to the teeth, and blazed away with their wretched venom and reckless-ness of life. The names of the injured men are Hugo Cullen and Francis Cassidy, and the immediate cause of this disastrous affray was the erection of an orange arch at a point to necessitate the Catholics going to and coming from mass passing under it, which, of course, greatly exasperated them.

ABBEYLEIX, July 13.—In Abbeyleix, before day-break on Sunday morning, a large body of men from the surrounding country entered the town armed with sticks, and took up a position in front of the convent and chapel. A rumour being afloat that it was intended to hoist orange flags in the vicinity of both and on the market-house was the explanation of this extraordinary demonstration. It is believed, however, that there was no real foundation for such a rumour, and that it was circulated to create mis-

chief.—The police turned out and soon dispersed the crowd, some of them who were armed with sticks giving them up quietly to the police.

LONDONDERRY, July 13.—A foolish rumour having gained credence here that the Orangemen intended to displace the statue of the Most Rev. Dr. Kilduff, which is opposite the college of St. Mell, a number of men paraded the town at the early hour of one o'clock on Sunday morning, and I regret to say that the widows of some of the Protestants of the town, who I suppose were suspected to be of the party who it is alleged contemplated the act referred to, were smashed. Several of the parties who took part in this reprehensible affair have been arrested by the police, and committed for a further examination of the entire circumstances.

PUBLIC WORKS IN IRELAND.—A minute has very recently been passed by the Treasury which is certain to have an important influence upon the progress of works of public importance in this country. Previously to the year 1853 the Government advanced large sums of money to the grand juries of several counties in Ireland, for the construction of roads, bridges, harbors, etc., the condition being repayment of the loan at a certain period. But in 1853, the act 16 and 17 Vic., cap. 136, was passed, authorizing grand juries to procure money from private bodies, and the Treasury aid then ceased altogether. That act, however, has failed to fulfil the purposes for which it was intended, and the Government have now determined to return to the former system. We believe the immediate cause of the change was to meet the case of an application made by the Rev. P. Conway, P. P., for a grant in-aid for the construction of a bridge over the ferry of Knock Lough Corrib. The Rev. Mr. Conway has for many years advocated with great earnestness the importance of this work as a means of affording greater facilities of communication between the districts lying on each side of the lake, and the present Government have evinced the utmost anxiety to assist in carrying out his suggestions. It is probable that the question will be again brought before the present session at Tnam and Oughterard, and it is to be hoped that the magistrates and cesspayers will consent to give the necessary guarantee for the repayment of the small sum which will be required.—The work is one of very considerable importance, and ought to have the support of all who desire the improvement of the country.—Ballinasloe Western Star.

On July 6th, between the hours of seven and eight o'clock A.M., the dead body of a man named Philip Tierney was found at Lifford, near Rathdowney, in a wood the property of the Right Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick. He was stretched on his back, and had a gunshot wound in the head, but by whom inflicted is at present shrouded in mystery.

There is no doubt but Mr. Collum, the eminent solicitor, will offer himself at the general election for Enniskillen. The Hon. John Lowry Cole will have to look to it. As Mr. Collum is very popular, has recently purchased much property in the borough and his friends will be largely augmented by the operation of "the more than four pound" franchise.

A report reached Castlebar on July 2, that on the day before, about 2 o'clock, two men were making hay in the employment of Mr. Bland of Westport, suddenly dropped dead in the field, within about one mile of the town. Their death is attributed to sunstroke. The weather is intensely warm in Castlebar for the last twelve or fourteen days; the thermometer has gone as high as 83 degrees. No cases of sickness reported.

The Deep-sea and Coast Fishery Commissioners for Ireland in their report for the year 1867, state that the fisheries in general have not been attended with the same measure of success during the past as in the previous and several preceding years.

The Summer Assizes for the County Louth presented one grand feature noticed by every one, and that was the absence of crime amongst our orderly and peaceable people. They commenced on July 4 by the swearing of the Grand Jury. The business before that body was of the ordinary character—repairs of roads and other matters. The sum of £1500 was voted towards the erection of the Bridge at Oldbridge, over 'The Boyne's ill-fated river.' It is to be hoped that the structure will be completed in a solid and substantial manner, so that a repetition of a similar application for funds may not be required for some generations to come.—Dundalk Democrat.

THE IRISH REFORM BILL.—Hitherto, having regard to the less wealthy condition of the Irish people, the franchise in this country was based upon lower figures than it was in England. At present the Irish franchise is absolutely higher than the English, both in boroughs and in counties. In the English boroughs, all who are rated to the relief of the poor have the franchise; in the Irish boroughs, none can have it who are not rated at more than £4. before the passing of the Reform Act of this year the county franchise in England was based on a £50 rental and the Irish on a £12 rating, that being considered a fair proportion, having regard to the circumstances of the two countries. Now, the English Reform Bill bases the English county franchise on a £12 rental, a reduction of more than three-fourths from its previous figure. Were the Irish county franchise to be proportionately reduced its figure should be fixed at £8. What reduction does the Irish Reform Bill make in it? None at all! The Irish county franchise is left untouched. And inasmuch as that franchise is based, not on the rental as in England, but on the rating, which is lower than the rental, it follows that the pecuniary qualification for the franchise is now England. This arrangement is simply atrocious. It is a gross and flagrant injustice. Many Irishmen may hold, as we do, that an extension of the franchise in Ireland, while the tenantry are unprotected by leases or the ballot from the coercion of their landlords, would be an extension of torture and terrorism amongst the people. But it was not upon this consideration the Tory Government acted. It was not to spare the Irish tenantry annoyance they thus restricted their electoral power. The fact is, whatever might be the risks or the responsibilities incident to the exercise of the franchise in Ireland, its extension was a right of the people, and the refusal of such an extension under existing circumstances, is an act of downright injustice.—Nation.

A fire of a most alarming and destructive character took place in Limerick, on the night of July 3, between 10 and 11 o'clock, and raged with great fury until one, resulting in the total destruction of the extensive hoop and timber concerns of Michael O'Neill, Esq., situated at the new docks, and two valuable business concerns adjoining the premises, the estimated loss to the proprietor being £4000, while he was only insured for £500 in the Globe office.

A gentleman has recently travelled from Dublin to Longford in a ship over dry land. The hero of this singular voyage is Major Dopping Hepenstall, who had a beautiful yacht built for him by Messrs. Walpole, of Dublin, for use on Lough Gowana. The yacht, which weighs 16 tons, and is a beautiful specimen of the shipbuilder's craft, was mounted on an iron truck, drawn by twelve horses, and in bar Major Hepenstall, with his wife and retinue, travelled to his seat, Derrycoassin Castle, and it is said, greatly enjoyed the journey, which occupied four or five days. The yacht was launched the other day on Lough Gowana.

A short time ago, at Moonven, in the county Kilkenny, a rat attacked a child, three weeks old, belonging to a working-man named Hogan, whilst he had with his parents, making an incision in the head, over the forehead, from which blood flowed in such a quantity that the life of the child was endangered. The rat has been since trapped, and was of enormous size.