

caped captain, and for his rescuer; and as the only way of escaping their enemies, they had to take to the hills for their 'keeping.' Though the peasantry might be depended on as faithful, hospitable, and all that, yet the captain did not think it prudent to expose their patriotism to the persecution that awaited it in case of discovery, or to the temptation of the liberal reward offered in the Government proclamation for his own arrest. He therefore at once made up his mind that nothing remained for him but to embrace the proposal of his companion, to 'roam a wild Rapparee,' till such time as Providence might enable him to take a more active part in the emancipation of his country and her sons from their present degraded condition.

After having provided themselves with a sufficient supply of ammunition, and a few articles of heavy woollen clothing, with some provisions, armed with pistol, rifle, and fowling-piece, the pair, thus equipped, under cover of night, sought the remotest wilds of the mountain. There, under the guidance of O'Mara, the captain soon found himself snugly domiciled in a subterranean dwelling of three chambers, in one of which was a 'heather couch dry,' specially prepared for his honor. The interior of this artificial underground dwelling was perfectly dry and well ventilated, and from a wooden candlestick with two branches, with its lower end sunk in the floor, a pair of well-dipped rush lights cast their tiny rhytid light around the doleful home of the Rapparee. Such were the hiding-places of our forefathers of the faith in the days of persecution, who, like the primitive Roman martyrs, had to turn to the bowels of their mother earth to be born again into the blessed life of Christianity, or suffer the most cruel treatment from the satanic hatred of their fellow-men and fellow-citizens, on account of their attachment to the sublime lessons and salutary restraints of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Poor Ireland, who never had to have recourse to such haunts, to escape the injuries of her Pagan children, had her days of trial only deferred, and in the vaulted blazing light of three past centuries had to hide her head in her mountain caves, to escape the cruelty not of her own sons, but of foreign tyranny, and the persecution of an imported creed.

Such caverns as we here speak of, owing to the industry of O'Mara, were numerous on the breast and sides of Knockmeldown, his previous frequent escapes from gamekeepers rendering such hiding places necessary in several parts of his hunting routes. The only entrance to such caves was from overhead, and of a circular form, resembling and shaped like the mouth of a church, and the ventilation or admittance of air drafts was promoted by two other smaller apertures, one towards the bottom, which also served as a conductor of any water that might ooze from its sides, and the other towards the roof through a horn or tin pipe inserted at the top, and concealed outside amid the heather. This was the residence of our 'Rapparees' by day and by night, for months and for years, they never quit their gloom, save when necessity forced them to look out for game.

CHAPTER XVII.

Notwithstanding the many and daring adventures which the life of a Rapparee offered to the bold patriot who preferred the wild mountain cave to the slavery of more refined dwellings, it must be confessed that such a life was anything but agreeable to the accomplished captain of the Chasseurs de Vincennes. He saw enough of the country, and was sufficient intimate with the minds of the peasantry, to be convinced that there was no immediate prospect of amelioration for either. He consequently came to the resolution of returning back to his adopted country as soon as an opportunity would offer. His departure was accelerated, too, by the fact that his brother Thomas, who had been imprisoned ever since the escape of the priest, had lately obtained his liberty, on condition of never again setting his foot on his native land, or any other part of the world where Britain held sway.

The brothers found means of communicating with one another; and it was determined, after the almost universal instinct of the Irish heart, that France should become the land of their choice. There the influence of the captain at court would be made subsidiary to the advancement and comfort of his brother's family. There, too, Miss O'Donnell and her sister could obtain that education which was denied them in their native land, and afterwards take their proper place in society, which the bigotry of the ascendant church shut them out from at home.

On the fifteenth of August, 1781, after a little more than four years' sojourn in his native land, Charles O'Donnell, with his brother Thomas and all the immediate relatives, bid an eternal adieu to Ireland, and returned to his adopted home on board of an Irish merchant vessel bound for Havre de Grace. His embarkation on the same vessel that carried his brother and relatives, was attended by no small danger, owing to the vigilance of the authorities, who, notwithstanding the comparative liberality of the Irish Government of that day, could not change their cruel natures, and with all the triumphs of 1782, were still of the old intolerant and ascendant stamp! Besides, there was a liberal reward offered for the captain's arrest, and the chance of securing it exercised a greater influence on the minds of the officials of that day than all the eloquence of Grattan and Flood. The ship cleared out from the port of Waterford, but the captain, named Pihian, was let into the secret of O'Donnell's intended embarkation, and he gave his instructions as to time and place of his taking him on board. Accordingly, O'Donnell, having disguised himself as a sailor, went on foot from his hiding-place to Youghal, where he managed, by the aid of a fisherman, to reach Cable Island, a huge mass of rock some two miles in circumference at the base, east at the very mouth of Youghal harbour; and after having secreted himself here, for twenty or thirty hours, he finally succeeded in joining his beloved relatives. The pleasantly situated town of Youghal, washed by the sea and the Blackwater on its southern and eastern sides, and sheltered on the west and north by delightful hills, with its face turned to the rising sun, was then one of the strongholds of Protestant ascendancy.

Hence, it was an enterprise of no small risk to embark on his harbour, or escape the vigilance of his Orange myrmidons. As he crossed the long bridge between Waterford and Cork Counties, he was arrested by the guard, and had to submit to a personal search and other insults, ere he was allowed to pass. As he approached the town he saw a great concourse of people assembled on the strand, and soon learned that it was assembled to witness the flogging of three unhappy men whose crime was that they refused to cry "Down with the Pope," or drink other loyal toasts proposed by their oppressors. His feelings, on witnessing this heart-rending scene, all but betrayed O'Donnell to the fury of the yeomanry, who noticed his taciturnity, and ordered him to quit a scene where none but the 'loyal' alone were admitted even as spectators.

'It was fortunate that you chanced to come on this play-day of the yeomen,' said Linehan, who steered him to the Island, 'for if they had not this flogging to engage their attention, it would be impossible for a bird to leave this part unknown to the villains.'

'Are not the Catholics by far more numerous than those miscreants?' asked the captain.

'Yes, they are two to one; but you know our religion tells us to bear persecution patiently, and the clergy are continually forbidding the effusion of Christian blood.'

'Ay, but the true Christian blood is daily shed in torrents by worse than Pagan savages, and if resistance was ever justifiable in self-defence, it is now justifiable. 'Tis better to die at once than to lead such wretched lives. It would be much better for those unhappy men who are cut up under the triangle, to be shot instantly, than to suffer such a torturing living death.'

'I allow it would, but as they suffer for religion's sake, will not God reward such suffering, and are they not martyrs? and the old martyrs, you see, never rebelled, although they often, at least the Christians, had it in their power to overthrow the cruel tyranny that persecuted them, as we read in history and the lives of the holy Fathers.'

'Ay, I see you take a very Christian view of these things. I must confess I have not so much of the spirit of the martyr as you, my friend.—For if I was more powerful than my enemy, as you are in that city, I would make him the sufferer, especially if he was a criminal and deserving of death.'

With this and such other conversation, the passage to the Island Rock was shortened, the landing was soon made, and having paid the honest fisherman a guinea, O'Donnell waited in security for the vessel on its return to beautiful France.

(To be Continued.)

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

The Northern Whig calls attention to the enormous cost of "law and justice" in Ireland. In the Civil Service Estimates for 1862-63 relating to this department the total charge for England is set down at £201,572, for Scotland at £138,310, and for Ireland at £257,218. The estimate for Ireland is, therefore, more than seven times as great as that for Scotland, and is absolutely greater by more than £50,000 than the estimate for England and Wales, with nearly four times the population. The inference which a foreigner would naturally draw from the difference in the cost of law and justice in the two countries is, that the people of Ireland are pre-eminently litigious and criminal. This inference would be quite erroneous. It is proved by statistics, and generally admitted, that the Irish population is now one of the best-behaved in Europe.—Times Dublin Cor.

MAJOR O'REILLY AND THE GOVERNMENT.—A misapprehension as to the principles of the gallant member for Longford seems to have arisen, in consequence of his having taken his seat on what was improperly termed the Ministerial side of the House. No one who read his Address, and was acquainted with his character, could for a moment imagine that he was a supporter of the present Government, and he was happy in being able to place before our readers a letter addressed by Major O'Reilly to the Lord Bishop of Ardagh, which fully explains the course pursued by him on his introduction to the House. The letter of Major O'Reilly is the declaration of a truly independent member; and his friends in Longford and throughout Ireland will feel gratified at an explanation, which removes the faintest shadow of suspicion from his name, and more than fully confirms the hopes entertained of his parliamentary career. It is a soldier and a gentleman that speaks in the following lines:—

"London, April 2, 1862.
"My Dear Lord—I am very much obliged to you for letting me know that some of my good friends have misunderstood the meaning of my taking seat on the side of the House I have done.

"A few words will explain the matter.
"In the old House of Commons there were benches down both sides and across the end; on the side benches on the one side sat the Liberal supporters of Government; on the other the Conservative supporters of the Opposition; and on the cross benches on the Conservative side sat the Independent Conservatives; on the cross benches on the Liberal side sat the Independent Liberals. The latter would have been my place were the cross benches still in existence.

"But there are now only the side benches, divided into two parts by the gangway. On these, on the Conservative side, sit above the gangway, the regular party supporters of Lord Derby; below the gangway the Independent Conservatives to the support of many of whom Lord Palmerston has so often been indebted for safety.

"On the Liberal side sit, above the gangway, the regular supporters of the present Government. Below the gangway the Independent Liberals, including, of course, many supporters of Government, but including also many, like myself, its determined opponents. It appeared to me, that for one like myself, an advocate for Reform, the Ballot, and the abolition of Church-rates, &c. to sit on the Conservative side of the house would be a solecism; and I know that I sit with several, determined like myself, to vote on all occasions against the present Government.

"That the Government look upon me as a divided opponent, is clear from the fact that, while Col. White has declared he does not prosecute the petition against my return, it is conducted by the Government Parliamentary agent, and backed by all their influence direct and indirect.

"In conclusion, I have only to say, my friends may differ in opinion as to where I might best sit in the House. I am certain they will all be satisfied with my position in the division lobby.
I remain your Lordship's faithful servant
"Myles O'Reilly."

—Dublin Nation.
The diminution of crime in Kerry has been evinced by the fact of there having been but four criminal cases for trial at Killarney Quarter Sessions, opened before C. Coppinger, Esq., on Tuesday, the only one of a serious nature being a charge of burglary, from which the prisoner was acquitted.

THE LONGFORD ELECTION.—We (Irish Times) learn that Colonel White and the Government are sparing no effort to collect all the evidence they can in favor of the petition against the return of Major O'Reilly for Longford. Several of the officers who were in command of the troops at the election have received notifications that they will be called on as witnesses in favor of the petition. We believe, however, that the real question as to the validity or otherwise of the election will hinge on the point as to the legality of the day appointed for the polling by the high sheriff. Regarding this a great difference of opinion appears to exist. The rumor which has been circulated that the Government intend bringing in Col. White for an English borough is, we have good reason to believe, without any foundation. The great Conservative reaction which prevails in this country is equally paramount in England, and the Government would experience just as much difficulty in obtaining a seat in parliament for their Lord of the Treasury from an English as they already have from an Irish constituency.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY AND THE DUBLIN CORPORATION.—The claims of the Catholic University to a Charter have been strongly asserted by the Catholics of Ireland. Peers of the realm, Mayors, Sheriffs, Deputy-Lieutenants of Counties, and Magistrates, have all declared in its favor, while "the people" have emphatically expressed their sympathy by the contributions they have showered in to aid it. Corporate bodies have also proclaimed their sense of the justice of its demand. Kilkenny has spoken; Limerick has spoken. On Monday Alderman D'Arcy called on the representatives of Catholic Dublin to aid the good cause. He proposed a resolution declaring that it is the duty of a Government which professes a desire for the promotion of first-class education to encourage and facilitate the great educational effort made by the Catholic University, by granting it a charter, and called upon the Council to memorial the English Government, through the Lord Lieutenant, to grant it a charter. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gray in a very able speech. An endeavor was made to reply to the arguments advanced on behalf of the institution, by Messrs. Acheson and Vereker who, however, acted *volens volens* as the advocates of Alderman D'Arcy's motion. The debate was then adjourned to Tuesday. We can scarcely say a debate ensued. Only one man, Town Councillor Martin, stood up to speak against the motion. He was replied to by Alderman Reynolds and Roe and Councillor M'Swinye. Alderman Roe's speech although brief, was worthy of himself and the cause which he advocated. Mr. M'Swinye delivered an eloquent oration in favor of the motion, bringing facts and logic to his aid. The whole debate shows that the Liberal members of the Corporation had been fighting with a shadow. The motion was carried by a majority of twenty-eight against ten.—Dublin News.

KILLARNEY BENEVOLENCE.—THE O'DONOGHUE, M.P.—Llanrhydy, April 8th.—Within the past week the above-named gentleman has, in the kindest manner, and unsolicited by his tenantry, forgiven them one-fourth of their rent for the year ending 21st March. This boon extends to the tenantry on every portion of his property. Nor is this act of benevolence—the effects of which to the tenantry, at this season, will be of the best description—been the only one which this gentleman has conferred on those holding under him. He has also given to each of his tenants a lease of their holdings for periods more or less lengthened, but which have in all cases given satisfaction to the recipients; and has, besides, gratuitously supplied manure to those who could not otherwise obtain them, for improving or reuniting the residences on their land. This is an example which it would be highly desirable should be imitated by the majority of the landlords throughout this country, particularly in this neighborhood, where many of the small farmers were during the winter reduced to use as a means of subsistence either Indianmeal sturabot or turnips. If the Irish land proprietors, generally, acted in this manner, we would not have heard of so many fruitless appeals to the Government on behalf of the famishing poor of this country. Nor would we see so many of the young of both sexes—the bone and sinew of the land—week after week emigrating to the distant shores of America or Australia, as numbers are doing from this locality.—Cork Examiner.

DISTRESS IN CONNEMARA.—LETTER FROM THE COMTE DE PARIS.—The following letter was received from the Comte de Paris, by Robert Meerey, Esq., county Galway, enclosing an order for £20 towards the relief of the destitute poor in the West:—
"Manassas Junction, Virginia,
March 21st, 1862.
"Dear Sir—I have received your letter, and I thank you for not having doubted of the interest I should take in the sufferings of the poor neighbors of Gowla, (Galway), after having witnessed more than once the misfortunes of the Irish race on her own soil. I admire daily here, on the continent of America, her energies and her devotion to the country of her adoption. I have sent an order to Messrs. Counts & Co., in London, to hold, at your disposal, the sum of £20, which you may get through their correspondent in Dublin.—Believe me, sir, truly yours,
"LOUIS PHILIPPE P. ORLEANS."

OFFICIAL TESTIMONY.—A "Blue Book" is not an infallible authority. It is generally the report of a Government Committee, or the correspondence of Government officials with their chiefs: its faults do not usually lean to virtue's side, for virtue does not pay those people; they lean but to the side of the Government from whom come salaries, promotions, and pensions. Nevertheless, it does happen very often that the Blue Book goes nearer by many degrees to the truth than do the reckless statements made by Ministers, collectively or individually in Parliament. One of these "Blue Books," comprising the reports of Medical and Poor Law Inspectors on the condition of the poor in the West of Ireland, has, in compliance with an order of Parliament—obtained by one of the Irish members—been printed for the House of Commons. Its testimony is not very comprehensive, but as far as it goes it is manifestly in contradiction to the statements so recklessly and heartlessly flung out by Lord Carlisle and Sir Robert Peel, regarding the condition of the people in those Western districts. And it, moreover, proves that while these persons were misrepresenting the case, they could not have been ignorant of the facts, the evidence which is now published having previously reached the Government. Those reports state that there has been a great deficiency both in the food and fuel of the people; the last potato crop was in many instances so bad that it was not worth the trouble of digging out, and turf there was absolutely none. Surely distress must have resulted—there must have been terrible cold and hunger in the houses of the poor cottagers! Yes, but the paings did not touch Lord Carlisle or Sir Robert Peel: that amiable nobleman and that eminent statesman did not shiver in the blast; their rooms were not fireless; their tables were not bare; and, therefore, they could afford to speak lightly of destitution—nay, even to deny its existence in Ireland. Honest men and gentlemen of every party, clergymen of every creed, came forward to give testimony to the appalling misery that was threatening the very lives of the poor in their various localities; they came forward to demand for them that care, consideration, and relief which a Government is bound to afford to its subjects in such circumstances; but their representations were treated with incredulity that even reached to the depth of discourtesy. What will our rulers (God help us) say now, when even their own officials give evidence against them, and out of their own mouths they are convicted? In addition to this, proofs of the statements made by those who know the condition of the people, and sympathize with them, are every day accumulating. If Irishmen and women have not in numbers perished of famine, it is owing, under God, to the great exertions made by

charitable people amongst them—exertions which at the same time afford no excuse to the Government for neglecting its duty and for abandoning the people to what can be, after all, but a chance of safety. Appeals for relief from different parts of the country are every day arriving to the Dublin Mansion House Committee, but alas, the resources of the Committee are but small; they are furnished by voluntary contributions from charitable persons—still the Committee will, no doubt, listen to the kind-hearted appeal, and give what they can afford. But the Government will not heed it; it will not affect the opinions of Lord Carlisle; it will not check the flippant tongue of Sir Robert Peel. Those well fed and jocund officials will be ready as ever on the next opportunity to declare that there is no distress in Ireland, but the country is rich, prosperous, happy, and is every day advancing in the path of material prosperity! Was ever an unhappy nation, since the world began, so wronged and so afflicted?—Dublin Nation.

The state of the country is at length admitted to be critical, so far as the bulk of the small farming and the laboring classes are concerned. The publication by the House of Commons of the reports of the Poor Law Inspectors upon the state of the West, has elicited general discussion in the Irish journals. Dr. Brodie, one of the Inspectors, is a man little likely to let either humanity or patriotism interfere with the red-tape element of his official nature, and the production of copies of his reports on some of the Western Unions would reveal a needless if not offensive incidental introduction of political topics, in order to cast reflections upon sentiments largely shared in by the populace. The testimony of such a man in proof of existing and increasing distress, is still more valuable than if it had come from an officer whose genial sympathies were liable to be warped on the side of suffering classes. Mr. D. Canfield Heron, brother-in-law to the Lord Mayor, has written a very important letter upon the deplorable condition of the general population of the Southern portion of Connemara, that portion of it lying south of the road from Oughterard to Clifden, in which he applies, through the Lord Mayor, for aid from the Mansion House. He states that the Law Life Insurance Company, who own the bulk of the Martin estates, refused to permit a projected railway to pass through their property; and absentes, they do not contribute one shilling to relieve the deep and wide-spread distress which exists in the vast territory which they possess. The proceedings of the Mansion House Committee are eliciting most important facts respecting the operation of the Poor Law, and the culpable and inhuman conduct of some of the landlords of Connemara in relation to the poor upon their estates. The following outline may not be uninteresting, especially to your Lancashire readers, many of whom may likely take part in the meeting to be held in Liverpool, on the 6th inst., in favor of a Reform of the Irish Poor Law, and to express sympathy with the sufferers in the existing distress. The Mansion House Committee, now but a few weeks in operation, has already received subscriptions amounting to £210, out of which they have disbursed £500, in thirty-three grants, and 23 other applications are now before them. No relief is voted except on receipt of satisfactory returns, setting forth the precise condition of the poor; and, as a general rule, the applicants are "local" Relief Committees, and not from private individuals. The following are the localities relieved, and the number and amounts of grants:—

Galway	12 Grants, amount £170.
Mayo	8 " " " 145.
Noscommon	4 " " " 40.
Sligo	1 " " " 20.
Clare	2 " " " 30.
Cork	1 " " " 15.
Dublin	5 " " " 80.

One would suppose, on turning to the Poor Law Returns, that in these localities where distress of the most acute character unquestionably prevails, the poundage-rates for the poor would be enormously large;—that the workhouses are full; that out-door relief is extended to widows, the sick, and such classes as the guardians may legally extend it to; and that it was only on the breaking down of the Poor Law, and on its proven a failure to meet the demands on its resources, that public charity was applied to as requisite supplement. On the contrary, however, we find, on the 15th ult., in the whole county Galway, with a population of 271,042 persons, ten workhouses, with only 2,232 inmates, during the week ending that date, and only eighty-two in receipt of out-door relief—six persons in one union, 14 in another, and 62 in the third, seven of the unions giving no out-door relief whatever. Turning to Mayo, like returns show a population of 254,449 persons, nine workhouses, with only 1,716 inmates, and 10 persons on out-door relief, for that week, in four unions, one person in each of two unions, two persons in another, 15 in the fourth, and five unions in which all out-door relief was denied. In all Connemara, with a population little less than a million of people, there were, for that week, only 6,733 inmates in the 29 workhouses, and only 494 persons in receipt of out-door relief; these few scattered through eleven unions, the other 18 denying out-door relief altogether. With these facts before the reader, it is scarcely necessary to quote the poundage rates, which, it is evident, must be extremely moderate. In the Ballina union the rates range from 6d. to 2s. 1d., being under 1s. in 8, from 1s. to 2s. in 18, and above 2s. in a single electoral division. In the Ballinacorney union the rates range from 3d. to 1s. 6d., 13 of the divisions being rated under, and only five over 1s. in the pound. In the Castlebar union out of 18 electoral divisions, the three highest rated pay 1s. and two 1s. 6d., the other 13 paying but from 6d. to 1s. In Clifden union the rates are somewhat higher—they range from 1s. 6d. to 4s. 7d., these being about the very highest in all Connemara. In the Galway union the range is from 7d. to 2s. 6d.; 14 electoral divisions at or under 1s.; 9 at from 1s. to 2s.; and three above 2s. These facts show in a striking light the cruel, desolating operation of the Poor Law, a law which, if not radically reformed—first in its statute, and next in its administration—must exterminate the working-classes of Ireland. Here we have facts to face a people perishing, yet almost empty workhouses, out-door relief denied, and a poundage rating of the most moderate character.—Dublin Cor. of Weekly Register.

The ravages committed by the unusual quantity of rain that has fallen during the last few years in Ireland have been most ruinous to the agriculturist, and to the tenant farmers especially. Much of the distress now existing in the Western and other districts of the country is to be attributed to the incessant rain and ungenial weather of last year; and to say nothing of the vast injury done to the grain and other crops especially during the planting, sowing, and reaping seasons, the damage done to fuel, and the immense diminution in the quantity available for use, have become truly alarming, not only as regards the present but the future likewise. But the evil, great as it is in itself, and independently of its being irreparable to some extent, is rendered considerably more fatal and sweeping in its effects by the deficient drainage in many parts of the country, and the utter absence of any system of drainage whatever in others.—Dublin Telegraph.

DEATH FROM DESTITUTION.—Skibbereen, April 7.—Paul Limerick, Esq., coroner, held an inquest on the body of a little girl named Mary Murphy, of Killaclifden, in the barony of Bere, who died on the 3rd instant from inflamed lungs, caused by want and destitution. The jury at the same time stated that great distress existed in the district.

CASE OF STARVATION.—Last night a man named Michael Murphy, who stated that he was from Watergrasshill, was received into the North Infirmary, Cork, apparently in the last stage of exhaustion from want of food. He had been found by Mr. Lane, relieving officer, lying in Clarence street being unable to stand or walk. When taken to the Infirmary he stated that he had been two days without food. He was sent in a cart to the Workhouse this morning.—Cork Examiner.

BIGORAY BENEVOLENCE.—At one of the April "religious meetings," held in the Rotunda on Saturday, "for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts," Archbishop Whately in the chair, the following little "scene" was enacted. The Archbishop, having to leave the meeting before the proceeding terminated, the chair was taken by Lord Talbot de Malahide.

The Rev. A. Pollock, in seconding a resolution, said they were reminded by recent events of things that occurred in China where, God seemed almost to be speaking to them trumpet-tongued to go on and occupy that new field. They were doing little, indeed, but he would tell them who was doing much—it was the Roman Catholic Church. They were pre-occupying the ground. The Chinese were idolaters, and the first taste of Christianity which they were getting, and which, of course, would become their recognised ideal of the Church of Christ, was that presented by the abominable system that just substituted one idol for another. In China, Rome, with her usual assiduity and promptitude, had thirteen bishops and 160 priests.

Lord Talbot de Malahide, in putting the resolution said—I must admit that it was with some misgiving I came here to-day. It has seldom been my lot to attend meetings on this platform. I have been here before; but many of these meetings I have purposely eschewed, because I felt that, however good the objects—however sincere the views of the gentlemen who supported these objects—that there were such frequent instances where zeal outran discretion that I should be loath to be present when sentiments utterly opposed to my own were addressed to a large assembly (hear, hear). I might appeal to-day, as a proof of what I assert, to an unfortunate remark which fell from the rev. gentleman who has just addressed us. I must confess that if at this meeting such an expression as the one he used, in which he hesitated not to say that one large branch of professing Christians were introducing a description of idolatry as bad as any heathen idolatry—if I could believe that that was the feeling and belief of the majority of this assembly, not for one moment would I take this chair or enter among you (applause).

The Very Rev. the Dean of Elphin said that he thanked the noble chairman for the observations he had addressed to the meeting. He (the Dean of Elphin) did not wish to find fault with any statement made by previous speakers, but he was glad of having got an opportunity of declaring that he was not responsible for any statement which had been uttered at the meeting, but what he had uttered himself (hear, hear). He fully sympathized with the noble chairman in that feeling of tenderness and charity which prevented him from hearing or saying anything hurtful to the feelings of their fellow-countrymen of any persuasion. He had lived for many years in a district where the great majority of the people were Roman Catholics, and he had always received the greatest respect and consideration from all his fellow-countrymen (hear, hear). He had never conceded the Protestantism of his principles; on the contrary he brought them forward at every fitting occasion (cheers), but he had never given unnecessary offence. The people were aware of that, and on no occasion took exception to what he said.

This is very proper and most called for rebuke having been administered, the object dropped, and the meeting proceeded with its business.—Dublin Irishman.

IRISH SWADDLER MISSROSS.—No one ever doubted that the Church Missions Society does harm and destroys souls. We know with the most unquestionable certainty not only that its so-called converts among the poor are scarcely concealed by hypocrisy—and if they believe themselves dying, always send for a Priest to reconcile them to the Church in which they have never ceased to believe, but that among its very highly paid agents and officials many at least are in the same condition. We cannot, of course, mention names, but we know of agents of this very Society, in the receipt of salaries which, compared with their education and habits of life, place them in a position of wealth and luxury, and who have come by night to a Catholic gentleman, deploring with tears the wicked and detestable work in which they are engaged, and expressing their anxious desire to leave it at once if they can in any other way obtain the bare necessities of life. The writer of this article has stood face to face with one of these men, a Scripture reader and religious teacher in one of this Society's schools, who placed himself close behind one of his scholars, whose acquaintance with Protestant controversy he was showing off. The poor little pupil repeated the stock texts and arguments with which he had been crammed, the teacher behind his back making game of his performance, and saying as clearly as words could have said it, "Do not imagine I am fool enough to be taken in by this nonsense." On another occasion two Catholic gentlemen, of whom the writer was one, visited one of the schools of this Society, kept by a man who is most highly extolled by Lord Roden in his published work. Lord Roden especially exults because this man's conversion to Protestantism had led to his political conversion, for he had been "one of O'Connell's repeal wardens," and he was, when Lord Roden wrote, a loyal Tory. Lord Roden's model convert was able to stand and to talk fluently enough, but he was far gone in drink. The hour was noon. It was a sight not easily to be forgotten, to see him, Bible in hand, questioning the poor children about the errors of Popery. When this was done, an Irish Catholic gentleman said, "But Mr. —, I think I remember you used to be a Catholic." The reply, which the writer heard with his own ears, was, that when Napoleon Bonaparte went to Egypt, he called himself a Mahometan, and that he (Lord Roden's model convert) was doing the same thing. We were no doubt indebted to his whisky for this caudron, and it led him to wild by way of boast, that he was the Emperor's cousin. Any lover of genuine Irish humor might find these scenes amusing, if it were not too clear that they are destructive to immortal souls and dishonourable to God. And yet, to us these proceedings of the proselytizing Societies have one feature yet more melancholy.—These unhappy men, no doubt, were depraved before they sold themselves to the agents of the Society; but there are poor children who might have been good Catholics if they had not fallen into their hands. They are taught in school to blaspheme the Catholic Faith, which their parents and friends tell them is the one Truth.—The result cannot fail to be demoralising. The writer once got into conversation with a boy of this sort in Achil. He was about fourteen. He said the Priest says one thing and the Parson says the opposite; and for my part, I don't believe a word that either of them says. This boy was the only specimen of a Church Mission's Society convert who ever seemed to us to be, at least, sincere. Unhappily, he was sincere in infidelity.—Weekly Register.

PATRICK'S DAY IN TUAM.—How delighted must not every Catholic be to learn that in this ancient city of St. Patrick's, not a being was to be seen in the streets under the influence of intoxicating drinks. We have no doubt at the same time, but that many made merry, according to ancient usage, on the occasion. The police had nothing to do, as the people all retired at a reasonable hour in an orderly manner. May such a state of things continue.—Patriot.

IRISH EXPORTS.—Among the exports from Ireland to Great Britain in 1861 were 1,068,833 proof gallons of home-made spirits, 123,812 quarters of wheat and wheat flour, and 1,551,524 quarters of oats and oatmeal, an increase in both the two latter items upon the previous year, but in spirits a decrease. These returns are from official records. According to non-official documents collected by the officers of Customs, Ireland also exported to Great Britain last year 334,000 oxen and cows, 24,300 calves, 407,426 sheep, and 338,187 swine.

A correspondent of the Mayo Telegraph, writing from Swineford, says that the "exodus" of the peasantry has again set in that locality, and that large numbers are every day leaving the country.