

THE REFORM BILL.—PRIME-MINISTER.—The work of reformation and reform in religion and legislation has been going on for the last two or three centuries in England...

Among the petitions for sales presented last week to the Irish Incumbered Estates Court there was one which shows a remarkable disproportion between the extent of the property and the burthens with which it is overladen.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—IRISH PRODUCTIONS.—Though last not least, will be found in the west gallery the stand of the Royal Dublin Society, which is neatly arranged under the direction of Mr. Corrigan, the curator.

A large store in Castle Lyons, co. Cork, the property of councillor Barry, of Carrigtwohill, was completely destroyed by fire on the night of the 3rd of December.

On Monday week the extensive milling concerns at Piltown, county Waterford, near Yougnah, the property of Mr. Peter Fisher, were totally burned down.

At the prosecution of the Excise, Mr. T. Moran, tobaccoist, Thomas street, Dublin, has been convicted in a penalty of £60 for having two and a half pounds of adulterated snuff on his premises, and a quantity of burned oatmeal for adulteration purposes.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, a verdict of £75 damages, was had against Mr. Walshe, at suit of Mr. Brady, one of his clerks, for imputing that he had robbed him of a large sum of money.

ATTEMPT AT ASSASSINATION.—A King's County correspondent of the Dublin Express states that an attempt was made to assassinate Mr. Denis Egan, of Brooklawn, near Dunckerin, on Sunday last, whilst that gentleman was on his way to Dunckerin Chapel.

Dr. McNice, of Tullyallen, Dungannon, was accidentally drowned on Wednesday night, Dec. 2nd, while crossing by a foot-stick over a large stream, after attending professional business.

A man of eccentric habits named John Walsh, aged 70, was found dead, in the cellar of his house, 29 Tigher street, Dublin, on the 3rd of December.

SHIPWRECK OFF CAPE CLEAR.—At break of day on Sunday, the 6th inst., a ship's long boat approached the southern coast of Cape Clear, and was observed by some persons from the island. The crew called piteously for relief, and were directed by signs to the nearest landing place.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES COURT.—The sale of the vast estates of the late Marquis of Thomond has been completed, and the gross amount realized each day stood thus:—First day, £66,540; second day, £67,905; third day, £100,831; to which is added the sum produced by the lots sold by private contract, £131,401.

PERILOUS POSITION.—A Russian vessel, laden with corn, was driven into the Bay of Tramore about 11 o'clock on Thursday morning, and has anchored about a quarter of a mile from the shore, opposite the Rabbit-borough.

LETTER FROM T. B. McMANUS.—The following letter from Terence Bellow McManus to J. F. Maguire, Esq., M.P., appears in the Cork Examiner:—

San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 18th, 1857. My Dear Sir:—From the general tone of the Irish press, and from other sources, I perceive that a movement is on foot for the purpose of inducing the British Government to extend to us ("Three of the Irish Traitors to British rule in Ireland") a pardon.

As far as I am concerned, I beg to be excluded from any participation in that movement. I do so for two reasons:—First, I desire to place myself under no obligation, either acknowledged or implied, to a government that I believe to be Foreign to the spirit, the genius, and the Liberty of my native land.

Secondly, I am now a Citizen of the United States, and feel the proud confidence, that every Citizen of this Republic feels, that wherever her flag floats is her sure protection. In pursuance of this feeling, I shall, at any time it suits my convenience, visit either England, Ireland, France, Germany or Australia, and in the lawful and ordinary pursuits of life feel myself perfectly secure under the protection of the flag to which I have sworn allegiance.

I take the liberty, sir, of addressing this to you, knowing and feeling the warm and manly sympathy you have on all occasions evinced towards us, even in the darkest hour of our adversity, and at the same time, believing you to be one of the truest and most fearless of Ireland's representatives in that place called the British (not Irish) Parliament.

Assuring you, my dear sir, of my warmest esteem and friendship, I subscribe myself, Very faithfully yours, T. B. McMANUS.

The town of Athy, Co. Kildare, is now lit with gas.

Threatening notices have been served on several persons in the county Cavan.

On Thursday, the 3rd inst., at about eight a.m., a small boat containing six men, was seen making for the west end of the Great Saltee Island. A heavy sea struck and capsized her, when quite close to the land.

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GREAT BRITAIN.

NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH AT BATHGATE, SCOTLAND.—A new Catholic church was solemnly opened on Sunday, December the 6th, at Bathgate, by the Right Rev. Dr. Gillis of Edinburgh. At the conclusion of the Benedictio loci, secundum Rituale Romanum, High Mass—coram Episcopo—was celebrated by the Rev. Eugene Small, of Glasgow, the Rev. William Smith, of St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh, being Deacon, whilst the Rev. John Macdonald, of Falkirk, assisted as Sub-deacon. The Gospel being sung, the Rev. William Smith ascended the steps of the altar, there being as yet no pulpit, and delivered a most eloquent and impressive discourse, taking for his text John, iv. 24—"God is a Spirit," &c.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE NEW DIVORCE LAW.—There is always something exhilarating in a speech, a charge, or an admonition delivered by the Bishop of Exeter.

It seems that the Clergy of five deaneries, through the Archdeacon of Barnstaple, recently requested the "opinion and advice" of their diocesan on a subject which "greatly disquiets and distresses them"—namely, the 58th clause of the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act, by which "any Clergyman entitled to officiate within any diocese is authorized to intrude into any other parish in the same diocese, for the purpose of performing the marriage service between the parties."

It has leaked out that the committee conducting Dissenting services at Exeter Hall is composed of "members of the Church of England, Baptists, Independents, and others," and to this fact we must attribute the extreme condescension of Messrs. Brock and Allen in retaining the "Liturgical form," used at the first series of services.

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In consequence of certain ducal negotiations, it is not anticipated that Lord John Russell's Oaths Bill will this session be rejected by the Upper House.

NEW POWER FOR THE PROPULSION OF VESSELS.—An important discovery has just been made with reference to the propulsion of vessels. It is now found that the immense amount of resistance encountered at the head of ships and steamers can be turned into a useful power, instead of being all sustained as dead loss.

UNITED STATES. The Rev. Mr. Durand, of St. Mary's (Catholic) Mission, in Kansas, Mr. Patterson, of Nebraska, and a gentleman from Maine, were drowned on the 9th ult., by the upsetting of a skiff ten miles from Kansas city.

WALKER'S EXPEDITION QUASHED.—General Walker reached town on the 27th ult. He came in the steamship Northern Light, having been forcibly interrupted in filibustering operation in Nicaragua by Commodore Paulding, who sent a force of American sailors on shore and compelled his immediate surrender, with all his men, as prisoners of war.

SIX HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE indigent persons were accommodated with lodgings at the various Station Houses, New York, on the night of Tuesday, the 22d ult.

FALL OF A BUILDING.—A building at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Forty-seventh street, New York, occupied by Messrs. Clark & Bogert as a manufactory, came down with a fearful crash early on Wednesday morning last.

THE UNCERTAINTY OF EVIDENCE, both direct and circumstantial, is illustrated in the case of Charles E. Sage, a lad some eighteen years old, supposed to have been murdered last winter in Connecticut.

SENATORS STUART, of Michigan, and Broderick, of California, have broken ground pointedly, in the Senate, in opposition to President Buchanan on the Kansas question.

CURRENCY FASCINATION.—Mr. Gladstone said on Friday, in the discussion on the Bank Indemnity Act, that "there is an attraction, a charm, a fascination about the currency question which drives men mad."

A SHOOKING SCENE.—Greenbury O. Mullenix was executed at Greencastle, Ind., on Friday, for the murder of his wife. He protested his innocence to the last.

A collision has occurred in the southern part of Kansas, between the Free-State men and pro-Slavery men. Five of the latter were killed. Twenty-three of the former have been seized and confined at Fort Scott.

An express from the Utah expedition brings intelligence of the concentration of the whole force, with the exception of Col. Cook's command, at Black Fork, from which point they were moving very slowly toward Fort Bridger.

The Mormons in Utah have assumed an attitude of defiance to the U. S. troops. Accounts to Nov. 6, state that they had destroyed Fort Bridger, on the approach of Col. Johnson.

A young man of Keokuk, Iowa, recently married a young, pretty and modest woman with whom he lived in much happiness till one day, opening a letter, addressed to his wife, he discovered that she had another husband in Ohio.

PROTESTANTISM AND IDOLATRY.—We copy from Blackwood for November last, a few paragraphs of an article on the East Indies, as amusingly illustrative of the consistency of the British Government, in religious matters.

It is not to be denied that this has taken place to a lamentable extent. The details may be found in the appendix to a memorial presented to the Government of Madras by Bishop Corrie in 1836, and afterwards published in a pamphlet, which is now lying before us.

It is always very difficult to prove the precise offence which constitutes a violation of our neutrality laws—in cases, we mean, where our own citizens are concerned, though it takes little enough to establish it when charged upon the Ministers and Consuls of foreign powers.

Connection of the East India Company's Government with Idolatry, &c.—Hutchards, 1838. We shall not easily forget hearing the clergyman's voice drowned the first time we attended the Holy Communion in India, by the thunder of the cannon fired from the neighbouring ramparts in honor of an idolatrous festival!

MINIATURE FIREWORKS.—Procure a clean white glass bottle, holding a pint; pour into it a gill and a half of water; then drop in half a drachm of phosphorus.

Why is wit like a Chinese lady's foot? Because brevity is the sole of it.