

nefarious system organised against the old established faith of the country is unfolded, and the white cravated orators enjoy a few days of self-glorification, ventilating all such platitudes of puff as may tickle the ears of the weakest and most despicable portion of the Protestant fold. Then are resolutions passed, which, if they come to nothing, exhibit at least the venom which actuates their movers; lengthy reports are read, each reverend gentleman fraternally endeavoring to rival his brother in misrepresenting the faith professed by three-fourths of the people; and each man of God cuts out the body of his oration from the old Exeter Hall material, and embellishes the same with the accustomed trimmings of sacred slang.

We can enumerate but a few of the societies whose jubilee has just been held, for their name is Legion. We have the Irish Society, founded for purposes of general conversion, not only among the barbarians of this Green Isle, but even in those foreign regions where "the skies for ever smile, and the blacks for ever weep"—the Sunday School Society, the Church Missionary, the Hibernian Bible, the Religious Tract Society, the Church Education Society, and the Evangelical Alliance. Each and every one of those and a score more have directed their workings—some for forty years, some for thirty-six, some for five or ten—against the Catholic faith of this country, with what success the reports of the current year may serve as an example. Let us take the report of the Irish Society, whose thirty-sixth anniversary was celebrated in the Rotundo a few weeks ago, and gather somewhat of their modes of procedure.

This meeting, which of course opened with prayer, was adorned by the presence of several great guns—Lord Roden occupying the chair—the Earl of Donoughmore, and the Rt. Rev. Bob Daly, Lord Bishop of Cashel, together with many other notabilities of his class, addressing the assemblage. A Rev. Secretary read the Report of the Society for the current year. The document is rather long, and, as may be imagined, somewhat heavy. It relates to the number of "missions" established, the extension of their agency, and the finances of the Association, which we find to be in a tolerably prosperous state.

In no other public assemblage, the notices of which have come before us, does that irresistible element of humor, which consists in the righteous self-applause and perfect self-possession of the orator, united at the same time with utter incapacity, appear in a more glaring light. There is much good fun, too, in the narratives given by the Rev. Gentlemen, illustrative of their success in conversion. The wonderful stories of children converted in an off-hand and miraculous manner, by the presentation of a sixpenny Bible—the subtle answers returned by those infants to questions of a profound metaphysical tendency, together with the expansion and sudden blossoming of the reasoning faculty under the culture of the sacred soup distributor—whose own rationalistic powers, if we may judge of them from his speech, are at the very lowest water-mark, are as comic as can be conceived. No less agreeable are the individual character of the speakers. There is the picturesque narrator, who describes the seed of the Gospel as sown upon the coral reefs of the Southern Pacific, and the astounding harvest grown therefrom. There is the hard, common-sense declaimer, who tires everybody, the *Gradgrind* of Prophecy—the inspired enthusiast, with scented handkerchief, and curl on his forehead, full of mouthy metaphor and pulpit poetry the young ladies' favorite; and of course, there, too, is the great argumentative speaker, who forgets his premises long before he arrives at his conclusion, and flounders on until his voice is lost in the applause of a congenial auditory.

On the whole, Proselytism seems to be at a slight discount. From the Report of the Church Education Society, we find that while they have established twenty-two additional schools, they have experienced a decrease of 6,123 scholars, and the average of Protestant and Dissenting children remaining the same; "but," says the Report, "the number of children of Roman Catholic parents has fallen off to the extent of 6,051, which diminution, with very few exceptions, has been shared by all the diocesan societies." From this admitted fact, we find that the people have taken the measure of the Proselytisers. Indeed we always suspected as much, despite of the outcry raised, and the labored exaggerations of the sacred crusaders.

But even though the abilities of those men who have set forth to the conversion of Ireland are as contemptible as the motives which inspire them, and not very likely to make an impression upon the most quick-witted peasantry on earth; yet the resources which Protestant credulity, actuated by the rage for conversion, places in their hands, make them to some degree formidable, particularly in those chosen districts where poverty, famine, and proselytism walk side by side. Protestants working in Ireland at present; amid the machinery of so many societies, has proclaimed a war of extermination against the Catholic faith; and however futile the exertions of those societies may be on an extensive scale, we may rest assured that the Exeter Hall phalanx, supplied with funds from the other side of the channel, will not remit their efforts, nor will that intolerant system which has made its yearly exposition in the religious meetings of the present month perish from want of English money to support its workings. The latter will still be maintained while those acting can collect cash to pay their emissaries. The present year, however, does not exhibit their labors in any triumphant light; and though, as one of their reports, piously states, "the gold and silver are the Lord's." Divine Providence somehow does not appear to have prospered their efforts, even by their own showing. There is one way of stopping this

system—one only. Its flank must be turned. *De landa est Carthago.* The only way to stop the system is by besieging the Establishment.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE IRISH CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—At last this great and important institution is about to be fairly started, and ere many months roll by, Ireland will have a Catholic University flourishing in her metropolis. Since the first move taken for its establishment, every effort made in its behalf has been eminently successful; and now that it is approaching to a state of completion, its promoters cannot but congratulate themselves on the successful issue to the undertaking, at the same time that they bless the Providence of God, which has mercifully favored, and rendered successful, a work no less glorious than important. It is unnecessary for us, at the present moment, to enter into a detailed account of the circumstances that originated the projected establishment of this great educational institute. It is sufficient for us to know that the Irish Catholic University was a necessary desideratum in the great element of Catholic educational resources. It has a great mission chalked out for it, upon the due and faithful fulfilment of which rest the future destinies of the Irish nation.—*Weekly Telegraph.*

LAST WEEK OF THE MISSION IN KILRUSH.—The mission of the saintly Jesuit Fathers closed on Sunday, the 28th of May. Never in any part of Ireland have the labors and zeal of those Missionaries been more generally rewarded with an abundant spiritual harvest than during their present visit to the west of Clare. Thousands have renewed their baptismal vows of "renouncing the Devil with all his works and pomps," and living for the remainder of their lives faithful soldiers unto Christ. During the space of three weeks that the mission lasted over forty thousand persons have approached the Holy Sacrament of Penance and the Eucharist. Six or seven thousand persons were in the church or about it daily, of whom two thousand are supposed to have been to Holy Communion every morning.

Last year Ireland contributed £5,680 to the Continental Society for the Propagation of the Catholic Faith. The sum raised in France was £93,630; England, £1,639; and Scotland, £44—sum total, £155,847 for the year. To the missions in Asia £57,000, was appropriated; to Africa, £13,500; to America, £43,000; to England, £7,480; Ireland, £3,280; and Scotland, £2,926.

Mrs. Putland, wife of George F. D. Putland, Esq., of Cabara House, Glinn, first cousin to the late Knight of Glavin, was received into the Catholic Church, a few days ago, by the Rev. Mr. McCoy, P.P., of Glinn.—*Tablet.*

The Church of Alphonsus, at Limerick, was solemnly dedicated on the 12th ult.

RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.—We are now in the twenty-sixth year of Catholic Emancipation. All persuasions are presumed to be equal in the eye of the law; nevertheless a constant, careful, and systematic exclusion of Catholics from places of trust and emolument has been persisted in to a considerable extent. The reason is, that while the letter of the law, with some exceptions, directs similarity of treatment, the administration of the law falls into the hands of mean, narrow-minded bigots, who use it to suit their own views. We may instance the constabulary force of Ireland. It consists of 12,525 persons, officers and men, in the following proportions—8,954 Catholics to 3,570 Protestants. The vast majority of the force being Catholics, it is instructive to observe how the minority manage to keep to themselves nearly all valuable situations. The Inspector-General is a Protestant—so are his two deputies—so are their two assistants. The county inspectors are all Protestants, and they number thirty-five. Of the sub-inspectors 218 are Protestants, and 29 are Catholics. Beyond the rank of sub-inspector no Catholic need hope to go, and in that rank they must not abound, so they are kept to the decent limit of an eighth part. There are 340 head-constables, who are thus divided—268 Protestants to 72 Catholics. Promotion of the men rests with the Inspector-General and the county inspectors; the former adopts the recommendations of the latter, and it may be presumed that the county inspectors, an exclusively Protestant clique, do not trouble themselves very much with nominating Catholic policemen for advancement. A Mr. Ridges, who describes himself as the son of a police-officer twenty-one years in the service, and a Protestant, writes thus in the *Freeman's Journal*:—"How many loyal and efficient Catholic policemen, and eligible for promotion, have I known to have served under my father, in different counties, and, when arriving at a position for further promotion, have been set aside or crushed out of the force to make room for their more fortunate rivals? It is much to be regretted that in selections for appointments and promotions to the upper ranks the government should be biassed by sectarian motives, which have been the cause of much discontent and dissatisfaction in the force of late years. Insult has been added to injury; their feelings have been outraged by the most atrocious falsehoods on their religion, in a publication sanctioned and sent to them free of expense, called the *Catholic Layman's* a Dublin periodical, which contains the grossest calumnies on Catholics under a name used to mislead them; and this is the reading, it appears, provided for our constabulary barracks. They are otherwise worried and annoyed because they do not sanction the proselytising movement, and it is strange to think that no person in authority has remonstrated against such injustice." And stranger to think, that the Catholic police remain insensible to such proceedings.—*Westford People.*

Mr. Keogh, it seems, has publicly stated that it is not his intention to accept the commissionership vacant by the lamented death of Mr. Henry Baldwin; and that no member of the Government would presume to offer it to him. Beyond that garden for the culture of "figments,"—the "Hall" of the Four Courts—no one ever supposed that the Solicitor-General contemplated "retirement from public life," which would be pretty nearly the same thing as his acceptance of the judgeship of the Irish Insolvent Court. The office has not yet, of course, been filled up, but notwithstanding that the list of aspirants has been considerably augmented, the name of Mr. Corballis preserves its high position among the "favorites."—*Telegraph.*

(We *Cork Constitution*) understand that a naval squadron is about to be formed, to cruise in the channel and around the Irish coast.

A Dublin evening paper announces the sudden death of Colonel Samuel White, of Killakee, on 28th ult., when he was seized with a fit of apoplexy while sitting with his family at dinner. He represented the county of Leitrim for several years in Parliament, and was possessed of large property in that county. In early life, he entered the army, and was present at most of the victories won by the Duke of Wellington.

THE IRISH CORRUPTION COMMITTEE.—The *Evening Mail* gives the following abstract of the report of the Irish Corruption Committee. It differs but little from the sketch already published by the same journal more than a fortnight since; and it is stated that the individual members of the committee are not in any manner influenced by this report, so that probably some independent member may move another report by way of amendment, the fate of which must, of course, be doubtful.—"The present report goes through the several cases of alleged corruption *seriatim*. It commences with the articles in *The Times*, which it glosses over, merely stating that they were founded on the speeches of Dr. Grey and Mr. Kelly, which appeared in the *Freeman* of the 27th of January last. The case of alleged sales of a place to Mr. Howley is designated as a *bona fide* transaction, and states positively that Mr. Kelly's charge of corruption is without any foundation. It then alludes to the speeches made by the Solicitor-General for Ireland, and the hon. member for Mayo, at Ballina and Wexford; and, though it does not give their statements the *lie direct*, it states that the evidence they have produced in support of their statement is 'not sufficient to sustain them.' As to Dr. Gray's statements, and the conversations upon which they were founded, it states that there is reason to think that Dr. Gray's recollection of these supposed conversations is not accurate. In noticing Mr. Keogh's charges against Mr. Somers, the report 'regrets such statements should have been made on the grounds alleged.' It is also proposed in this report that the committee should unanimously declare that Mr. O'Connell has just reason to complain of the false and injurious reports circulated about him. Alluding to the charge of corruption brought by the hon. member for Meath against the Irish Solicitor-General, the hon. and learned gentleman is 'white-washed' by a declaration that the charge of corrupt practices and of having recklessly taken oaths which were deliberately broken arose from this—that the Solicitor-General took office, which was inconsistent with his previous conduct and obligations. In alluding to the cases of Messrs. Howley and Smith, in which Mr. Keogh's name was mixed up, it states that they are samples of the way in which, for party purposes, such charges are trumped up and propagated. The charge of the Smiths is then declared to be false and unfounded. After alluding to a number of other matters (but omitting the English case, which has since been disproved), the report concludes with stating that the committee have followed up and exhausted all sources of information without discovering a single case of corruption; that they are of opinion no such inquiry as this is armed with sufficient powers to discover the truth or falsehood of such charges of general corruption and sale of places in Ireland, which may be true, or may have arisen from the disposition which exists in Ireland to take every opportunity to damage a political opponent."

THE PRO-CATHOLIC CABINET.—Within the last few weeks a memorial was forwarded, or presented, to Lord Aberdeen by the Most Rev. Dr. Briggs, Bishop of Beverley. To this document were attached the signatures of all the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland, England, and Scotland, we believe, without a single exception. A more solemn ceremonial and upon a graver subject for the salvation of souls was never yet presented to the rulers of an empire. The prayer of the memorial was not directed to any merely secular topic, nor to the removal of any mere abstract political or social grievance affecting the Catholic subjects of her British Majesty. It prayed simply that Catholic soldiers and sailors, who are at this moment shedding their blood in defence of the crown, should be allowed the means necessary to prepare themselves for death; in other words, to put them in the way of escaping, perhaps, the damnation of their souls. It is an admitted fact that more than one-third of the British army is Catholic. Every third man, then, serving in the present Eastern expedition is a Catholic. Two Catholic Chaplains are all that are allowed by her Majesty's advisers to minister to the wants of so many thousands, scattered as they are and will be in the course of the war over an extensive field of military operations. The navy is, however, altogether unprovided with Catholic Chaplains. The poor Catholic sailor, dying of his wounds, may die and be eternally damned as far as it concerns the minister of her Britannic Majesty. If these be not grave topics for Catholics to consider, we know not what are. If the prayer of the memorial to which we refer be not a just one we know not what is. The Archbishops and Bishops of the empire, in seeking to preserve from the risk of damnation their Catholic subjects of the army and navy, have done so far their duty in praying the rulers who govern us to provide sufficient protection. What next step the Episcopacy will take we shall be most anxious to learn, as we can scarcely believe they will allow the matter to rest in its present position. The Episcopacy and Clergy of this empire have great power in their hands. They are looked up to and trusted by upwards of ten millions of British subjects. The parents, the children, the wives, the brothers, the sisters of the Catholic soldiers and sailors look to them for protection. Let us now, however, take a look at the reply of the much-lauded Aberdeen cabinet. We are sick and tired with hearing the praises lavished upon this cabinet of "all the talents" by those who would fain persuade the country that its members are favorable and friendly to Catholicity. Curt, cold, and repulsive is the reply of Lord Aberdeen. The aggregate of the Episcopacy of the empire are bowed out with a formal politeness, and simply told to go about their business. Her Majesty's ministers know better than the Bishops the precise amount of spiritual aid required for the salvation of the souls of the Catholic soldiers in the army; and as for the Catholic sailors, they may be shot, and— This is the plain philosophy of the reply of Lord Aberdeen. Twist and turn it as you may it will admit of no other practical construction; and yet if we are to pay attention to the eulogies bestowed upon this cabinet by place-hunting Catholics, "there is no God but Allah," and the Aberdeen cabinet is his Prophet.—*Tam Herald.*

The official report upon health and disease in Ireland, made to parliament, enumerates 4,747 persons deaf and dumb, including 168 idiots. The locality

least affected is Drogheda, having only four such cases in a population of 16,000. In Dublin the average is one in 1,667; Cork one in 1,786; Belfast one in 1,729; and Limerick one in 1,445. Wicklow has 45 cases in a population of 100,000. It is found that those afflictions prevail most in families where the parties have married in 1st, 2nd, or even 3rd degree of consanguinity.

"PROTESTANT ASCENDANCY."—Even in the dreary annals of Irish Orangeism, it would perhaps, be difficult to parallel the tasteless exhibition of intolerance which took place in the Rotundo on Monday evening. It was a "great Protestant demonstration," according to the advertisement, "for the purpose of petitioning the authorities to enforce the laws against the Convents and Monastic Orders of the Church of Rome." The first resolution adopted by these loyal gentlemen reminded Queen Victoria of the late of James the Second, who "aristocratically assumed to dispense with the laws of the land." Commenting upon this resolution, Mr. Thomas Thompson, expatiated upon the absurdity of exempting "Mother Abbesses in starched caps," from the operation of the laws, and declared that, in his opinion, the entire destruction of the nunneries was necessary for the well-being of society! But the resolution of the evening was that entrusted to the Rev. Mr. Gregg. In effect, it demanded that the Government should forthwith proceed against "Popery" in the good old spirit of the Penal Laws—depriving the Catholics of "all those civil and religious privileges which they are incapable of exercising aright?" "If the State were properly animated," observed this benevolent divine, "there would be held opposite every Popish chapel in Ireland, every Sunday, a proclamation from the Queen, declaring the worship performed therein a blasphemy, an idolatry, and a deceit; and, along with this, should be placed a park of artillery—not to fire upon the Papists of course, but to preserve the Proclamation from damage!" "Then," infers the Rev. Dr., "the Papists would see that the voice of truth was where God had placed the hand of power, and that in a short time they would leave the Church of Rome, not by hundreds or thousands, but by millions." And in order to bring this gentle remedy into more effectual operation, he invoked the generous alliance of British Protestantism!—*Nation.*

The Dublin correspondent of the *Mayo Telegraph* writes as follows; his advice is as applicable to Canada, as to Ireland:—"I am delighted that you advocate 'independent parliamentary action' as the only sure road to success. Any other road is not only fallacious and unsafe, but dangerous; for, if the men whom we send to parliament to consult for, deliberate upon, and watch over our interests, will prefer making themselves pleasing to the ministry, by becoming their tools and slaves for the purpose of selling themselves at the earliest opportunity—I say, if they will prefer that course to the faithful discharge of their duties, better a thousand times we had no such cheats and knaves in parliament. Ireland at present wants men, not slaves with their masters' collars and their initials around their necks. It is only freemen that can do battle for freedom. I had rather the plain advocacy of a peasant in parliament than the most glowing but meretricious eloquence of a Castle hack. David, being in a righteous cause, with a sling smote Goliath with his shining armour."

CARRIGEEN MOSS.—Large quantities of Carrigeen moss are being brought into Galway from Spiddal and the Connemara coast. It is used to make a sort of jelly for the feeding of calves, and is also for medicinal purposes.

The Leper Hospital of Waterford is the only institution of the kind existing in Ireland. It is now the County and City Infirmary, and is supported by its own landed property. There were several similar Leper Hospitals in Ireland before "the Reformation," but they were suppressed, and their properties confiscated to the Crown. The Waterford Leper Hospital was founded by King John, who was cured from a cutaneous disease by the waters of the St. John's Well in that city, caught by eating too much Black-water salmon.

The extensive flax-spinning factory of Messrs. Duffin, Maclean's Fields, Belfast, was burned to the ground on yesterday week, when property to the amount of £10,000 was destroyed. The premises were fully insured.

The plans of the new prison for 400 boys upon the Curragh of Kildare have been completed, also the arrangements for extending Mountjoy Model Prison from 500 to 800 convicts. Smithfield, Ennis, and Maryborough depots will be abolished immediately. The old lunatic asylum at Cork has been hired for a temporary depot for aged convicts.

THE EMIGRATION DRAIN.—The people are flying out of the country in enormous numbers—no inducement can make them remain. High price for agricultural produce, the promise of abundant harvests, the facilities for obtaining land, as compared to other times, the comparative ease in their circumstances, nothing can induce them to stay in the homes of their fathers. The increased fares of passage, the perils of the ocean, the questionable character of some of the vessels—nothing can arrest their progress. In the port of Limerick the emigration, which had been rather slack hitherto, has become absolutely extraordinary within the last few weeks. Every vessel that offers is filled up, whilst applicants, in abundance, apply; for them there is no room. Within a few minutes walk of the city of Limerick it is impossible to procure laborers for turf-cutting and spring work; and farmers are compelled to do the best they can with the aid of their own families. In some of the neighboring towns the slackness of business is loudly complained of; and emigration is the uppermost thought in every mind.—*Limerick Reporter and Tipperary Vindicator.*

THE EXPOS.—The Pemberton, 1260 tons, commanded by Mr. Chapman, will sail on Tuesday, from Queenstown, with her full complement of passengers, in number 411. Of these 150 are gratuitously emigrated off the Lansdowne estate in Tuosist and Iveragh, by the Marquis of Lansdowne. The Guardians of Youghal Union send 65 paupers by this vessel.—*Cork Constitution.*

The *Eva*, at present in our dock, will sail from this port to America with passengers on Monday next. The anxiety of persons to emigrate from Galway is so great, that the sailing of a ship has been scarcely been announced before all the berths are secured; a sufficient number of vessels cannot be obtained to meet the increasing demands of the peasantry who are now leaving the country.—*Galway Packet.*