

'But if your vineyard is for sale, it may as well be sold to me as to any one else.'
'Very true, neighbor. But it is not for sale.'
'Nevertheless, M. Durand, who holds the mortgage, has assured me that this vineyard is to be sold.'

'The mortgage will be settled for in an hour. There is the money,' continued my grandmother, throwing open the cupboard.
Dupre turned pale with vexation.
'Does that hurt you?' inquired the widow ironically.
'Not at all—oh! no! not at all!' replied the farmer.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

REPEAL OF THE UNION—AGGREGATE MEETING.—An aggregate meeting of those in favor of the National Petition was held on Monday, 3rd inst., in the Round Room of the Rotundo, Dublin, to claim for the people of Ireland the right to choose their own rulers.

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, 1860.
GENTLEMEN—I am in receipt of your letter regarding the Repeal of the Legislative Union between England and Ireland. When the heart of the country went earnestly with the measure, it was a gratifying duty to labour in a cause fraught with such national blessings.

LETTER FROM...
In reference to the collection recently made in the diocese of Derry for the Pope the following letter has been received by the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, the Catholic Bishop of Derry:—
'Most Illustrious and Most Rev. Lord—The address of your lordship and the clergy and the people of Derry to our Most Holy Father, Pius IX., was presented by me at the Consistory on the 16th inst., together with a bank order for £2,611 11s 4d sterling.—His Holiness, no doubt, in favour of your lordship with a direct reply, but, in the meantime, I cannot deny myself the pleasure of making known to you the very grateful feelings with which the Sovereign Pontiff received your subsidy, and the deep affecting sentiments he expressed towards Ireland on that occasion.'

Union, you must insure them to the preparatory and interminable campaign of working out their freedom, and the fall of that most enormous of all despotisms, the Protestant Establishment. These are the ends. The means of obtaining them must be as distinctly understood. The most explicit independence of all political parties—the most entire freedom of education, distinctly meaning a perpetual opposition to the National Board and the Infidel College—the utter confinement to its little political sect of all the benefits as well as the evils of the Established Church, and, above all, the steady and uncompromising opposition of the Catholics of Ireland to every one—candidates, members of parliament, of the cabinet, and finally to the cabinet itself—that shall attempt to continue longer the humiliation of the Pope or the persecution of the people, or to the enstating of an establishment, of which the wailings of mothers and children on the black mountains of Partry should at length teach it that its days are numbered.

GENTLEMEN—The answer which I gave a few days ago to the readers of Glasgow, must have indicated to you the nature of the answer which I am about to give to the obliging communication addressed to me by you, as honorary secretaries to the National Petition Committee. Since my return to Ireland in 1856, I have devoted to the service of my fellow-countrymen, my experience, my advice, my sympathy, my co-operation; but I have declined to recommence a career of agitation. It may be said, and that a brave man ought not to be discouraged by betrayal or defeat; but I confess that the Repeal agitation of 1843, '44, '45, '46, '47, '48, has shaken my faith in the sincerity and earnestness of Irish agitation, and have rendered me unwilling to expend the remainder of my life in labours so fruitless as those which I applied to the cause of Repeal before my emigration from Ireland. You will remember that the magnificent organization of the Irish nation in favor of Repeal, which existed in the years 1843, 1844, 1845, emanated in the following miserable result:—1. The acceptance of official situations under the British Government by a very large proportion of those leaders of the Irish people, who had pledged themselves to an unwavering and enduring effort to emancipate this country from the intervention of the British Government in regard to the local affairs of Ireland. 2. In an abortive attempt to resist by arms the unconstitutional and destructive legislation of the British Parliament. As I take no pleasure in wounding individual susceptibilities, I shall offer no observation upon the first of these results; and, with respect to the second, whilst I take upon myself more than the full share of responsibility for having made a fatal miscalculation of the chances of success in a national struggle, I feel it to be due to myself to say that the result would have been very different if it had been supported by those individuals and masses who had urged me to make an appeal to the physical force of the country in resistance to unjust legislation. I have further to add, as a reason for non-compliance with your wishes, that I feel an almost insuperable reluctance to sign petitions of any kind which are addressed to British authorities in relation to the affairs of this country. By you will observe that these considerations are of a personal nature, and ought not to govern the proceedings of young men who are animated by hopes and aspirations which have never been blighted. To them I would say that the National Address to the Queen seems to me to be a very legitimate mode of giving expression to the wishes of the Irish nation—that the language of this document is terse and dignified, while its reasoning is logical and unanswerable, and a refusal of its signature, to use the sentiments of a majority of the Irish nation, will convict English statesmen of inconsistency and oppression, in case they refuse to extend to Ireland a realisation of the principles which they uphold so conscientiously in their application to the affairs of Italy. I approve also of your proposal that this address should be adopted at a public meeting in Dublin. It appears to me to be rather unfortunate that local meetings have not been held in the numerous support of the address, because it is a matter of the public at large should know personally the individuals upon whose exertions the present movement rests. I have been informed, for instance, that your address has been signed by several noble and persons at Limerick, but not having met them I cannot name a single individual of our provincial capital who has placed upon record his opinion in reference to the question of our right to legislative independence by affixing his signature to this document. As the sacred cause of our country requires support and guidance on the part of able, zealous, and discreet men, both in and out of Parliament, it is desirable that the public should know who are the prominent persons to whom we are to look for co-operation and guidance. In case the proposed meeting be held in Dublin before Parliament shall reassemble, I may perhaps, if leisure permit, and the tone of public feeling encourage such intervention on my part, I may, perhaps, write at some length an exposition of my views with respect to the circumstances which justify a revival of the Repeal movement, and with respect to the agencies which the legislative independence of this country ought to be sought. If I write such a letter, it will be dictated by an earnest desire to serve my country; but I shall, to the best of my ability, speak the truth with perfect frankness, and not the words and dangers which ought to be avoided, rather than study to win applause by flattery, the passions of susceptible countrymen and by framing my language so as to accord with their preconceived ideas or natural impulses. In the meantime you are at liberty to treat this answer to your letter as a public document, and to make known its contents to all who may desire to become acquainted with them.

THE DIocese of Ologher has contributed to the Syrian Fund a sum amounting to nearly £500.
The Banner of Ulster says that arrangements have been made for running a line of steamers between Belfast and Havre. It is stated that communication will be opened on the 1st of January, and that first-class vessels will be employed in the trade.

THE CATHOLIC Young Men's Society lately entertained the Ennis section of the Irish Brigade in their large hall, in Old Chapelane. The room, which is a large one, capable of accommodating 1,000 persons, was well filled, and there could not be less than that number present. After tea, the chair was taken by the Very Rev. Dean Kenny, P.P., V.G. The members of the Brigade present, were—Edmund McNamara, Richard Wall, M. Halloran, Robert O'Brien, Joseph Nelson, (all of whom were in full uniform), John Morony, George Smith, Michael Ryan, John McInerney, Bryan Reidy, Patrick Mulvey, Bernard Burke, James Ryan, James Collins, Michael Hourigan, John Casey, Michael Carney, John Considey. Speeches were delivered by the Rev. Mr. O'Connor, Rev. Mr. Kenny, Mr. Joseph Nelson, Patrick Dillon, Rev. Mr. Meade, and others. Several excellent songs were sung during the evening; and the festive scene was continued up to eleven o'clock, when all retired highly pleased with the reception and gratified with the sentiments of union, patriotism, and devotion which pervaded the entire assembly.

DEATH OF LORD ROSMORE.—It is with feelings of regret we announce the decease of the Right Hon. Henry, third Baron Rosmore. The melancholy event took place at his residence, Rosmore Park, county Monaghan, on Saturday evening, 1st inst., in presence of Lady Rosmore and other members of the family. His lordship had been an invalid for some years, during which time he bore his long illness with Christian patience and resignation. He retired early, as he was accustomed to do, and was apparently better than usual, but about ten o'clock he was seized with a fainting fit, from which he never rallied. His loss will be deeply felt by his family and the poor of his neighbourhood, to whom he was always a kind and constant employer. He is succeeded by his eldest son, the Hon. Henry Cairnes Westera, aged nine years.

THE IRISH BRIGADE.—A collection in aid of the Brigade Fund was made in the parish of St. Michael's, county Meath, last Sunday, when the handsome sum of £20 was realised, including £5, the donation of the Right Hon. Lord Gormanston, and £1 each from the Rev. P. Nowlan, P.P., and the Rev. P. O'Sullivan, C. C.

THE IRISH BRIGADE.—A collection was made at Tuilmore on Sunday, the 2nd inst., for the Irish Brigade, and the amount realized upwards of £43. This is an evidence of the Catholic feeling in this locality and the sympathy felt by the Catholics who are never backward when religion calls upon them.
—Cor. of Dublin Telegraph

THE DUBLIN Evening News publishes the following list of the names of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Irish Brigade on whom decorations have been conferred by the Pope:—
Major Myles O'Reilly, the Commandership of the Order of Pius.
Captain Timothy O'Mahony, the Order of Pius.
Captain Coppinger, the Order of Pius.
Captain Francis Russell, the Order of Pius.
Captain Blackney, the Order of Pius.
Captain M'Sweeney, the Order of St. Gregory.
Lieutenant Daniel Kilty, the Order of St. Gregory.
Sub-Lieutenant James D'Arcy, the Order of St. Gregory.
Sub-Lieutenant William Stafford, the Order of St. Gregory.
Sub-Lieutenant William Green, the Order of Pius.
Sub-Lieutenant Lynch, the Order of St. Gregory.
Sub-Lieutenant Cronin, the Order of St. Gregory.
Sub-Lieutenant Lloyd, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Adjutant John Dillon Mulhall, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Sergeant Major William Deady, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Sergeant David O'Neill, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Sergeant Richard Fitzpatrick, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Sergeant William Synan, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Corporal James McDermott, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Corporal Michael Ward, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private Richard Busted, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private John William Walker, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private Furey, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private John Byrne, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private Michael Murphy, the Order of St. Sylvester.
Private James Lyons, the Order of St. Sylvester.

IRISH JURY PANELS.—There has been a vast deal said and written on the practice of jury-packing in Ireland. The press and the platform have exhausted themselves on this prolific theme, and Parliament has wrung again with denunciations of the system. In the North of Ireland especially the jury manipulations are carried on with a barefacedness and effrontery that prove how deeply rooted the abuse has become, and how much it is considered a matter of course. It may not, however, be generally known that the root of the evil lies with the subordinate cess collectors. According to the present state of the law, occupiers in boroughs who are rated at £20 householders of £15, and freeholders of £10, together with residents of boroughs who are owners of real or personal property to the value of £100 are all entitled to serve as jurors. Now, the manner in which the collectors manage to ascertain who are or who are not eligible, according to the requirements we have enumerated, is simply by a reference to the rate-books, because, as they assert, the standard of rateability could not be so readily, conveniently, or correctly obtained by any other means. And it is very probable that no more ready or convenient method of arriving at the true state of the rate-payer's position could be easily devised, but against its correctness we have strong grounds for protest, especially under the management of the collector. And why? Simply because from the parliamentary registry many jurors may be omitted who are qualified to act as jurors. But the principal defect of the system lies in the one-sided manner in which the jury lists are compiled from the books which contain the names of the parliamentary voters with the valuation of their holdings appended to them. In making their selection from the parliamentary registry the sub-collectors act on the directions of the baronial collector. The modus operandi is thus described by a contemporary, the Londonderry Journal, in a very lucid article on this important subject:—The district collectors receive their instructions from the baronial collectors, and the scope of these directions will certainly astonish a large proportion of our readers. "I direct my sub-collector," said one of the baronial collectors at the revising sessions, "to take the voters' lists, and put into the jurors' lists the names he considers best, and when we get a good man as a juror we like to hold him on. Now, we heard this statement ourselves. We believe the gentleman was on his oath when he made it, and we recollect well that he delivered his sentiments with no apparent perception of their grave significance. The baronial collector proclaimed, in effect that the jury panel was thoroughly and entirely in the hands of his deputies, and that it was habitually compiled as their own judgment, or fancy, or prejudice suggested. Here then, we have the evil at its very source—and an exceedingly corrupt source it is, since these sub-collectors are almost to a man partisans, who obtaining their situations because of their partisanship uniformly select the jurors from the anti-Catholic portions of the constituency. But it will be urged that the lists drawn up by the sub-collectors are subject to revision by the magistrates. No doubt; and this would be a wholesome check, if it were acted upon, but the Bench and the collectors, generally understand each other as to the matter, and the political leanings of the latter being known to accord fully with those of their worshippers, the collectors' lists are left in statu quo, on the maxim that it is best to leave well alone, the more especially as the ministerial magistrates are perfectly aware that they could not manage the lists better, even were they themselves to draw them up. Now, it will be admitted that the power thus vested in these subordinate is both arbitrary and fatal to the due and impartial action which a jury is sworn to exercise. There is no doubt another officer, the sub-sheriff, who can by a variety of means too well known in Ireland exclude from the jury to be selected any persons he may think fit; but more than half the party work of exclusion is done for him by the selection which the practised hand of the collector has prepared for him, the only portion of the handiwork left for the sheriff to do being the rejection of any obnoxious individual from the list whom the collectors may have unwittingly placed upon it. This being the delectable machinery by means of which the Irish jury panels are generally manufactured, no one is surprised to find Orange and almost purely anti-Catholic juries ready at hand whenever a Conservative Government is in power, and whenever it has some State Prosecution against Catholics to conduct. It is this corrupt and inequitable system of jury-packing that causes the people to anticipate the verdict in any given case, when juries so constituted are supposed to "well and truly try" those whose lives and property depend upon their decisions. Until, therefore, the Jury Laws, or at least that portion of them which relates to the selection of the panel, be radically changed, the people of this country neither can nor will respect the law, nor place any confidence in the administration of justice. To bring about a reform so urgently and imperatively required, every effort should be made. Political agitation is too often mis-directed in this country, and objects, the attainment of which is impossible, if not impossible, are made to pre-occupy public attention, whilst such desirable reforms as are so urgently required in the Jury Laws are rarely if ever proposed to the Legislature and when proposed, are so indifferently supported, that Governments find a pretext for perpetuating the abuses complained of, in the apathy and lukewarmness of those whom the grievance most concerns, and who should, therefore, most loudly and persistently protest against it.—Dublin Telegraph.

THE TIPPERARY Artillery, now serving at Sheerness, and whose term of embodiment will soon expire, have in a body offered to become a regiment of the line, if permitted to remain together as a brigade. It is said also, that their proposal is under the consideration of Government, and that, if such a step can be legally effected, the authorities are anxious to secure a set of men whose strength, discipline, and good conduct have been the subject of unusual commendation from the generals whose duty it was to inspect them.

THE LIVERPOOL Mail, alluding to the figure made by Dr. Miller, the Protestant Vicar of Belfast, in the late Orange row, says:—"With respect to Dr. Miller, whom we lately advocated, and whose cause for his own sake, and not for his, we still hope will triumph, no words can express our contempt. If the reign of cant, profanity and blasphemy, had openly commenced on earth, we could not adduce any more positive proof of it than the report from the Northern Whig, which we have copied into our own columns, and the counter-report of the Belfast News-Letter, both of which condemn him irretrievably." Dr. Miller, notwithstanding, seems well content with his position; for we find him, on the evening of the 23rd ult., presiding at a soiree given by his "humbly," at which the staple of all the speeches was glorification of the "glorious, pious, and immortal" institution of Orangism, and denunciation of all who show any favor to the Catholics. The Northern Whig thus notices the affair:—"The Orangemen had another gathering in the Music Hall last night; but, as there was neither Protestant bishop to insult nor Roman Catholic fellow-citizen to maltreat, the proceedings were tame, when contrasted with their last 'merry meeting.' A document was freely circulated in the hall, in which Lord Dungannon was rather sharply called to account for his recent letter. His lordship had better take care; for your true Orange animus is unchangeable, and would attack an Orange grand master quite as soon as a Protestant bishop."

THE BELFAST News Letter says that the Armagh Asylum is so crowded at present with lunatics suffering from mental derangement in its various forms, that several dangerous lunatics are confined in the puny gaol, while the workhouse has also been thrown open for such as their malady has not rendered violent. Many of the unhappy creatures are the victims of the recent "revival" mania.

WRECK OF THE BLACKWATER BANK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On the night of Monday the 26th ultimo, intelligence was received by Mr. Coghlan, receiver of wrecks at this port, that a vessel, name unknown, had gone ashore, between three and four o'clock that afternoon, on the Blackwater Bank, near the spot where the unfortunate Pomona foundered in May, last year. Mr. Coghlan, accompanied by Mr. Harper, Lloyd's agent here, immediately proceeded to the scene of the wreck to discharge their respective duties, and to render what assistance they could to the men on board. The messenger reported that shortly after the vessel struck three of the crew took to a boat in the hope of reaching the land in safety, but when within a few yards of the shore the tiny craft was unhappily swamped, and the three unfortunate men were swallowed up in the raging surge. During the night the Coast-guard men, assisted by some of the country people, were busy firing rockets, with a line attached, with the view of effecting a communication with the ship, and, after much labor, they succeeded in accomplishing their object, by which means the whole of the crew (with the exception of the three drowned in attempting to land by boat), numbering 19 persons, were got on shore in safety but in a very exhausted state. The ship proved to be the Lutin, of and from Liverpool, bound for Monte Video, with a valuable general cargo. She has gone completely over the bank, and will be left almost dry when the tide is out, so that hopes are entertained that the cargo may be saved. We did not learn whether or not the bodies of the three unfortunate men had been recovered. We believe another large vessel had a narrow escape from sharing a similar fate on this dreadful bank about the same hour on Sunday afternoon. She was seen beating about in a distressed state, close to the shore, on to which the wind was blowing strong; but by the skillful seamanship of those on board she was fortunately got off. So great was the danger in which this vessel was in, that a messenger had been despatched to Wexford for assistance; but he had no sooner gone than the vessel got into mid-channel, and proceeded on her voyage. A terrific gale has prevailed here for the last few days, but at the time of our going to press it had moderated considerably.

HOW THE UNION WAS CARRIED IN A PROTESTANT IRISH PARLIAMENT.—The O'Donoghue will pardon us, we hope, if we say that he has hardly done justice to his cause. He doesn't tell the Repealers how the Union was effected. He only hints, with a gentlemanly reserve, at the ways and means by which the minority in the majority dwindled and diminished, till the lean knee ate up the fat knee, and became, as a natural consequence, very much fatter.—The Union was accomplished by the very basest of means. When the Divisions became closer, certain gentlemen, some of them Irishmen, to their shame be it spoken—examined the majority, as they would a melon-bed, for the softest and ripest of the lot.—They applied their fingers and their noses, and then touched and all but tasted, and they came first to a fond hope, then to a reasonable expectation, then to a satisfactory assurance, then to a good understanding, then to a regular bargain, that one Anti-Unionist M.P. would sell his dear country for a peerage, another for a step in rank, another for a good place, another for a pension, and another for a round sum of money, and so on through the whole list of political allurements. How many peers, British and Irish, how many new places, how much money, and how much eternal infamy the Union cost is better known to the shade of Mr. Daniel O'Connell at this moment than it is to us; for, to say the truth, we have no taste for poking up old dirt. We know well, too, how these things are done. The best things are done in the worst way, for the obvious reason that the worst men offer the most determined opposition to them, and must be bribed or got over in some wicked way. Perhaps the very best way of all would be to take the bad men and shoot them; but, as the usages of society and the false humanity of the age do not permit of such a summary practice, we are driven to bribe them with place, money, or rank.—Times.

GREAT BRITAIN.
The acceptance by the Venerable Bishop of Beverley, the Senior member of the episcopate in England, has this week been received. The care of the diocese is committed for the time to the Very Rev. Provost Rector. The names of three persons, one of whom will probably be successor to the episcopal dignity, have been sent to Rome by the proper authorities. We need not inform our Catholic readers that the names are strictly private. Dr. Briggs was formerly President of St. Gilbert's College, Ushaw; and those who have had the privilege of sharing the hospitality of that college will have often had the pleasure of meeting him there.—Weekly Register.

WE are gratified to learn that a prospect is at length opening up for the restoration of Catholic worship in the ancient city and University of Oxford.—A correspondent writes:—"You will be delighted to know that our good pastor is doing his utmost to promote the erection of a church worthy of our cause in Oxford. A very extensive freehold property ground, nearly opposite Christ Church, is secured for the purpose. This is publicly known. Several of the Puseyites have expressed their gratification at our movement."

AN IRISHMAN ELECTED MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL.—Mr. S. Graves, a native of Wexford, and now one of the principal merchants of Liverpool, has been chosen for the high office of Mayor for 1861. The Daily Post says of this gentleman:—"The general opinion was that he would be acceptable to all parties; and that opinion was correct. Mr. Graves is a party man, but not a partisan; his political convictions are no doubt, strong, but he never obtrudes them on the public. His fitness for the office is unquestionable. Well acquainted with local affairs, and full of commercial knowledge, he will, should occasion serve, be able to render service to the town, far in addition to a ready eloquence, he has the advantage of being well known to people in office. Those who know him best bear eager testimony to his liberality and kind disposition. There will be one peculiarity about his election—he will be the first Irishman that ever had the honour of being Mayor of Liverpool!"

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—REFORM.—The Chronicle says it has reason to believe that no more Cabinet meetings will be held until about the middle of January. It is understood that the question of Parliamentary Reform with reference to the next session has not yet brought under discussion in the Cabinet. Parliament will, according to present arrangements, be summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 5th of February.

THE member of Parliament mentioned in a recent telegram as appointed to invite Garibaldi to England is Mr. Crawford, M.P. for Ayrshire.

RELEASES OF DR. SMETHURST.—This individual, convicted at the sittings of the Central Criminal Court, October 1859, of murder by poisoning, and sentenced to be hung at Horsemerger-lane Jail, but whose case at the time excited much excitement, and caused considerable discussion and controversy in the public journals, which resulted in his pardon for the murder, and his being put on his trial a second time for bigamy, will be released from Wandsworth House of Correction during the present month, the sentence of twelve months' imprisonment, passed upon him for the last named offence, having expired. Dr. Smethurst is considerably reduced in bulk, but his bodily health does not appear to be impaired by the fearful ordeal through which he passed, and his lengthened incarceration.—London Globe.

A movement has commenced in the ranks of the volunteers of London, for the purpose of inviting the 7th Regiment of New York National Guards to visit England next spring.

THE BELFAST Mercury says:—"The disgrace of Belfast is to be commemorated by an application to Parliament for an act to abolish the corporation, and appoint a board of commissioners to discharge its duties."

ON the evening of the 26th ult., a man of the name of O'Rourke was taken up by the police for rioting at Bridgecourt fair. In the row which occurred on that occasion he had received a severe wound in the head, which, on his arrival at O'Brien's Bridge, was dressed by Surgeon Bentley, who appears to have thought he was shamming. After having been kept there until next evening, when he was committed by the magistrates, he was carried by the police to Killoe—a distance of four miles, after midnight, in a storm of wind and rain, and lodged in the bridewell, where he died next morning.