## IRISH FAMINE.

2 10 0

William Hogan,

A private letter from Ireland contains the following paragraph: "Dr. Corrigan, who has paid great attention to the matter, was telling ma to-day, there is no doubt of the failure of the potato crop—the complete failure, as I understood properly appreciated it must be witnessed. On him. Then the incessant rain for the last ten this occasion, as well as during every service, days seems to have put all sort of corn in jeopar dy. God help poor Ireland!" The failure of the potato crop all but certain; the sources of private charity, from England at least, all dried up : security for industry in Ireland known to have no existence, legal or actual; a most hortible famine, the fourth of the series, impending dience in the open air amounted frequently to ind to fall upon us before the next ordinary meeing of Parliamont; and the only remedy the Vhigs can offer is-a Ministerial whitebait dinerat:Blackwall.

To what a miserable condition is Ireland now rought. Food failing; the rulers of the land ard-hearted and all but indifferent; the country 1, military occupation; social confidence desrayed, if it ever existed; political confidence a: n end; despair, a gloomy, settled despair, subutated for expectation; and an incapable junta if Ministers holding their swords at the throat of the nation, and bidding it starve, die, and rot, without remedy and without hope! Such is the condition to which matters have been brought by these recent proceedings. And if to this we add the increased demoralisation of the peasantry by exerything that is happening around them and among them, we present a prospect that may well make the heart sad and faint with grief .-

" A. M. D. G. "-MISSIONS OF THE BRO THERS OF CHARITY-REV. DR. GEN-

Our fellow-Catholics are doubtless aware how agnal are the blessings which have been bestowed on the Church through the Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is now several years since, this devotion was established in Dublin, first in that of St Audeon's, and next in that were carried by gentlemen, of the society of St. of St Mary's and St Peters, Rathmines. Many have been the conversions effected by its means, countless the blessings received through the intercession of the Immaculate Queen of Heaven. And lately, at a time when we least expected it, surpassing all that we have bitherto received the countenances of the kneeling thousands was from fier. Last May, the Rev. Pastor of St. to us a source of edification and joy, such as we Audeon's engaged the Rev. Dr. Gentili, and the have never before experienced. It was, indeed, Rev M. Farlong to conduct the Devotions of the Month of Mary; and on the arrival of the Missioners, it was agreed to add to those Devotions. the regular course of a mission; abundant was the spiritual harvest reaped during that month. Ten days had scarcely clapsed when these zealous missioners were invited to preach a second mission in the Church of Rathmines. It comspectaclo presented by numbers of persons who of Iretand.

remained outside the curck all night in order to obtain early admission to the Tribunal of P& nance. During the two missions ninety-six . testants have been converted to Catholicity. numberless persons, who had absented their selves from the Sacrament for vears, returned to their duties; and many adults received for the first time the Bread of Life. Confirmation was administered to 1,290, and about 40,000 Communions were made. From these few details the Faithful may under and that their prayers offered for the convertion of sinners, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, have not been offered in valn. For our part, we aregall here deeply impressed with the conviction that, these missions have been introduced into Dublin by our Blessed Lady, both because they commenced in the month specially dedicated to her honour, and because the two first missions have been nreacked in the two parishes where Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mury was first established in Ireland. During the missions several beautiful and interesting Devotions were performed, many of which had not hitherto been practised in this country. The first was that of the Quarant' Ore, or Exposition of the Holy Sacrament during forty hours; the church was brilliantly illuminated the whole time with hundreds of waxlights, the offerings of the Faithful. Towards the close of each mission a Solemn Office and Iligh Mass were celebrated for the departed members of the congregation, and on the following day a most moving ceremony took place, the renewal of the Baptismal Vows. We cannot attempt to describe this impressive scene; to be the church was crowded to excess. Several times, when it was found impossible to accommodate-the numbers who flocked to the evening discourses, the two missioners preached at the same time, use in the church, the other in the grounds adjoining. On these occasions the aumore than five thousand persons, who all knelt at the conclusion to receive the blessing of the preacher. Solemn Benediction of the Holy Sacrament was given every evening and High Mass was celebrated on the Sunday. The mission in Rathmines closed with a Triduo in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the statue Being tastefully adorned and her altar richly decorated and lighted. But by far the most interesting ceremonies of the mission, and those which produced the greatost impression, were the processions of the Blessed Sacrament. Four of these took place during the missions, three of them in the avenue and grounds belonging to the church of Rathmines, through which the Adorable Sucrament was carried with great pomp; the preparations were on a scale of superior magnificence. A processional cross of purple and gold, nine feet high, encircled with gilt rays, opened the procession, and was followed by the different confraternities in their respective habits, carrying lights; little boys in black, with crimson caps and sashen, and young ladies attired in white with flowing veils and bearing long white TILI AND REV. M. FURLONG IN lilies, added much to the interest of the scence. Sixteen rich and tasteful banners ornamented in gold, with different devices, had a striking of alternating from Famine to Peatilence, and from fect; twelve Priests were in attendance, many in copes, others in dalmatics. An instrumental band accompanied the voices of the children. The canopy was supported by six massive poles, which Vincent de Paul; six members carried large torches at each side of the canapy, and the others followed earlying lights, all wearing a uniform of long bleck cloaks and rabats. These processions were conducted with the greatest order, this good Mother has obtained for us a favour and the heartfelt faith and reverence imprinted on a glorious and cheering spectacle to see our sublime religion appearing in all her native splendour in this country, where, for so many conturies, she has been trammelled, despised, and persecuted.

We have the extreme consolation of being able to state, in conclusion, that these holy and zealous missionaries, to whom we owe so deep a menced on Sunday the 18th June, and continued debt of gratitude, are not destined, for some time for five successive weeks. Five discourses were at least, to leave our shores. They have receivdelivered daily; one exclusiv for children, in ed invitations to preach Missions in different which the catechism was taught on the Roman parishes in Dublin, which will detain them system. The Confessionals were crowded with amongst us until the close of the year; they out intermission; nor can we forget the edifying have also received applications from variour parts

COMPLIMENTARY ADDRESS TO THE RIGHT REV. DR. HUGHES.

The Committee nominated at the meeting of the 22nd., to present a complimentary Address, then agreed upon, to the Right Rov. the Bishop of New York, waited upon his Lordship accordingly on the morning of the 24th, with the same, and were most cordially and courteously received by him, at the residence of the Rt. Rav. Dr. Walah. His Lordship having hearkened to the Address, which was read by the Chairman, replied extemporaneously, touching, in terms frank and explicit, the various topics of the Address. and signifying that he would take an early opportunity of committing to writing the subject matter of his Reply, which we have this day the gratification of laying, together with the Address, before our readers:

To the Right Rev'd. Dr. Hughes, Bishop of New York, &c., &c.

MY LORD,-

We, the undersigned, a Committee nominated at a meeting holden at the Parochial School Room, on Monday evening, the 21st. instant, to offer to your Lordship cordial felicitations, and a hearty welcome to our shores, beg to approach your Lordship in the discharge of that duty.

In your Lordship the Catholics and Irishmen of Halifax recognize, not merely a distinguished Piclute and champion of Catholicity—a soldier of the Church thoroughly furnished to vindicate with the weapons of sound reasoning, our Holy Faith against the shafts of error-but also the consistent defender of a sound system of Popular Education in the land of your adoption, andwhat equally commends your Lordship to the lasting esteem and regard of the Catholics and Irishmen of Halifax—a Patriot, deeply affected by the crying wrongs and miseries of suffering Ireland, in whose behalf your Lordship is repre-vernments are sometimes overtaken by moments sented as having lately lent the powerful aid of thrilling eloquence, and other substantial evidences of sympathetic regard.

Your Lordship will, then, be pleased to accept this city, our reiterated congratulations and of gooding the people to madness now by their shores; to which we add our sincere prayer that | suspension. Divine Providence may bless your Lordship with many days of continued usefulness in the Church, and in the world at large, and bestow upon you, shundantly, every temporal blessing, and a rich éternal reward.

GENTLENEN,-

Halifax have conferred on me, by the cordial idea that from all this, the inference is to be welcome and kind sentiments in my regard embodied in their address, as well as by the courteous manner in which it has been presented.

religion and of education, I am conscious only of sincere convictions and apright intentions. freedom was won by Catholic Bishops and Barons But I should be vain, indeed, if I considered, at Runnymede, and bequeathed to an ungratemyself entitled to the merit which your partiality ful posterity. has ascribed to me. As regards my feelings towards the land of my nativity, I trust they are plored the course of those who have recently not unworthy of the sacred character with which I have been invested by the Church of God. The people. It was easy to foresee that their policy heavy blows that have lately fallen on Ireland, Pestilence to Civil War, have fixed upon her direction of prospective ruin to both countries; condition the pitying gaze of every civilized peo- and, on the other hand, will not allow the Irish ple on the globe. Her children who would secure for themselves a nome and a country, have cure for themselves a nome and a country, have stronger or wiser, or both together. But Britain been obliged to seek them under strange skies herself would despise them if they continued and in foreign lands. How can they be .. ins ble to her condition, when, after having: wasted by famine and disease, they behold the lish people, including the government, have mighty hand that could and should have predested sympathised with Sicily in her recent atroggle, wasted by famine and disease, they behold the her more efficiently against both last years which should have soothed and sustained her after her affliction,-armed and uplifted to strike down the remnant of her liberties, and, if need Great Britain might have been brought on. It be, of her people. Humanity becomes impatient and indignant at witnessing such a spectacle.

It is with difficulty that such feelings can be even partially suppressed among the generous people of the United-States, and it would be almost unnatural, if, in such circumstances. I could remain silent and unmoved.

It is made a subject of reproach to the Catholic religion, that its doctrine of submission to constituted authority, for the sake of law and order, secures impunity and affords encouragement for a tyrannical use of that authority; whilst on the other it is calculated to depress the people from the rank of citizens into that, of slaves. . . saysle

If illustrations were to be taken from the

tory of Ireland for nearly two hundred years past, much apparent evidence might be deduced to prove this false .and. unmeritent reproach. The Church, indeed, is an efficient preacher of order and peace; but she has no doctrine of blind passive obedience-:-she .inquicates no dogma or precept binding the conscience of a nation to submit with eternal patience to wrongs which, without resistance at some period. are likely to have an endless duration.

In her code, the duties of rulers are an strictly defined, as those of subjects. The obligations of both are founded on a common basis, the public weal. When a government, rules by just and wise legislation, and by a strict, impartial, and humane administration of the laws, it has a right, on the grounds of public interest, as well as by the laws of conscience, to claim fidelity and obedience. When a people are thus gone jed, allegiance will be the just, but at the same time voluntary, tribute of the nation's heart. It will not be the hypocrisy of allegiance and anbusiesion, such as a prisoner renders to his jailor, and such as Ireland has felt, and now feels, towards her foreign rulers.

Her rulers themselves of all parties admit that Ireland has been most sadly misgoverned, since she came under Imperial legislation. How then can they expect from the Irish people cordial fidelity and true allegiance? If they sow misery, or neglect to remove it, they must be prepared to reap disaffection—that tresson of heart in which the will waits only for the power to overthrow them. Men do not gather figs from thorns—Irish discontent may be trampled down for the present, but it will be sure to grow again, No doubt the government must enforce order, and vindicate the laws, so long as they are able. Re. cent events, however, prove that the strongest gowhen the ability to do so changes sides and passes from them. But how much wiser, and how much safer would it be, to after the laws when necessary, and to make them so just and in the name of the Catholics and Irishmen of so equal, that insurrection would have nothing heartfelt welcome, on this your first visit to our inequality and mjustice, and anon by their total

I have made these remarks, gentlemen, sag explanatory of my own conduct, on a recen occasion, to which you have alluded. They are the convictions impressed on my mind by the theory of British, and the practice of American freedom. I believe that no other nat. on the globe would have submitted so long and so he tiently to their calamitous condition as the Trish have done. I believe he Irish would not so have Allow me to express to you my deep sense of submitted had it not been for the influence; of the honour which the Catholics and Irishmen of their religion and their clergy. But I have no be drawn, that the Catholic religion is an infinence which tyranny may wield to promote its own selfish ends, by paralysing the moral, or intext treme cases, the physical energies of a trodden-In my feeble efforts to promote the interests of down people, struggling to participate in all the benefits of the constitution under which they live It was not thus that the great Charter of English

> Having said thus much I am free to add, what must eventuate, as it is now likely to do, or else in a useless effusion of blood. If the English Legislature cannot govern Ireland except in the to govern themselves, under the Crown, I see no remedy for them but to wait till they grow poluntary slaves, and consented to their degraded

condition.

At all events it is quite certain that as the Enga American people, ith rare exceptions. would sympathise with Ireland, by whatever mierule on one side, or ill advised resistance on the other, a violent collision between her und would be strange, as I have already remarked, if I, a native of Ireland, living in the midst of ench a people, sharing equally with themselves all the privileges of their free government as if I had been born on their soil, should form an. exception and feel nought but indifference salto the result of such a contest.

Thanking you, gentlemen, for the unexpected compliment which you have paid me; wishing you and those whom you represent every tenporal and spiritual blessing, allow me to assure you that I shall ever preserve most pleasing recollections of your fair and hospitable city. of its inhabitants of all classes with whom it has been my good fortune to have become acquainted. I have the honor to be. Gentlemen.

With sincere respect, Your obedient servan **P**JOHN HUGHES " .- Dishuo of New York