

The Irish Evangelical Mission.

RECEPTION OF THE FIRST DETACHMENT
OF THE "HUNDRED" IN NENAGH.

(From a Correspondent of the Watchman.)

Nenagh, August 1, 1853.

On Saturday-evening last four Ministers of different denominations arrived in this town to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the people; and, on Sunday morning, about nine o'clock, appeared at the Market Cross with Bibles in hand, when the people were returning from first mass. One Minister had just sung a verse, and was proceeding with

"Worthy the Lamb that died they cry,"

when a united and fearful yell broke forth from the crowd, and an onslaught at once commenced; some laying hold on the Ministers, others throwing filth and stones; some hurling the vessels of milk they had for sale, as is usual on the Sabbath morning. One with a vegetable basket tried to cover the Rev. Mr. Duck's head, and to get him down; another knocked off the Rev. Mr. Dennington's hat; while some, with fingers in their mouths whistled in the loudest and shrillest notes, and the vociferations of the multitude were deafening. Had it not been for the timely and active interference of the police, the lives of these men of God would, it is probable, have been sacrificed in the street. They made their way as best they could to their lodgings, where they remained until Church hour, to which they went, but the distance being short they were not seen much or molested.

In the evening, at half-past five, they all went to the Wesleyan chapel, when the opportunity was afforded them of giving a few words of exhortation to people. During the time of service there the mob assembled, and hooted the congregation when they made their appearance; but when the Ministers showed themselves, the yells, the shrieks, the whistles, were of the most barbarous kind. They were accompanied to their lodgings by the Rev. J. Walker,

and Mr. Frank Byron, escorted also by the police, who kept the mob from wreaking their malice upon them. When the Ministers were safely housed, the Rev. J. Walker tried to address the people outside the door, but his voice was completely drowned by the tumult of the mob, acting evidently according to the instructions they had received, not to listen. Mr. Byron and Mr. Walker then went towards their homes, the mob following, one of whom struck Mr. Walker, on the face with the mire of the street. The yells were continued until both arrived at their respective residences, and the mob were dispersed by the police. The Ministers leave town to-day for Mount Shannon, where they no doubt will get a more favourable reception.

When the announcement was made in the English papers that 100 Ministers were to come over to assist in the evangelisation of Ireland, the *Tablet*, *Nation*, and the Popish press throughout the country, taxed their ingenuity to put the matter in the most unfavourable light; it was to be a Protestant aggression; it was the work of the government; it was the production of Saxon hatred to Ireland; and the priests were to "preach" on the subject, directing their *enlightened and intelligent* audiences not to listen to the Protestant Ministers, but give them a warm reception. Now, though many respectable Roman Catholics would hear if they dared, yet there was a sufficient number in every chapel to pay more attention to a hint on the "warm reception," than to the whole of the fourth commandment, teaching them to keep holy the Sabbath-day. The priests are not without their tools to perform their work in keeping the people in the grossest ignorance of God's Word and Gospel. They know well if the people read the Word of God they will not pay them for masses; when they learn the all sufficiency of the expiatory sacrifice of Christ's death, for purgatory; when they learn that "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin." O when