

steal gradually from his cheek, and he seemed one marked out for his eternal home in heaven, rather than destined for a long life on earth.—The raging of the reckless storm, the flights and aerial gambols of birds, the beauty and brilliancy of the stars, together with all the other grand phenomena of Nature with which his eye was familiar, and of which he was so enthusiastic an admirer, began to lose all their wonted charms for him. Whether or not he took to heart this his long and tedious separation from his parents, whom he understood to be living and exalted in life; or, that the narrow and monotonous sphere of life in which he moved was unsuited to his lofty spirit; or that his soul, enamoured of the ravishing joys of heaven, so vividly depicted before his fervid imagination by the sweet music of his teacher's eloquence, languished for their actual enjoyment, cannot now be determined, but Brefini's health was becoming delicate, and evidently tending to decay.

His reverend guardian perceiving the change, began to be alarmed, and though he did not doubt but the will of Providence would be finally accomplished, regarding this object of its singular protection, yet, he did not dare to run the risk of tempting that good Providence, and he therefore resolved to send his protegee away on the duties of his high vocation, as soon as an opportunity offered. Calling him to his knee one morning, after returning from Mass in the crypt, with a view of preparing the young man for his inevitable departure, he thus addressed him:—

My dearest child, the fifteenth anniversary of your coming into this cave has just passed, and now that you have learned all that I could teach you, that you have faithfully served God during so many years in this secluded retreat, it is time to let you know who you are, of what race you are, and to give you an idea of what God's providence seems to have designed in your regard. About seventeen years ago I joined your parents in marriage in my church, in Cloughmore, in the county of Tipperary, where I was parish priest. You father was then a noble young gentleman of worth and property, and a descendant of the ducal branch of the royal house of Stuart, but had to change his name to that of Kilpatrick, the title of the hereditary estate, on account of the participation, by his ancestors, in all the rebellions that had for their object the restoration of the house of Stuart, but especially that of 1745.

Al! father, you don't deceive me with some romantic tale? exclaimed the trembling listener. No, my son; I tell you what I know to be true. And when I related to you so minutely the history of the unfortunate house of Stuart, it was with a view to enlist your heart in the cause of this eclipsed, but not extinct, royal race.—I observed the blood rush in a tide to your cheek, and the fire to your eye, at the recital of the injuries of Mary, Queen of Scots.

But, father, how can I know that I am thus descended? Was it not that eagle which I killed when a child, and whose wing hangs there, you assured me, that brought me hither? Who can tell who I am but God?

I have the proof of your descent and identity as the Scottish Chief's son—but let me proceed. Your mother is descended of the noble house of Ossory, princess of Leinster, and one of the purest that remains in the land. The friendship between the two families originated in this wise: After the defeat of the last hopes of the Pretender, as the lawful heir of the British throne was called, you grandfather was obliged to take refuge in Ireland, and there, under the protection of the heir to the house of Ossory, he let the storm pass by in security. It was during the interval of the quiet that succeeded that last attempt of the Pretender, and his returning to Scotland, that your grandfather and his friend pledged their honors, that the next male and female child of either house should be joined in marriage at the proper age. Soon after your year father and mother were born, and in due time were married by me according to the rites of the Catholic Church, your father having read his recantation and been received into the church by me a few days previously. After this I was immediately arrested, and tried under a law, passed in the reign of William and Mary, the usurpers of the throne of the Stuarts, which made it death in a priest to join a Protestant and Catholic together in marriage, or to receive a Protestant into the Catholic Church; and having been found guilty by a jury of perjured men, I was condemned to death! My dear brother, however, hearing of my fate in France, where he was captain of cavalry, managed, by great address, to come to me in prison, and by exchanging places with me, gave me the chance of escaping the hands of my persecutors. Poor fellow, I hope he succeeded in escaping their hands afterwards himself, and getting back to his adopted country; you know the rest: how the vessel which was to convey me to France, was wrecked on this wild coast, and I was the sole survivor of the number on board. I was in this cave just a year and a day, when an eagle which you afterwards slew, presented you to me unharmed and uninjured! And what proves to me that you are the son of my dear friends, beyond a doubt, and in addition to the similarity of countenance and resemblance of features, is, that sacred relic you have ever carried around your neck, and which probably saved you from the many frightful accidents you so miraculously escaped.

On the day of your mother's marriage, I presented her with that relic, which I often told you contained a piece of the holy cross of our Lord, and she promised it should never leave her person, unless to be transferred to that of the first male heir that God should send her. You are that heir, my son. Don't fight against the counsels of Heaven, but prepare and make ready to enter on the mission that awaits you. Clothe yourself in this uniform of my lost friend, the captain of Joan d'Arc, and keep a sharp look out, for the vessel is on her way, and will soon be here, that is to restore you to your friends and the promised field of your labours. May God pour down his richest benedictions on your innocent heart, and endow your soul with a wisdom above that of the world into which you are about to enter. Amen.

CHAPTER XXII. When Brefini understood from his venerable guardian and father that it was the will of Heaven that he should leave, he consented, after a hard struggle, with his private feelings; and every day, after the discharge of his duties to his Maker, and this duty to his father, from the conical summit of a projecting rock, his sharp eye scanned the wide horizon over the ocean, in anxious search for the approaching vessel. For a week, from earliest dawn to the hour when the last rays of light died away in the west, this observation was continued, the short intermissions above stated only excepted. Another week of like vigilance passed by, and not a sail appeared within the extensive view. Sometimes a cloud or a mist, rising from the bosom of the waters, would present the appearance of a square rigged vessel driven before the wind, and the bosom of the young man would throb with thrilling sensations; but, on placing the telescope to his eye, and bringing it to bear on the deceptive mass, it showed itself to be what it really was—a frail child of the ocean and sun, and destined only to an existence of a few short hours. A third week of more unceasing vigilance followed, with no better result, but that the illusions of cloudy vapours became more frequent and more annoying. At length, after three weeks and three days' watching, on the 17th of March, a real ship, not made of clouds, appeared to the north-west; and about noon her slow motion brought her almost in a line due west of where your young coast sentinel was stationed. Panting with excitement, he descended to communicate the fact to the father, who, on advancing to the mouth of the cave, and placing the telescope to his eye, balanced on the head of the youth, immediately descried her as a Spanish galleon, and apparently on a homeward voyage from some North American port or northern cruise.

That is your destined argo, my son, he cried, a royal Spanish vessel, on board of which you can escape to the Continent, and then afterwards make your way to France, to meet or hear of your friends. Haste and raise your signal, that may draw the eye of the noble Spaniard to your flag of distress. The galleon is evidently becalmed, and they are engaged in airing her canvass.

With the agility of an alpine chamois, the active youth precipitated himself down the cliff, and with a white flag on a pole in one hand, and steering his raft with the other, he was soon a mile out from land. His gestures with the flag were immediately observed by those on the frigate, and he soon after perceived a boat, manned by a dozen marines and sailors, making for him. The Spanish sailors and men-of-war were accustomed to such officers; and passing by the Irish coast, they had ever a look-out for some rebel, refugee, or rapparee, who sought their humanity and protection from the cruel injustice of English laws. Our young friend was greeted by the hearty "vivas" and "bravissimos" of the marines and sailors, who admired his boldness in trusting his life to the frail raft, and the address with which he sprang into the boat.—They were in a few minutes alongside the frigate where, after the reading of a note from the Rev. Senan O'Donnell by the commander, Don Bernardo Castanedo, of which the sergeant of the boat was bearer, young Brefini was taken on board, and treated with every mark of attention by his excellency. While on board he happily made the acquaintance of an Irish refugee named O'Donohoe, who not only imparted to him the important news of the day, which was the breaking out of the French revolution, but who had actually met Captain Charles O'Donnell, brother to our hero and his rescuer, at the court of his most Catholic majesty? This was news, assuredly, that could not be but highly interesting to his venerable brother, the father and guardian of his youth, and therefore he hastened back to the cave to communicate it to him. The command of the boat, on her return for the effects of Brefini, was given to O'Donohoe, at the request of the former, who procured the consent of the courteous commander, and accompanied by four stout sailors only, in consequence of the assurance given by Brefini of the impossibility of any hostile attack on that wild coast, the two gentlemen, seated together at the helm, kept up a very interesting conversation, till they arrived at the cave. O'Donohoe and Brefini only landed, and were met at the verge of the cliff by our hero, who, thinking the former a native Spaniard, saluted him in that tongue, which salute was returned by the officer in good Kerry Irish. The father gave an exclamation of delight on finding a countryman instead of a stranger, the more so, as he could now be sure of a friend for his dear young charge. While this conversation was carried on between the venerable servant of God and the young officer, Brefini was preparing his few effects, not without audible sobs and heartfelt grief, on account of the separation about to take place between himself and his dearest and only friend on earth. Alas! alas! father, he cried, kneeling before the old gentleman's feet, and embracing them, why do you compel me to leave you? Has it not ever been my greatest pleasure to obey and serve you at the altar?—You know I have no ambition, nor do I feel that I have abilities for these important duties to which you say I am called?

Silence, my beloved son, answered the venerable father, who was himself in tears, caused by the concise but frightful description of the French revolution, and indignities offered to the royal family, which he heard from O'Donohoe.—Wiping away the tears from his aged eyes, and embracing his beloved Brefini on both cheeks, and putting a few letters into his hands, he said, Go, thou son of the eagle, cradled in adversity, nursed in the lap of rigid virtue, nourished with the pure milk of true faith, and exercised in the pleasant garden of religion. The boat shoved off from the rocks, the light and graceful oars rapidly dipped and rose on the surface of the smooth ocean, and her crew were soon on board the Isabella. A north-west wind having sprung up, a salute of twelve guns were fired in honor of the hermit priest, to whom, soon after, the Isabella appeared no larger than the eagle with extended wings, on the horizon.

(To be Continued.)

GREAT SPEECH OF SIR G. BOWYER IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 11.

Sir G. Bowyer rose in pursuance of notice to call the attention of the house to the state of affairs in Italy, and he did this in consequence of a pledge which he gave in the last session to the noble lord at the head of the Government. Before Parliament was prorogued last year he called attention to the atrocious deeds which were resorted to by the Piedmontese Government for the purpose of keeping possession of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, and he stated that the whole of the country was governed by martial law in its most dreadful form; that blood had been shed; that there was no security for persons or property; and that the people had not been governed in a manner which they were entitled to expect from a civilized country. He appealed to the noble lord whether Her Majesty's Government would use its influence with the Government of Turin to mitigate the state of things; and would, on behalf of humanity and justice, induce that Government to administer their offices more in accordance therewith. The noble lord, in his reply, referred to the brigandage which existed in Italy, and retorted on him (Sir G. Bowyer) that greater atrocities had been committed by persons who were called brigands. The noble lord said the government would not interfere to mitigate the severity of Government in Italy, and he went on to say that General Pinelli would use the strongest measures to preserve what was called public security. (Hear, hear.) Who was General Pinelli? He was a man notorious for his proclamations, which had been reprobated by all parties in this country. That man, although he had been dismissed from office, had been reinstated, and the noble lord's answer encouraged that man to perpetrate greater atrocities against the inhabitants of the country. He had received information that six towns had been burnt; that many of the inhabitants were put to the sword, and that the prisons were crowded. The first case to which he would refer was that of Count Christian. He had served under the King of the Two Sicilies, and being found in the kingdom of Naples he was arrested on the 7th September, 1861, put into solitary confinement, and was kept there for six months without being granted a trial, although it was utterly impossible to make any case against him. He was then set at liberty, as he understood, but he could not say whether it was so or not. Another case was that of Louis Montini. He was arrested upon mere suspicion of being a reactionary, and was kept in prison without trial. He presented a petition to the Turin Parliament, but the Minister of Justice, Comfiori, said the House would have nothing to do with it, and the slavish Parliament followed his advice, and gave no relief. What was the present state of things in the South of Italy? Why there was positively no security for persons or property, and the country was kept under martial law. (Hear, hear.) What was the case in Sicily? He had been informed that the people were everywhere rising against the Piedmontese Government and its officials, and he understood that the statues of Victor Emmanuel had been destroyed by them. It could not be supposed that the people of South Italy would submit to a foreign rule, for they were a people of a different language and a different race to the Piedmontese. (Hear, hear.) A question had been asked respecting the proclamations of Major Farnel and Colonel Fantoni, and he did not allude to them merely for their atrocity, which spoke for itself, but as affording types of all the acts of the Piedmontese Government—acts which were a stain on the morality of Europe. The conduct of Her Majesty's Government respecting these proclamations was very peculiar. A question was put in that House respecting some atrocity, and the Government was asked whether it had received any information on the subject, whereupon the noble viscount would immediately rise in his place and answer in the negative. Then would rise a loud cheer from the benches behind the noble viscount, implying that because the Government were without information the charges were not true. He should very much like to know what was really in the despatches which came from Italy to the noble lord. As far as he could learn, he believed the information received by Her Majesty's Government from Italy was of a very imperfect and partial character. The speech of Massari, in the Parliament of Turin, which coincided with the views of Sir James Hudson, could be produced, but why not that of the Duc de Maddaloni, which took a different view? Fortunately, they had the correspondent of the Times at Turin, and as much as he (Sir G. Bowyer) differed from the views of the Times on Italian affairs, he must say their Turin correspondent gave more and truer information than that which appeared to be possessed by Her Majesty's Government. He appealed to that correspondent to show that the statements he (Sir G. Bowyer) made were not unfounded, and that Her Majesty's Government was adopting a wrong and dangerous course in systematically deceiving the Parliament and the country. The English Government denied the existence of the proclamations, or said they were not executed, whereas the Piedmontese newspapers admitted them to be true, rather glorifying in them, and snubbing the noble viscount and Lord Russell for presuming to say that they were wrong. He found the Opinion, a Turin paper that supported the Government, alluding to the debate in the House of Commons of the 10th of June respecting these proclamations, and stating that they had not only been issued but had been acted upon, and produced good fruit. This paper added, "the British Minister should have shown greater consideration for an independent state, and have exhibited greater caution in alluding to facts." He had alluded before to the case of the thirteen peasants who were burnt alive because they had not given information of the approach of the brigands. They were asked if any armed brigands had passed that way, and they answered "No;" but it turned out that they were wrong, and when, three days after, the Piedmontese soldiers returned, they drove these thirteen peasants into a straw hut, to which they set fire and literally burned them alive. Another case was that of a boy who had made some signals to the brigands, as they were called, to go away, as the troops were approaching. He was a simple boy, and when arrested said that he had given the signal solely because he did not wish to have any fighting near his father's house. He was shot, and his father and mother were compelled to witness his execution (hear, hear). He would give another instance, and it should be the last. A woman had fired a gun in pursuance of the orders of the Piedmontese Government as a signal to show that armed men were approaching, but it turned out that they were not brigands, but the troops of the King of Sardinia. The latter rushed into the room, killed the woman, who was with child, and her husband, and made a feast over the dead bodies, with the children all crying around them. He next came to the question of responsibility, and I asserted that Her Majesty's Government is responsible for its members had abetted the revolution to procure for themselves a Hastings cry, and had sent Lord Minto to Italy on a most revolutionary mission. He was glad to see the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his place, for he came now to the famous letter respecting the captivity of Poirio, a friend of whom had recently shown very little sympathy with captivity in the Turin Parliament. A member of the Piedmontese Parliament described Poirio as an invention of the Anglo-French press, which excited Mr. Gladstone to go to Naples to see with his own eyes this new sort of "man with the iron mask," and stated that, having been moved by what he saw, the right hon. gentleman set to work to magnify this victim of Bourbon oppression, in order to irritate public opinion, and thus was Poirio created from top to toe. That was the Poerio, the very victim of tyranny, whose sufferings formed the great portion of the right hon. gentleman's stock in trade in his crusade against the King of Naples. He thought the real story about Poirio ought to open people's eyes with regard to the charges made by his right hon. friend. But he did not quote it for that purpose. He quoted it for the purpose of showing the Chancellor of the Exchequer, acting with his friends, took a leading part in giving hopes to the

cospiracy for the overthrow of the Bourbon dynasty. The pamphlet of his right hon. friend was sent, he was told by the noble viscount, to every capital in Europe, and was distributed as widely as possible, and no doubt it was a valuable piece of political capital and brought the right hon. gentleman a good deal of popularity; but it had also brought upon a great people the state of things that they saw in Italy. That pamphlet was made use of as one of the tools to bring down the Bourbon rule in Italy, and Her Majesty's Government, therefore, were responsible for the result, as well as the rest of the series of events which had brought about the present condition of the Italian people. He came next to the invasion by Garibaldi, first of Sicily and then of Naples, and he did not think his noble friend at the head of the Government would pretend to say that the success of that invasion was not very much aided by what had been called the moral influence of this country. Her Majesty's Government greatly contributed to bring about the Garibaldi invasion, and they could not escape the responsibility for the results of that invasion. Having established that Her Majesty's Government had mainly contributed to bring about the result he had described, he must ask what they had got by the countenance and support which they had given to the revolutionist party? (Hear.) Had they established Italian unity? It was said that the kingdom of the Two Sicilies existed in the hearts of the people of that country. That was true enough. But it existed somewhere else. It existed as part of the public law of nations, for, with the exception of England and France, every power of Europe continued to acknowledge the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. And the French Government had acknowledged it merely as a fact, without precluding themselves from any course which they might think necessary to adopt in consequence of ulterior circumstances. The newspaper correspondents in Italy admitted that, as regarded the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, the unity became more impossible every day, and, in fact, that the south of Italy could not be governed by Piedmont. Then he was told that nothing prevented the pacification of the south of Italy except what was called brigandage. What was meant by brigands? If these so-called brigands had not the concurrence of the population, if they were not in a friendly country, and if they were not acting with the country and for the country, they would have been extirpated long ago. The Piedmontese had an army of 80,000 men in the country, and yet they were so far from being able to get rid of these brigands, that the brigands were opposing every day a more powerful and insurmountable obstacle to the views of the Piedmontese Government. What they called brigands were the people of the country (oh, oh); and if they wanted to get rid of all who opposed the Piedmontese Government they must lay the country waste, because it was the people of Italy who were determined to resist the Piedmontese rule to the utmost of their power. Then he was told that the only thing wanted to constitute the unity of Italy was the possession of Rome.—(Cheers.) The Piedmontese said, "If you give us Rome, we shall have Italian unity." (Cheers.) It was a very little word, but a very important one.—He told them plainly that they would never have Rome. (Oh, oh, and laughter.) By means of corruption, fraud, the violation of the law of nations, and by piracy, the Piedmontese had got possession of the greater part of the territories of the princes of Italy, and now they wanted Rome. It was just as if a robber was to put this argument to a man he had robbed:—"I have got your purse; you are bound, therefore, to give me your watch also." Anything more impudent than this claim to Rome was not to be found in the history of the world. The Duchess of Parma was acknowledged to have been a most excellent sovereign, nothing could be said against her rule, but she was treated in the same way as other Italian sovereigns. He regarded the invasion of Garibaldi as a most flagrant act of piracy. The King of Naples wrote to the King of Sardinia, telling him that he understood an expedition was being prepared against him. The answer of the King of Sardinia was that he had great respect for the King of Naples, that he had no hostile intentions against him, and that his Majesty might make himself perfectly easy on the subject. But they all knew that the Sardinian Government actually furnished one or more ships for the invaders, and gave means to Garibaldi and his friends to carry out their hostile intentions; in fact, the King of Sardinia was at the bottom of the whole affair. But let them look at the results of what Her Majesty's Government had done in this matter with regard to its effect upon English policy and English interests. They had given to France Nice and Savoy, and they had broken the power in Italy of their ancient ally, Austria. They had set up France against Austria in Italy, and they had made France the preponderating power. The King of Sardinia was no better than a French viceroy—the Emperor of the French could do what he pleased with him. (Hear, hear.) They heard a great deal about the possible cession to France of Sardinia. The intention had been denied; but even supposing that there was no agreement existing for the transfer of Sardinia to France, there was no doubt whatever that with the great power France had acquired in Italy and in the Mediterranean, she might dictate her own terms to the King of Sardinia.—France, with her large army, could do what she pleased in Italy, while England could do nothing, and therefore he had a right to say that the policy of the government had been to destroy English influence in Italy, and to substitute a preponderating and paramount influence in that country. The people of England had been deluded by the noble lord at the head of the Government and his friends, and also by the words "civil and religious liberty," but they were now beginning to open their eyes and see that the result of our policy was only to give a preponderating influence to France. (Hear, hear.)

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CHARTER FOR THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—MEETING OF THE DUCHESSA CORPORATION.—A meeting of the Corporation of this ancient town was held on Tuesday week, John O'Neil, Esq., Mayor in the chair. The principal business transacted was the adoption of a petition to His Excellency, the Lord Lieutenant, praying that the Government would grant a charter to the Catholic University of Ireland. The meeting was a pretty full one, and the proceedings excited considerable interest. Alderman Mathews rose and stated that some days previously he had given the following notice of a motion to the Town Clerk, intimating his intention of moving that a petition from the Council be presented to the Lord Lieutenant on the subject:—"That we memorial, through His Excellency, the Earl of Carlisle, that the Government may grant a charter to the Catholic University. We feel convinced that an enlightened Government will concur in the justice of this claim, more especially when they consider the large amount of money that has been converted in this institution by the voluntary contributions of the Catholic people of Ireland, and also the perfect unanimity which prevails with regard to it by every grade of the Catholic community. In this demand we seek no pecuniary support from the Government. We simply claim its recognition, which we feel should not, and cannot now be denied the millions of our countrymen." Alderman Mathews proceeded to say that they were simply asking for justice and equality, that the Catholics of Ireland should be allowed to have their children educated in an university where they could obtain degrees in the highest branches of learning without exposing their faith or morals to contamination. He thought there was no conscientious Protestant who would send his children to a Catholic University if he was not quite satisfied that they would be educated in the faith of their fathers; and that being the case with themselves, he demanded equal justice at their hands. (Hear, hear.) It was

now an established fact that the Catholic University had grown up, and had taken a hold upon the minds of the people of Ireland. It was a noble institution, raised by the voluntary contributions of the people to not see at this time of day how there could be any opposition to what they asked, or why any paternal Government should not give them a charter. (Hear, hear.) They did not ask to enable them to give degrees to all persons who came forward. It was necessary that a proper check should be exercised by the Government, in seeing that no person should obtain a degree who was not properly qualified, but when qualified, it was too bad that he should not obtain that degree, after having gone through the regular ordeal. The thing was so clear, and founded on justice, that he was quite confident that they would be all unanimous. To show this unanimity, he hoped that all classes were unanimous in their opinion that Catholics should have an opportunity of educating their children in an establishment they approved of; and that they were entitled to get a Charter for their University. He therefore begged leave to move that the resolution be adopted. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Elwood Ellis (a member of the Church of England) said he felt great pleasure in seconding the motion. (Cheering.)

The Mayor: I think it is but fair that we, Catholics, should have liberty, as well as any other class in the community. As for the Queen's Colleges, they were called for in this country altogether, and the conduct of the students at Belfast some time ago, when visited by Sir Robert Peel, is a condemnation of those colleges. I do not see why Catholics should be begging a charter, as they have a right to get one without any compliment. (Applause.) The motion was now put from the chair, and passed.

Alderman Mathews next moved the adoption of the following memorial, remarking that in going before the Lord Lieutenant, who was a man of powerful intellect, he felt certain he would give it a favorable hearing:—

"May it please your Excellency, we, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Corporation of Drogheda, beg to approach your Excellency with sentiments of the highest respect, and most dutiful loyalty to the throne. We take leave to represent to your Excellency that the number of Catholics who, from their position or wealth, desire to give a University education to their children, has, within the last few years, largely increased, and is rapidly increasing. That in Ireland, Trinity College, and the Queen's University are the only bodies legally empowered to grant degrees. That neither Trinity College nor the Queen's University provides for Catholics that moral and religious training of youth, and the preparing of them for the transition from the restraint of boyhood to the liberty of manhood. That the Protestants of these kingdoms would not consent to send their children to colleges where the Protestant religion is ignored in these institutions. That it is unjust, while the highest intellectual education can be attained by all other religious denominations, without violence to their conscientious convictions, to exclude Catholics from such intellectual advantages, except they are prepared to expose the faith and morals of their children to danger. That we pray your Excellency to remove from us this moral disability, by procuring a charter for the Catholic University, and by making such changes in the constitution of the Queen's Colleges as may make one or more of them stand in the same relation to Catholicism as Trinity College does to the Established Church. That your memorialists recognise the right and duty of the State to take ample security that the degrees and sanctions should not be given without sufficient intellectual proficiency, and are fully prepared to acquiesce in any arrangements to procure this proficiency, such as are provided by the Jure Central of Belgium."

Alderman Boylan seconded the adoption of the petition which was agreed to.

After transacting some other business the Assembly rose. On Saturday last a meeting of the citizens of Waterford, under the presidency of the mayor, was held in the Town-hall, to express sympathy for the bereaved by the wreck of the steamer Arts, and adopt measures to collect subscriptions to form a fund to relieve the persons in distress. Before the meeting broke up the sum of £274 was collected.—Thirteen widows and 50 children have been rendered destitute by this catastrophe.

DISTRESS IN THE SOUTH.—The Rev. John O'Leary of Castlewood, Ber., has addressed a letter to the Cork Examiner, concerning the distress in Berelaven which contains some melancholy facts. He reports the death of the 3rd infant, of Ellen Murphy, as the coroner's jury found, from disease of the lungs and ascariasis, hastened by want and destitution. The father of the deceased deposed that for the past three months he and his family, consisting of a wife, mother-in-law, and four children, were living on one meal a day, and that not a sufficient one. On many occasions they had to go to bed without a meal of any kind. His mother-in-law and one child had died within that time, in consequence of having insufficient food. There were many families, he added, in the neighborhood as badly off as his. Mr. O'Leary thus concludes:—"We are still in hopes that Mr. Maguire and the other honest Irish members, may induce the Government to turn its attention to the cries of the famishing people, and not persist in allowing itself to be misled by the misrepresentations of those who, though want and famine stalk the land, are so blind as to see only 'general prosperity.'"

STARVATION OF THE PEOPLE.—The people are starving, there is no denying it. Slow but sure hunger is taking to an untimely grave many of the poorer classes. The letter which appears in our columns today, by Mr. Denis Gaudfield Heron, Q.C. about the fearful misery and wretchedness of the poor of Connamara, reveals a terrible state of destitution. What we ask—and let the reader think of it—what is the difference between immediate death from starvation and a lingering existence, hanging for some months over the grave that awaits the victims, supported from falling in merely by a thread? The miserable pitance that charity bestows, or some make-shift that puts off, yet a few days, their awful doom? It is true the people are not, as in '45, dying by hundreds but they are, for all that, like men in distress at sea prolonging existence as best they can. Nothing but the cheapness of provisions keeps the people from dying in numbers as great as in '47. But what avails the cheapness, if the poorer classes have no money, and no way nor hope of obtaining it. Money they have not—earning they have not—credit they cannot get.—Connaught Patriot

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—Some idea of the distress at present existing in the county of Limerick may be formed from the large number of civil bills entered for trial at the present Quarter Sessions. For the division of Limerick alone, which is but one-fourth, into which the county is divided as regards the districts where the quarter sessions are held, there are 900 civil bills for trial, of which 700 are undefended. There are 20 ejectments, 4 of them defended; no appeals, five spirit licenses, two cases of embezzlement, and sheep stealing, one child desertion, two assaults, one assault and rescue, and two of larceny.—Limerick Reporter.

IRISH PROSPERITY.—In the excitement of controversy about the merits of certain societies, and speculations on the effect of the Budget, and scandal arising out of lengthy legal proceedings, and conjectures as to the intentions of Garibaldi, and the plan of operations of M'Clellan, we fear very much the Irish public has lost sight of the interests nearer home to itself and of vastly more consequence in their bearings. The question of questions for our people at present, is not whether the National Brotherhood is tainted with the evil principles of Dr. O'Brien would assign to it, or whether Gladstone's financial scheme is best calculated to meet the crisis, or whether the mass