

gress of the Duchess of Kent, from the point at which we boarded her, we will briefly record some instances connected with the progress from Chester homewards. Our readers are aware that the remains lay for some time at Chester, awaiting the perfecting of the arrangements that were being made for their reception, the homeward journey having been performed with somewhat greater rapidity than had been anticipated. At Chester the remains were deposited in the Cathedral Church, and here it was that the rich mourning of the coffin which we have already described, with the exception, we believe of the inscription plate, was affixed. The cloth which previously covered the outer coffin had to be removed, and such was the enthusiastic admiration in which O'Connell was held even in England, that the shreds of the torn cloth, and the nails which secured them to the coffin of O'Connell were sought for with the greatest anxiety and sold and resold at successively large premiums. Two relatives of the illustrious dead, whose persons were not known, were, a day or two after the mounting had been removed, shown a piece of cloth and one of the nails of O'Connell's coffin as among the most prized articles in one of the minor museums in the vicinage.

On Sunday four masses were celebrated at the Catholic church of Chester prior to the removal of the remains—two by the Rev. Dr. Carberry of Chester, who had the privilege of enjoying some intercourse with the great chieftan—one by the Very Rev. Dr. Miley, and one by the Abbe Miel.—The church was hung in black, and at all these several masses nearly every person appeared in whole or partial mourning—a tribute unexpected as it must be grateful to the friends and countrymen of the illustrious dead. During the day the Rev. Dr. Carberry preached a short but impressive sermon, in which he dwelt upon the many labours and virtues of O'Connell, and with great pathos told an anecdote, which all who knew the habits and feelings of our lost one, will recognise as eminently characteristic. The Rev. Doctor was in Mr O'Connell's company on a Sunday. Mr O'Connell happened not to be at the time in very good health. The Rev. Divine remarked that he was ill, and ought not venture out—O'Connell replied, my dear friend I am ill, but not ill enough to be absent from Mass. One of the most affecting scenes in Chester was however, that in which an Irish regiment were the prominent actors. After the mass, at which the military attended, the soldiers marched slowly round the coffin of him whom many of them never saw, but whom all of them, from their earliest infancy, were accustomed to hear of, according to their years, as the chief—the expected emancipator or Liberator of Ireland. We have been informed that from the adult campaigner to the youngest recruit,

no one passed without shedding a tributary tear.—During the stay of the Very Rev. Dr. Miley and Mr. D. O'Connell at Chester, they experienced the utmost kindness and the warmest expressions of sympathy from the inhabitants of all creeds and classes, and it is believed that hardly a single individual in Chester or its vicinage omitted to pay a tributary visit to our chieftan.

(To be concluded.)

MR. O'CONNELL AND WM. COBBETT.

The following letter was written several years ago, by the "Great Hero of Catholicity" in answer to certain accusations respecting his behaviour at the funeral of Mr. Cobbett. No one better knew him to combine the greatest respect for the religious feelings of others with the most inflexible attachment to the sacred principles of his own Church.—To the timid Catholic, who, through human respect might be tempted to compromise his Faith, as well as to the honest bigot of other creeds, we commend its attentive perusal:—

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR—

Afford me space for a few lines. I am so assailed in the Newspapers that I have little inclination and less leisure to defend myself; besides in my opinion frankly, *Le jeu ne vaut pas la chandelle*.

But a paragraph said to be copied from the Times is "going the rounds" of the Irish newspapers.—It attributes to me the having shown disrespect to divine worship by a Protestant clergyman; and what appears stranger, certainly unusual to me, is, that the facts are not violently distorted in order to make out the charge against me. Allow me to make such of the public as take an interest in the matter conversant with the real facts—I then abide their judgement readily.

I attended the funeral of Mr. Cobbett to the church door. The body was taken into the church to have the prayers said over it. I did not go into the church. I never join in worship with any persuasion of Christians but my own. This may be called bigotry; with me it is religious principle, confined to my own mode of action, not obtruded upon any body else. When the coffin was taken from the church to the grave, I respectfully attended it to that grave. When the body was laid down the clergyman began prayers—again I left the grave, and without disturbing any person, returned to the church porch, remaining uncovered until I had reached the porch, where I found a large group of persons with their hats on. We were then out of sight of the clergyman, and out of hearing of the prayers; I then, and not till then, put on my tra-