

Woman, raised in her own eyes, returned to the joys of the family, delivered from the cares of loneliness, and now honored and loved, is no longer the implacable and blood-thirsty being, the monster of cruelty revealed to us by the ancient writers. In her house, every one trembled around her. Neither her husband nor her children were shielded from her fury. As for her slaves, the atrocities perpetrated by the matrons upon those wretched creatures surpassed the most cruel inventions of the masters.

Aurelia was far from resembling these matrons; not only her youth, by the secret tenderness of her heart, the peculiar circumstances which had surrounded her infancy, made her an exception to the common rule. The Grand-Vesta's friendship had developed the child's affectionate nature; and, later, the pressing lessons of Flavia Domitilla, the example of her gentle virtues had implanted in the young maiden's soul the germ of noble thoughts.

When she returned from the Forum, after Cecilia's emancipation, all her relations hastened to thank her for her generosity towards an obscure young girl she had returned to a father's embrace. She heard the touching expression of Cecilia's gratitude, and promised her her friend's ship. Vespasian, her betrothed, called several times and mingled his loving praises with those of her relations; she conversed with him at length, and he allayed her fears.

'Always in tears, my dear and august ward,' said Vibius Crispus, entering the room suddenly. 'Yes, Vibius, always in tears, ... and they will not soon cease to flow,' replied Aurelia, sorrowfully, and she made a sign to her guardian to take a seat near her. 'They praise me for having been kind to this little Cecilia ... but how poorly they reward me ...'

'Come, my dear ward,' Vibius affectionately asked, 'what has happened?' 'Strange and incredible things, dear guardian ... You suspected Flavia Domitilla and my other relations of being Christians ... But you would not have thought that Vespasian belongs to that sect.'

Vibius Crispus bounded with surprise from his seat, and repeated like a man who has not heard right or does not understand what he has heard: 'Vespasian! ... Your affianced husband ... the heir of the empire ... is a Christian? ...'

'Yes, guardian, it is not a dream ... it is not a doubt ... Vespasian himself told me so, here, sitting near me as you do now ... Besides, I knew it already ... Did you not notice, the other day, that he accompanied the pontiff of the Christians? ...'

And Aurelia, hiding her face in her hands, sobbed bitterly. Vibius walked about the room, plunged in deep thought and uttering only incoherent words. He foresaw important events and fearful dangers. 'He must abandon that impious creed,' he said, at last.

'He will not abandon it, dear guardian ...' 'But he can have the empire only at that price?' 'He will renounce the empire ... he will give me up, if needs be ... He told me so ... Yes, he said so! ...' exclaimed the young girl, no longer weeping, no longer crushed under the weight of her sorrow, but standing erect, with flashing eyes, and speaking with all the bitterness of wounded pride.

'Here is what took place between Vespasian and me,' resumed Aurelia, when she had recovered a little calm. 'As I have told you I had surmised, from certain words of his, that Vespasian shared the ideas of Flavia Domitilla, and if I had not what happened in the Forum, where all the Christians saluted Flavius Clemens and his two sons as people salute only those who share their affections and sentiments, and could have left me no doubt. I returned home anxious, uneasy, not knowing what to hope or fear ... Yet as I reflected, I felt more tranquil; I said to myself that I would speak to Vespasian, and ask him the sacrifice of an unreasonable opinion, dangerous to him, threatening to the high destinies which await us ... It seemed to me impossible that my cousin should refuse ... He would, doubtless, renounce with joy all other affections for mine ... In a word, I still hoped.'

'Yesterday, my cousin came here ... I had seen him several times since that eventful day in the Forum, but I had not been able to converse freely with him ... He was overjoyed ... he showed me the most tender affection ... He pressed my hands in his, saying again that I had been good, generous, and that he thanked me for it ...'

'Dear Vespasian,' said I to him, seizing this opportunity, 'what I did for this little Cecilia is very simple. What reason have you for being so grateful to me?' 'At this question, Vespasian looked at me with an air of great surprise.'

'Dear Aurelia,' said he without hesitation, 'do you not know with what courage she glorified our God for the salvation of our brethren?' 'Your God ... your brethren ... dear Vespasian, what means this language? Have you a God other than mine?'

'Dear cousin,' replied Vespasian, 'are you not aware that I am a Christian?' 'So, you confess it, dear Vespasian,' I remarked, with an involuntary shudder. 'You are a Christian? ...'

'Yes, my dear Aurelia, I am a Christian. Flavia Domitilla who instructed my father and mother in this holy law could not overlook their children ...'

'Oh, Flavia Domitilla did not forget me either,' said I, ironically. 'By Jupiter, it is not her fault if I am not a Jewess also ...'

'Aurelia, Aurelia,' said Vespasian sadly 'why defiled yourself by invoking Jupiter? ... No, unfortunately, you are not yet a Christian, but are worthy of becoming one ... And if I believe the voice of my heart, you will be a Christian ...'

'Enough of this, dear Vespasian ... I do not suppose you have lost your mind ... Come,' I added, smiling kindly, 'will you grant me what I am going to ask you?'

'Yes, dear cousin, provided it is not contrary to my religion.'

'Can you stifle that strange worship a religion?'

'It is the only true religion, dear Aurelia ... How do you say this, cousin ... But never mind you must give it up for my sake ...'

Aurelia here interrupted her narrative to address herself to Vibius Crispus who, according to his prudent custom, was listening attentively without expressing any opinion.

'You see, guardian,' said she, 'that I put the question in the most direct form to my betrothed ... But I was alarmed at the grave and sad expression assumed by his countenance.'

'What!' he exclaimed, 'is it my dear Aurelia who makes such a request?'

Vespasian, said I tenderly, 'are you not a Cæsar? ... And am I not your betrothed? ...'

'Aurelia,' he replied impetuously, 'do you love me as I love you?'

'Oh!' I exclaimed, in a tone of reproach, 'can you doubt it, dear Vespasian?'

'Well, dear cousin, instead of asking me to sacrifice my faith, seek to learn the truth, and trample under your feet that Jupiter of which you speak just now ...'

'Vespasian,' I remarked, much astonished at his words, 'it seems to me we are exchanging our parts ... It is you not I, who should change. Come, give me an answer ...'

'Ah, what answer can I give you?'

'But, dear Vespasian, think of what will happen ... Flavia Domitilla has caused our loss ...'

'Oh,' said Vespasian, 'I see what it is that disturbs you ... You think that I cannot be a Christian and remain a Cæsar ... But what does it matter? ...'

'How what does it matter? ... In fact you must be one or the other ...'

'I shall remain a Christian ...'

'Indeed, Vespasian,' I exclaimed in a tone of doubt, 'do you speak seriously? ...'

'Quite seriously, and with joy, dear cousin ...'

'And would you feel that joy also, if you knew that your betrothed cannot become your wife?'

'You are cruel, my dear Aurelia ...'

The young girl paused again, to interrogate her guardian's face. Vibius remained impassible. She suppressed a sigh and resumed:

(To be Continued.)

THE LAND QUESTION OF IRELAND (FROM TIMES SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS.) No. 14. ENNISCORRY, Sept. 21.

The railway from Dublin to this place runs along a succession of beautiful lowlands, covered with the encroaching suburbs of the capital, or thickly studded with country seats along the slopes of overhanging mountains. This is the character of the landscape until you reach the gay town of Bray; and you look with delight on the contrast between the brown heather-crowned hills and the exquisite scenes of civilization and wealth that expand as you travel along the valley beneath. Even in this choice and highly-cultivated tract you see the remarkable varieties of husbandry and occupation I have alluded to before. The rich lowlands are laid out in some places in magnificent farms, held evidently by gentlemen or capitalist tenants; the mountain sides are still largely occupied by the settlements of a poor peasantry, whose sedulous industry has gradually enclosed and reclaimed thousands of acres from barrenness. From Bray the train runs along a line for some miles out of the base of cliffs that trend precipitously into the sea, or crosses the wastes of a sandy shore; and the lovely scenery of the interior of Wicklow - the Switzerland of Ireland as it has been called is shut out from the sight by intervening mountains. After leaving the quiet old town of Wicklow, you proceed inland into a country of hill and valley picturesquely combined, with a lofty range in the near distance, and you again meet farms of all sizes and kinds, and fair mansions with noble parks, with hamlets occasionally, and mud cabins. As you advance you go through an enchanting region of lowlands, flowing with gentle streams, that divide terraces of wooded eminences, and eye and mind feel the subtle charm of a scene sacred to the muse of Moore, the long and delicious vista of the Vale of Avonca. At Arklow the sea is again seen breaking in foaming rollers on that dangerous coast; and thence the line turns inland again, and follows a tract of table land, here and there dotted with country seats, and edged by masses of bold hills, but without features of peculiar interest. At last you reach the green, fertile flats that on either side mark the course of the Slaney; and ere long the gray slated roofs of Ennisicorthy are seen hanging on the brow of a slope that stretches down to the verge of the river. High above rises the square tower of one of the best of Pugin's creations, a Catholic Cathedral of majestic proportions; while below, commanding the course of the stream, spreads a massive keep of the 12th century, still, after the lapse of centuries, habitable. These are the most striking features of the place; but it possesses some other interesting buildings - a Protestant Church not without symmetry, and a lunatic asylum admirably designed and arranged. Ireland contains a considerably large proportion of the unhappy inmates of these institutions than the other divisions of these kingdoms.

As my habit, I have visited the country around Ennisicorthy for several miles, and I have been, on the whole, much pleased with it. It is for the most part an upland tract; swelling here and there into gentle hills, and at points closed in by ranges of mountains, and it is fairly divided into pasture and tillage. The land is usually rather thin and light, except in the fertile valley of the Slaney, where it forms admirable meadows and pastures, and along the grassy and verdant banks of the different affluents of that river. In the neighbourhood there are some fine seats - Castleboro especially, that of Lord Oarow, being a rare specimen of good taste and splendour; and the farms are of all classes and sizes, the farmssteads being not seldom excellent but occasionally of an inferior character. I do not, however, at present intend to describe this neighbourhood at any length, for it resembles generally that of Wexford, and in my next letter I hope to give a tolerably exact and full account of the social organization of the entire county. My object in this letter is to show what liberal dealing, security of tenure, and conforming to the usages of the country have effected in and about this place, in the case of a tract of considerable extent, under circumstances not, in some respects, favourable to the welfare of landed property. Ennisicorthy is a thriving little town; it has the look of prosperous industry; it abounds in substantial slated houses; its inhabitants are remarkably orderly and contented; and if it has some rows of jingly mud cabins, it is because these spots have not yet felt the good influence to which it owes so much. A tract on either side of the place strikes the eye at once as singularly civilized, as presenting markedly the signs of comfort, of good cultivation, of rural wealth, as being distinguished from the tracts around by the excellence of the homesteads, the neatness of the fields and the evidences of successful husbandry. This tract and Ennisicorthy itself belong to the Earl

of Portsmouth, and have been for a long time in his family; and the general opinion of all classes, men in business, bankers, merchants, and farmers, is that the prosperity existing around is caused almost wholly by the peculiar manner in which the estate has been managed and administered during a considerable period. This concurrence of judgments, so uncommon in Ireland, led me to examine with some care the circumstances relating to the property. I have fortunately been able to obtain information of the best kind from a trustworthy source; and the whole case certainly deserves attention from any impartial student of the Irish land question who can apply a candid judgment to facts, unbiassed by dominant theory.

Some 50 years ago the Portsmouth estate was worth about £5,000 a year, and differed but slightly from many estates in Ireland at the same period. A considerable portion had been let to middlemen at low rents under old leases; and from the stimulus of war prices and of that multiplier of mankind, the potato, a dense population of small tenants had accumulated under these rural owners. Another part of the estate was held under modern leases, at full rents, and the residue, probably a third of the whole, was in the hands of ordinary tenants at will. The late Lord Portsmouth having become insane the control and management of the estate devolved upon the Court of Chancery, in most instances, to a properly, an unfortunate trustee of landed property The Receiver, however, who was appointed was a man of no common worth and ability, and under the system established by him, the march of improvement began rapidly. Perceiving justly that so long as an intermediate owner interested the proprietor was not off from the soil and that this partition of interests had a tendency to mischief of many kinds he applied himself by every means in his power to disengage the lands of middlemen, and whenever a lease of this class fell in he selected the most solvent occupier, or converted them into immediate tenants having previously consented to be bought and improve. In this way he gradually diminished the number of tenures injurious to the estate, and planted upon it a race of men fitted to become a prosperous tenantry. The peculiar results of his management, however, are seen in another direction. A native of Ulster, he encouraged the practice of the good will of farms, then just beginning to grow on around, and he introduced the system of tenant-right, and allowed it to flourish without restriction. Increasing sums were paid on the transfer of tenancies, as the practice became matured into usage; and, notwithstanding what some persons would call his pernicious waste of capital, the consequences of the security obtained were seen in a steadily-grown rental and in prosperity advancing unchecked. The licence was extended equally to leaseholds and to tenancies at-will; and it had become well-nigh a settled custom before the estate fell in the hands of the Court of Chancery. The present liberal and enlightened proprietor has continued a system which experience has proved to be of decided advantage; and he has got rid, I believe, of every middleman, and sanctioned tenant-right to the fullest extent, with this peculiarity, that he increases the security thus required by his own act, for he gives leases freely and judiciously. The results are visible on the face of the country in social progress and general content; the cause is as it were, expressed in the appearance of the mud cabins referred to, which mark the spot where a lingering middleman has, I understand, until a few months ago excluded the influence of the chief lord. Nor is the benefit to the owner less remarkable, for the rental of the Portsmouth estate has more than doubled within half a century. As I walked over the lands I was forcibly reminded of that noble chapter in which Butler exemplifies, in an ideal community, the tendencies of right to create prosperity. What makes the sight all the more striking is that Vinegar Hill, the well known scene of a murderous conflict in 1793, overlooks this scene of wealth and tranquillity. No ancient monuments rise from the turf where the victims of that fell slaughter rest; the ghastly phantoms of revenge and passion have been exorcised by the magic spell of justice.

As in the instance of the Fingal estate we saw the influence of aristocracy in its most gracious form upon social life, so in the instance of the Portsmouth estate we see the effects of security and justice. And what makes this the more remarkable is that this triumph has been achieved, notwithstanding certain unfavourable circumstances, for the Court of Chancery is seldom a beneficent manager, and though the present Lord Portsmouth has for some time paid an annual visit to his Irish estates, where he meets the reception he deserves, the family have been for centuries absentees, and have done little personally in the way of improvement. Here, then, we behold a most striking example of the consequences of security of tenure in promoting social happiness and wealth, and this, too, obtained to a great extent through arrangements on the capital of the tenants, for the sums paid in the purchase of goodwill must be viewed abstractedly in that light. But, besides that leases have been judiciously granted these sums have really been the price paid for confirming thoroughly the tenant's interest, and for enabling him to deal with his land with confidence; they have been the cost of establishing a custom which, in the unsettled condition of Irish tenures, has the grand result of quieting possession. In this instance fixity of tenure has been assured for a long time by the mutual consent of all parties interested; and it is very noticeable that this has led, not only to the wellbeing of the tenants, but to an extraordinary rise in the rental. It is a very well for persons reasoning on the mere principles of economic science, without bearing in mind its postulates, to prove that this tenant-right is a mischief, and that the outlay made for goodwill is in the nature of a second rent, and a deduction from the just claims of the landlord. In the abstract they are unquestionably right; but they forget that their doctrine assumes that the tenant enjoys as much security without tenant-right as he enjoys with it, and that, in the existing circumstances of Ireland, this assumption is wholly without warrant. Pure economic reasoning, therefore, which postulates for the applicability of its rules, a state of society in which titles and rights under them are well assured, does not apply, in numerous instances, to the condition of things we find in Ireland, and the facts relating to the Portsmouth estate are a conspicuous illustration of this truth. Economically, the tenantry of this estate, having paid large prices for the purchase of goodwill, in many cases ought to have been compared with the tenantry on other estates, on which the practice is not allowed, in a poor or a not progressive state; and, above all, the rental ought to have been reduced by at least the interest upon the capital sum in giving these irregular premiums. The contrary, however, is notoriously the fact; not only are the industry and prosperity of the tenantry in the highest degree evident, but the rental of the estate has increased at a rate unparalleled, I believe, in the neighbourhood. Does this prove that we ought to shut up our books upon political economy, or that the tenant-right must, in the nature of things, be a panacea for the ills of Ireland? Not at all; it simply proves that the rules of political economy are truths only under certain well understood conditions, assumed in all instances by the science; and that, in a certain state of society, tenant-right, especially if depending on consent, may, on the whole, have beneficial results.

The prosperity of the Portsmouth estate is mainly the consequence of the security obtained by the concession of leases, and though tenant-right matured into custom. Yet it is melancholy to reflect that the law of the land refuses absolutely to notice this custom, and that its continuance depends altogether on the sense of honor of the lord of the soil. It is not long ago that a judge declined to allow the value of the tenant-right of some houses in Ennisicorthy to enter as an element in calculating the interest of the occupier in them; but though the jury obstinately

insisted on disregarding his Lordship's ruling, he was undoubtedly justified in point of law. This fair creation of prosperity, therefore, in a great measure rests upon the will and pleasure of a single man; and though during the life of Lord Portsmouth this, morally, is a solid basis, it is, in the nature of things, perishable. It is true, indeed, that Lord Portsmouth has added protection to the custom by granting a very large number of leases and that the purchasers of these interests have thus a security for their tenures better than reliance on a single existence. But, in the first place, from what I have heard, the sums expended on the Portsmouth estate for tenant-right in some instances would not be returned to those who gave them within the period during which they hold, even in the case of considerable terms, unless the customs were to continue; and this certainly would not occur in the case of terms of brief duration or of the few existing tenancies at will. Assuming, therefore, that Lord Portsmouth's successor should disregard the established usage on the faith of which these outlays have been made, a certain number of his tenantry would unquestionably be exposed to loss, and they would appeal in vain to the law as it stands. If the successor, moreover, as would be his right, were rudely to violate the now recognized custom, and to squeeze out as he could do, by degrees the interests that had arisen under it, it is obvious that he would not only be doing that which practically would be unjust but that he would be striking a blow at real rights of property that would check and blight the welfare of the estate. Ought not law, therefore, to throw its sanction over the usage which has silently grown up, and been adjusted by mutual consent, and to protect the tenant right that now exists, to the extent at least of shielding from loss those who have invested money on the faith of it, or who feel they have a saleable interest? And if such a measure were for a time to restrict the absolute dominion of the landlord, and to give his tenants a new status, would it, after all, be doing more than providing, in the interests of justice, for the continuance of a state of things that exists, and for making that legal which is maintained by usage? And would not any honourable mind prefer to a territorial phantom that rights, created with his assent should be placed under the aegis of law; and would not the suspension of the shadowy sovereignty be more than compensated by the increase of property and of substantial benefit to the proprietor that, from analogy, would be the certain consequence?

Lord Portsmouth, is an admirable letter to The Times, has explained what has been, from his own experience the consequences of security of tenure. He has been answered in a singular strain by a noble neighbor, who expresses his 'surprise' at several of Lord Portsmouth's statements, and seems to think that certainty of possession is of no advantage to a tenant in Ireland. In my next letter, when I shall review the general condition of this county, I shall possibly adduce some good reasons why, in the opinion of the many landlords quoted by that noble Lord with evident approbation, nothing is so admirable as tenancy-at-will, and estates are best managed with out leases. In the meantime, I would ask Lord Courtown, on the supposition that the Irish tenant has the ordinary instincts of human nature, how he can imagine that a precarious can be as conducive to a durable tenure to the true well being of landed property? No doubt leases do not necessarily assure the prosperity of an estate, no more than food of the very best kind inevitably causes perfect health. No doubt, too, the indiscriminate concession of leases in Ireland many years ago coincided with much loss to the landlords, and with decided injury to the country, for it led to the development of middlemen, and the multiplication of a pauper population, when the sudden rise of prices, consequent on the war, created rapidly a wide difference between the rent and the returns of land, and thus encouraged wholesale sub-letting. But that leases, under proper conditions, and in the ordinary circumstances of society have as compared to tenancy-at-will, a direct tendency to promote improvement, is a proposition that I think self-evident. How much would Lord Courtown lay out on the town house he hires as a yearly tenant, even though he believed that he should remain in possession for some unknown period beyond his contract? Were the palaces of Grosvenor and Belgrave squares built on long leases or on tenancies-at-will, depending on the caprice of the ground landlord? What is the use of resisting conclusions that go straight to the common sense of mankind, unless sophisticated or perverted by prejudice, or some sinister influence? And what, in this matter of Irish tenures, is the concurrent testimony on this point of every competent and candid inquirer? Arthur Young, that intelligent critic, repeatedly declared, as he went through Ireland, that industry and leases went together. The D'von Commission, even at this time when the effects of long middlemen leases were apparent, placed on record its judgment that moderate leases in Ireland ought to be encouraged. And a most far-sighted and able Catholic Prelate, who had given remarkable attention to the subject, all but demonstrated in 1855 to a Parliamentary Committee on this question, that the gradual diminution of leases in Ireland had been one main cause of her slow social progress.

I shall not, at present examine at length the causes that have reduced the number of leaseholds in Ireland in an extraordinary way, have substituted for them tenancies-at-will, and have produced the insecurity of tenure that exists. I reserve this and similar questions for the general review of the landed system of Ireland which I hope to make on a future occasion. Here, however, I shall just now observe that four circumstances have co-operated in inducing this unfortunate result. In the first place, the sudden rise of rents that was an incident of the great war with France, and that led to middlemen and sub-letting, discouraged landlords on every ground of selfish interest, and even enlightened prudence, from binding their estates by granting leases. In the second place, the collapse of prosperity which followed the war, and which continued in Ireland during many years, had a result of exactly the same kind; landlords, ever hoping for the return of good times, were disinclined to fetter their properties by giving interests that, in the actual state of the market, would yield only small rents. In the third place, the wonderful changes that have occurred since 1846 in Ireland have been adverse to the concession of leases; landlords have naturally hesitated to tie the themselves down when society was in a state of gradual revolution. All these causes, however, are but trivial compared to the paramount cause which has been truly indicated by Lord Portsmouth. Before the great crisis of 1828-29 the tenantry of Ireland - then but slowly emerging from the state of serfdom in which centuries of misrule and oppression had left them - voted usually in accordance with their landlord's wishes - at least consented to be driven like sheep to the polling-booths at their superiors' mandates. But since the time that the Clare election broke down permanently this unjust ascendancy, and a manner spirit has grown up among the people, this state of things has by degrees changed; and in by far the greater part of Ireland the autocracy of the landlords has passed away. This order, however, has not unnaturally - they have really had much provocation to bear - endeavored to maintain their waning authority; and, beyond all question, the expedient they have employed has been a general withholding of leases in order to keep their tenants in subjection. Lord Portsmouth asserted what is notorious to everyone who has studied the subject, that for political causes Irish landlords in too many cases refuse to grant leases. I am at a loss to comprehend how a brother peer should have ventured on a flat contradiction.

A gentleman, taking an apartment, said to the landlady: 'I assure you, madam, I never let a lodging but my landlady shed tears.' She answered: 'I hope it was not, sir, because you left without paying.'

INFORMATION WASTED. - The Poor Law Commissioner, at the request of the Lord Lieutenant, has directed the Clerks of Unions to procure for the Government detailed information as to the tenure of all agricultural holdings in Ireland. The nature of the tenure, and the net annual value to be stated in each case. Some landlords have already declined to give any information - one landlord gives as a reason for declining 'that he is not quite certain what power governs in Ireland at present.'

The expressed intention of the Irish Protestant Bishops to form a separate Chamber in the new Church Convention does not meet with the approbation of a great part of the laity. At a meeting of lay delegates held at Nenagh the arrangement was characterized in a resolution as 'highly undesirable.'

The London correspondent of the 'Freeman' thinks that the Land Bill as proposed by the Premier, will be simple and uncomplicated, and that it will be a large and comprehensive reform of the present land code. Those who profess to know something of the secrets of the Cabinet say that it will be based on the idea that firm tenure is essential to good agriculture, and is demanded by the justice of the case; and that any additional provision, save that against arbitrary increases of rents, would only tend to spoil the measure. How the varied opinions of irresponsible men may mould the intended measure hereafter, it is hard to say. One thing only is clear, that if the landlords be not demoralized, they will press on a settlement with all possible energy, as they must feel that every year will add to the complication of their position and increase the demands of those who would not be satisfied with bare justice, if granted in time and with a good grace.

We are glad to learn that the Lord Lieutenant has at length broken in upon the unjust Protestant monopoly of functions which has so long prevailed in the county Tyrone. Two Catholic gentlemen have been appointed to the Board of Superintendence of the Omagh District Lunatic Asylum gentlemen who were long since qualified to fill the position which should have been many years ago assigned to them. We allude to the Rev. Mr. McAuley P.P., Carranmore, Omagh; and Mr. Hugh Quinn, J.P. the first Catholic magistrate of Tyrone since the Revolution. The latter gentleman has also become an ex-officio member of the Cookstown Union where his services will be productive of many beneficial results. We give the Government all credit for these appointments, and trust that they are intended to form the beginning of a new and more liberal regime in Tyrone.

The conduct pursued in Limerick, when the tenant right meeting was interrupted has been continued in Waterford and other places. We regret this very much, because it damages the cause of the tenant farmers, and injures the prospects of the political prisoners. We cannot see what service such conduct can do to those who promote it. Its only result will be to disgust the entire country, and earn a bad character for the young men who thus conduct themselves. We must have toleration of speech and action in Ireland. The war party need not expect that they will be able to force the men of the peace party to do their bidding. If those who rely on physical force and the sword to right the wrongs of Ireland think that the best policy, why let them, if they think proper, have their own way. But they must permit men who will not fight, to follow their own mode of seeking the redress of the injuries they suffer from misgovernment. To interrupt them when they assemble is a tyranny which no man of sense could defend. It is despotism in its worst form, because it condemns men to slavery who are striving to gain the position of freemen - Dunca's Democrat.

The tenant question has been discussed at several Poor Law Boards during the week, among others at the Killybegs Board, where Lord Headley, Mr. Herbert, M.P. Sir J. O'Connell and other landed proprietors took part in the debate. Charges were preferred against the management of Mr. Herbert's property, which were repelled by his agent, Sir J. O'Connell, the brother of the 'Liberator.' Stated his belief that the tenants of the county of Kerry were never more prosperous than at present. The result of the proceedings was the adoption of a resolution proposed by Mr. Dorring, M.P., declaring in favor of a settlement of the question without interfering with the rights of property.

The Committee of the Central Franchise Association of Dublin has issued a report, which states that the result of the Parliamentary revision just concluded is to give the Liberals on the registry for 1870 a majority of 695. The numbers admitted are Liberals, 7,149; Conservatives 6,454. The registry on which the last election was fought stood thus - Conservatives 6,418; Liberals 5,777; Conservatives majority on register of 1868 639. The present working majority for the Liberals is over 1,100, but the Conservatives have a large number of non-resident voters.

FINGAL CANNON IN PROCLAIMED DISTRICT. - At an early hour on Friday morning, the 5th of November, being the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, an orange and blue flag was hoisted on Walker's Pillar, and a salute of three guns fired; it is not stated by whom nor how, as yet ascertained. It is supposed that it will remain a mystery like the affair of the 12th of August. Last evening the Orangemen of the city, as was intimated in the Sentinel, sniped together in the Northern Hotel and the Maiden City Tavern, to commemorate the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot and the arrival of King William in England. - Derry Journal.

DUBLIN, Nov. 5. - All the Catholic Bishops who are proceeding to Rome to attend the Ecumenical Council are writing valedictory pastorals before leaving. Archbishop McHale has written to the clergy of his diocese urging them to pray for the success of the Council. He does not forget subjects of pressing interest at home, but commends them to the prayers of the faithful. He sketches the points of these pious petitions. 'To check the further progress of those wanton and cruel evictions, so long resorted to in banishing to foreign lands the bone and sinew of our industrious people, you will fervently pray that God may enlighten the misguided men who are pursuing a course so fatal to the peace and prosperity of the country, that He will take away the stony heart out of their flesh and put a new spirit in their bowels.'

NONPAYMENT OF RENTS. - The 'Daily Express' states that several of the tenantry in Westmeath have met the agent with the stereo assurance that no more rent would be paid until the next Parliament should have settled the land question.

RAID ON THE CENTRAL ANNIHILATION ASSOCIATION. - On Tuesday night a number of men broke into the committee room of the Association at Rastace street, and, throwing a quantity of flour into the faces of the chairman and other persons present, proceeded to tear up the papers and minute-book and to smash the furniture, after which they decamped. It is said that the perpetrators of the outrage are known and will be prosecuted.

EARL FINGALL AND THE IRISH LAND QUESTION. - Earl Fingall in a letter to the 'Dublin Freeman' says: 'I am an Irish Landlord, or I am nothing. I am proud of my position, but it would be vain for me to without the good will of those whom my lot is cast. I therefore say forthrightly, that I prepared cheerfully to accept, and cordially to support whatever measure of tenant right may be brought before Parliament by the present or any other Liberal Administration; and I shall allow no considerations of personal or class interest to stand between me and a satisfactory settlement of the land question, feeling, as I do, that my interest must be best secured by the general welfare of the country.'