

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—The parish of Ballyheigue, through its truly patriotic parish priest, the Rev. Eugene McCarthy, has subscribed nine pounds in aid of the funds for founding and erecting the Catholic University in Ireland.—*Kerry Examiner.*

It is said that letters have been received from Rome, announcing the ratification of the Very Rev. Dr. Vaughan's election to the bishopric of Killaloe diocese.—*Limerick Reporter.*

DEATH OF THE REV. JAMES O'DRISCOLL, O. S. A.—It is with feelings of regret that are strongly participated in by all who knew him, that we announce the death of the Rev. James O'Driscoll, of St. Augustine's, Brunswick-street, which melancholy event took place on Friday night.—*Cork Examiner.*

On Wednesday last, his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam held a confirmation in the parish chapel of Castlebar, when upwards of seventeen hundred persons were confirmed.—*Castlebar Telegraph.*

CONVERSIONS.—We hear of a number of conversions to the faith in Cohoes, Albany County.—*New York Freeman's Journal.*

John Watts, Esq., and Mrs. Watts, were received into the Catholic Church on Easter Sunday, at Chester, by the Rev. Edward Carbery.—*Catholic Standard.*

ANOTHER CONVERT!—Mr. Simeon has retired from the representation of the Isle of Wight, under extraordinary circumstances. The honorable gentleman reminds the electors that up to the present time he has always professed himself a member of the Church of England; but the events of the past year have forced upon his unwilling consideration an inquiry into the grounds upon which she claims the allegiance of her members. The result of that inquiry has been the conviction that it is his duty "to seek admission into the body of the one Catholic Church, from which England was severed at the Reformation." A change of views so entire and decided, he adds, "entails upon me, as an honorable necessity, the duty of returning a trust which I am conscious that I should never have received, had I been a Catholic at the time of my soliciting your suffrages." Mr. Simeon has represented the Isle of Wight since 1847.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

AGGREGATE MEETING OF THE CATHOLICS OF IRELAND.

This great and most important demonstration, so imperatively demanded by the audacious attacks upon religious liberty, took place in the Rotundo on Tuesday, "for the purpose of petitioning parliament against the 'ecclesiastical titles assumptive bill,' and the 'religious houses bill,' and to adopt such other measures as may be best calculated to protect the religious rights and liberties of the Catholics of the United Kingdom." The rights of conscience being threatened with violation, it became the bounden duty of the country to protest against the outrage, in terms and in a manner not to be mistaken—and that duty was well and nobly discharged yesterday. The requisition upon which the meeting was called contained an array of names which, for number, character, position and influence, have been seldom or never equalled in any similar document. The signatures of the Archbishops head the list, and they are followed by those of the other prelates, that venerated body giving their entire sanction, zealous co-operation, and powerful influence to this great movement, in defence of religious freedom. The Catholic clergy, peers, members of parliament, members of the legal and other professions, magistrates, mercantile classes, and, in short, every order and interest in the community, are also most amply represented in the document, which, in itself, is a most powerful protest against the revival of the penal code, and proclaims, in a voice, of which even the bigoted advocates of persecution, would do well to take heed, that the people of this country, of all ranks and classes, are firmly resolved never again to submit to the abrogation of the sacred rights of conscience.

The meeting afforded further proof of this, if such were necessary. It was held in the Great Room of the Rotundo, which was densely thronged in every part long before the hour named for taking the chair. The extensive platform was thronged with most respectable and influential gentlemen from all parts of the country, representing the clergy, professions, mercantile and trading classes, the municipalities, magistrates, landowners, &c. The Catholic portion of the bar was especially well represented by its most leading and distinguished members. Indeed so great was the crowd on the platform, and in the reserved seats, that it was found utterly impossible to get anything like a list of names, such as would adequately show the number, position, or influence; of those present. Not only were the platform and the reserved seats crowded to excess, but the body of the great room was so filled as not to leave a standing place unoccupied, and large numbers had to remain outside, not being able to obtain admission. A great many elegantly dressed ladies were accommodated in the reserved seats. Altogether, it may be truly stated, that the meeting was one of the most numerous, important, and influential, that has ever been held in this country. Many great and momentous demonstrations have taken place in the same building; but never, we believe, any that exceeded, or perhaps equalled, this, in all that renders a great public meeting deserving of the utmost degree of weight and influence. The demeanor of the vast assemblage was marked with determination and enthusiasm, and the sentiments of the several speakers were received and responded to in a way that evinced a firm and fixed resolution to maintain the principles of religious liberty at every sacrifice.

At shortly after 11 o'clock, the Mayor of Limerick came forward amid loud cheers, and said—Fellow Catholics, as the representative here of the Catholics of Limerick, allow me to propose that the Hon. Charles Preston, son of Lord Gormanston, take the chair at this meeting (vehement cheering.)

The Mayor of Kilkenny said he felt sincere pleasure in seconding the motion (cheers.)

The chair was then taken by the Hon. Charles Preston.

Mr. Burke, hon. sec., then came forward and read the requisition convening the meeting. He said that it had been signed by all the archbishops and bishops of Ireland, (loud cheers,) by four peers, seven sons of peers, twenty-two members of parliament, and by a large number of deputy lieutenants, magistrates, and professional and mercantile gentlemen. More than 3,000 names had been affixed to the requisition in a very few days; and it was stated from all parts of the country, that if a few days more time had been afforded, the number of signatures would have been more than trebled (cheers.)

Mr. Burke then read the following letters from his Grace the Primate, and his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam:—

"Drogheda, 20th April, 1851.

"GENTLEMEN,—I did not receive your letter of the 16th inst., until to-day, and had there been time to assemble some of the other bishops in Dublin, I would have been happy to assist with them at the aggregate meeting. However, I think our absence will not be of any consequence, as we all gave full expression to our feelings some time ago, and besides, almost every bishop has given, in writing, the most decided approbation of the object of your meeting. I am sure that under these circumstances, you will excuse me from attending.

"I wish you every success, and I must add, that I feel most grateful to you for the zeal and ardor with which you are intent on defending the religious liberty of Catholics. I have the honor to be, with great esteem,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. PAUL CULLEN.

"The Hon. C. Preston, W. Keogh, Esq., M. P.,

"J. Reynolds, Esq., M. P."

St. Jarlath's Tuam, April 23, 1851.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg most respectfully to acknowledge your respected communication, conveying the kind invitation of your committee to me, as one of the Irish bishops, to attend on Tuesday at the great aggregate meeting in Dublin. It is a valuable compliment, which I appreciate, as must every prelate in Ireland, and I should rather testify my feelings by my presence on so interesting an occasion, witnessing the generous devotion of the Irish people to the freedom of their faith, than be content with writing what might be deemed, but is not meant, a cold and formal apology.

"This is not a season for shrinking or for conventional apologies; it is a season for earnest action and zealous exertion, and were it not that the public vehicle, which would enable me to reach Dublin late this night, had started before your letter reached me, I would have deemed it a sacred duty to acknowledge, by my personal presence, the depth of the obligations of the hierarchy to a faithful people, who, true to the spirit of their forefathers, are seen gathering round their altars, and proclaiming to the world their firm and unconquerable resolve to defend them.

"The prelates who intimated their intention to be present, will, I trust, realize the fond expectation of their faithful flock.

"The clergy and people assembling and taking counsel together in this awful crisis, would remind one of those great mixed assemblies that were so often convened in the middle ages, to guard the interests of society and religion, against some powerful public enemy, who, like the infatuated and tyrannical Prime Minister of England, would unchain the worst passions which it would be his duty to bind and become the great disturber of the country's repose. Against the evils with which his policy is fraught, no other precaution can avail short of his removal from the power which he abuses. To this consummation all the Irish members of parliament will, I trust, pledge themselves with a fidelity which no ministerial temptation can ever shake.

"What would be thought of the wisdom of citizens who would reject a proffered alliance, that would enable them, constitutionally, to drive their enemy from the citadel, with the certain knowledge that, after such an opportunity was lost, that enemy would be recruited and strengthened by the accession of those very allies, rivalling, nay, outrunning, him in his tactics, to harass and annoy the citizens, until at length he should succeed in stripping them of every immunity and right of citizenship?

"Such fatuity would be only a type of the conduct of those who would vote with this persecuting ministry, when they could drive them from office, then doomed to witness successive invasions of their creed and religious rights, until they should be again finally thrust out from the House of Commons, and deemed too valueless for any party to court their support. This is a sad result, which the firm and determined attitude of to-morrow's meeting will, I hope, deter any minister from contemplating, much less from achieving. I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your very faithful servant,

"J. JOHN, Archbishop of Tuam.

"To the Hon. C. Preston, W. Keogh, Esq., M. P., John Reynolds, Esq., M. P."

The following resolutions were then put, and carried unanimously:—

1. That as we, the Roman Catholics of Ireland, yield to none in our loyalty to the Queen, and attachment to the constitution, we challenge as our undoubted right, the same full, free, and unrestricted religious liberty, which is enjoyed by our fellow-subjects.

2. That we consider the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumptive Bill, now before Parliament, a gross and intolerable violation of our Religious Liberty; and that the alterations proposed to be made by the Government in that measure in no respect diminish our abhorrence of the obnoxious principles which it involves.

3. That we call upon our Representatives in Parliament, and our Countrymen in general, not only to oppose, by every constitutional means, the Bill itself, but also to give an active opposition to any Administration which proposes or supports that or any similar measure.

4. That the warmest thanks of this Meeting are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the Right Hon. Lord Aberdeen, the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, and the other English and Scotch Members of the Legislature, to whom we are so deeply indebted for their generous and powerful advocacy of the principles of Religious Liberty, and the rights of the Catholic People of the Empire.

5. That our deepest gratitude is due to those Irish Members of Parliament who, regardless of all party ties, offered such strenuous and uncompromising opposition, not only to the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, but also to the Administration by whom it was introduced.

6. That we have read with indignation and disgust the calumnies which have recently been promulgated in Parliament and in the English Press against those religious Ladies who have devoted their lives to the service of God, the advancement of Religion, and the well-being of their fellow-creatures.

7. That we view the Bill recently introduced into Parliament respecting Religious Houses, as calculated and intended to give a legal sanction to those calumnies, as insulting in its purpose, and vexatious and tyrannical in its details; and that we therefore call upon our Representatives in Parliament to give it the most decided opposition.

8. That Petitions to Parliament embodying the above resolutions, be presented to both Houses, and that the draft petitions now read, be adopted; and that the presentation of the petition to the House of Lords be entrusted to the Right Hon. Lord Aberdeen; and the presentation of the petition to the House of Commons be entrusted to John Reynolds, Esq., M. P. for the City of Dublin.

9. That we call upon the Catholic clergy and people of Ireland to hold simultaneous meetings in their respective parishes, on the second Sunday in May, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament against the measures referred to, and to call upon their respective members to oppose the present, or any Government which would support any measure infringing upon the religious liberties of the people of this empire.

10. That the Chairman, honorary secretaries, and movers and seconders of the resolutions be appointed a Committee to carry out the resolutions.

The committee met at their rooms on Thursday, at one o'clock.

The Rev. Dr. Cooper and Andrew Russell Stritch, Esq., were added to the committee.

Mr. Cantwell brought up the following circular and petition, which were unanimously adopted, and ordered to be printed and forwarded without delay:—

"Dublin, 2d May, 1851.

Committee Rooms, 45, Lower Sackville-st.

"REV. SIR,—I have the honor, by order of the committee, to transmit to you the following copy of a resolution, passed at the aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, held in Dublin on the 29th ult:—

"Moved by Robert Cassidy, Esq., seconded by William Francis Finn, Esq.:

"Resolved—That we call upon the Catholic clergy and people of Ireland, to hold simultaneous meetings in their respective parishes, on the second Sunday in May, for the purpose of petitioning parliament against the measures referred to, and to call upon their respective members to oppose the present, or any government, which would support any measure infringing upon the religious liberties of the people of this empire.

"Being assured that the resolution will meet with your concurrence, the committee rely on your co-operation in giving effect to it, and beg leave to request that you will cause a meeting of your parishioners, to be held on the 11th day of May instant, for the purpose of petitioning both houses of parliament against the penal legislation, with which the civil and religious liberties of the Catholics of these countries are now menaced.

"The petitions adopted should be as numerous as possible, and forwarded for presentation without delay.

"Where the county or borough, wherein is situate the parish in which the meeting shall be held, is represented by a Liberal member, the petition to the House of Commons ought to be sent to that member. If the representation be circumstanced otherwise, then it might perhaps be a convenient rule of action to confide it to the Liberal member of the nearest county or borough. I have the honor to be, reverend Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

(To be signed by the Secretary.)

THE PENAL LAW.

The Catholic Clergy of the Swinford deanery, diocese of Achonry, assembled in Swinford, on Thursday, the 24th ult., have adopted the following resolutions:—

"That we cannot find language sufficiently strong to express our detestation and horror of the impious bill introduced by her Majesty's government, and now in progress through parliament, imposing pains and penalties on our Prelates, the successors of the Apostles, for the discharge of the duties of the sacred office to which they are divinely appointed—duties essential to the exercise of our holy religion.

"That, while we hope to receive grace ourselves to suffer with Christian patience, after the example of the Apostles, and the true servants of God, in all ages, any measure of persecutions the enemy of Christ may inspire our rulers to inflict on us, we feel it a duty we owe our holy religion, and our country, to raise our solemn voice against a measure so injurious to religious freedom, so calculated to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the country, and to imperil the stability of the throne itself.

"That the twenty honest and patriotic Irish members who convinced the minister that Ireland was not to be trifled with, when an attempt was made to outrage the sacred cause of religion, and whose noble example, we are happy to find, has since been followed by several other friends of religious freedom, are entitled to the everlasting gratitude of their country.

"That we adopt the sentiment of the Tuam resolutions, 'that no political measure, whatever might be its value, could be weighed for a moment in favour of a persecuting ministry against the enormous and essential wickedness of persecuting the Divine religion of Christ; and that, therefore, we call again upon all the Irish Catholic members who value their religion, and all the Protestant members who value their peace and justice, to use every constitutional engine to hurl the present ministry once more from office—which repeated lesson of the union and strength of Irishmen will teach their successors, no matter who, to abandon forever the hateful and disastrous policy of persecution.'

"That we pledge ourselves to co-operate with our faithful flocks in sending, without delay, the strongest remonstrances to the legislature against this execrable measure."

THE PENAL BILL.—THE IRISH MEMBERS.—We are convinced that fifty honest Irish members would effectually defeat those threatened enactments. The question of persecution, therefore, amounts to a mere arithmetical problem, the solution of which rests in the hands of the liberal and Catholic constituencies of Ireland. Have they the power of compelling fifty representatives to pay attention to their wishes? We have no right to discuss the delinquencies of distant parties, whilst we leave work undone in our own country. From an examination we have made of the state of the registry for this county, we have no hesitation in asserting that by a due organization, the freeholders of Tuam and its vicinity have it in their power to affect materially, if not actually turn the scale in all future elections. Upon the heads of the freeholders of the county be the guilt and the shame of permitting the interests of this great Catholic county to be bartered away by its representatives.—*Tuam Herald.*

PUBLIC MEETINGS.—Pursuant to a most respectable requisition, headed by the Right Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Galway, Mr. M. A. Lynch, the High Sheriff of Galway, has convened a meeting to be held on Thursday, "for the purpose of preparing a petition to parliament, and adopting other measures calculated to defeat the unconstitutional and tyrannical attempt of the government to enslave the Catholics of this empire, by the enactment of penal laws."

CATHOLIC MEETING AT WATERFORD.—A meeting of the citizens of Waterford was held at the Town-hall on Monday, for the purpose of petitioning against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and the Nunneries Visitation Bill. The meeting was convened by the Mayor, in pursuance of a most respectable requisition presented to him last week. His worship, John Power, Esq., presided. The meeting was most numerous attended, and intense enthusiasm pervaded the assembly. Several excellent speeches were spoken. Both the city members, Mr. Meagher and Sir Henry Winston Barron, delivered eloquent speeches. They were both enthusiastically cheered.—*Kilkenny Journal.*

The Catholic electors, who form a majority of the constituency of Kinsale, have signed a requisition to their representative, Mr. Benjamin Hawes, calling on him to resign his seat. They say, "By voting for the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill you have utterly disregarded our feelings and opinions, made known to you by a copy of a series of resolutions adopted at our meeting of the 12th ult., in which, after censuring strongly your vote in favor of the introduction of this iniquitous measure, we gave you the alternative of opposing any further progress in penal legislation, or resigning the representation of this borough You have deceived and betrayed us; for, with the profession of liberality on your lips, your recent acts prove you a bigot and a persecutor of our creed. The false and insulting grounds on which you have sought, in your letter to our secretary, to justify your vote, only render more flagrant the violation of those solemn pledges you made in your address and at the hustings, of protecting our religious rights and liberties."

EMIGRATION.—Sailed from Galway last week, Robert and George, 105 passengers for New York; Malvina, do, 90 for do; Haidee, 107 do, and Keepsake, 130 do., both for Boston. During the last few weeks the numbers who proceeded by rail from Armagh to Belfast, for the purpose of emigration, averaged from 80 to 100 daily.—*Belfast Chronicle.*

If the tide of emigration proceed with the rapidity which has marked its progress during the present spring, this province bids fair to become a wilderness. We are almost safe in stating, that at this moment, in every nine families out of ten in this neighborhood, preparations are being made for the embarkation of one or more of their members. And the worst, at least the most disheartening feature in the matter is, that in almost every instance the industrious and the owners of some capital are departing, leaving behind them the helpless and those whose age and indigence will soon render them fitting objects for the poorhouse.—*Tuam Herald.*

The rage for emigration knows no limits. The people are leaving the land in myriads. From Tipperary the emigration continues to an unexampled extent; and from Clare the best of the population are hurriedly betaking themselves to the other side of the Atlantic; whilst of Kerry, Cork, and Limerick the same may be said with perfect veracity. As an instance of the feeling by which the more comfortable class of persons are actuated, a fact has been communicated to us on authority which we cannot question, and which relates to the emigration movement in Clare:—A comfortable man of the name of John Keating, of Kibaha, purchased a farm about a fortnight since for his eldest son. He laid out a large sum of money on the purchase; and everything seemed to prosper the commencement in life of the young man, who is of excellent character and most industrious habits. The day after the farm was taken, the son, accompanied by his eldest sister and others of his family, abandoned the newly-taken farm, proceeded to Limerick, took shipping for New York, and are now at sea on their voyage to the free shores of America. On the same day no less than 65 of the inhabitants abandoned their holdings, sold whatever they could convert into cash, and took shipping also for America! The landlord went to the next townland for the purpose of providing a very comfortable and desirable farm for a favorite tenant. The moment the tenant got into possession of this desirable farm, he gave it up, and took shipping also for America! In fact, these sixty-seven or sixty-eight persons were, in all respects, the most comfortably circumstanced in all that extensive district. From our observation too of the class of passengers going out daily, we can perceive that they are not the destitute or the disabled. Quite the contrary.—The Florence of London, cleared out from the quays of Limerick yesterday for New York with upwards of eighty passengers, most of whom were respectable-looking persons, nearly all from Clare. Some of the passengers by this vessel were those who escaped the wreck of the fated Edmond last November; and for whom the deep has no terrors at this moment. Altogether, nothing can surpass the rage with which the people are thus influenced; or how or when the mania may terminate, it is difficult in the extreme to pronounce.—Meanwhile, the question is, what is to become of the country? Since the 1st of January, 1851, twenty ships have sailed from Limerick with 2,527 passengers, which forms up to this moment nearly a fourth part of the