

be considered as belonging to the fund raised in Rome, under the patronage of his Holiness and Cardinal Fransoni, for the famished poor of Ireland. The accounts which have reached this city of their sufferings have created a deep sensation. The Holy Father, whose charity is as extensive as his jurisdiction, feels the greatest sympathy for his distant and faithful children.—The Cardinals are animated with the same sentiments as those of the Pope, and all the good Romans, following the example of the Princes of the Church, are praying most fervently to the Almighty, and imploring him to look with mercy on and to spare an afflicted people. I trust that the united prayers of the Faithful will obtain this happy consummation. It is from God alone that relief can be expected; it is in him alone that we should place our trust in in so awful a calamity. If all were to unite in performing penance for the offences committed against the Divine Majesty, and it is to our sins we should attribute the misfortunes of the country, if all were to unite in laying their humble and fervent supplications before the throne of the Most High he would soon heal the wounds he has inflicted, and restore peace and abundance to the country. We have heard here with horror of the attempt which fanatics are making to induce the poor victims of famine to abandon the faith of their fathers, and to barter the most precious gift of Heaven for a mess of pottage. The men who think of robbing the poor people of their faith whilst they are groaning under such a calamity must be vile indeed. A charitable and enlightened public ought to preserve their names for eternal execration. Their solicitations their proposals must be a terrible temptation to a starving man; but I am persuaded that our poor countrymen will suffer every privation, and undergo death itself rather than renounce their Faith. If they be resigned to the holy will of God if they adhere to their religion, notwithstanding the efforts that are made to seduce them, they must be considered as real martyrs in the cause of God; their generosity in their sufferings will shew that they have the true faith, that faith which putteth the evil one to flight, and overcometh the world. How different is the conduct of the Pope and good Romans from that of our fanatics. We had a great inundation of the Tiber here this winter and the Jews' quarter of the city was completely covered with water. Did the Pope in these circumstances refuse them assistance unless they would promise to become Christians? No.—His Holiness and the Roman nobility did as much for the Jews as for the other poor sufferers in this city. During the inundation they provided them with bread and other provisions; they relieved all their wants; but they did not think that such a time was proper to propose to them a change of religion. This was true charity, this is the charity which is inculcated by the example of the head of the Catholic Church; this is the charity which shows that they who profess it are true disciples of Jesus Christ. To the pretended charity of fanatics, and to their exertions to pervert poor Catholics, we may apply the words of our most mild Redeemer—"Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, because you go round earth and sea to make one proselyte; and when he is made, you make him a child of Hell, two-fold worse than yourselves."—I have the honor to be, my Lord, your Lordship's devoted and obedient servant.

PAUL CULLEN.

"To the Right Rev. Dr. Blake, Catholic Bishop of Down, Violet-hill, Newry."

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

A meeting will be held immediately after Vespers, to-morrow of the Halifax Branch of this Glorious Association. The last Quarterly Meeting was held on the 22nd of January. A full attendance of Members is confidently expected.

#### RELIEF OF IRELAND.

The gallant Captain Colman, of the 14th Regt., who is now stationed at Sydney Cape Breton, has forwarded a subscription of three Pounds, through the Very Rev. Mr. Conolly for the relief of his suffering countrymen in Ireland.

Amongst the £24 sent from Meteghan for the same benevolent purpose, it is but justice to state that £5 were subscribed by the Rev. William McLeod, and £5 by James McCarthy, Esqr.

Accounts have been received by the last Packet of the lamented demise of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Murphy, the Lord Bishop of Cork, who had governed that important See, for the last thirty-two years and who has departed this life full of years and virtues, amongst the universal regret of all ranks and classes of his people. Doctor Murphy was a most distinguished preacher an elegant scholar, and the most indefatigable collector in Europe of rare and valuable works. It is said that his library amounts to 200,000 volumes. What a noble and truly Catholic Legacy to his diocese and to Ireland! Doctor Murphy must have died extremely poor, as the whole of his moderate income was expended in charity to the poor, in the promotion of religion and sacred literature. He had no sons or daughters to provide for. The poor were his children; and like the noble Catholic Bishops in the good old times, he has left enduring memorials of his piety and zeal. May he rest in peace! And may the Lord in his mercy provide for the widowed Church of Cork a pastor after his own heart—a worthy successor of a Moylan and a Murphy!

#### THE "IRISH PRIESTS."

Our Protestant brethren are sometimes astonished at the affectionate veneration which is shewn to their beloved Clergy by the members of Christ's Church. They cannot comprehend the attachment of the Irish Catholic to the Irish Priest. Never was affection more dearly purchased, or more deservedly bestowed. The Irish Catholic would be ungrateful indeed, if he did not love the Irish Priest, and the priest should forget the noblest instincts of nature, as well as the holiest precepts of religion, if he did not devote himself, heart and soul to the welfare of his flock. The union of the Irish Priesthood and the Irish people has braved the whole power of England for three centuries, and survived the most bloody persecution that is recorded in the annals of mankind. These remarks have been called forth by the perusal of a Letter in the Tablet of the 27th March, in which the devoted sacrifices of the calumniated Irish Priest at this awful crisis, are beautifully portrayed. The narrow-minded bigots in this community who have strained their No-Popery threats in "hollerin out" against "Irish Priests" would do well to read it:—

#### THE CATHOLIC CLERGY.

Runcorn, Cheshire, March 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TABLET.

Sir—The following extract from a private letter from a gentleman residing in Ireland to a lady in England, may perhaps be interesting to many of your readers; and, considering the ungenerous attempts already made, and now frequently repeated by an adverse press to depreciate the services of the beloved Priesthood of Ireland during the ter-