

LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM TO THE PARLIAMENT. His Grace the Most Rev. Archbishop M'Hale has addressed the following letter to Lord Palmerston.

"My Lord,—In the capricious combination of parties by which you have been recently restored to power, there is much to inspire English statesmen with wisdom, and the Irish people with confidence. The more anomalous that combination appears, and the more at variance with the rules of ordinary calculation, the stronger is the hope now felt that the measures of justice, with the promise of which we have been so long amused, cannot be indefinitely protracted. Since the formation of that strong phalanx in the memorable year of 1850, which broke up, in such quick succession, the hostile Ministries of Lords Russell and Derby, and which was itself soon impaired, and finally broken up and dissolved, by the treacherous alliance of several of its venal members with the Aberdeen and Palmerston Governments, the interests of the Irish Catholics have not been in a more hopeful position.

"Strange as this assertion may seem to your Lordship, this hope is drawn from the very depths of the disastrous condition into which their most cherished interests have been sinking. For a long period the Irish people had to combat the policy of British statesmen as if they had no other enemy to encounter. During the last eight years they have suffered woefully from the defection of the friends in whom they once trusted, beholding them leagued in support of every adverse Administration which they had promised to oppose. The consequence is that their distrust is not now confined to the English Whig and Tory factions by which the country has been alternately ruled and distracted, but extends itself to their respective adherents in Ireland, the people being indifferent to the peculiar banners of either party, but most zealous that their representatives should treat all hostile Ministries with the same stern impartiality.

"Had our representatives adhered to the only principle of political action, that of treating alike all adverse Governments, without invidiously siding, some with the Whigs and others with the Tories, they would have long since wrung great measures of general benefit from the necessities of both. And instead of being engaged in the problem which of the two parties was entitled to the largest share in the good or evil government of Ireland, we should be now enjoying the benefits of which a genuine and combined Irish Parliamentary party would not fail to be productive. It is true that the union of the Irish popular members might excite the alarm of both political factions, and dispose them at the commencement to incivility towards the body by whom they were so vigorously opposed. But such jealous feelings would soon give way to those of admiration for pursuing a line of policy so patriotic; and the most distinguished party leaders would soon rival each other in the vastness of their concessions to a nation that sent to the Imperial Parliament such able and disinterested representatives. As for a coalition between Whigs and Tories to deny us justice, resulting from the legitimate combination of Irish members—a mere phantom set up by the dishonest adherents of either party to palliate their subservience—no such coalition to oppress and persecute could have been attended with results half so disastrous to their dearest interests as the Catholic people have been experiencing during these latter years.

"To show the extent to which those interests have retrograded, I need but advert to the precarious and insecure condition of the tenantry, doomed to incessant extermination as their normal state, and formed into a system more heartless and cruel than has yet been heard of, even in the history of Ireland. Next to the vast iniquity of the Established Church, presenting itself to the people in such a variety of malignant influences, and which was never more arrogant in its bearing than at the present moment, nor more hostile to social peace and tranquillity, I need but glance at the consequences of your State Education, artfully carried on under the pretence of accommodating different parties, but now almost equally obnoxious to all, exciting at length the alarm of the most confiding, and destined, if such a grave question is not speedily and satisfactorily settled, to evoke such a spirit of opposition in the Catholic body as they never failed to manifest whenever their faith was endangered, and more especially when the aggression came in the disguise of a treacherous friendship. Such is the present position of Catholic Ireland in what concerns their vital interests—their lands, their houses, and, with both, generally their lives at the mercy of any capricious and irresponsible proprietor who chooses to issue a notice to quit unless the rents are raised on each recurring gate day to the amount fixed by his cupidity; and frequently, too, unless the children are sent to a school—nay, a national school, in which the entire of the religious teaching or non-teaching is to be regulated by the standard of orthodoxy which such humane proprietors may deem it fit to adopt. Compare this dependent and helpless state of the poor Catholic tenantry with the independence with which the law invested them some years ago, by making a leasehold a condition of the franchise, and you need no further argument to convince you of the degree of serfdom to which they have fallen, and of the consequent greater danger to which their lives and the faith of their children are exposed.

"Nay, more, with the extension of the wholesale system of evictions, now in such sweeping operation, sympathy for individuals is not so strongly felt, spread, as it may be, among several, and apparently lost in a vast multitude of victims. Until that eventful period when the 40s. freeholders provoked the hostility of the Protestant proprietors by their noble efforts in achieving the emancipation of the higher classes of Catholics, and paid the forfeit of their vote by being disfranchised in return, the country could not have exhibited such exterminating scenes as it has since so frequently witnessed. Even later, when the £10 freeholders represented their predecessors, and their franchise was secured by a similar leasehold, they were so important and so strong in their legal privileges as that none could dream of displacing them for cattle. There were yet among the few Catholics, whose chains the 40s. freeholders struck off, with O'Connell at their head, some faint relics of gratitude towards their humbler deliverers which prevented them from joining in the chorus to hunt out the tenantry, and enlarge the area of sheep-walks and pasture lands. But the inconvenient locd of gratitude was soon laid aside, and the Act which enabled the tenant to vote without the protection of a leasehold confirmed at once the landlords' despotism and the tenants' social annihilation. Hence the melancholy scenes recently so often acted. Hence, without referring now to remoter places, the appalling accounts from Falmore, within the Mullet, and from Partry, both in the neighboring county of Mayo, all illustrative of the lower depressions to which the tenantry are consigned, and of the small share of sympathy accorded by the Legislature to their misfortunes.

"On the injustice involved in the present relations between landlord and tenant as illustrated in the forcible ejection from the Tuam school-house I have been hitherto silent, leaving the public to draw from it their own calm conclusions. They have already drawn those conclusions, one of which is that it places in the strongest relief the legal inequality which enables a landlord to seize a property worth £700 or £800 created by charity, on a valueless waste, for the education of poor children. And the second conclusion is, that an establishment, sited originally to repletion with the spoils of the Catholic Church, enjoying every 10th year the entire of the fee-simple of Ireland, must have nearly filled up the measure of its oppression of the poor, when, not content with the numerous goodly flocks that ranged through its pasture and fed its household, it coveted and seized the little lamb, the only thing left after its first plunder for the widow and the orphan. And both conclusions sufficiently explain the humanity of

an eminent Irish judge, who complained how often, in the name of the law, was he obliged to administer injustice.

"Of the growing evils entailed on Catholic tenants from their relations with the Protestant Church, Protestant proprietors, and Commissioners of Education, they are become fully sensible, and firmly determined to seek adequate redress. The evils are confessedly so deep and so widespread that your Lordship could scarcely entertain a nobler or more useful ambition than that of healing them. Without such a sincere ambition, exemplified by corresponding strenuous efforts, your Lordship need not hope to retain long any hold of the support of the people of Ireland. To your Ministry, more than any other, they have not a particle of attachment. With the principles of the Whigs, if they happen to be burdened with principles, they have no more sympathy than with those of the Tories, nor with the latter any more than with the former political party. They will not prefer the policy of the Whigs because they may dispense more patronage to a few Catholics, who are disposed, on that account, to visit with leniency the persecution of the Pope; nor will they be beguiled into a support of Lord Derby and the Tories by reason of their professing less offensive hostility to the Holy Father, while the threatened evictions on the Doon estates proclaim their utter disregard of justice and humanity. Nay, the tenants generally understand the hypocrisy and selfishness that pervade Lord Derby's reasons so generally assigned by their respective adherents for preferring one or other of those factions that have been alike hostile to the mass of the Catholic people.

"Provided Lord Derby gave utterance to language lamenting the spread of Italian disaffection, pious Catholics forgot his jury packing and his evictions, and fancied that an appearance of sympathy with the Holy Father should cancel all his other political and social misdeeds. Your colleague in office, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, suffered millions to starve in Ireland when he held the same office which you now fill, both members of the same Cabinet, but exchanging places in the shifting of our political evolutions. Not only did he suffer the people to be slain with the famine, but his relative, Lord Minto, was an active partisan of the turbulent spirits of Rome, the precursor of the sanguinary revolution that banished the Holy Father from his dominions. Yet, notwithstanding this twofold delinquency of cruel indifference to the lives of the Irish people and undisguised aversion to the Pontifical Government, his Administration found favour with such pious Catholics as were reconciled to the Administration of Lord Derby and the Tories. Their adhesion to the latter might be prompted, and sustained by their regard to the Holy Father, but their adhesion to Lord John Russell must be accounted for on different principles: for as long as his influence appeared to them so mild and so beneficial in this quarter of the heavens he was at liberty, so far as they seemed to care, to shed upon Italy all the malignant influence of Hecate.

"But, no matter, the Catholics of Ireland feel a reverence for the Roman Pontiff which far transcends any motive by which such politicians are swayed. They revere him as the successor of St. Peter and the Vicar of Christ on earth, and will therefore show themselves ready, not only to defend his spiritual authority over the entire world, but likewise to assert his temporal as well as his temporal power throughout the range of his own dominions. They look upon that temporal power, full, entire, and uncontrolled, to be essential to the free exercise of his spiritual authority; nor shall they ever be content to see the Holy Father placed in a subordinate and dependent position, that could create a suspicion that his acts for regulating the spiritual interests of the Church might be elicited or controlled by the preponderating influence of France, or Germany, or Naples, or any other secular power.

"Let those, then, who are so anxious to reform the Pontifical Government turn their attention to the Home Department of their own, with a view to the correction of its disorders. As your colleague in office, Lord John Russell, is so excessive in his philanthropy as to be continually crossing the Alps in quest of grievances to reform, it may appear strange why he lately confined his political lectures regarding Italy to the favoured city of Glasgow. His sense of duty to his Sovereign probably dictated that it would not be wise to ventilate such political theories as cashiering and selecting Governments outside the venerable walls of St. Andrews. How would your Lordship or the Secretary for Foreign Affairs relish the propounding of such strange and exciting doctrines among the Irish people? Is it that political axioms are to be regulated by the latitude of every country? When your Lordship deduced the evidence of misgovernment from the discontented and subsequent revolt of the Pope's subjects, I wonder you so soon forgot the widespread rebellion in India, or, if you remember it, that you did not acquit his Holiness of the charge, or condemn your own Administration, by applying to it the same rule and measure.

"It is in vain that kings rage and peoples meditate foolish things against Christ and His Vicar on earth. He that is on high will mark—as he has often marked—such impious projects. Not only will the rock of his eternal power remain unshaken, but, as the oldest dynasty in Europe is but as if of yesterday, compared to this patrimony of St. Peter, it will remain intact, shielded by the Providence that created it, after witnessing successive kingdoms and empires pass away.

"I have the honour to be your Lordship's very obedient servant,

† JOHN, Archbishop of Tuam.

LETTER FROM MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.—Archbishop M'Hale has received the following letter from Mr. Smith O'Brien.—"Cahernoy, Newcastle-West, Oct. 10.—My Lord Archbishop,—I have seen in the newspapers of last week an appeal to Protestant opinion in reference to the Tuam School, on the part of Mr. M'Connell, M.P., who deserves to be considered a prominent leader of the Catholics in Ireland—not only on account of his birth, fortune, talents, and social position, but also because he nobly dissociated himself from a connection of long standing with the Whigs when they insulted his religion and its professors by passing the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. It seems to me that the Liberal Protestants of Ireland ought not to hesitate to answer that appeal. For myself, though I would renounce Protestantism without delay, if I believed that its essential character required approval of such acts as often done in its name in Ireland, yet as a non-Catholic member of this community, who feels a deep interest in everything that concerns the welfare of Ireland, I have no hesitation in declaring that I consider the proceedings of the Protestant Bishop of Tuam, in an act of simple robbery committed under the name of law.

"The admitted facts of the case are, I believe, that Catholics expended upon a piece of waste ground in the Town of Tuam, held under a title which was believed to be equivalent to perpetual tenure, not less than £700 for the construction of a school-house, which was placed under the care of the Christian Brothers, whose admirable system of instruction is approved by all friends of education; that the Protestant Bishop, availing himself of an iniquitous law, turned these monks out of possession without offering to the Catholics any compensation for their capital which had been expended on these premises.

"I ought not perhaps, to express my opinion, that unless these circumstances the boys of Tuam were fully justified in burning the school-house, because I am unwilling to encourage arson in any form, but at least they committed no wrong towards the Protestant Bishop, for they burnt only the property which in equity belonged to the Catholics.

which they have evinced, and that, if the Catholics themselves can look with indifference at such proceedings, they ought not to expect that Protestants will testify the indignation which injustice always excites in generous minds.

"I confess that when I first read an account of the Tuam School ejection I imagined that every Catholic in Ireland would have come forward to call for the suppression of dominant State church. If for such an occurrence had taken place on the private estate of an ordinary landlord (and I regret to say that we have seen a parallel case in this parish), the Catholic community might have had no alternative but to acquiesce in a perversion of the rights of property; but in the Tuam case the property in question is confided by the State to an ecclesiastical functionary, who is placed there for the purpose of preaching peace and goodwill among his neighbors, and when such a functionary avails himself of the rights so for a time confided to him to perpetrate an outrage against the common principles of justice, which ought to govern the intercourse between man and man, a most legitimate opportunity is afforded of asking the Legislature to get rid altogether of an institution which in theory is utterly indefensible, and which in its practical operation generates the most bitter and social antipathies.

"Had the Catholics taken this course, they would have been supported by a large body of Protestants not only in Ireland, but also in England and in Scotland. Every calm and unprejudiced reasoner feels that the position of the Protestant establishment in Ireland is an anomaly which is entirely indefensible in argument. That a Church establishment should be maintained for the benefit of little more than one-tenth of the population, while the religion of the mass of the population is, I will not say ignored, but insulted by the legislation of the State, is an anomaly which exists in no other country except Ireland. Politicians, therefore, of every persuasion in the United Kingdom would be prepared to discuss the propriety of abolishing altogether this relic of Protestant ascendancy, and they would be aided by a considerable number of zealous Protestants who believed that 'the establishment' has been productive of injury to religion, as of evil to society.

"No one proposes that any wrong should be done to the present holders of benefices; a life provision would naturally be made for them: in like manner as it has been made for legal or civil functionaries when the offices which they held have been abolished.

"Let me, however, add, in candour, that neither this grievance nor any other national wrong will be redressed so long as Irish constituencies encourage their representatives to apply their Parliamentary influence in procuring situations under Government for themselves, their relatives, and their dependents, rather than in using bold, independent, and disinterested exertions to maintain the honor and interests of their country. Let Mr. More O'Ferrill, aided by the O'Donoghue and other representatives, call together a meeting of the Liberal members of Parliament, Protestants as well as Catholics, for the purpose of taking counsel respecting the interests of the Irish nation, and he will then be in a condition to ask for the support of Protestant opinion in his endeavors to procure the redress of national wrongs.

"Though, on ordinary occasions, I feel it to be my duty to apply the pecuniary resources which Providence has placed at my disposal to objects connected with my own home and with the district from which our property is derived, I send herewith the subscription which it was my intention to have placed in the hands of your grace, in case I had been so fortunate as to have found you at home on the occasion of my recent visit to Tuam. I have the honor to be, with much respect, very faithfully yours,

W. S. O'BRIEN.

"To his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam."

CORK AND THE CUNARD STEAMERS.—Final arrangements are made for the royal mail steamers of the Cunard line to call at Queenstown, on their voyage to and from America; and this great benefit will before long, come into operation, and thus make Cork a packet station for the first line and finest steamers in the world.—Cork Constitution.

THE STATE OF KILKENNY.—We have frequently had the pleasure of congratulating the authorities and citizens of Kilkenny upon its crimeless and peaceable character; and to-day, on the eve of its quarter sessions, we have the same pleasing duty to perform. Scarcely a single charge stains the records of our city calendar, except one or two, and these are acts of strangers, one of whom is the "foreigner" who was committed last week for that "delicacy of touch" known as the "light finger."—In other respects, also, Kilkenny is improving. The social characteristics of the people are becoming more developed since the decay of soupership, and Protestant and Catholic can look upon each other as "neighbors," bound by the common links of charity, loving the country that gave them birth, and struggling together for its prosperity. This is precisely as it should be.—Kilkenny Journal.

FARM LABORERS.—Captain D. P. Bessford has anticipated the statute passed last session to enable the proprietors to borrow money from the Board of Works to erect suitable cottages for farm laborers instead of those unsightly cabins which are frequently the abode of filth and disease. This gentleman has erected six most commodious cottages in the village of Fenagh, with comfortable kitchens and sleeping apartments up stairs; each laborer occupies his house at a little more than a nominal rent, with kitchen garden and every necessary appendage to secure health, and to provide for the industrial pursuits of the junior members of the family. This is a step in the right direction for the improvement of that important class of "producers," the farm laborers of the country.—Cork Constitution.

THE GALWAY LINE.—SUBSIDY CERTAIN.—At the great banquet in the Mansion House, Dublin, on Saturday, the Rev. Peter Daly, the father of the line, said:—"He pledged himself to the company and to the country that there was not the slightest fear of the subsidy (hear, hear). He had had private information which enabled him to say so, but independently of that, no English ministry would venture to oppose the company" (cheers).

DANGER OF IRISH CHANNEL NAVIGATION.—The Galway Packet Company have received the following letter:—"I have received your documents respecting the Galway Packet Station, and most heartily do I wish your undertaking success. Long before it was started I sighed for something of the sort, from seeing the destruction of property and life by shipwreck, along this coast. Within the last twelve years not less than 1,400 emigrants were landed on this shore from ships irremediably wrecked, and I have come to the conclusion that a ship passing from Liverpool through the channel to the western ocean runs an absolute gauntlet of life and death. I do, indeed, consider it a great boon to life and property to get it Atlantic at once under one's foot when facing the African continent; and, with a railway connecting Dublin and Galway, it will be a mere matter of time spite of any opposition, for Galway to become the starting point of inter-communication between Europe and America; for the general love of life and goods will be sure to beat down all selfish monopoly and national prejudice. I have spoken to gentlemen from Canada and the United States, and all expressed a wish for some packets, at least, to go direct from Galway to New York, as sure vastly to augment the traffic; but this is a matter of detail, and will be sure to be carried out by its specific utility. I am sorry that a weighty local undertaking absorbs all my available means, and prevents me giving other than moral aid. With my humble sphere the Galway line shall not want a zealous advocate. I salute with great regard the Patriot Priest, Father Daly, and I have the honor to be your faithful servant,

JAMES REDMOND, P.P.

GOOD LANDLORDS.—When the cry of eviction rings through the land, it is refreshing to hear of a good landlord. Mr. Hourigan, P.L.G., Dungarven Union, who holds 240 acres under Lord Stuart De Decies, informs us that no better landlord can be found than his lordship; and of Sir Henry Winstow Barrow he says that he holds 196 acres from him, and that he has not yet called for the March rent, nor has he (the tenant) heard anything about it.—Waterford News.

The Earl of Granard has placed a neat little steamboat, for pleasure, on the Shannon. She is upwards of fifty tons burthen, and is the first steamboat for pleasure ever placed on the Upper Shannon.

NEW MAGISTRATES.—John Waller Bolton, Esq., county Limerick; Edward Tottenham Irvine and Percy Magan, Esq., county Wexford; John Madden, Esq., county Limerick; John M'Carthy, Esq., Mayor of Sligo.

The tide of emigration from this district to the west still flows on uninterruptedly. Hardly a day passes that Mrs. Hill's coaches are not laden with emigrants for America, and the parting scenes witnessed are often very affecting.—Newspaper Guardian.

JOHN BULL'S DRAW FARM.—Amongst the exports from the port of Waterford by the English steamers last week were 9,700 cwt. of butter, 1,550 cwt. of bacon, 410 cwt. of lard, 5,380 barrels of oats, 176 bags of wheat, 1,950 cwt. of flour, 1,470 pigs, 576 cows, 570 sheep, 175 cases of eggs, 230 packages poultry, 600 barrels of ale, porter, &c. This from one Irish port in one week was no small contribution from John Bull's draw-farm.—Tipperary Free Press.

A great disturbance took place some days ago in Drogheda workhouse; an alarm being suddenly raised that mice had been boiled in the "strabout" of the paupers. A mouse's tail was produced from one of the basins, but whether boiled in the strabout by the cook, or placed there by one of the paupers for the sake of raising a grievance, is uncertain.

A BONUS ON MATRIMONY.—We copy the following from our contemporary, Saunders News Letter. The church referred to is, of course, the New Catholic Church, now being erected which was recently dedicated, and for which Lord Powerscourt gave a free grant of land, besides a liberal donation:—"The gallant Viscount Powerscourt has, it is confidently stated in circles most likely to be well-informed, determined to present a purse with one hundred guineas, to the couple who shall be fortunate enough to be first joined together in the bonds of wedlock in the handsome new church of Eniskerry, which is now being erected." This, if our contemporary be well-informed, will produce a very active competition to secure the prize. In England a singular custom prevails of rewarding married people, who do not quarrel during a year, with a fitch of bacon; but Lord Powerscourt gives a £100, unlogged by no difficulty or condition, to the first couple that will have the good fortune to be married in the church of Eniskerry.—Evening Post.

The Evening News gives the following extraordinary piece of intelligence under the highly appropriate head of "Important Revelations":—"It is rumored this afternoon on authority that we believe to be beyond question, that the formal reply of Mr. Cardwell to the address of the Bishops was received by their Lordships this morning. It announces or proposes the removal of Mr. McDonell, Chief Commissioner of the Education Board, to be replaced by Mr. O'Hagan; the removal of several of the Protestant and foreign professors and high officials is sketched for their Lordships' acceptance and approval, the successors to the vacant offices to be Catholics. The rumor has created a profound sensation all over the city, and of course intense excitement prevails in Marlborough street. It is needless for us to say, assuming the facts to be as stated, that the Government has quite mistaken the demands of the Catholics of Ireland if it thinks such steps likely to appease the just objection of Irish Catholics to a pernicious system."

THE IRISH POOR LAWS.—Our readers will remember the case of the Rev. Mr. Laverty, of the Belfast Union, who was unwarrantably taken to task the other day by the Commissioners, for performing his duty in watching too closely over the spiritual welfare of his flock. Now, however, we learn from the Dublin Evening Post that the rights of the Catholic Chaplain, as to the religious teaching of the children of his denomination, are recognized, and an intimation is given to the Guardians to amend their rules. The Commissioners say—"With regard to the persons who may properly take part in the religious teaching of the Roman Catholic children in the workhouse schools, the Commissioners think the objection against Protestants taking part in such teaching is a reasonable one." The Commissioners also recommend—"The appointment by the Guardians of at least one Roman Catholic teacher among the several teachers who at present hold office in the workhouse schools, inasmuch as the number of Roman Catholic children forms a considerable portion of the whole; and the Commissioners cannot forbear observing that if such a course had been pursued in making those appointments, it is very likely that no part of the present difficulty would have arisen as to the religious teaching in the schools." Finally, the Commissioners recommend the Guardians of Belfast to "take the arrangements for the religious teaching of the Roman Catholic children into their further consideration, with a view to meet the objections of the Roman Catholic Chaplain so far as they are founded in reason, and are in consonance with the spirit of the Poor Law enactment."

The Dundalk Democrat writes in the following terms on the subject of the amnesty for the Irish Exiles:—"We perceive by the Waterford Citizen that a meeting was held in that city last week, the object of which was to press on the British Government to permit the Irish exiles to return from America to their native country. There were Irishmen at that meeting, and if the objects they had in view were not worthy of support they would not have attended. Sir B. Morris, Mr. Blake and others, proposed and seconded resolutions, and their words met with the cordial and enthusiastic applause of all present. Mr. P. J. Smyth, the talented and patriotic proprietor of the Citizen, addressed the meeting in an interesting speech, in which he described the position of the exiles when they made their escape from bondage at the antipodes. He distinctly proved that by this escape not a single blot or stain was cast on their honor; for, although they were convicted by packed juries, and by the foulest agency the Whigs of England and Ireland could devise, they did not make any effort to escape from duress whilst their word of honor had been pledged. It was only when the term of their parole had concluded that they made their exit from their keepers. We do not know that there is any one in Ireland so hard-hearted as to oppose the movement in favor of procuring a complete pardon for these gallant Irishmen. We believe that men of all creeds would view with pleasure any act which would leave them free to visit their native land. But if the British Government had a particle of manly feeling about it, it would have long since set them free. They should not have permitted the Government of France, which they call a despotism, to outstrip them in acts of kindness to the vanquished. When Smith O'Brien was allowed to come to Ireland, the same measure of justice should have been meted to Mitchell, Meagher, M'Manus, and Doherty. But let us not talk of the past, but confine ourselves to the present. The men of Waterford have commenced a movement on behalf of our political exiles, and let it be vigorously sustained by the entire country. For ten long years these gentlemen have been far away from their friends and their country; and to warm Irish hearts that has been a punishment which only those who suffer it can conceive. It is full time that they should return; and let us hope that Ireland will take care that their pardon will not be long delayed.

MARSHAL MACMAHON.—The Nation gives some lengthy particulars of the reception of the Irish deputation by the gallant and illustrious Marshal Duke. Our contemporary says:—"The gracious manner in which the Irish deputation was received by the brave Marshal was remarked by all present, and the local Press mentioned it as an event that visibly affected the great soul of the hero whom the fire of the most formidable enemy could not move. Marshal MacMahon, far from denying his country, declared that he should ever remember that he was descended from Ireland, and would be most happy if he could render any service to the Irish, who, he was glad to learn, were so numerous in Lille, and who, from the Rev. Cure's statement, were an honor to their country. He highly appreciated their beautiful present, and expressed in feeling terms, his acknowledgments and thanks to all the brave Irishmen who had subscribed towards its purchase. The above is the substance of the Marshal's conversation with the Irish deputation. It was frank and familiar and will be long remembered by those who had the happiness to be present on the occasion. The local Press, in noticing the reception and publishing the address, says:—"Among the receptions we have to notice, in a particular manner, a deputation of Irishmen, who presented the Marshal with a magnificent gold medal. This souvenir of an origin—which all the well-merited honors that France heaps on the name of MacMahon, could not make him forget—seemed to move profoundly that great soul that was never known to flinch in the midst of peril." The Memorial of next day adds:—"As we have already said, the deputation was received by the Duke of Magenta with a grace and affability really charming. The illustrious Marshal deigned to reply that he was greatly touched by the sympathy shown him by these sons of Ireland—the country of his ancestors. He warmly thanked all who had subscribed towards the purchase of the medal, commemorative of his entry into the City of Lille, and left in the hearts of those Irishmen who had the happiness to approach him, sentiments of indelible pleasure, which will not be easily effaced from their memory."

With reference to the recent correspondence of the gallant Marshal with the Mayoress of Limerick relative to a Catholic charity, it seems that the hero not only sent his autograph as was requested, but also, without making any allusion to it in his letter, enclosed the sum of 100 francs to be applied to the objects of the charity. Thus, says the Nation, was a noble act modestly and gracefully done, and again we repeat, for now it has added force, that the conduct of the gallant Marshal and noble Duke contrasts strongly with that of Lord Palmerston, who, when applied to to purchase a few tickets to aid in the completion of the new Dominican church in this city, returned them to the sender with a note containing a gross insult to Catholicity.

By the way of reaction against the formal and punctilious politeness of the Loyalist period, the manners of the French officers of the present day are rather blunt and brusque. MacMahon is distinguished by a manner of exquisite courtesy worthy of those old Irish cavaliers whom the Empress Maria Theresa—no mean judge—pronounced "the finest gentlemen in Europe." He is also a Catholic of genuine and earnest piety.—Waterford Citizen.

It is reported that the unusual privilege of preventing young people from contracting marriage, save with his consent, is assumed by a landowner in this county, and exercised over the families of holders on his estates. The land law, had as it is, gives him no such right. The Almighty never appointed him director of hearts, or umpire of affections. The church does not even attempt to usurp the authority he would arrogate; and society never invested him with a pretension to such inordinate control. When the operation of the landlord code in Ireland is next defended by the English and Irish eulogists of that oppressive code, they will have another topic to interweave in their essays, illustrative of the workings of the one sided system in the landlord assumption of more than parental authority.

PROTESTANT POOR LAWS.—One day last week Bridget Casey, a native of the county of Sligo, was shipped from Edinburgh for Belfast, under the provisions of a Poor Removal Act passed in the year 1879. The order commenced:—"Take notice, that as you were born in Ireland"—and, after stating the provisions of the Act 8th and 9th Victoria, cap. 83, and 10th and 11th Victoria, cap. 33, it goes on:—"I give you this notice, that you may not pretend ignorance; and I further warn you that if you shall afterwards return to Scotland, and apply for relief, or again become chargeable, yourself or your family, to this city of Edinburgh, without having obtained a settlement therein, you shall be deemed a vagabond, and, under the provisions of an Act of the Scottish Parliament, passed in the year 1879, entitled 'An Act for the Punishment of Strange and Idle Beggars, and Relief of the Poor and Impotent,' may be apprehended and prosecuted criminally before the sheriff of the county; and shall, upon conviction, be punishable by imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a period not exceeding two months.—G. Jameson." Comment on the above is unnecessary. A law to punish the poor could not be obtained without ransacking the archives of nearly 300 years ago. The original can be seen with Captain M'Bride.—Northern Whig.

There are 153 paupers in Roserea workhouse, two of whom belong to Donaghmore and seven to Borrisokane.

The publicans of Cahic have resolved to keep their houses closed during the entire Sabbath.

NICKNAMES.—No name can escape from being turned into ridicule by adding to it a droll prefix.—Lyon, whom I knew at college, a great coxcomb, to his serious distress, was everywhere greeted as "Dandy Lyon." No man was ever more annoyed than he was by this ridiculous joke, and great was his relief when he inherited an estate with the privilege of assuming the name of "Winder." Had he laid aside his absurd style of dress, it is possible he might thus have escaped the ridicule to which he had exposed himself; but his relentless companions merely altered his nickname, and he was ever afterwards known as "Beau Winder."—Dublin University Magazine.

The almost daily Cabinet Councils held by Ministers during the past week are reasonably supposed to have reference to the coming Congress, and to indicate anything rather than a perfect unanimity in their councils. The concession to the Italian revolution which Lord John Russell, in his Aberdeen speech, pledged the Government to make a sine qua non preliminary to England's participating in the Congress, is not likely, we fear, to promote the cohesion of the Cabinet. The isolation of Great Britain from European councils at so momentous a crisis as the present, will not, or we are much deceived, be regarded by the country as a lesser evil than the possibility of her being outvoted on a question of purely Continental arrangement. We have ever advocated non-intervention, but that is a very different thing from isolation. Great Britain cannot become isolated from Europe without present dishonor and prospective danger. The eventuality is not indeed probable though our Secretary for Foreign Affairs has done his best to bring it about. There is a fatality about all that he does, and we have no confidence, judging from the past, that his pilotage of the State in the matter of the Congress will prove prosperous. Lord John Russell evidently presupposes the whole question when he insists, as a preliminary to a Congress, on the right of the Italians to choose their own government being acknowledged. If this were done, the work of the Congress would take no higher rank than the discussions at Zurich, for it must, in that case, be confined to mere matters of detail.—Weekly Register.

The first battalion of the military train for China was under orders to depart overland.