

to mankind, and by which through all ages which have since then passed, and through all coming time, man can alone be saved,—he takes his arguments from that record of the will of Heaven to man, and demonstrates indisputably that the Catholic Church is the Church founded by the Redeemer, the Church of the Apostles, and by Him designed to be the Church of all nations and of all ages. Every evening the Church in which these lectures are delivered is densely filled. Many are compelled to go away, unable to find standing room. Hundreds hang with the deepest attention on the lips of the orator, and echo his sentiments in the still small murmur of applause which now and then breaks on the ear. The audience is composed of many who differ from us; and we hope that these lectures will prove to them the most consoling incident in their lives, if, by following out the convictions which must necessarily pierce their hearts, they henceforth enter that Church through which they may attain eternal life, and which they have hitherto, opposed, and it may be, persecuted.

The first lecture was delivered on Thursday evening, when the lecturer demonstrated the insufficiency and inconsistency of private judgment as a rule of faith. On Tuesday evening, this week, he took up the infallibility of the Catholic Church. In introducing the subject, he contended that as the laws which govern the soul, established by God the Father, are perfect, so the laws which govern the soul, established by God the Son, ought to be alike perfect, and independent of all human control. Nature is above the control of man. Let man be what he will, changing into a thousand customs, there is not a cloud less: nature is perfectly the same. And after all the time expended in establishing Christianity and the Church, it is to be expected that, as the Redeemer came by the first rule of God the Father, there should be a rule fixed, not depending upon man but upon God,—that as all human systems have human laws, so all superhuman systems ought to have superhuman laws, and will not admit or tolerate anything like human interference. In the laws which govern the Church, there can be nothing of man, but all God. He then proceeded to establish the infallibility of the Catholic Church, proving from the Divine record, that the Redeemer appointed a set of men, to whom he communicated all necessary knowledge in order that they and their successors might propagate the faith He taught them, not only to the men in that time and century, but in all succeeding ages, and that they were recognised as such by those to whom they were sent. The Apostles were the trustees appointed by the Saviour to execute the testament, and that testament denounces with the severest penalties those who refused to hear them, and those who still neglect to listen to the same authority transmitted through the Apostles to the present and succeeding generations. Space has nothing to do with the principle. The appointment of priests now is as valid as it was eighteen hundred years ago, and yet men heed not that text in which the divine founder of the church declared that those who believe and are baptised shall be saved; but that those who will not hear the successors of the Apostles holding the same commission, speaking with the same authority, invested with the same powers, will be damned. Lord John Russell blotted out the first part of that remarkable text. He drew his official pen through it, and declared the waters of baptism to have no regenerating power. God help them that depend on a Prime Minister for their faith. The lecturer after having expatiated at considerable length on such arguments, and clearly established the divine source of the infallibility of the church from the numerous passages which he quoted and paraphrased from the testament itself, concluded an able and eloquent lecture by refuting the arguments commonly urged against the Catholic doctrine, admitting that some of the Popes were individually bad men, but demonstrating that though they were thus personally peccable, they were officially and judicially infallible.—*Catholic Standard*.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

PROSECUTION OF THE "ANGLO-CELTIC."—*Queen's Bench, Dublin, Dec. 23.*—Mr. Zachariah Wallace, proprietor of the *Anglo-Celtic*, was to-night, after a lengthened trial, found guilty on the second, third, and fourth counts of the indictment, involving a charge of libel against the 31st Regiment and its officers.—The first count (an allegation of sedition) was found not proven. Judgment has been resuspended till next term.

CLARE ELECTION PETITION.—We understand that a letter has been received, stating that the objections raised to the petition against the return of Mr. Fitzgerald for this town have been overruled by the Examiner.—*Clare Journal*.

RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.—MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MEATH.—In order to afford sufficient time to complete the necessary preliminary arrangements on a scale commensurate with the importance of this great Catholic county, and with the paramount principle involved, the contemplated meeting at Kells will not be held till a day (hereafter to be notified) somewhere about the middle of January. The rank, the wealth, the intelligence, and the patriotism represented by the numerous signatures that each succeeding day are being attached to the requisition, furnish the fullest guarantee that the intended meeting at Kells will prove one of the most imposing and effective demonstrations made in our day in favor of the hallowed principles of civil and religious liberty.

THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT IN LIMERICK.—The Mayor on the 11th ult., presided at a meeting of the subscribers to the fund raised in Limerick some few years ago for the purpose of raising a monument to the memory of the great O'Connell. The meeting was held in the Mayor's office, Town Hall, and was very respectably attended. It was announced that the Dublin committee had £4,000 to the credit of the fund for the national monument; that an estimate had been received and accepted for erecting a monument at a cost of £3,800, which would leave a surplus for contingencies of £200, and that if these facts on examination, were found to be correct, it was desirable that the sum at present to the credit of the fund in Limerick, and which amounts to something over £150, should be retained, in order to the erection of a local monument.—Several gentlemen, Clerical and lay, present, stated their intention of adding to the sum already in hands, in order to the perpetuation of O'Connell's memory, in a most creditable manner, in a city and amongst a people who had been ever faithful to his principles and his policy.—*Limerick Reporter*.

Joseph Holmes, Esq., Clogher, will be High Sheriff of the county Sligo for the ensuing year. Wm. Ormsby, Esq., will be his sub-sheriff.

MEETING OF IRISH MEMBERS.—SPIRIT TRADE.—An influential meeting of Irish members took place on Thursday week, at the King's Arms Hotel, Palace yard Westminster, pursuant to the notice issued by Mr. R. Cassidy, for the purpose of determining what course they should pursue, in order to secure the sanction of the legislature to a proposition placing the manufacturers and spirit dealers of Ireland under the same regulations as regards allowance for leakage and evaporation on spirits in bond, as the manufacturers in porter and dealers in foreign spirits. There were near thirty members present, Mr. E. B. Roche presiding. After an able statement from Mr. Cassidy, who attended as a deputation from the Irish distillers, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. E. B. Roche should give notice for an early day after the recess of his intention to introduce a bill similar to that which was submitted in June, 1850, by Lord Naas, and which was defeated, on the third reading, by a majority of one vote only.

OFFER OF KNIGHTHOOD TO MR. DARGAN.—We have learned that the Lord Lieutenant, in order to mark his high appreciation of the persevering and successful exertions of Mr. Dargan to stimulate the industrial enterprise and promote the permanent welfare of Ireland, has, in the kindest manner, proposed to confer upon him the honor of knighthood, which, however, that gentleman has respectfully declined.

MAJOR STERNE.—We regret to learn that Major Sterne, of Gola Castle, county Fermanagh, has had a return of those shivering fits which have attended him since the expedition to Waleheron, where so many hundred, perhaps thousand, soldiers perished from ague and fever.—*Armagh Guardian*.

AMERICAN AND IRISH STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.—We have learned that Mr. Francis W. Russell, M.P., in conjunction with some influential capitalists, is forming a company for the establishment of a line of steam communication between this port and America, with a capital of £250,000, and with the surest prospects of success. This undertaking is one of great national importance, and we are well pleased that it should have emanated from one of the representatives of our city.—*Limerick Examiner*.

There is an immediate prospect of building iron vessels at Belfast on an extended scale, by the new Iron Ship-building Company, which has been formed by a number of spirited and moneyed parties at that rapidly-improving port.

WORKHOUSE INDUSTRY IN GALWAY.—The industrial training at present in operation in this workhouse has arrived at a very high state of perfection. The inmates of this house, instead of being allowed to swelter in closed-up rooms to generate disease, and contract invincible habits of laziness, are kept busily and profitably employed. Here is to be found nothing but industry, from the sewing school of the infant to the workshop of the weaver. On Friday, Mr. Hall, P.L.L., produced at the boardroom some cotton and flax thread, which had been made under the superintendence of the master, Mr. O'Shaughnessy. Although worked by the hand, it was as fine and neatly spun as any ever turned out by the most perfect machinery.—*Galway Packet*.

BOYAHON MINES.—Most serious apprehensions are now entertained as to the fate of the mines, and more especially as the weather still continues very wet; for if the water from the north mine, and that from the stage mine, on the sea side, meet, in fact the sea water is only kept out by means of sops, the mines will be rendered useless, as it will be completely filled with water. The north mine engine has ceased working in consequence of one of the lower valves in the chief pump being broken by the upward pressure of the water. The others are wholly choked up, so that it is found necessary to put down a fresh set of pumps. Numbers of the poor miners are thrown idle.—*Waterford Mail*.

THE BLACK ABBEY.—At a meeting held at the Black Abbey, on the 19th ult., it was resolved to collect subscriptions for the repairs of, and for procuring a bell for that church. This abbey is one of the noblest monuments of Irish ecclesiastical architecture now existing. It is fast falling into decay, and a strenuous effort should be made to preserve it from annihilation. A committee of patriotic gentlemen anxious to arrest the rapid progress of ruin on what remains of the Black Abbey, and resolved to restore it, if possible, to its pristine use, and imposing appearance, now call upon the generous people of Kilkenny and its vicinity, to second their efforts by contributing liberally for the erection of a bell in its long empty, uncovered, but yet beautiful campanilla, which may serve as a compensation for its plundered chimneys of other days, and awaken by the long and mournful music of its tones, the lovers of venerable antiquity and the Black Abbey to more active exertion for its reparation and rescue from impending ruin.—*Kilkenny Journal*.

Additional martello towers are in the course of construction on the south side of Dublin Bay, close to the county Wicklow.

An idea of the vast quantity of rain which has fallen since the 1st of November last may be formed from the state of Lady's Island Lake. This lake has no open outlet or communication with the sea, to discharge its accumulated waters. It is two miles long by three-quarters wide on an average, and has but three noticeable rivulets—neither of them over a mile long—falling into it; yet the waters now stand eight feet and a half in perpendicular height more than at 1st November. The ditches and boundaries all around have been levelled and all the lands adjoining inundated. For the past twenty years, even at the close of winter, this lake has not been seen so full. On Thursday this town and vicinity was visited between three or four o'clock, p.m., by an unusually heavy fall of rain. The wind blew furiously from the S.W., and flashes of lightning glared through the rain and hail, which literally fell in torrents. The sewer gratings were soon choked, and the streets were flooded in several parts of the town. During the night there was a heavy fall of rain with frequent claps of thunder.—*Wexford Guardian*.

The exodus has recommenced on a large scale, even in the depth of a most inclement winter. On Monday last no less than 78 persons, mostly young people of both sexes, left the small town of Roscommon for America, the money to pay their passages having been supplied in every case by relatives who had emigrated some time since. The *Roscommon Messenger* says: "In every village in this county, where villages are still left, the projected voyage over the Atlantic is the all-absorbing topic of the winter fireside." Emigration to Australia is also progressing. Seventeen respectable inhabitants of Galway sailed on Friday last from Dundee, for the gold country.

STATE OF THE WEST.—Assuming the local papers to be the most competent to form a correct opinion upon subjects which are daily coming under their observation, it is nevertheless a task of no mean difficulty to reconcile the conflicting statements which those authorities occasionally put before the public with a view of affording information respecting the present condition and future prospects of the western province. One day we are told of the rapid strides which Connaught is making in the march of social improvement—arid wastes turned into fertile pastures, corn waving in spots which but yesterday were dreary morasses, the peasantry fully employed, and, more marvellous than all, rents paid up to the last shilling claimed by the landlord. Scarcely is there time to draw breath, when another post dissipates all these fanciful sketches by a series of dismal narrations, of wholesale evictions, extinction of the Celtic race, and all the other staple evils which help to swell the budget. Here, for instance, is an extract supplied by a *Tamag* paper, in the course of some comments upon the recent census returns:—"In Leitrim nearly one-third of the population has disappeared. From Roscommon 80,000 have been swept away, and from Sligo upwards of 52,000; thus making the terrible total loss of the population, as authenticated by the present census, to amount to 210,000. If the diminution were to cease even here, we might expect to see the less supplied at a future day; but of this there is not the slightest probability. Nay, more, short as the interval which has elapsed since the returns of the present census were handed in, a rapid and fearful tide of emigration has rolled on, and is still rolling on, carrying away, every week, several thousands from Mayo, Roscommon, and Galway. And instead of showing any anxiety about the result, or any wish to arrest the progressive march of emigration, the landlords of Connaught, seem inexorably bent upon further clearance and consolidation."—*Economist*.

The Belfast *Northern Whig* has these remarks on the rise of prices and the commercial prosperity:—"The present state of markets for all kinds of agricultural produce is striking and singular. After a highly favorable and abundant cereal harvest, which a potato-crop, although relatively deficient, considering the great extent of ground under it, but which, at all events, has now for some months been sufficient to sustain an enormous consumption—with parts invitingly open to the unrestricted importation of the universe, and in a time of profound peace—we find prices steadily advancing, and attaining a magnitude which bids fair to leave those of Protection times far behind. On reference to the portions of our articles bearing upon this subject, and upon the strict accuracy of which the reader may rely, it will be seen that, instead of our often-expressed anxiety for the proper remuneration of the farmer, the fear now is that the hard-earned meal of the humble operative may soon become too dear. The trade of the week has been most excellent in all departments; indeed, such extreme, general, and we believe sound commercial prosperity, has probably never hitherto been experienced here."

ATROCIOUS CRUELTY TO A SAILOR.—BELFAST, DEC. 14.—The following interesting and important case was decided at the petty sessions court to-day, by the presiding magistrates, J. Clarke, and W. J. C. Allen, Esqrs. The office was densely thronged during the hearing of the trial. Mr. O'Rourke acted on behalf of the plaintiff; Mr. Smith appeared for the defendant. The prosecutor in this case is a man named Dowdle, who was engaged by the defendant (Hastings) master of the ship *Josepha*, to sail in that vessel as ship-carpenter, for a term not exceeding three years. The first voyage he made was from Belfast to Troon, where they were to take in a load of coals for Valparaiso. Whilst at Troon, the greater part of the crew swore that they believed the *Josepha* to be not seaworthy, as a pretence for deserting her. For want of hands she was, in consequence, obliged to come back to Belfast. Here the plaintiff, who had not abandoned the vessel with the rest of the hands, signed new articles for a run to Quebec. On the voyage out his health was good, but on entering the St. Lawrence he took ill of a bowel complaint. With considerable difficulty he succeeded in obtaining the captain's leave to go ashore to a doctor. Under the care of the doctor he grew a little better, but on the passage home he again took ill. On one occasion he procured a little medicine from the captain; but on asking him for some a second time, he told him he would give him none, and struck him on the head. This occurred about a fortnight before landing. The master then put him on short allowance, giving him but 1lb. of dry biscuit in the day. This satisfied him for the time; but when his appetite began to strengthen the captain, in spite of all his entreaties, refused to give him any more food. One night he attempted to steal some dry rice, to allay his hunger, but was detected by Hastings who struck, and kicked him repeatedly. This injured him so seriously as to cause him to spit blood. He was then, by the master's orders, put in bonds, and confined right forward to the windlass, with no protection from the wind or sea save a little covering overhead. In rough weather the waves often broke over his bed, and in this condition he was kept until the arrival of the *Josepha* in port. He was then released; but his health had suffered so much from the confinement and harsh usage, that he was obliged to go to hospital. He had summoned the captain immediately on landing, but from sickness was unable to attend in court personally to prosecute, the spitting of blood had never left him; his wrists were fearfully galled by the manacles, and altogether he declared his constitution to be completely shattered. Two witnesses, M'Ever a seaman on board the *Josepha*, and Galt, a brother-in-law of the captain, were then examined for the defence, but without eliciting any new facts, or disproving the statements of the plaintiff. Dr. Graham was then called, and sworn as to the state in which he had found the prisoner on the day of his arrival in the *Josepha*. He considered the very great debility of his patient to have been produced by the ill-treatment to which he had been subjected on the voyage home. In deciding the case, Mr. Allen said that the Magistrates were both of opinion that this was one of the most monstrous cases of cruelty that had ever come before the court. They would have sent it to the quarter sessions, where it would have been visited with a heavier penalty, had it not been that the accused was a seafaring man, whose imprisonment might injure other parties with whom he was connected, but who could have had no share in the perpetration of this disgraceful outrage. But to mark the sense that they (the magistrates) entertained of the case, they would inflict the highest penalty that the law allowed, viz. a fine of £5, or two months' imprisonment, with 20s. costs.—*Cor. of Tab.*

WHOLESALE EXTERMINATION.—Throughout the entire extent of Connaught a very great and alarming change is now taking place in the occupancy of the soil. The purchasers under the Incumbered Estates Court vie with the old landlords in effecting the depopulation of their properties. Once a small holding becomes vacant, no man can have it again upon the old terms, however solvent he may be. The dwelling-house is forthwith levelled with the ground—the old boundary marks are obliterated—the fences are removed; and several acres are thus formed into one large field, destined to form a portion either of a sheep walk, or of a large farm constituted out of a number of these smaller tenancies. This is the system now adopted throughout nearly the entire of this province. There are, of course, occasional exceptions, but they are rare.—*Galway Mercury*.

INCREASE OF FEVER.—We regret to find that typhus fever is considerably on the increase in the rural districts of this neighborhood. The county hospital has received more patients during the last ten days than it did for several months previously. Some of the cases are of a very malignant type.—*Downpatrick Recorder*.

SHIPWRECK.—SKIBBEREEN, DEC. 13.—On last night, about six o'clock, a large vessel from Nova Scotia, bound to Hull with a cargo of timber and deals, was driven on a rock near Castlehaven, about six miles from Skibberreen, and immediately became a total wreck. Her crew, twenty-one in number were saved, with the exception of the carpenter. The vessel's name was the *Isabella Barnes*. The coast for miles around is covered with timber.—*Cork Constitution*.

LOSS OF TWO BELFAST VESSELS.—Information has reached Belfast to the effect that two large vessels, connected with this port—the *Nabruon*, belonging to Messrs. Fitzsimons, Sinclair, and Coates, and trading between San Francisco and Hong Kong, and the *Chippewa*, belonging to Lemon and Co.—have been lost. The registered tonnage of the former vessel was 1,250 tons, and that of the latter 716.—*Banner of Ulster*.

THREATENING LETTER.—Thomas Rooney and Peter Callaghan are committed for trial at the next assizes, for having on the 12th ult., handed a threatening notice to James Wynne, in Collyhanna, in the district of Crossmaglen.—*Armagh Guardian*.

CONFESSION OF MURDER.—A man named Hare has surrendered and confessed himself guilty of the late murder near Malinbeg. On Friday evening he was lodged in the county goal. Three others are in custody.—*Tipperrary Free Press*.

SUSPECTED CASE OF POISONING.—On Thursday evening last, Jane Brimmage, of Birmingham, was committed to Armagh goal, by J. M. Stronge, Esq., on further examination, on a charge of having been privy or accessory to the administration of some deleterious or noxious drug to her husband, Henry Brimmage, of Birmingham, who died suddenly on Sunday, the 12th ult., at Cavanheraghy, near Tynan. The stomach of the deceased has been forwarded to Belfast for chemical analysis, and an adjourned inquest will be held on the 24th.—*Armagh Guardian*.

THE CONVICT WILLIAM BURKE KIRWAN.—Mr. Justice Crampton has refused to reserve for the consideration of the Court of Criminal Appeal the exceptions made by Mr. Butt, Q.C., and Mr. J. A. Curran (of counsel for the convict,) at the conclusion of the trial. No material alteration has taken place in the conduct of this wretched man during the past week. His spirits are still of the same buoyant nature, and he anxiously looks forward to a commutation of his sentence. During the last few days a large number of his friends and relatives have visited the prison, and it would appear that the most anxious and unceasing efforts are being made to lay, if possible, a favorable statement of his case before the executive. It appears that the prisoner seldom enters into conversation with any of the officials connected with the prison, and that when he does speak to them, he merely alludes to the manner in which his trial and conviction were brought about. Since the final sentence of the law was passed upon him, his mind has taken a religious turn; and it is said by the officials that he spends a large portion of his time in reading and studying the Book of Common Prayer and the Holy Bible.—*Daily Express*.

The *Daily News* correspondent says—"Notwithstanding this refusal of leave to appeal, it is generally understood that the prisoner's life will be spared, on the ground of legal weakness in the chain of circumstantial evidence."

ALLEGED CONFIRMATION OF MR. KIRWAN'S GUILT.—It is stated that the captain of a Danish brig, which arrived at Dublin last week, had seen a man struggling with a woman, on Ireland's Eye, on the very day that the unfortunate Mrs. Kirwan was murdered, and distinctly heard the screams. The circumstance was noted in the log-book at the time. This, if true, is a most important confirmation of the convicted man's guilt, and will set at rest any doubts that might be entertained.

THE CLEVERNESS CHURCH OF ANADOWN.—The *Tamag Herald* of Saturday publishes the following notes from gentlemen of rank and fortune in the county of Galway, confirming the truth of an amusing, but significant story, which has been published relative to a certain parson Marley, his clerk, and flock:—
"Cregg Castle, Oct. 20th, 1852.

"Rev. dear Sir—I am in receipt of your letter, and recollect to have heard that the Rev. Mr. Marley often made an apology to his Bishop when late for dinner on Sunday, that Browne, his clerk, delayed him, in consequence of hearing Mass at the chapel which was on his way to the church. Bishop Beresford being a good natured man, laughed heartily at the excuse, and made a standing joke of it ever after.—I am very truly yours,

"F. BLAKE."
"Corolin, Dec. 13th, 1852.

"Rev. dear Sir—In reply to your inquiry, I beg to say that I was present at my father's table when the Rev. Mr. Marley stated that when late at dinner at Archbishop Beresford's, his apology was, that he had to wait for his clerk, old Browne, who heard Mass on his way to the church. And I also heard him say, that he seldom or ever had a being to attend at church. To the best of my recollection and belief, I myself saw old Browne frequently at Mass. There were only two individuals who passed as Protestants in the parish at that time—a man of the name of Barry, who lived at the extreme end of the parish, and who, I believe, never attended at Church or Mass, and old John Robinson, who lived at the Mills of Cregg, and who only attended at church once, or perhaps twice, in the year. There was no house built at Cahermorris at that period.—I am faithfully yours,

"PIERCE J. BLAKE."
"Mr. Walter Blake, of Ross Lodge, perfectly recollects the statement made at his father's table."