

HEATHEN IRELAND AND CHRISTIAN ENGLAND.

(From the Nation.)

We have read in the London Morning Advertiser of Saturday last a very beastly composition, which demands a notice at our hands. It treats of the warm receptions given to the swaddler missionaries who have made a descent upon Ireland to earn the pay of the sanctimonious hypocrites of whom the Advertiser is the organ.

As the article contains the creed of this wicked crusade, we trust it has been universally read in Ireland, for it illustrates most completely and fortunately the demoniacal spirit which inspires the patrons and organisers of a design which would be utterly contemptible but for the ferocious malignity with which it has been conceived and is now vindicated.

For once, we must be serious with this subject. When the detachment of motley evangelisers made their first appearance in certain Southern towns of this idolatrous, Papistical island of ours, we joined heartily in the ridicule and badinage with which they were encountered. But the "mission" is assuming a serious complexion. It is breeding religious excitement, and is provoking a more stubborn resistance than jibes and witticisms. In some districts Orange Government magistrates have lent the aid of the civil authority and civil forces in order to secure for the fanatics or impostors (and we suppose there is a mixture), an opportunity of insulting the religious belief of the people, and of inflicting them by the utterance of foul blasphemies against their Church. In Parsonstown the new revelation was thus preached, under the protection of the Police, and the Government Magistrate only paused in his proselytising zeal in not forcing upon the Catholic audience instant conformity at the point of the bayonet.

Now, let us first see what manner of doctrine these zealous missionaries, hot from the gin-palaces of London want us to adopt. They ask a Catholic people to forsake the Catholic Church, and to embrace the Faith they announce *ex-cathedra*. (Judge, from the tops of beer barrels.) But what Faith do they offer them in exchange for their own? We really cannot ascertain. In Limerick, the three zealous apostles held each his own particular creed. One of the shepherds was a Scotch Episcopalian; another was a Moravian; and the third differed *à la carte* from his inspired colleagues. What mean this Mosaic of gospels? Suppose they all rant away for an entire day, and persuade some *omahawn* in the crowd that his eternal perdition is inevitable if he do not forsake the Catholic Church; whose prize is the discriminating convert to be? Will the apostles cast lots for his soul? Or will they "spar" a few rounds in the ring for possession of the fruit of their eloquence and zeal? Clearly, the Reverend Obadiah Muggins is as much entitled to the neophyte, as the Reverend Flare-a-way Stiggins; and Stiggins had as strong a claim as the Reverend Blazes Wiggins; and Wiggins has as good a right as Muggins and Stiggins aforesaid. This would be our difficulty, if, unhappily, we were lured from the faith we hold, by the dogmatical bombardment of the three Apostles. Between Muggins, Stiggins and Wiggins we should be in a complete theological fix. If they be honest men, each should immediately essay a new conversion; having rescued us from the darkness of Popery, it would never do for any one of them to allow us to become the property of either of the others, in whose creed he did not himself believe; and, we are pretty certain, that we should relapse into our olden errors, and stick to Rome, as a matter of common sense. *In medio tutissimam via.*

And really the supreme absurdity of this whole farcical invasion is displayed in the case put forward. Is it not rank nonsense to imagine that any body of sane men, unless they be avaricious knaves, would undertake so preposterous and idiotic a scheme as the conversion of a people to half a dozen religions at the same time? Can these men be sincere who, dissenting, as widely as the poles are separated, from all community of belief, essay to convert a pious and enthusiastic Catholic nation (and, thank God! it is to the heart Catholic) to some nonsensical combination of half a dozen creeds, each of the hundred apostles believing that the other is teaching false doctrine, and wrestling the scriptures to his own destruction?

Ah, they are not sincere, fellow-countrymen. They are knaves, liars, and hypocrites; caunting scoundrels who are hired by the farmers of English gold panned by weak dupes into the Treasury of Exeter Hall.

They are sent here to spend the surplus funds heretofore distributed in Soup and Libellous tracts. Sure as the Spirit of God inspires and directs all pure zeal, all pure evangelisation, the Spirit of Satan guides this profane and wicked imposture.

And because the people, in some districts, have given expression to their natural indignation at this impudent fraud, the Organ of gin drinking and drunken bible-readers dares to brand us as "pagans and savages."

Ah, we know where the pagans and savages are to be found. Look to where the vices of paganism prevail, and there is the reign of the pagan and the savage. Look to where the name of the Saviour is unknown; to where society is one mass of crime and brutality; to where the most damnable atrocities, at which nature revolts, habitually shock the heart and the soul; to where the fathers and the sons, the mothers and the daughters, farm their own shame; to where body and soul are made a filthy traffic; and to where the first principles of religion are unknown, or if known, are scoffed and blasphemed like as in hell; and there you have heathenism, savagery, debauchery, corruption, sin, and wickedness, most appalling and infamous. There in the heart of that Christian Kingdom of England, whence come these ruffian hypocrites, is the reign of iniquity greater than that of Babylon of old.

Yes, oh! pious Morning Advertiser, "there are men" (and women too) "whose countenances are white, whose hearts are blacker than the complexion of Zoolu Caffres, and whose natures are immeasurably more ferocious." And if you want to discover where these Christian Savages are most plentiful on God's earth, ask your judges and your magistrates, and your clergy, and your parliament, and your hangmen.

For once we admit that the Times has been surpassed in deliberate lying, ribaldry, and ferocity. The palm is yours, oh! meek and pious Advertiser. And if we could believe that you have credited what you have written, your sincerity might palliate your hideous ruffianism. But you are not sincere. You lie deliberately, and for the current coin of the realm. Let your comical missionaries look to it. If there

be bones broken amongst them, if a Catholic people take the law into their own hands and scourge the hypocrites who blaspheme their religion, let their blood be upon their own heads. They have been saved from punishment heretofore by the generous interference of the Priests of that Faith which they have so wantonly reviled. But if they are to be protected in their impious crusade by the arms of men who are paid to protect the public peace which they have first violated, we advise the Priests to fold their arms and let the "Pagans" deal with them in self-defence.

A little cheap martyrdom of this kind will be amply compensated for by the substantial wages of Exeter Hall. As a cotemporary has wittily said "their crown of glory is only the five-shilling piece of the mint."

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—It is very generally believed that the projected meeting of another synod at Thurles, on the summons of the Apostolic Delegate, is intended for the passing of a decree forbidding the faithful in the province of Munster from giving any countenance or support to the national system of education. At present the interdiction is limited to the province of Leinster, but as Dr. Cullen is not the man to do things by halves, it is probable that synods will also be held in the other two provinces as soon as practicable, in order to complete the good work he has taken in hand. Meanwhile, it is every day becoming more apparent that the system, if it is to be preserved at all, must undergo a thorough reform, and, however disagreeable the alternative suggested in the Times of Thursday last, there seems to be no course left but the one pointed to—namely, the secularisation of the Government plan, "due opportunity being afforded for separate religious exercises."—*Dublin Correspondent of Times.*

The Evening Post, in a long review of the pros and cons of the education quarrel, contains a singular statement, which, it says, proves that the resignation of Archbishop Whately has been the result of an organised opposition to the national system, long contrived, which the recent secessions from the board were intended to carry out with due effect. Here are the Post's revelations. It may be now asked, "What next in this strange eventful history?"—"There has been for several years a national school at Stillorgan, held in a wooden building at Redesdale, the demesne attached to the residence of Dr. Whately in that locality. Until the visit to this city, about 12 months since, of some of those Italian renegades, who had then excited such a *feror* among the very sanctimonious and Popery-hating portion of our population, this school at Stillorgan had been conducted under the auspices of Mrs. Whately in a most creditable and impartial manner. Some Protestant, and many Roman Catholic children regularly attended—the rules of the board had been faithfully carried out, and all conducted in peace and harmony. But with the advent of the Italian preachers a new light dawned upon Redesdale—suddenly all was changed—efforts were made to introduce a new system of religious instruction for the Catholic children; and the parish priest, the Rev. Dr. Ennis, although one of the most moderate and forbearing of men, was constrained by a solemn sense of duty to interfere for the protection of the children of his communion. A correspondence with Archbishop Whately ensued; and, although matters had not been entirely or satisfactorily adjusted, yet there was such a suspension of overt acts of hostility that the business of the school proceeded. However, soon after the recent withdrawal of Archbishop Whately from the National Board, the warfare recommenced in a still more vigorous and determined fashion than before; and on Thursday last war was openly declared by Mrs. Whately. It has never been our habit to introduce the name of a lady in commentaries upon public topics; but, in this instance, we sincerely regret that we are left without an alternative. On that day Mrs. Whately visited the school, expressed strong disapproval of the disuse of the "Scripture Lessons" as a reading-book for combined instruction for Roman Catholics and Protestants, notified to the Roman Catholic schoolmistress her dismissal, directed a person who attended for the purpose with a paint-pot to erase the words "National School" from a board placed in front of the building, and declared her fixed resolution that the "Scripture Lessons" should be read by all the children in attendance. This simple statement of facts will, perhaps, serve to explain the circumstances—heretofore by many persons considered inexplicable—of the termination by Archbishop Whately of his connexion with the National Board. The mask has now been entirely cast aside, and proselytism is openly and unblushingly avowed. These facts are really important, as regards the system of national education generally, with which, most fortunately, Dr. Whately has now no further connexion; but, in respect to the particular locality, we are happy to state that a new school is about to be erected by the Rev. Dr. Ennis, the parish priest of Booterstown, in which the national system will be carried out thoroughly and conscientiously, in strict accordance with the rule laid down by Lord Derby—"a combined secular and a separate religious education."

The London Times gives the following explanation of the circumstances that led to the resignation of Dr. Whately, and his brother Commissioners; it will be seen how false is the assertion, that this resignation was forced upon them by the intrigues, and overbearing spirit of the Catholic Hierarchy:—"Many years ago Dr. Whately published a work entitled 'Lessons on the Truth of Christianity.' About 1837 it was proposed to introduce this work into the course of study at the National Schools; exception being taken to some passages, the 'Lessons' were submitted to a learned umpire, who expunged some parts and modified others; and the book, thus amended, being approved by the whole Board, was distributed throughout the schools and used by them for a considerable period. Unfortunately, not very long ago it was suggested to the Archbishop that the original work was far superior to the modified edition and quite unobjectionable. Upon this the Archbishop, on his own responsibility, caused copies of the original 'Lessons' to be issued to the schools. Subsequently, on visiting a school, he found this book was not in use there, and forthwith brought the subject before the Board. A long controversy ensued, which terminated in the rejection, by a majority of the Commissioners, of the book, not only in its original, but also in its amended form. In consequence of this decision, after some ineffectual attempts to alter the decree of the Board, the three abovenamed Commissioners resigned. Surely, then, these retiring Commissioners cannot assign as a reason for their resignation that any new or unusual practice was brought into action against them?

They took their seats at the Board with a perfect knowledge of the regulations under which the system was carried on, cognizant that no book could be used but such as had the approbation of the entire Board, and conscious that in this system of mixed national education the instruction must be mainly secular, and that the religious must in some measure be considered an extraneous matter. They knew all this, and yet, because the Board refused to sanction the use of certain books proposed by them, they resigned their posts. In fact, they said, 'Since you will not allow us to distribute religious works of which we approve we will have nothing more to do with you.'

NATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.—The Lord Lieutenant has appointed the Right Hon. John Hatchell, late Attorney-General for Ireland, and Mountford Longfield, Esq., LL.D. (one of the Commissioners of the Encumbered Estates Court), as members of the National Board of Education, in the room of the Rt. Hon. F. Blackburne and Mr. Baron Greene, who have resigned. Dr. Longfield has been a senior fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, with which he is still in some degree connected. Dr. Higgins, Protestant Bishop of Limerick, has accepted the seat at the Board vacated by the removal of Archbishop Whately.

The estate of Ballynalty, barony of Kilmane, was sold last week, by private contract, in the Incumbered Estates Court, to Mr. Ouseley Higgins, M.P., at about eighteen and a-half years' purchase.

STATE OF THE LABOR MARKET.—The *Newry Examiner*, after giving a glowing account of the condition of all the crops, especially the potato, in that district, proceeds to call attention to the new "Irish difficulty," to wit:—"The great difficulty is to obtain labor sufficient to reap, mow, dig, and save the harvest, for it is beyond all question or dispute that men cannot be got in the country districts to supply the present and still more the prospective demand. The vast demand for labor in England, and the liberal wages paid there, have attracted the Irish peasantry in large numbers across the Channel, and the consequence is, that it is a matter of difficulty to procure a day laborer on any terms in some parts of the country. This state of things will be better understood when we state that a few days since we saw a letter from an Irish laborer in England to his brother in the parish of Danany, not far from Dundalk. We did not take a literal copy, but it was nearly as follows, dated from Sunderland:—"Dear Peter,—don't do another day's work in Ireland, but come here as fast as ever you can. This is the place to work—3s. a day wages, and it isn't the like of the eating and drinking you'll get in Ireland. Bring only your best clothes with you, and leave the old duds after you. I hope we'll soon send for the old people, for we can earn money here so long as we are able and willing to do a day's work; there is a great demand at present for women servants to assist in harvest work, and their wages is in most instances advanced to nearly double the ordinary amount. Young women of this class are also extremely scarce in the country, vast numbers of them having emigrated to the United States and Canada within the last two or three years, but Canada seems to be more generally chosen as their location."

HARVEST PROSPECTS.—The weather continues splendid for agricultural purposes, and, with an isolated complaint, all the accounts of the condition of the potato represent the crop as having so far escaped the fatal disease of IS46. The *Northern Whig* published this day says,—"Having now arrived at the first week of Autumn, the state and prospects of all crops may be fairly estimated and considered; and, when the unexampled wetness of the winter and spring, and consequent backwardness of labor and lateness of seedtime—a lateness, we believe, without parallel—are remembered, it is certainly a circumstance as valuable as it is unexpected, that the coming harvest promises to be so abundant, and so fully an average one. Our agricultural accounts of this morning from various parts of the province all concur in this view of our prospects: the potato, which, according to the published accounts, is not good in England and in some parts of the south, continues in Ulster healthy and luxuriant. In enclosed gardens, where we are informed, at this time last year flourishing appearance, without a particle of blight. We trust such may be the case until the vegetable arrives at full maturity and is past danger. The flax crop continues to be on the whole very satisfactorily spoken of; the crop raised from Dutch seed has been injured by 'siring' in many places—that raised from Riga has generally escaped. We have heard of some large sales of flax on foot.—A farmer in the Templepatrick district has sold the produce of 16 acres at £15 per acre, statute measure, we believe to be delivered in the straw at a few miles from where it grows. We may here refer to the high price hay commands at present. This day 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per cwt. was freely paid for new hay; a year ago the price was, for the same quality, about 1s. 6d. per cwt."

We are happy in being enabled to state that the harvest prospects were never brighter than they are at this moment. In some districts oats have already fallen before the hand of the reaper, whilst wheat and barley are becoming of that russet hue which betokens ripeness. As to the potato, we never witnessed a more luxuriant, or, within our cognizance, a more prosperous growth of the esculent. We hear complaints; but we hear no cause for their existence.—*Limerick Reporter.*

We have travelled several miles through this country, and can state, from personal observation, that the cereal crops, so far as we saw and could judge of them, promised to be most abundant. We cannot say the same for the potato. That the disease has made its appearance in that root there cannot be the slightest doubt.—*Kilkenny Journal.*

The accounts of the potato crop are of the best, and the most confident hopes are entertained in this neighborhood that the disease has wholly disappeared, or at least become so mitigated and innoxious, in its character, as to be altogether undeserving of any notice.—*Newry Examiner.*

We still continue to receive favorable accounts from our country friends of the safe and flourishing condition of the potato crop, which, owing to the genial weather, has made rapid strides to maturity within the last week. Our market notes bear convincing testimony to this fact, for a reduction of 2d. per stone has taken place since last Saturday, and fine potatoes were exhibited for sale to-day, at 5½d and 6d per stone.—*Galway Vindicator.*

We have heard and seen from time to time unmistakable symptoms of the potato disease, but until this week, we may say until Friday, we saw or heard of nothing general. Our accounts on Friday were quite melancholy. In the Hook, where the potatoes

were earliest and finest, they are this week quite withered. All round the country, and here in the neighborhood of Wexford, the same melancholy tale is told; and not only is the stalk being affected, but the tuber also.—*Wexford people.*

EMIGRATION.—Notwithstanding the generally reported prosperous state of the growing cereal crops, and of the potato, of which we have our doubts, having seen the stalks black in several fields on the 25th ult., and the leaves, in almost every field corroded, our stalwart countrymen and women, to the number of 250, left by the Mars for Liverpool, at ten o'clock, last night, bound to the "Land of Liberty."—*Waterford Chronicle.*

The *Sligo Journal*, referring to a prevalent opinion that, owing to the improved prospects of the country, emigration was on the decrease in that county, admits that as far as the wealthier classes are concerned, a falling off in numbers has taken place. But this is not applicable to the lumber classes, hundreds of whom are preparing to leave the country for ever. American money continues to pour into the western province.

The emigration from this district to Australia is very considerable, and is principally composed of fine young girls, who are induced to try their fortunes in that distant land in preference to America, from the many reports of excellent marriages which have been contracted by respectable females who had preceded them. From many districts we learn that there is a great scarcity of able-bodied farm laborers at present. Hundreds of them are employed in England and Scotland where they receive larger wages than they could obtain at home.—*Louth and Down Pilot.*

WITHDRAWAL OF MR. KEOGH'S MINISTERS' MONY BILL.—On Monday night Mr. Keogh's obnoxious measure was withdrawn, doubtless in consequence of the general condemnation with which it has been received by all classes in this country. Sir John Young, indeed, promised to introduce it again next session, and pretended to think that "it would prove beneficial to Ireland;" but if the expression of public opinion which has already been elicited on this subject has not convinced him of the contrary, we have no doubt that it will be sufficiently efficacious to put a quietus upon this unjust, unequal, and peddling piece of legislation. The course taken by the government on this question is the reverse of creditable, and by no means calculated to give the Irish people faith in those professions of liberality and love of justice which have been so prominently paraded by the Aberdeen-Clarendon-Russell administration. There is but one course that can give satisfaction here—the complete and unconditional abolition of an impost, which is regarded as a mark of degradation by the Catholic and the Dissenter, and is distasteful to the feelings of all right-minded and Liberal Protestants.—*Freeman.*

Returns that have recently been published on the motion of Mr. Lucas, by order of the House of Commons, show that in the Army and in the State Prisons—to say nothing of county jails,—Catholics are suffering under as bitter and unrelenting bigotry as it Daniel O'Connell had never been born, and as if the Catholic Association had never wrung Emancipation from a perfidious Prince and a reluctant Parliament. We have no means of ascertaining the precise proportion of Catholics to Protestants in the army, for a motion that was made in the House of Commons not long ago with a view to elicit the truth on this point, was successfully resisted by the Government of that day; but considering the military propensities of the Irish and the other inducements to enlistments which prevailed in that country more than in England until a very recent date, we think we cannot be far wrong in estimating the Irish soldiers as one-third of the moveable army of Great Britain, and in assuming that of those, five-sixths are Catholics. Yet it appears from one of the returns alluded to, that out of the sum of £18,162 paid for Divine service in the army for the years 1852 and 1853, the sum appropriated to the use of Catholic chaplains amounts to only £2,702, or about one-seventh of the whole.

An interesting discovery was made in Limerick on Tuesday last. On that day, as some laborers were digging on the site of the New market, nearly opposite the Ordnance barracks, one of them struck his shovel against a small brown lacquered round jar, which broke and disclosed a pile of old silver coins, for which there was an immediate scramble, and they soon disappeared in the eager hands that clutched them up. Amongst the pieces are dollars of the French, Spanish, and Austrian Empires. One of Louis XIV. is in capital preservation, dated 1670, with the head of the grand Monarque on the obverse, and on the reverse the arms of France, with the fleur de lys, and motto "sit nomen Domini benedictum." Another is an Albert and Elizabeth, 1619. It is believed there were 500 old pieces in the jar, and all silver.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT OF £35,000.—The case of "The Queen at the prosecution of Sarah Kelly v. George Birch," which was fixed to take place this week at the Commission Court, has been removed by writ of certiorari to the Court of Queen's Bench. The result of this is the postponement of the trial until November next.

John Woods and James O'Brien have been lodged in Cork gaol, for charging Mr. Hugh Kinnears with having set fire to his houses, to defraud the Royal Exchange Company.

EXECUTION OF THE CONVICTS HODGENS AND BREEN AT MONAGHAN.—These unhappy men underwent the last sentence of the law on the scaffold in front of the gaol at Monaghan on Monday at twelve o'clock. After hanging the usual time the bodies were cut down and given over to their friends for interment. The father and sister of Hodgens were present to receive his corpse, but the poor old man Breen had no friend, relative, nor acquaintance to look after him from the time of his arrest and conviction to the last melancholy hour of his existence, and it was understood that he made a request that the friends of Hodgens would see to the interment of his remains, and they did so. The shell coffins enclosing each of their bodies were placed on a cart and moved on in the direction of Dundalk, accompanied only by two men and two women.—*Newry Examiner.*

The three convicts who had lately escaped from the Limerick jail are recaptured. One was arrested in Cork by Head-constable Crowley; another who had enlisted in the 84th regiment, under the assumed name of Thomas Burke, had been given up by the military authorities at Chatham, to which he had been sent; and the third was arrested in London by one of the metropolitan force.—*Limerick Examiner.*