

## A PORTRAIT.

BY AN OLD MASTER.

To match this scint, there was another,  
As busy and perverse a brother,  
An haberdasher of small wares  
In politics and state affairs.  
For he at any time would hang  
For th' opportunity to harangue ;  
And rather on a gibbet dangle,  
Than miss his dear delight, to wrangle ,  
In which his parts were so accomplish'd  
That right or wrong he ne'er was nonpluss'd,  
But still his tongue ran on, the less  
Of weight it bore, with greater ease,  
And with its everlasting clack,  
Set all men's ears upon the rack.  
No sooner could a hint appear  
But up he started to picquer,  
With volleys of eternal babble,  
And clamour, more unanswerable  
For though his topics, frail and weak,  
Could ne'er amount above a freak,  
He still maintained 'em like his faults,  
Against the dosp'rates assaults,  
And backed their feeble want of sense  
With greater heat and confidence ;  
As bones of Hectors, when they differ,  
The more they're cudgel'd grow the stiffer.

### ST. MARY'S CATECHISTICAL SOCIETY.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Catechistical Society will be held in the New Vestry, on Monday evening next, March 9, shortly after seven o'clock.

By order of the President,

P. J. COMPTON,

March 5, 1846.

Secretary.

### THE CHARITABLE IRISH SOCIETY.

On the approaching Festival of St Patrick, March 17, the Society will assemble in Mason Hall at half-past nine o'clock, from whence they will depart in procession at 10, to attend Divine Service in St Mary's Church. On that occasion the Panegyric of the Apostle of Ireland will be delivered, and a collection will be taken in aid of the poor who are exposed to so much suffering in this inclement season. We believe it is the intention of the Society to walk in procession on St Patrick's Day, should the weather prove favourable. The members will dine together in the evening. Thus, the Great Day so dear to Irishmen, and particularly to the Exiles of Erin, will be appropriately spent—first in the important duties of religion and charity, and next in the cultivation of social harmony. We sincerely wish the Charitable Irish Society many happy returns of their proud Festival, because they will be

thus afforded many noble opportunities of giving Glory to God on high, and of promoting charity and peace on earth.

### LENT.

Our virtuous people, thanks to God, have commenced this Holy Season in a true religious spirit. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is daily attended by increasing numbers. Confessions are heard five times a week at the Cathedral and St Patrick's, and crowds of fervent penitents throng round the Sacred Tribunals. There are evening prayers each day at St Mary's, and twice a week, with instructions, at St Patrick's. The monthly Mass for the repose of the deceased members and friends of the Purgatorial Society was offered on Thursday by the Bishop, and on yesterday, the first Friday of the Month, Mass was offered, a *Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament* given, and a sermon preached by him for the newly-erected Confraternity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Thus every thing portends the increase of true devotion amongst us.

The Rev Mr Nugent has requested us to state, that consistently with the respect which he owes to his sacred character, he could take no notice of a flippant and irrelevant letter which Joseph Quinan took the liberty of addressing him on Saturday evening through the columns of a newspaper.

In the letter alluded to, in which the Pronoun *I* occurs eleven times, though it does not contain many more lines, Joe assures the Editor of the Cross that he knows and understands his own position. He must excuse us, if we still remain incredulous on that point.

The following are extracts from the Report and Speeches published in the Morning Post, on Wednesday, Feb. 25, relative to the Meeting of the *Halifax Temperance Society* at Mason Hall, headed

"Grand Temperance Meeting, &c.—'Tremendous gathering, &c.

'Great fluttering among the Ladies!'

"An audience of about five hundred people, two thirds of whom were ladies, collected long before the hour of Meeting, &c.

"The proceedings were opened at half-past seven o'clock with a prayer offered up by the Rev Mr McGregor." When Beamish Murdoch, Esq, and the Rev Mr Smith had spoken.

"Mr Quinan rose to move the second resolution . . . In remarking on the Resolution which he had to move, he said he had no doubt that the Temperance cause in this city was retrograding . . . He would not trust himself to refer to the causes of this—they were of a peculiar kind, and reflected no