

own people from Clifden, and all Connemara not to speak of the many Protestants who attended the mission, had shut ourselves up, at their invitation, in some obscure Protestant schoolhouse, to hear these men repeat their oft-refuted errors, which a well-instructed Catholic child can answer, and their blasphemous, revolting to the better feelings even of Protestants; and to discuss, with a nameless band of fanatical Parsons and paid Jesuit teachers, whose very livelihood depends on the maintenance of error, the sacred doctrines of the Catholic Church; and this, moreover, where the real question between us was not about Catholic or Protestant doctrine, but about the theological use of simoniac.

But this is only one of the impostures these men have been trying to practice on the people of these islands—as well Protestant as Catholic—showing that their mission is not from God, but from the father of lies.—They have likewise dared to state, throughout all England and Ireland, by the pen of Sir Francis Head, Bart., of whom they were the informants, that “Clifden is nearly all become Protestants;” and by other writers, as Lord Roden, that all Connemara is deserting the ancient Faith; so that some Catholics even have been deceived by their unblushing effrontery.—These mean and contemptible falsehoods, which are mere advertisements for money, have been sufficiently refuted by the immense crowds of persons attending the mission; while the most violent exertions could only gather at the Protestant Church a mere handful of people, even including the stipendiaries whose salaries depended on their attendance.

From the same source—namely, the proselytising agents in this town, we have another published lie, equally enormous—namely, that the proselytising movement is utterly disconnected with bribery. It is a public well-known fact, which we need hardly repeat, that not one person has nominally joined the Jumpers, as they are generally called, who was not either destitute before, or who has not succeeded in bettering his worldly position and prospects by his apostasy; and that no kind of relief is given except on condition of hypocrisy or apostasy—abandoning the Faith, or pretending to abandon it. Numbers of the pretended converts make no secret that could they have half a meal they would leave the Jumpers.—Most of those who enter the workhouse as Jumpers demand to be enrolled as Catholics; and the dying Jumper is earnest in calling for the Catholic Priest.—With regard to this system we have been unsparing in our denunciations. We have appealed to candid, right-minded Protestants, whom we have always distinguished from these unprincipled men, not to lend their aid or countenance to such an unchristian demoralising system. If any Catholics could be found who, in a poor and destitute Protestant district, should endeavor by such means to coerce the conscience of any weak-principled and destitute Protestants, we should condemn them as much as we have condemned these wicked men. They pretend pure and unadulterated charity. Truly there is room for the exercise of charity, unopposed by sectarian prejudice, amongst the destitute poor of Connemara! And to all right-minded and honest Protestants, men whom we can love and respect, we say, give help to our starving poor, if you have the will and the power to do so, and God will bless you a hundred fold. But to those who come to us with gifts, poisoned by conditions of attending Protestant religious teaching and Protestant worship, reading or hearing read—not Catholic copies with Catholic explanation of the Scriptures—but Protestant translations and comments, designed expressly to give what, as Catholics, we know to be an erroneous explanation of the sacred volume—we say, such gifts we cannot accept without violating our consciences, and such you cannot offer us without acting on the principle you falsely attribute to us, that the end sanctifies the means—doing evil for the sake of good—making men hypocrites, because you hope that they may be brought to profess, or their children to believe, views you may think true, but which they conscientiously regard as false and displeasing to God. But, for the present, enough of this villainous system, which, by this mission, has been sufficiently unmasked. When next it please God that we appear amongst you we will carry out the system we have begun; and, meantime, we exhort you to co-operate with your Clergy in counteracting the tremendous influence of unlimited supplies of money in the hands of unprincipled men, acting on a population reduced to the extremity of destitution. Do your best, by charitable efforts, according to your ability, and by your own personal exertions and influence, to rescue any children or other persons whom you know from the temptation to hypocrisy and the danger of perversion. Instructing yourselves well in the principles of your religion, and by lives worthy of its holy teaching, be ready to give a practical answer to the falsehoods, and strive to live down the calumnies of the enemies of your Faith, and to make the very name of Catholic to be another name for a strict observer of God’s law, a devout servant of Christ, and an humble and enlightened believer of all that Christ teaches by His word, and by His Church, “the pillar and ground of truth.”—1 Tim. iii. 15.

May our dear Lord Jesus give you His holy benediction, and His Blessed Mother’s prayers be with you, is the earnest desire and parting blessing of those who desire a perpetual remembrance in your prayers.—Your faithful and devoted servants for Christ’s sake, A. M. RINGLI, Missionary Priests of W. LOCKHART, } the Order of Charity.

**KELLS SUPERSTITION—THE PROSECUTIONS.**—We have learned that the trumpety cases got up by the Kells proselytisers against a few poor Catholics of that town one of them a bell-ringer—were scouted out of court at Trim on Wednesday and Thursday. Both the learned judges, the ultra-Protestant Lord Chief Justice Levey, and Chief Baron Pigot, read severe lectures to the Souping firebrands, and to the Kells magistrates, for their conduct in reference to these matters. The impudent attempt to set up a case against the Rev. Mr. O’Rielly was abandoned, and the bell-ringer was ordered to have his bell restored to him amid inextinguishable laughter.—*Tablet.*

**HIGH SHERIFF OF GALWAY.**—A few days since Edmund O’Flaherty, Esq., Knockbaune, was sworn in as High Sheriff of Galway before Thomas King, Esq., Southampton Buildings, London, one of Her Majesty’s Commissioners of the Court of Exchequer.—*Galway Packet.*

At the Catholic Bazaar held in Ennis during the as-sizes week, the sum of over £70 was realised. This was held in the large room of the national schoolhouse, the proceeds of the undertaking are to be applied to the completion of the Catholic Church of the town.—*Limerick Reporter.*

**AN INDEPENDENT IRISH PARTY.—AN AGGREGATE MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF DUBLIN.**—Pursuant to a requisition most numerous and influentially signed, an aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin was held in the theatre of the Mechanics’ Institute last night, “to take into consideration the best means of strengthening and sustaining an independent Irish party in the House of Commons, through whose action alone they could expect to carry the measures requisite for this country.” The requisition on which the meeting was called bore upwards of two hundred signatures, embracing those of some of the most influential mercantile men in the city, members of the corporation, professional men, poor law guardians, &c. The hour named for taking the chair was seven o’clock, but for a considerable time before that the theatre of the institute was densely crowded. The proceedings, too, were marked with great earnestness and determination; the sentiments of the several speakers, in reference to an Irish Party, and the necessity of sustaining it, in order to obtain justice for this country, elicited the most enthusiastic expressions of applause. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Moore, M.P., Mr. Cantwell, Dr. Gray, and several other independent gentlemen, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—“That the history of every constitutional effort made in this country to secure national, popular, or religious liberty, demonstrates that success can be attained only through the action of an independent parliamentary party. That, therefore, this meeting pledges itself to give every support in its power towards the maintenance and increase of the independent Irish party in the House of Commons.” “That we view with deep indignation the conduct of those Irish representatives who, in violation of the most solemn contract which representatives could enter into with their constituents and with their brother-representatives, became office holders under, and dependents on, a ministry not pledged to those measures which the country had declared to be indispensable, thus basely betraying public confidence, violating solemn compacts, and imperilling the very existence of that independent Irish party which they had solemnly pledged themselves to sustain.”—“That the thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby given, to those members of the Irish parliamentary party who, faithful to their pledges and to the solemn compacts made with the electors and the public, have maintained their independence of the government, and have expressed their continued determination to treat all governments alike, whatever their party or profession, who will not grant the just demands of the Irish people for religious equality and tenant-right.”—*Freeman, March 2nd.*

**RELIGIOUS EQUALITY COMMITTEE.**—The committee met on Tuesday, 1st ult.; G. H. Moore, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The form of petition, praying for a full measure of religious equality, was brought under consideration, and, after some discussion, finally adopted. The petitions were ordered to be engrossed on parchment, and forwarded to every county in Ireland. It was moved and passed unanimously.—“That the committee do issue forthwith an address to the people of Ireland, in reference to the religious policy of the State, and asking for a full and unequivocal expression of public opinion upon the parliamentary action of Irish Liberal representatives, in reference to the question of religious equality. Some subscriptions having been handed in, the committee adjourned at a late hour of the day.—*Dublin Telegraph.*

**CATHOLICS IN PARLIAMENT.**—Mr. Lucas has done a good work in turning out with such merciful effect “the seamy side” of those pretenders to fair play and liberty, the evangelical Protestants of this country.—More barefaced pretenders to fair play never attempted to delude a credulous people, and more deadly enemies to truth never succeeded in that bad design.—Mr. Lucas has done a good work in exposing them, and it is not the least part of his labor that he has turned the tables on Lord John Russell, who made a speech *ad misericordiam*, and of that dexterous and slippery old anti-Catholic, Lord Palmerston, who perhaps for the first time in his life lost temper, and forgot facts. This was good work for Mr. Lucas, and he did it well. We take pleasure in the completeness with which the “seamy side,” as we have said, of those pretenders has been exposed. We have often sickened at the impudent pertinacity with which Protestant writers and Protestant statesmen have claimed for their faith a thorough identity with civil liberty, and the claim they put forward to be considered the true disciples of toleration. Nothing can possibly be more impudent than these claims, or more untrue.—As a matter of fact, history informs us that the only nation in Europe which voluntarily resigned a free constitution and adopted despotism was the Protestant—the superlatively Protestant country of Sweden. As a matter of fact and history, we know that Protestantism in Europe is a persecuting religion, wherever it is strong enough to violate conscience with impunity.—Of this Mr. Lucas has quoted plenty of examples, and might have quoted more. And moreover, and this should not be forgotten, that this Protestant allegiance is not pretended to be grounded upon any allegation that Catholics disturb the tranquillity of the state. We shall hear no more for some time of the identity of Protestantism with liberty. Mr. Lucas has put an end to that boast for some time, and a good work it was.—*Limerick Examiner.*

The debates upon the Maynooth Grant, and the malevolent feelings the discussion so often evokes, have led to solemn consideration; and an earnest and honest cotemporary, the *Tipperary Free Press*, in its last number, couples an important statement with a suggestion full of meaning:—“We have learned that there is now under consideration in a certain distinguished quarter, a plan which would have the effect of accomplishing this, and as we see the probability of its perfection in every detail—as we consider that through its instrumentality the education of the Catholic clergy may and can be obtained, independent of assistance from the English Treasury, we deem it a matter of duty to lay an outline of it before the public, in order that it may receive the consideration to which a project so important in its results is decidedly entitled. It is proposed that a thousand gentlemen should come forward, and subscribe each one hundred pounds towards founding an Irish College in Paris, for the education of clergymen; or towards endowing for a like purpose, by the application of such sum, the Irish College already established in the French capital. Thus a fund of one hundred thousand pounds would be created, and there is every reason to suppose that such facilities would be afforded by the French Government as would render this amount quite adequate to carry into practical operation a scheme in itself so commendable. We feel assured that if the

Catholics of England, Scotland, the Colonies, and America, were included in this plan, the amount mentioned would be easily trebled.”

**CARLOW BOROUGH ELECTION.**—A petition has been presented to the House of Commons with respect to this election. It recites that the petitioners petitioned against the return of Mr. Sadlier, at the election in July last, on the grounds of violence, intimidation, and bribery; that, by the acceptance of office, Mr. Sadlier vacated his seat, and the petition fell to the ground; that a petition has since been presented against Mr. Alexander’s return at the last election, praying that Mr. Alexander’s return may be declared void, and Mr. Sadlier declared the sitting member; that, at the said last election, Mr. Sadlier was disqualified as a candidate, on the grounds stated in the first-mentioned petition; and the petitioners now pray for select committee, before which to prove Mr. Sadlier’s disqualification.—*Daily Express.*

**THE MARQUIS OF WATERFORD—PRACTICE “VERSUS” THEORY.**—Our readers will recollect a certain speech reported as delivered last autumn by the Marquis of Waterford at an agricultural dinner in Carrick-on-Shuir, and which was made the subject of favorable comment in the *Tenant Right Journals*. The following narrative, copied from the *Freeman*, seems strangely at variance with the sentiments expressed by the noble marquis on that occasion:—“The facts we collect from the *Derry Standard*, and we put them before the marquis in order that he may inquire into their authenticity, and, if well founded, apply to them the sound principles developed at Carrick, and applauded by the country. Daniel Quig, of Cahony, near Garvagh, in Londonderry, rented a small farm under the marquis. He died last month, and before his decease expressed a desire that his brother should get the land on payment of thirty pounds to his widow. Some landlords are averse to the occupation of widows—whether the marquis be of the number we do not know—but, at any rate, the arrangement was beneficial to him, while Quig, at the same time, made a small provision for his widow. Robert, the brother, and the widow proceeded to Newtownlimavady to arrange with the marquis’s agent, Mr. John Beresford, about the transfer of the land to Robert, but Mr. Beresford would not listen to the proposal. Robert argued that the whole farm was originally held by his and the testator’s grandfather, and that the greater portion was now leased by himself, so that the contemplated annexation would only restore the *status quo* of his family. He offered to give as much for it as any other person, but Mr. Beresford was obdurate. The unfortunate object of his brother’s kindness had been guilty of a crime which Mr. Beresford could not overlook, and which no amount of solvency or security could expiate. He had voted at the last election for the Tenant Right candidate, and Mr. B. affirmed, if not with an oath, at least with its moral equivalent, that if Quig gave one hundred pounds for the angle of Caheny he should not have a sod of it!”

**THE MAGISTRACY—MR. DARGAN.**—The Lord Lieutenant has been pleased to approve of W. Dargan, Esq., being appointed a deputy lieutenant for the city of Dublin.

Walter Berwick, Esq., Q. C., has been appointed leading crown prosecutor for the King’s County, vice J. R. Corballis, Esq., law adviser.

The Irish assizes during the past week have presented no cases of importance—with two exceptions. The first, the trial of two men, named Hackett and Noonan, for the murder of O’Callaghan Ryan, Esq., an agent and landlord. The trial took place in Waterford, and occupied two days. The case closed on Thursday evening, with the conviction of the accused, who were found guilty of waylaying Mr. Ryan, shooting him, and beating out his brains. Noonan, when he saw the judge put on the black cap, asked for a long day. His lordship sentenced the prisoners, in the usual terms, to be executed on the 15th of April next. Noonan, on leaving the dock, turned to Hackett, and said, “God forgive you, Richard Hackett, for putting me here.” Both the prisoners were men of very respectable appearance, and conducted themselves firmly during the trial. Since their conviction, it is stated that Hackett was the man who actually fired the fatal shot, although in his confession he represented it was his companion, and that it was Noonan who seized hold of the bridle of Mr. Ryan’s horse.—The second case of interest was the conviction, at Trim, on Wednesday, of Patrick Coddington and James Mullen, of Ribbonism. They were convicted on the evidence of an informer, named Masterson, from Longford, who swore that there were affiliated societies throughout all the north of England. The two unfortunate dupes were sentenced to seven years’ transportation, and an escort of mounted police having been sent for, were at once sent off to Dublin, amid the heartrending outcries and sobbings of their friends and relatives.

**THE DOCKS AT CORK.**—The Directors of the Great Southern and Western Railway have, we understand, come to the determination to commence the docks forthwith. The construction, it is supposed, will cause an expenditure of £50,000. Together with the works at the terminus, they are expected to be ready against the completion of the tunnel in May, 1854.—*Cork Constitution.*

**WRECK OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA.**—On Friday afternoon the experiment of raising the wreck of this vessel from the spot where she lies founded in between five and six fathoms water was attempted. The *Ballinsoe* and *Britannia*, City of Dublin steamers, were brought alongside the wreck at lowest ebb, in conjunction with other smaller craft. The chains which had been passed beneath the forefoot, midships, and sternpost of the wreck, were heaved up by means of strong tackles and purchases, and brought on board the steamers, which were moored broadside on to the current, which runs at this point of Dublin Bay at a rate of fully four knots an hour. The steamers having got the chain purchases on board were hove down by their windlasses nearly “gunwale to” in the direction of the sunken wreck. As the tide rose the strain on the cables became enormous, indicating that the keel and floor of the vessel must be deeply imbedded in the bottom. The strain on the chains continued to increase until about half flood, at which period it was expected that the wreck would begin to rise, when the principal chain cables snapped short off, thus defeating for the time the success of the operation.—*Freeman’s Journal.*

**EVERYONES.**—At the meeting of the board of guardians on yesterday, a letter was read from Mr. Cullen, relieving officer, stating that notice of the eviction of eight families in this town, by the Rev. H. Marshall, had been served upon him.—*Galway Packet.*

IRISH LAND QUESTION.

If any doubt remained, after Lord John Russell’s statement, that those Irish members who have joined the government have done so without any pledge from the minister as to particular measures, it would be entirely dissipated by the assurance of Lord Palmerston that, although the government had felt bound to appoint a committee on the Irish tenant right bills, they went into it perfectly unfettered. This, however, has much more significance than its settlement of the particular question of pledge or no pledge. We have observed, in everything that the coalition ministry have undertaken, or professed a determination to undertake, they profess as little as possible. No ballot, no reform. What expectation, then, can we form with regard to matters upon which they have made no promise? A committee has been appointed, in fulfillment of the engagement of the late administration.—But if it should recommend the adoption of such concessions as Mr. Napier admitted to be just and necessary, there is no ground for believing that Lord Aberdeen will embody that recommendation in a law.—Judging from the policy of the government in other respects we should not be surprised if, after amusing the advocates of Mr. Shannon Crawford’s bill, and aggravating the difference betwixt these gentlemen and the supporters of the Napier measures, it should plead that difference as a ground for postponement, and so shelve the question until it is again forced upon parliament by the indignant remonstrances of the tenant farmers of Ireland.

If this conjecture should prove to be correct, we cannot find terms sufficiently strong to deplore the delay it anticipates, or to denounce the policy which would palter with hopes deep-rooted in suffering and injustice. It was not out of any particular love for the farmers and peasantry of Ireland that the late Irish Attorney-General—the representative of the landlord and the Orangemen—admitted and proposed to legalise the right of the tenant farmer to compensation, even for those improvements which had been made, and were unexhausted, before the proposed date of his measures. Admissions wrung from an opponent are the best evidences that any cause can cite in its behalf; and it is no more than reasonable to interpret them beyond the letter, and where they give an inch, to take an ell. If, then, Mr. Napier and the Irish Orange party in the late administration have admitted the principle of compensation, they have gone a great way towards stamping the Crawford bill with their approval. The difference, in truth, is not in the principle but in the machinery which is to give it effect. Both parties agree on the main point. Will Lord Aberdeen hesitate, in a matter so momentous, to take upon himself the responsibility of deciding by what vehicle it should be carried out.

It will not do to put the regeneration of Ireland off: and Irish regeneration is but another term for Irish tenant right. Put aside the weakness entailed upon the empire by the destitution of the sister country, the people of England are not content that Irish wrongs should be for ever cast in their teeth, a most humiliating and just reproach. They are not content that they should rattle in the breasts of their Irish fellow-subjects a feeling of hatred to the institutions under which they live—or starve—and which, ere many years pass over our heads, they may be called upon to support with that bravery and generosity for which no people on the face of the earth are more illustrious.

In the present state of Europe, who shall say what a month or a day may bring forth? We are far from supposing it necessary to address such an argument to the English public. Those who have sufficient information on the subject to guide them to an enlightened conclusion are prepared, for the mere justice of the case, to aid their Irish fellow-subjects in demanding a large measure of concession. But ministers and the people they govern have different views, and too often different interests. The sentiment in England is strong enough to concede the reasonable demands of the Irish tenant farmer, and to adopt them in favor of the English farmer by-and-bye. It may be the interest of Lord Aberdeen, and the class he represents, to keep matters quiet, to jog on, so long as the world will permit them, in the beaten track. But this will not satisfy those for whom they legislate.

We know by the evidence of a thousand heartrending proofs that the land tenure has been the main root of the miseries of Ireland, miseries so appalling that history cannot furnish their parallel. But though we are anxious to proceed simply out of a sense of justice, it is not unworthy the consideration of a farseeing people to seek to unite every element of strength, every inspiration of cordiality, against a possible foe. Throned upon the sea, girl round with the billows, we may still, perhaps, defy invasion. But how much greater must be our confidence if to the stealy Saxon we could unite, without a doubt of his co-operation, the genius and the untiring heart of the warm and generous Celt? To do that, we must make the comfort of our rule in Ireland, as well as the power felt. It may suit veteran statesmen to rest upon their oars. But the age is one of progress. It abhors a pause as nature does a vacuum. Three hundred years ago we tried to pacificate Ireland. We have yet that feat to accomplish—not by penal laws, not by military or police, but by—justice.—*Morning Advertiser.*

**A “LUSUS NATURÆ.”**—There has just been added to the Museum of the Mechanics’ Institute, Wexford, a specimen of one of the freaks of nature, a preserved specimen of a pig, the third produced in a litter of 13, perfect in its kind in all parts except the head, which combines partial resemblances of the pig, the elephant, and the ape. Where the head joins the neck the tri-morphous combination begins. The ears are pretty much of the usual form, but set rather far back, the cranium oval and elevated, the eyes round and not elongated. From the centre of the head a tubular process of three-eighths of an inch diameter, falls down over, but is quite distinct from the upper region of the face, which instead of expanding into the snout with nostrils, ends in a very small tapering point. The tongue appears as a large flaccid and fringed substance, protruding from every part of the oral orifice, and the lower jaw, instead of being thin and pointed, is deep and round, and the whole head, has a most singular expression, partaking more of the ape than of the swine.—*Wexford Guardian.*

A “Central Conservative Association” has been formed in Dublin, for the purpose of promoting as many members of that party as possible at future elections in Ireland.

The young inheritor of the great Borris estates, Arthur Kavanagh, has neither legs nor arms!  
A sum of £50, over all expenses, has been reserved for the Moore Fund, from Kilkenny.—*Telegraph.*