

best answer to those who claim that Protestantism is the real friend of Religious Freedom, is to take up history and to show what has been the actual conduct of any particular heretical Sect where it has obtained, in any particular locality, exclusive rule.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON M'CARRON.—The deepest gloom has been cast over the Catholic population of Londonderry, by the death of the Venerable Archdeacon M'Carron, the zealous, gifted, and universally beloved Parish Priest of Waterside chapel in that city. The melancholy event, which will be mourned not only by the Catholics of Londonderry, but by a very large proportion of the Clergy and people of Ireland, took place, we regret to say, most unexpectedly on Sunday afternoon. It appears that the lamented deceased, while about concluding the Divine Mysteries at twelve o'clock, was taken suddenly ill with an attack of apoplexy, and gradually became worse, until between seven and eight o'clock in the afternoon, when he expired. Thus has one of the most useful and esteemed of the people's Clergy been snatched suddenly from the midst of us. Archdeacon M'Carron was the friend of the lamented Dr. Maginn, the illustrious Bishop of Derry, and preached the panegyric of that great man at his obsequies. Many excellent qualities entitled him to the respect and veneration of all parties, and to the special love of his own parishioners. The recent persecution to which he was subjected by a military *petit maître* is still fresh in the memory of all our readers; and, although a jury at once liberated him from the insolent charge against him, there can be no doubt that his health was materially affected by his being dragged before a public tribunal on that occasion. That prosecution must ever remain as a stigma upon the pseudo-liberal government under which it was carried on.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.—The Committee of the Catholic University of Ireland assembled at the Committee-rooms, 27 Lower Ormond-quay, on Wednesday the 17th ult. The Chair was taken by His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Dublin, Apostolic Delegate, &c., &c. The usual routine business of the Committee was transacted, and at the termination of the meeting the receipts, since the last meeting, were announced to be £4,726 5s 9d. Amongst the interesting correspondence read, we are informed there was a letter from a gentleman in Dublin presenting anonymously about four hundred volumes of valuable books, together with a large and handsome bookcase, as his donation towards the intended library of the Catholic University.

The *Galway Vindicator*, concluding a notice of tour of His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. M'Hale, says:—"On the route, religious books in the Irish language were distributed amongst the peasantry. One fact, with which we shall close this, will astonish the bigots and make the ignorant stare—a translation of the Old and New Testaments in the Irish language, will be shortly distributed for general distribution.

A requisition signed by the Catholic prelates connected with Clare, Drs. Fallon and Vaughan, the two county members, and a large number of the priests and freeholders of Clare has been published, calling a meeting in Ennis, upon Saturday, for the purpose of bearing Mr. Wilson harmless from the consequences of the verdict obtained against him at the late Limerick assizes, by Mr. John C. Delmege. The *North British Mail* bears the following testimony to the truth of "Sir Walter's" testimony, as to the "glorious good little Dublin women" in his time:—"A Glasgow gentleman who has recently returned from the Dublin Exhibition in expressing his admiration of the lovely women he saw there, stated his firm belief that Paradise must have been situated near Dublin—very likely in the Phoenix Park! Fortunately he was a Benedict."

The commissioners who have been appointed to inquire into Maynooth are, we understand, the Earl of Harrowby, Mr. Justice Pattison, Chief Baron Pigot, Dr. Longfield, and Mr. J. O'Ferrall.—*Evening Mail*.

DUNGARVAN ELECTION.—On Tuesday the nomination of candidates for the far-famed—famed for electioneering contests—borough of Dungarvan took place in the Court-house. On arriving there, shortly after nine o'clock, a.m., there did not appear the slightest excitement among the people, nor anything like the bustle and uproar we witnessed there at former elections. On expressing surprise at this unwonted tranquillity, we were informed that Mr. Brabazon had, on the previous evening, intimated his intention of not entering into a contest for the representation of the borough, and that consequently Mr. Maguire, the other candidate, would have a walk over. Shortly before eleven o'clock, George Beresford Poer, Esq., High Sheriff, entered the court, and took his seat on the hustings, followed by Edmund Foley, Esq., his deputy. Mr. Foley, sub-sheriff, read her Majesty's writ for the election of a fit and proper person to represent the borough of Dungarvan in the Commons House of Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Dower proposed John Francis Maguire as a fit and proper person to represent the borough of Dungarvan in the Imperial Parliament. He was sorry they did not get the tax gatherer (groans), who is to get £1,200 a-year, but he is only to receive it quarterly. (Laughter and groans.) If he came he would be sent back to Galway to advocate tenant right.

Mr. O'Brien seconded the nomination. The Sub-Sheriff asked if the electors had any other person to propose for the representation of the borough. Mr. Kelly, solicitor, proposed as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in parliament, Wm. Henry Gregory, of Coolpark, in the county of Galway. Mr. Dower—Where did you find the man (cheers and groans.)

Mr. Richard Byrne rose to second Mr. Kelly's proposition, but he was received with such a volley of groans that a terrible scene ensued for some time, that not one word he said could be heard. When comparative quiet was restored, he was understood to say that if they elected Mr. Gregory he would devote his energies to the welfare and interest of the town and borough. He concluded by seconding the nomination.

The Sub-Sheriff put the question of Mr. Maguire's nomination, and called for a show of hands in his favor. (The majority of those present held up their hands.)

Mr. Kelly demanded a poll on the part of Mr. Gregory. The immense crowd assembled then quietly separated. The greatest order prevailed in town.—*Waterford Mail*.

CITY OF CORK ELECTION.—The contest terminated on Friday the 19th ult., in a very decisive defeat of Colonel Chatterton, the Derbyite candidate, and the return of Mr. Beamish, the Liberal "Protestant," by a large majority. At the close of the poll the numbers were—Beamish, 1,183; Chatterton, 1,003—majority for Beamish, 180. There was no rioting or disturbance beyond the ordinary excitement which accompanies a contested election.

WATERFORD AND LIMERICK RAILWAY.—This Railway will be opened to Waterford on the 23rd of this month. Thus after twenty-seven years' struggling, this important line is completed. The first Irish railway bill was passed in 1826-7, for making this very rail.

The Poor Law Commissioners have declined sanctioning the employment of female paupers otherwise than within the Workhouse, and under the superintendence of an officer appointed by the guardians.—*Limerick Reporter*.

TENANT RIGHT CONFERENCE.—A national conference of the friends of Tenant Right will be held in Dublin on the 20th September, under the auspices of the Council of the Tenant League. The object of the conference will be to consider the present position of the land question, to decide on the course to be pursued next session by the Tenant Right members with regard to the Land Bills, and to take steps for eliciting the feeling and opinion of the country on the Tenant Right question.

THE DARGAN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.—We have much satisfaction in stating that though the flow of subscriptions towards this fund can hardly be said to have yet commenced, the evidences daily received by the committee of the sympathy of all classes is of the most cheering character.—*Freeman*.

THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.—This great national enterprise bids fair to realise the most sanguine hopes which were ever entertained of its ultimate success in a financial point of view. It is currently reported that, up to the present time, the net proceeds have reached the high sum of £60,000, and it is now confidently anticipated that, with the welcome aid of a Royal visit, not only will the whole expense of the Exhibition be defrayed, but that the committee will, at the close, be in a position to announce the fact of a surplus remaining after the discharge of all the enormous liabilities. The sale of season tickets has been for the last few days nearly as brisk as it was before the opening of the building, the gross number exceeding 20,000. The Saturday, or half crown day visitors, amounted 170,000, while the sum of £20,000 has been already realised by the admission at 1s. On Thursday was the crowning day of the Exhibition, the grand total of visitors amounting to no less than 18,103, and the receipts to nearly £900. This certainly looks as if Mr. Dargan would be no loser by his generous speculation.—*Times' Correspondent*.

INFUX OF VISITORS.—On Sunday the steamer Duke of Cambridge arrived at the North Wall at half past two o'clock, and shortly after the Birmingham, both from Liverpool, on which were several hundred persons, principally of the mechanic classes, many of whom were accompanied by their female relatives.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.—The visit of the court to Ireland will be extended over a longer period than was at first anticipated. According to the present arrangement the court will remain there six days.—The royal children who will accompany her Majesty and the Prince to Ireland are the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred. There will, it is believed, be a grand review in the park, during the Queen's brief sojourn in the Irish metropolis. The garrison of Dublin consists of three regiments of cavalry, and six of infantry, besides a troop of horse artillery and field battery, a force little inferior in number to that which has been assembled at Chobham since June last. Her Majesty and the Prince will return to Windsor on the 21st of October next.

Newry, Belfast, Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Drogheda, and other towns, are preparing addresses to be presented to her Majesty on her arrival in Ireland.

In anticipation of the Queen's arrival on Irish soil, the Corporation of Limerick held a special meeting yesterday to decide upon the course to be pursued upon the auspicious occasion, with a view of testifying the loyalty and attachment of Her Majesty's devoted subjects in Limerick. An address, in suitable terms, having been drawn up and proposed for adoption, Mr. John O'Donnell, a solicitor, and one of "Her Majesty's devoted subjects" aforesaid, proposed an amendment to the effect following:—

"The humble address of the people of Limerick
"Sheweth—That we, your Majesty's dutiful people of the city of Limerick, approach your Majesty with feelings of the sincerest gratitude for the numerous marks of favor exhibited by your Majesty's Government towards Ireland generally, and towards this city in particular.

"Firstly—As Catholics, anxious for the unrestricted exercise of our religion, we feel ourselves deeply indebted to your Majesty's Government for the enactment of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill.

"Secondly—As persons warmly interested in the equitable adjustment of the land question, we feel a further debt of obligation to your Majesty for the recent withdrawal of the Land Improvement Bills.

"Thirdly—As citizens overburdened already by taxation, we cannot but express our lasting gratitude to your Majesty for the extension of the Income Tax to Ireland.

"Fourthly—We would be ungrateful indeed if at this season of unprecedented quiet we did not tender to your Majesty our thanks for the re-enactment of the Coercion Act; and we recognise in the fact the most flattering proof of the extreme confidence with which your Majesty regards us.

"And, finally, as citizens of Limerick, and devoted admirers (many of us the personal friends) of our illustrious countryman, William S. O'Brien, we owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude to your Majesty for the gracious reception accorded to the numerous petitions addressed to your Majesty on his behalf. And petitioners, as in duty bound, will pray."

Mr. Doyle seconded its adoption. The original address was, however, put and carried by a majority of 24 to 3—the dissentients being Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Doyle, and Mr. Walker.

THE SUPPRESSED IRISH BISHOPS.—An educational squabble among the guardians of the South Dublin Union the other day elicited a curious revelation with regard to Mr. Secretary Stanley's celebrated measure for the reform of the Irish branch of the established church by the lopping off of 10 of its bishops. It transpired on the high authority of Captain Lyndsay, son of the late and last Bishop of Kildare,

that this bold step was taken by the advice, and with the sanction of the present Primate, Lord John Beresford. In order that there might be "no mistake" about the matter, Captain Lyndsay stated that when Lord Derby (then Mr. Stanley) brought forward the Church Temporalities Act he proposed to reduce the salaries of those bishops, but the Primate objected, and recommended that the sees should be suppressed.

ARCHBISHOP WHATELY AND Belfast Mercury.—"He attempts," says the *Mercury*, "like a skilled disputant, to act upon the defensive, and brings charges against others; but all his art will not suffice for this. He has committed a blunder—a peevish mistake, and, let him labor and shift as he will, he is on the defensive; and, what is worse, he is not able to defend himself. We really did not imagine that his case was so bad until we read what he had to say for himself. It is all acensation and weakness. We could not have supposed that he would betray so much ill spirit and soreness, and, least of all, that he would reason so erroneously. No member of the board was pure but himself, except perhaps the select few who retired with him. We shall not, however, be persuaded that they were so bad as he in his unseemly anger—anger peculiarly unseemly in an Archbishop—endeavors to represent them; and the more he labors to heap charge upon charge, the more do we become convinced that they are right and he wrong. But, if we had any doubt upon that point, it is all removed when we come to what seems to be the great strength of his argument—namely, that when once the board had sanctioned and published any book, that was to be considered 'a part of the system.' Thus, the spelling-books, the selections of poetry—sacred and profane—the books of arithmetic, and so forth, are 'a part of the system,' and, as such, to remain inviolate. That any man could imagine such folly would appear inconceivable, if we did not recollect that it is the offspring of wounded vanity. One of his books has been set aside, and hence both his retirement from the board and the present peevish nonsense. His little discarded book is an excellent one of its kind, but the truth is that it was part of an attempt to work what in Ireland, is not workable, and that is, to carry out a system of mixed religious instruction. It was all very well as long as the heads of religious sects and the clergy of each were satisfied, but so soon as an objection was made, with any authority, the visions of religious harmony which Dr. Whately and some other very excellent men had conjured up were dissipated."

PROSELYTISING INSOLENCE CHASTISED.—A very respectable and inoffensive man, who acts as herd for a gentleman residing in the county of the town of Galway, being for some time past importuned and insulted in his own house by one of those itinerant Bible readers who are attached to the proselytising schools of the West, was eventually compelled to take the law into his own hands and expel the intruder. The Bible reader, having, under various pretexts, called several times at the herd's house, and having, as he thought, sufficiently ingratiated himself, he at length drew forth his Bible and commenced the work, as he imagined, of reformation. He talked of the Protestant religion being far superior to the Catholic religion, and said there would never be any prosperity in the country until they all should embrace Protestantism; and, in illustration of his argument, said that 'the Protestant potatoes were the soundest.' The herd told him that he did not wish to enter into any religious controversy, and desired him to leave his house, but, on the Bible reader refusing, the shepherd used his pastoral staff to some effect, and forcibly evicted the intruder. This is the only proper way to deal with such fellows when they have the audacity to thrust themselves under the roof of an honest man who wishes to have nothing to do with their scandalous imposture.—*Galway Packet*.

THE UNKIND DESERTERS.—We have been informed by a correspondent, that on last Sunday, one of the Jumper teachers, in the neighborhood of Clifden, accompanied by about fifty of his pupils, fled from the "porridge pots" of Connemara, and marched to the Catholic chapel. Such desertions should open the eyes of the deluded fanatics in England, who are now verifying the old adage to the letter—"Fools and their money soon part."—*Ibid*.

Mr. P. R. O'Meagher, whose conversion to Protestantism was lately announced by the evangelical press, with a great flourish of trumpets over the brand saved from the burning, has addressed to the *Limerick and Clare Examiner*, the following letter in which he announces his return to the Catholic Church, and expresses his deep regret for the scandal occasioned by his apostasy. Mr. Meagher, during the time he was a Protestant, got remunerative wages as a Bible-reader, and for his powerful "gift" of expounding scripture:—

Nicker, Pallasgreen, Co. Limerick,
August 17th, 1853.

Sir—As my truly unfortunate and lamentable temporary apostasy from the faith of my fathers, has been the cause of sincere sorrow to many an old attached friend, and has been so extensively circulated and so highly boasted of by those who foolishly imagine, that when misery, privation, and temporary resentment for supposed injuries, conspire to lure their wretched victims to sacrifice their immortal souls, contrary to the dictates of their conscience, they instantly become modernised evangelical saints of the first pre-eminence; and no matter how ignorant or unqualified for so awful a responsibility, are instantly installed as itinerant preachers of the Word, and as baits to entice others to eternal perdition. I respectfully request you will give publicity to the heartfelt sorrow and remorse I shall ever feel, for having given such scandal and disedification, which I shall, during life, deplore.

Though aware that no cause can palliate, much less justify, so deplorable a transgression, yet I will briefly state what urged and incited me thereto in a moment of temporary infatuation, as being identically the same which has also lured all without exception, of those truly wretched creatures misnamed converts, whose hearts are secretly agonised, though compelled to conceal their mental misery, and to appear to be comforted by the fanatical ravings of every ignorant itinerant Bible-reader, whose crude, chaotic ideas, of the sublime truths of the Gospel fully qualify them to become inmates of a lunatic asylum. Distracted in mind, and tortured in soul, at beholding an attached wife and beloved children reduced to the utmost misery and destitution, and falsely attributing all to what I then deemed unmerited severity exercised towards me (but which my own foolish career originated), in a moment of frenzy and passionate to resentment, I recklessly abandoned the One Fold, established by Christ, whose eternal fiat—"Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"—guarantees its per-

petuity unscathed, pure, and uncontaminated, amid the war of heretics, the lapse of ages, and the crash of worlds.

When, however, calm of reflection succeeded—when I saw uneducated, brainless 'ignoramuses' gabbling, arguing, and distorting texts of Scripture in so absurd and ridiculous a manner as to excite my almost surprise; and though their Quixotic arguments and false deductions were as diametrically opposed to each other as the antipodes, yet each embryo doctor of this Babel-like divinity stoutly maintained his own new fangled doctrines with the most dogmatical obstinacy, not caring a fig for any clerical explanation, as reading the Bible alone was sufficient for salvation—with, however, this slight addition of at least pretending to hate Pope and Popery most cordially, and *quantum suff.* of Billingsgate vocabulary for every necessary outpouring of the 'spirit,' I became thoroughly disgusted and agonised in heart, and ardently implored mercy and pardon of that compassionate God whose 'one' Holy Catholic Church I had so wickedly abandoned; but to which I, however unworthy, have been again happily united. I also deeply regret having been induced to write letters with my signature attached, which were circulated so extensively, but which only afford another melancholy proof how easily texts of Scripture can be warped, distorted, and wrested by the ignorant or unstable, and plausibly made appear to favor any or all of those innumerable sects and heresies, that relying on the general misery and wide spread destitution to which this victimised and impoverished country has been for years subjected, are impotently endeavoring to subvert the ancient faith established by St. Patrick, to which Irishmen, during centuries of persecution the most intense, and tyrannical laws the most oppressive, have so unflinchingly adhered; a faith which even inculcates on its faithful followers the sublime example of a crucified God, that by calmly and patiently enduring sufferings, privation, and misery in this life, they would assuredly be requited with a happy and glorious immortality. Respectfully apologising for this intrusion, and humbly and fervently imploring the prayers of the faithful in my behalf, I remain, sir, yours, &c.,

P. R. O'Meagher, L.L.P.
P.S.—As my temporary fall was so extensively circulated through the kingdom, I earnestly request that the Catholic papers will give equal publicity to the foregoing.

It is now somewhat more than twelve months ago that two families named O'Donnell and Sheehan were imported into this district from the neighboring parishes to a model farm established here lately—no doubt for our civilisation—by a person of the name of Mannell. Those two above-named families came a few days since, on the Festival of the Assumption of the B. V., of their own free will, to declare publicly at the chapel, before the congregation, their heartfelt regret at the scandal they gave in making a traffic of their faith, and alleging as the sole cause of their apostasy the state of destitution they were in, and the certainty of their finding employment from the Rev. Paymaster of this demoralising system by thus outwardly making a profession of the same faith as the paymaster. Those poor, wretched men, in giving these details, were affected to tears, as well as many amongst the congregation in witnessing so sad a spectacle.—*Cor. of Tab.*

"A most painful rumor prevails," says the *Limerick Chronicle*, "seriously involving the character of one of the county officials of Monaghan. Saturday last, in consequence of some information received, the constabulary made a search in the precincts of the county jail, which resulted in the discovery of the body of a child, greatly mutilated. An investigation is to be instituted on Monday."

THE CELTIC EXODUS.—The *Galway Packet* states that the emigration mania is daily gathering strength in the whole of the western counties. "On last Monday about 100 emigrants from Cong, Menlo, and Dangan, in the neighborhood of this town, left the terminus in the 12 o'clock train, on their way to America. It was truly heart-rending to witness the scene which was presented upon that occasion. It is melancholy to see the bone and sinew of the land thus flying away at a time when it might be supposed sufficient employment could be obtained at home. But not even the certainty of constant employment, and the high wages which agricultural laborers must receive in the gathering in of the approaching harvest, can induce the Irishman to remain at home. It would seem as if the removal of the entire race from their native soil has been pre-ordained. We are quite certain that at no period during the last century was the want of labor so keenly felt in this country as it will be within the next four months. The impolicy of not adopting some energetic means of retaining the working population in Ireland will be seen when it is too late, and when those who remain will have sufficient cause to repent that social disorganization which produced the exodus, which is now thinning the homes of Ireland and carrying to a foreign State the strength and hope of the country."

PROGRESS OF BELFAST.—The new buildings erected during the last two years in Belfast, and that portion of its immediate environs embraced in the principal municipal boundaries, would cover, if placed continuously, a space of 500 square acres.

IMPORTATION OF GRAIN.—There are no less than seven vessels, laden with grain from different foreign ports, in Galway docks and roadstead at present.—Some of them belong to Norway, Sweden, America, Austria, and England. In the event of the Eastern question being arranged, and with an abundant grain and potato crop at home, it is likely that foreign grain may become a drug on the hands of speculators.

THE HARVEST.
TYRONE.—The weather for the last few weeks has been exceedingly favorable for the ripening of the grain crops. Reaping has already commenced in the neighborhood of this town. The yield of flax has been very large, and potatoes generally are sound and abundant, although, as might be expected, some traces of the blight are still to be found. Several fields of wheat and oats have been cut down in the neighborhood of Strabane.—*Constitution*.

CAYAN.—Over the whole country here everything is looking uncommonly well; there is not the slightest appearance of the potato blight. The flax crop will, it is feared, be light. The oat crop has grown much longer than was anticipated, and the weather for the last fortnight has been very favorable for "filling," and a good yield may be expected.

DERRY.—A correspondent near Coleraine says:—"We have not suffered anything worth speaking of in this locality from disease in the potato crop, which is very abundant. The harvest will be pretty general the ensuing week; that of flax is well nigh over."