

REV. DR. CAHILL,
ON THE PEACE OF VILLAFRANCA.

(From the Dublin Catholic Telegraph.)

Every man of the termination of the Italian war, the writer of this article has maintained against almost the universal press of these countries. "That the Emperor Napoleon had decided on restoring the crown of head of the Duchies; or in the event of any unforeseen untoward event preventing the consummation of this policy, then to erect Central Italy into a new kingdom for Prince Napoleon. But in no complication of Continental affairs has he had any intention to disturb the Sovereignty of the Pope. Up to the present month of September, the English press facing that the Dukes would be expelled, that the Romagna would be wrenched from the Papal territory, and that all Central Italy would be either annexed to Saradinia or formed into a Republic, preserved the outward forms of respect towards the two Emperors for their apparent concurrence in these revolutionary combinations. But during the last fortnight, since it has been rumoured on good authority that the old thrones are to be preserved, and that both Austria and France are equally, jointly and energetically, united in this plan of legislation for the Peninsula, there is no epithet of vengeance and of disappointed malice, which is not heaped by the same press on the papacy and despotism of the French and the Austrian monarchs. If the legitimacy of Central Italy be preserved under any shape, the stratagems of England during half a century are defeated; and hence the old British combatants would be satisfied that any form of Government will take place there except the old Papal and Austrian system. Let it be by all means, they say, a republic: a confederation; annexation; Swiss cantons; anything, provided it be neither Austrian or Papal. It is, therefore, further demonstrated, if further proof could be added to the moral evidence of fifty years, that the sole concern of England in the affairs of the Peninsula is neither the peace or the progress of that country; but the extinction of Papal authority; the removal of Austrian interference; the introduction of British influence; the inassessable venom of Protestant infidelity; and the eternal effort to uproot Catholicity.

Within the last three weeks the public have been informed on the reliable testimony of the French official press, that at the meeting of the Emperors at Villafranca, the armistice was signed and temporary peace proclaimed, having one of the clauses as follows—namely, "that the Duchies were to be reinstated in the *status quo ante bellum*; and again that France was bound, in the event of an infraction of this condition, to demand back Lombardy from Saradinia, and to restore it again to Austria." This piece of news (true beyond contradiction) has fallen like a flash of lightning on the Peninsula Dictators and their infidel adherents; and it has been heard amongst the London Conspirators like a distant peal of thunder. The Italian sky is more overcast than ever; but it bodes evil only to the outthroats of the Mazzini school, and to the anti-Catholic conspirators of the relentless English party. The state of the Italian question may, therefore, be now expressed in the following sentence:—If the Dukes be not restored, the armistice and the peace of Villafranca are an unconditional nullity; and Austria and France stand towards each other in precisely the same condition as on the morning before the meeting of the Emperors. Under these premises, therefore, can or will any one suppose that Napoleon will break one of the conditions of the armistice: summon his army back from France; sit down with more than a quarter of a million of men before four citadels; open trenches for a siege of perhaps three years; spill the blood of perhaps one hundred thousand men; spend one hundred million pounds sterling of French money; provoke a hostile combination of Protestant Europe; lose, perhaps, the support of the people and the army of France, and forfeit his Crown; and for what? merely to banish two dukes and a duchess, in order to gratify the whim of the partisans of Garibaldi, the followers of Mazzini, the bribed clique of the English faction in Florence and Bologna. The clear result, therefore, which will be very soon accomplished, will be the return of the expelled dukes, the restoration of the Romagna to the Pope, with probably such a reform in the internal administration of the laws and in the legislative policy of each State as may be made suited to the social feelings of the present age, and more consonant with the progress of modern civilization.

Napoleon has, up to this time, fulfilled to the letter the promises which he made before the war. He has extinguished the influence of Austria in Italy; he has enlarged the power and the territory of Saradinia; he has founded a confederation with greater power than any united states in Europe; and he stands, now more than two months, with an army of fifty thousand men waiting like a servant at the gates of this Confederation, to frame new laws, to cement the union of this infant family of Kingdoms; and then having given them liberty, power, union, and self-government, to retire to his own country. There never was, under all the circumstances of this Italian difficulty, a more brilliant, a wiser, or a more disinterested scheme of legislation. He can address the Peninsula in language such as no man in all the past history of Europe could utter.

He can say to the discontented spirits, the complainants of that country—"I have heard your complaints against what you called the despotism of Austria, and I have removed her from all offensive interference in your states. I am made acquainted with your partiality towards the name and the character of the King of Saradinia, and therefore I have enlarged his territory, taken from the Emperor of Austria. I am myself in full possession of the danger which in future may threaten you from your individual weakness, and therefore I have founded a confederation of seven states of twenty-seven millions of souls, that by mutual protection and support you may acquire all necessary corporate power and strength. I am aware that my leaving Venetia still under the name of Austria may awaken your suspicions that Austrian power still subsists in the Peninsula; but you ought to recollect that Venetia is now Italian and not Austrian, unless by your own fault you throw away your own dependency. And I have lost fifty thousand of the flower of the French army; and I have expended fifty million pounds sterling; and have exposed my crown and my very life to accomplish these advantages for Italy. And in return I ask not one penny, nor one inch of territory, or even your gratitude. I return home with an impaired exchequer, a bleeding army, and I only ask that you will be true to yourselves and fulfill the injunctions of powerful France. And if the French nation has aided your populations, why should she refuse protection to your distressed kings and potentates? and hence she will with equal generosity to all restore your banished but reformed dukes. The mission of France was to remove the pressure of Austria from your nation, and to aid all Italy, Kings and peoples. That mission she has fully accomplished; and if it should fail of success, it must be the fault of the states themselves who from private pique, personal malice, petty considerations, will forsake public advantage and sacrifice the public good."

The recent publication of the terms of the armistice at Villafranca has set England beside herself, not on account of the return of the dukes, nor of any disappointment on the part of Saradinia, but on account of her own frustrated stratagems, in fact her own expulsion and total exclusion from all interference in all the Peninsula. The entire English press is now loud against the Villafranca meeting of the Emperors, which they call "a hole-and-corner meeting," and they therefore demand a European congress in order to settle finally the Italian difficulty. Napoleon, on the other hand, with his fifty thousand men at the foot of Solferino, is waiting with patience to see if the Duchies will follow his well-meant advice. It is more than probable that if the municipa-

ties sent deputations to Paris, inviting Prince Napoleon to a crown, instead of going to Turin to seek annexation with Saradinia, their appeal might have a more speedy termination. But the popular voice being entirely raised for Victor Emmanuel, convinces the Frenchman that Italy still remembers the conduct of his uncle, the cruelty, the plunder, and the voice of the old French army; and will not, therefore, trust one of their crowns; the sovereignty of their laws, or one inch of their soil to the descendant of the plunderer of their churches, the defiler of their sanctuaries, the robber of their masterpieces of painting, and the destroyer of their silk capital, their mulberry plantations. This apathy, or as Napoleon might call it, this ingratitude towards his cousin and himself, is not without its favourable influence on the final adjudication towards the case of the Dukes.—French interference in Central Italy might receive more encouragement from the crowned heads than from the people; and hence while the French Emperor on one hand fulfils his word in the restoration of the expelled Princes he again secures to French interests in the Peninsula a higher and a larger power and sympathy than he can under the existing circumstances hope to receive from the people. Whatever may be the result of this part of the Italian difficulty, one point is, at all events, satisfactorily settled, namely, whoever is master, England is unequivocally and entirely removed from all Italian policy.

The publication of the entire text of the armistice enables us, too, to understand the late conduct of England in increasing her navy, doubling her channel fleet, fortifying her harbours, sending to numerous points on her shores training ships for a naval militia round all the coast, organizing rifle clubs in the principal towns, and, in fact, making such preparation as might be expected on the approach of a French invasion. When the whole case of the sudden peace of Villafranca will have been known, these hurried extensive warlike preparations will be seen to have a deep and a wise meaning. The general public are at present only superficially acquainted with the causes which in one day, perhaps in one hour (on receiving one despatch), had determined Napoleon to offer and conclude peace with Austria. When all these causes shall have been known it will be, perhaps, learned that at the moment Napoleon was following up his victories against Austria, and on friendly terms with England, England at that very moment was organizing a hostile European combination against him; and that while letters of congratulation from high quarters were lauding his strategy, and applauding his personal courage, plans were sent to three foreign powers to commence the nucleus of a hostile alliance similar to the combination which overthrew old Napoleon at Waterloo. At one glance Napoleon saw the total impossibility of fighting Austria under the walls of her fortresses, flanked again by neutral territories which the French armies dare not enter, while France was at the same time about to be menaced at home by this combined army of at least one million of men! The whole history of France never presented such a thrilling crisis as the moment when this dispatch reached the field of Solferino; nor has any monarch who ever sat on the throne of Pepin, met the menaced emergency on that eventful occasion with such promptitude and sagacity, and cabinet talent, as the commander of the French. By an epistolary power, in which he is highly distinguished, he in that moment wrote a letter and induced the Austrian Emperor to meet him in private conference; and by a mesmeric enchantment of conversation, in which it is said he has no living equal, this wonderful man performed (within two hours of private interview) wonders of national import far and away more surprising than his three recent victories within ten days. He changed an enemy into a friend, a foe into a firm ally, he disarmed half a million of men, he concluded an armistice, signed a peace, and stopped the million of men whom England had almost prepared to march within some few days towards the frontiers of France! A letter of eight pages written at night to Francis Joseph on a Tuesday night, and presented to him on Wednesday morning before eight o'clock; and then a conversation of two hours with him on Thursday morning, brought about a sudden order of things more astounding in their power and their results than the most brilliant triumphs ever before acquired, even on the heroic soil where this military and diplomatic miracle was accomplished.

The world will soon be acquainted with the precise detail of the general facts which I here publish; and let England now, and in all time to come, promulgate as she pleases the *entente cordiale* between the Tuilleries and the Court of St. James; but let her recollect there is a new wound from Villafranca, a fresh result (from her recent secret alliance) in the heart of Napoleon which neither time nor professions ever heal or appease. It is, therefore, highly probable that the future international history of the two countries, France and England, will be made up of preparations for battle on both sides by sea and land with an unceasing resolve, till in one fierce sanguinary struggle either nation will win the contested supremacy, and command the land and ride the seas in undisputed triumph. I have no desire to see England humbled; on the contrary, the darkest day Ireland ever saw would be the day of French victory over Great Britain. But beyond all dispute England for half a century has been outraging God and man by her cruelties at home, and her injustices and her infidelities abroad. A crushing retribution is in store for her; and unless warded off by a course of justice, wisdom, toleration, and friendly foreign relations, this policy may yet end in her final overthrow.

Thursday, Sept. 15.

D. W. C.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM.—The Tuam Herald says:—"His Grace the Archbishop, accompanied by the Very Rev. Thomas MacHale, D.D., arrived in Tuam yesterday. During the past fortnight His Grace has been engaged unweariedly and most industriously in administering the Sacrament of Confirmation throughout the numerous and remote parishes forming the western portion of His Grace's extensive Diocese. In every locality, the numbers confirmed were very great, and the religious fervor and devotional feeling manifested by them, were most gratifying to behold. Nothing could exceed the joyous gladness of the people everywhere, at the presence amongst them of the illustrious Archbishop—their guardian, friend and guide; and the pious, religious training and instruction, throughout the respective parishes, was all that could be desired or wished for, reflecting as it does the highest credit on their zeal, ability, and efficient Pastors. In the course of his tour, His Grace visited the Lord Bishop of Killala, at his residence Riverside, Ballina; and on his arrival in that town, he was greeted with the warmest acclamations, and received with the most enthusiastic demonstrations of hearty welcome by the inhabitants. During his stay, His Grace called on B. Howley, Esq., Belleek, and dined on Saturday with the Very Rev. Dr. Costello, P.P., Crossmolina. During the ensuing week, His Grace will hold Confirmation in several of the parishes of this Deanery.

SPREAD OF CATHOLICITY.—RATHDRUM CHURCH.—Down among the Wicklow mountains—justly celebrated throughout the world—among those regions of mountain, wood, and lake, the traveller will be surprised to find, in one of the wildest and most romantic spots, a noble Gothic chapel, unequalled in any rural district in Ireland, in process of completion. A few years ago and no person dreamed that a population thin and scattered, rich only in God's noblest gifts, the good strong hand and free generous heart, could erect such a temple to the service of God, yet to-day we have the satisfaction of seeing nearly completed what tends more to prove how Ca-

tholic is the Celtic heart than the proudest Cathedral in Dublin—in Ireland. Within a short distance of the Seven Churches, it is not unworthy to be ranked as a successor to those noble evidences of Ireland's former greatness and devotion. This is as it should be; and we hail with satisfaction the completion of this church, for it reminds us of the time when, with the offerings of a people themselves living in wretched huts, the glorious sites of Glendalough, St. Mullins, Jerpoint, and Dunbrody sprang into existence, remains of which still stand attesting of Ireland's past faith, past devotion, past glory. Since the Reformation no Catholic Chapel has graced this locality; but the gleas and the caves of the mountain, the hidden solitudes of the wooded valleys, deep and lonely, alone formed the altar in that dark hour of our history when the penal laws placed a price on the head of the faithful *sogarth*. Since then cabin and the barn have supplied the temple where the Mass was offered, till the present building was erected by the efforts of a good, zealous priest—national as an Irish priest should be,—aided by a humble but generous flock. In his efforts to render this building worthy of its office, the good pastor has far exceeded his means; but, if my knowledge of the *Irishman* readers go for aught, I am quite sure that they—the growing hope of Ireland—will cheerfully answer this appeal made them, by forwarding their contributions to the *Irishman* Office in aid of a church gracing a spot at once the most romantic and historic in our land.—*Cor. Irishman*.

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, WEXFORD.—Wexford, Sunday, Sept. 11.—The beautiful Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin was this day solemnly dedicated to the service of God, the sacred ceremonial being assisted at by several distinguished members of the Hierarchy, a large number of the clergy, and a congregation so large as to fill the spacious structure to its utmost limits.—The event, as might be expected, was one of pride and joy to the Catholics of Wexford, and of deep satisfaction to their loved pastor, who, with his faithful clergy, now beholds the noble fruits of his unwearied zeal and willing sacrifices for the cause of religion in the two magnificent temples for Divine worship which adorn this town, and which will remain for ages monuments of the practical devotion of its inhabitants to the Catholic faith.

OPENING OF THE MISSION IN BALLINGARRY.—The Mission in Ballingarry, conducted by the distinguished order of Jesuits, was solemnly opened on last Sunday. The crowds who had assembled on the occasion filled the church, the churchyard, and the street leading to the sacred building. Never have we witnessed such enthusiasm on the part of the people, and the sermon and ceremonies of last Sunday exceeded their highest anticipations, and made an impression which will not be soon forgotten. The missionaries are the Very Rev. Dr. Healy, and the Rev. Fathers O'Dwyer, Fortescue, and Ryan, of Gardiner-street, Dublin. His Grace the Most Rev. Archbishop of Cashel was also present, and celebrated High Mass on the occasion. The Rev. Pastor of the Parish, Father Philip Fitzgerald, and his zealous curate, the Rev. Mr. Callanan, were also present, and seemed delighted that the blessing which they had provided for their people was so heartily appreciated.

REV. DR. MANNING IN WATERFORD.—We (the *Waterford News*) are happy to announce that the people of Waterford will, in a short time, be afforded an opportunity of seeing and hearing the distinguished Dr. Manning. He has signified to his Lordship, the Right Rev. Dr. O'Brien, that he will have much pleasure in advocating the claims of the Sisters of Charity on the second Sunday in October, being the ninth of that month.

THE PASTORAL.—Mr. J. F. Maguire has issued a manifesto to his constituents of the borough of Dungan, in vindication of the policy taken by the Bishops as set forth in their Pastoral. The following is a passage worth extracting:—

"The Bishops have acted throughout with a prudence and wisdom becoming their exalted position, and more especially their solemn responsibility.—They have given the system a long and fair trial; and after having weighed the evidence in impartial scales, and balanced its advantages against its disadvantages, they have arrived at a decision for which the country has been for some time prepared—namely, the formal condemnation of the mixed system of national education. And they call upon the Catholic people and their representatives to aid them—not in uprooting and destroying a magnificent educational machinery, but in so altering its character and principle as to render it safe to the faith, and more suited to the wants of those for whose welfare, temporal as well as spiritual, they are in a primary degree responsible. One would suppose, from the wild outcry with which they are met, that the Irish Bishops desired to establish a system the model of which was to be found in some despotic State; whereas they simply demand that a system which has grown up and flourished in the freest country in the world, and which annually passes for revision before its free and unfettered Senate, should be transplanted to Irish soil—should be established in another portion of the same empire. The Archbishop of Dublin and the Bishop of Cork merely require that they shall have the same control over the teaching of their Catholic children that Cardinal Wiseman exercises over his Catholic schools in Westminster, or Dr. Gillies exercises over his Catholic schools throughout his district in Scotland. The Most Rev. Dr. Cullen and the Right Rev. Dr. Dolan do not say that there shall be no Government control, no departmental administration, no machinery of inspection or supervision; they simply ask for the same local freedom which the State now allows in every town and parish of England or Scotland in which the authority of the Council of Education is gratefully acknowledged and cheerfully obeyed. In England and in Scotland all denunciations are granted the utmost freedom; they may select their own books, and adopt, without interference or even suggestion, their own mode and manner of teaching. They have their own training schools and their own teachers; in a word, the freedom which they possess is worthy of the country in which it is exercised and enjoyed. This is the system—strong, vigorous, and beautiful, which has grown in the soil, and matured in the atmosphere of a free land—that the Irish Bishops desire to secure for Ireland; and not some sickly abortion, stunted or blighted by the dark shadows of despotism. And yet the free press of a free country howls and raves at them as if they demanded something utterly repugnant to the spirit of liberty, and dangerous to the safety of our free institutions."

THE IRISH BISHOPS AND ENGLISH PRESS.—One of those "public instructors" of the English people has just discovered a new point of attack in the Pastoral, and shouts out to the intelligence to its brethren of the press at the top of its voice:—"Look here! look here! at what the *Examiner* has found! All of you have missed it as yet. A horrible thing, most horrible; just discovered by the *Examiner*." We quote the words in which that sharp-nosed organ announces that it has found the new scent:—"While the public mind in England is occupied with that part of the recent Pastoral of the Roman Catholic prelates which regards the education of the people, while astonishment and disgust are excited in every liberal mind by this new 'laborious effort to confine the intellect and to enslave the soul,' we must not close our eyes to other portions of this precious document which have hitherto escaped attention, but which are not less calculated to awaken the indignation of every patriot and Christian." What is this that is "calculated to awaken the indignation of every patriot and Christian"? What terrible outrage on society and on religion is thus alluded to? We read the document over and over and never could find a word in it that was not dictated by the spirit of charity. We should search in vain were we to search for ever for the portions thus alluded to by the English scribe, but that

he himself takes the trouble of producing them. We shall quote from him the passages which have so grievously offended his patriotism and Christianity:—"We feel called upon, then, by a strong sense of duty, to say that while there are many excellent landlords in Ireland who do not forget that 'property has its duties as well as its rights,' but too many, unmindful of the duties, enforce the rights under the operation of one-sided law—so one-sided and unjust, that the judge sitting on the bench of justice has had wrong from him the admission that he was compelled in the name of law to administer injustice. The law as it stands gives the landlords the most formidable power to evict the improving tenant without giving him any compensation whatever; and this power has been too often exercised with circumstances of the utmost cruelty. A man may, by the application of his little capital, with his own and children's labour, convert a barren waste into a smiling pasture, or improve inferior land to many times its former value. But not for him or his shall the pasture smile, nor shall he gather the well-earned harvest of his labour from those teeming fields which the sweat of his brow has fertilised. The landlord wishing to consolidate farms, or choosing to plant them with Scotch settlers, or preferring cattle to Christians, especially of the tenant's religion, or displeased for his having presumed to vote at the election of member of Parliament or Poor Law guardian, otherwise than he had wished, or from whatever motive it might be, comes armed with the power of the law, seizes to himself the fruits of the poor tenant's capital, labour, and industry, and casts himself and his helpless young family upon the world, to eke out the remnant of his days in the workhouse, or to find a watery grave in the ocean, or to perish in the swamps of America. Is not this literally the history of many a poor Irish tenant?"—*Nation*.

THE IRISH EXILES.—The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Citizen*, a new, ably written, and well selected Journal, issued in Waterford, as an exponent of national principles, and an advocate of every measure of utility to Ireland:—

Loughrea, County Galway.
MY DEAR SMYTH,—I avail myself of the first moment of leisure which has presented itself to me during several days, to submit for your consideration a suggestion which has arisen in my mind from the accidental circumstance that I learnt your intention to establish in Waterford an organ of public opinion just at the moment when the Emperor of the French had proclaimed a general amnesty, extended unconditionally to all his political opponents.

This suggestion is, that you should set on foot a movement expressive of the desire of the Irish nation that a similar amnesty should be proclaimed in favor of all persons who are now suffering exile or penal infliction on account of political proceedings in the British Empire.

It has been stated in the newspapers that the British Ambassador at Paris lost no time in offering to the Emperor Napoleon III. the congratulations of the British Government upon this act of justice—I will not call it an act of grace: the English Government would therefore place itself in a most ridiculous position in the eyes of all mankind, if its Ministers were to refuse to imitate an example which they so much commend.

It seems to me that to you, of all living men, ought to belong the honor of originating such a movement: because you are the only person who, in the record of history, is known to have gone twice round the globe for the purpose of assisting the liberation of men who were suffering penal exile on account of their exertions on behalf of the rights, liberties, and interests of their native land.

Nor could such a movement originate in any place with so much propriety as in Waterford; because one of the persons on whose behalf this appeal is to be made—our friend, T. F. Meagher—may fairly be ranked amongst the most distinguished men that the city of Waterford has ever produced.

It may be said that of the exiles who were expropriated in 1848-49, at least two—Mr. Mitchell and Mr. M'Namus—have in a public manner discouraged, or rather repudiated, all attempts to procure a reversal of the sentence which still prohibits them from returning to Ireland. But we are now called upon to enquire what may be the feelings of any individual on this occasion. We have to consider whether the Irish nation ought to acquiesce, as it were, in silent approbation of a policy which consigns to perpetual exile men whose sole crime consists in having endeavored faithfully to perform their duty to their country.

A large portion of the Irish people are of opinion that the political victims of English law were not fairly tried, an opinion which I share; but it is not now necessary to raise this question. Many of the citizens of Waterford who differ from us upon this point would rejoice to welcome to his home, Thomas Francis Meagher, even as Richard O'Gorman, a refugee of 1848, was welcomed last week by many of the peace-loving citizens of Dublin.

What may be the best mode of calling forth public opinion on this subject is a question on which, for many reasons, I am reluctant to offer an opinion.—Personally, I would prefer that each constituency should call upon its own representatives to take such steps as may be most effective in attaining the object; which we have in view, provided that such means shall be perfectly consistent with the honor of our Exiles.

You will forgive me for not recapitulating the many considerations which rise in my mind in connection with this suggestion, when I tell you that I spent to-day about nine hours in travelling from Killaloe to this town, through the chain of mountains which separates the counties of Clare and Galway, a region rarely visited by travellers, and traversed by me for the first time to-day.

Believe me, my dear friend,
Yours very sincerely,
WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN.

J. P. Smyth, Esq.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE IRISH POOR LAWS.—The census reports of 1851 showed that there were in Ireland 463,243 persons over sixty years old. Of these, about 110,000 lived in fourth-class residences, or, in less technical language, in dwellings but a degree better than a pig sty. Taking into account the general reduction of the population, this class may be now estimated at 80,000. Now, of persons of that age, who make their abode in such dwellings, it is not at all unreasonable to suppose that a large—if not the larger—proportion must be occasionally in want of relief, yet, in 1857, the average number of that class relieved in workhouses was but 6,585, and 246 outside. Does any one believe that the remaining 83,000 never numbered amongst them old creatures hungry and destitute? Again, take only one other of the many classes to whom out-door relief may be occasionally applicable. The Medical Charities' report for 1857 mentions attendances at dispensaries upon 600,022 different persons; and upon 154,621 at the residences of the sick. Can we not easily imagine that amongst these persons there were many absolutely in need of temporary assistance? The vast mass of this class find their means barely sufficient to sustain them under ordinary circumstances. When sickness strikes down a member of the family, little comforts are often needed, and extra expenses are undergone, which too often rob the healthy of their due share of nourishment. This involves hardship enough, but how often does it happen that the head of the family, its stay and support, is stricken down in a sickness of weeks or months, when no relief can be had, through the operation of the law, unless the sick man, his wife and his children, are all bundled together into the workhouse. Besides the sick and the infirm there are numerous other classes of occasional poor, who are, by the working of the Poor Law in Ireland, precluded from assistance, unless on the degrading condition of absolute pauperism. These it is unnecessary to enumerate. When we have stated the one fact, that in Great Britain the daily average of persons aided or relieved is 936,435, while

in Ireland the number is only 51,126, we have said enough to show either that adequate relief is not given here, or that excessive aid is given in Great Britain. As, however, the administration of the poor laws is just as jealously watched in England and Scotland as it is in Ireland, both by local bodies and by the central authority, and as no complaints there made of excessive relief to the poor, the conclusion is palpable that the relief afforded here is inadequate.—*Cork Examiner*.

CLEARANCE OF LORD DERBY'S IRISH ESTATES.—We take the following from the communication of the Dublin correspondence of the *Times*:—"The Clonmel papers of Saturday have come to hand, and as no contradiction has been given by them to the report of the clearance of the tenantry on the Doon estate, it is to be presumed that the original statement in the *Chronicle* is well founded. The *Freeman* devotes a lengthened article to the subject of those threatened evictions, and upon the proceeding founds a fresh argument for immediate legislation upon the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland. Here is some of the reasoning of the *Freeman*:—"In Galway the application of the same law that Lord Derby now applies in Tipperary has produced the most disastrous local strife. The Bishop of Tuam, relying upon his legal rights, sought to get possession of a plot of land on which the Christian brothers expended some £700 in building a school. In the conflict between law and justice the house was wrecked, and the whole £700 lost to the bishop, as well as to the 'brothers'—another remarkable illustration of the necessity of an alteration in the law, when its unjust powers are sufficient to tempt a Christian bishop to take legal possession of property which, in equity, though not in law, is that of others. If we go a little farther north, we find another illustration of the iniquitous working of the law. The Rev. Mr. Malone, in his letter to the *Times*, describes an eviction in Belmullet, which involved 48 families. The fires were quenched, the roof-trees levelled with the ground, and the wretched families—fathers, mothers, children, infants—all driven into the public roads.—For some time the evicted took refuge in the old ruins of a church-yard, but they now inhabit miserable shanties raised against the ditches in the vicinage of their former dwellings; and this, too, has been effected on the property of a clergyman. Surely it is time that the Legislature should interfere to check such proceedings as we allude to. Lord Derby has the sympathy of every good man in his desire to put down agrarian crime; but he has not, and cannot have, the approval of his own conscience, or of that of any honest man, in his application of the eviction law to enable him to ruin, it may be, hundreds of families, all as innocent as himself, for the useless purpose of striking terror. The law that allows one man to ruin tens, or hundreds, or thousands of his fellow-beings is an unjust law; and when a man like Lord Derby is tempted by the facilities it affords for carrying out the passionate whims of the moment, it is time for men of less excitable temper to put manacles on such hands, and save the people and peace of society from the consequences of such proceedings."

Much to our regret, we have not as yet seen it stated, that O'Sullivan, the only reputed member of the foolish Phoenix Society, who was tried and convicted—the world knows how, has been, or is about being liberated from prison. He is incarcerated a sufficient time to satisfy even the exaggerated ideas of the so-called conspiracy for which he was arraigned. He has suffered more than enough to absolve him from any sin, against common or uncommon law, which was ascribed to him. All his reputed associates have been allowed, by the rational and wise act of the present Attorney-General, to return to their families and previous avocations. Why should he alone be detained? Why should this really good-hearted and spirited young man be held in custody, like a criminal, when it was decided as well as found, that the conduct of his friends was juvenile and venial. His was no more. He happened to be put first upon trial. Is he to lose his liberty or his life for a judicial accident? Is he to represent the magnanimity or the malice of state prosecutions?—His countrymen in America are answering the latter of the alternative questions, in the affirmative.—They are subscribing, at the instance of an honest Castleisland man, Mr. Brosnan, to a fund, from which O'Sullivan and his fellow sufferers may derive some relief; and thus are the British Government still creating and spreading the antipathies to their rule which will one day affect their power vitally.—*Munster News*.

We were painfully struck a few days ago with the almost deserted aspect of the quays of Limerick, says the *Examiner*. The range of magnificent berths which extends from the Wellesley bridge to the new floating docks is almost tenanted. A few pleasure yachts enlivened the middle of the river, and the quays at intervals were dotted with a few black sailed turf-boats, but not a ship of respectable tonnage was to be seen. The Custom-house quay, where we would expect to find some retreating sign of commercial activity, is as shipless as the summit of Knockferna, and that such has been too long the case is evidenced by the luxuriant crop of nettles which spreads over the entire wharf. We believe this is the dull season for shipping, and it is some consolation to know that the quays are not always so lifeless and deserted.

PROGRESS OF IRISH INSANITY.—In the course of some cautious remarks upon the spread of the religious excitement in the north of Ireland, the *Dublin Evening Mail* confirms the statement in the *Evening Mail* of Friday, respecting the alarming increase of lunacy consequent upon the prevailing mania. The *Mail* says:—"During the last three months the number of persons committed to the Belfast gaol as 'dangerous lunatics,' is stated at 10, of whom no less than 12 were labouring under religious delusions. During the same period last year the number so committed did not exceed six, none of whom evinced similar delusions; of the 13 committed, as above referred to, all, or nearly all, appeared to be recent cases, some of them being of quiet and inoffensive disposition a week before the outbreak of insanity. How many of the four whose cause of insanity is unaccounted for may have had their reason overturned by the prevailing enthusiasm, it might not be impossible to decide; but, while we have the fact before us that within the space of three months 10 persons were committed as dangerous lunatics in a single town (besides the number sent direct to the asylum), and that of the 10 three-fourths are clearly attributable to religious excitement, we cannot help expressing a hope that the revivalists will not render themselves obnoxious to the charge of over zeal."

In addition to the foregoing, the *Northern Whig* states, on good authority, that since the commencement of the revival movement there have been lodged in the Belfast Asylum and County Gaol no fewer than 23 cases of insanity from Larne and that neighborhood alone. The *Belfast Mercury* has some strong remarks in reference to the progress of the movement. It says:—"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church will shortly meet in Belfast, and we hope the matter will be taken up, and that the awful blasphemy and folly now indulged in will be authoritatively put down. There is nothing in Popery more disgusting and degrading than what is now actively encouraged in Protestant Ulster. To such audacity has the blasphemy ascended, that girls have been, and are being, exhibited in Belfast and elsewhere, who pretend they have been miraculously tattooed on their bosoms! Is not this shocking? Is it not more shocking as occurring in Protestant Ulster? When we find a greedy aptitude for such delusions among the lower classes of the Protestant population, we naturally ask—is this the fruit of pastoral zeal and watchfulness? If these poor people had been properly attended to and instructed, would they have run wild with excitement and insane delusions?"