

FRIDAY, APRIL 2.]

In Memoriam.

FATHER KEELER.

Inscribed to his sister by Rev. A. J. Ryan. Sweet Christ! Let him live. Ah! we need his life.

And woe to us if he goes! Oh! his life is beautiful, sweet and fair. Like a holy hymn—and the stiller prayer.

Let him linger to help us in the strife. On earth, with our sins and woes.

'Twas the cry of thousands who loved him so. The Angel of Death said, "No! Oh! no!" He was passing away—and none might save the virgin priest from a spotless grave.

Oh, God! spare his life, we plead and pray. He taught us to love you so—so so much—his life is so sweet and fair—A still, still song, and a holy prayer.

'Twas the wall of thousands who loved him so. But the Angel of Death murmured low, "No, no!" And the voice of his angel far away, Sang to Christ in heaven, "He must not stay."

Oh, Mary kneel at the great, white throne. Our hearts pray with your children—this sweet and fair. Let the sound of hymns and the breath of prayer.

Goeth he not—we are alone—so lone. And who is there left to care?"

'Twas the cry of the souls who loved him so. But the Angel of Death said, "No! Oh! no!" And a voice like Christ's sang far away, "Sounded sweet and low, "He may not stay."

From his sister's heart swept the wild wail. "Oh, God, let my brother stay! I need him in the most, oh! how lone! If he passes from earth away, Oh! beautiful Christ, for my poor sake, Let him live for me, else my heart will break."

But the Angel of Death wept, "Poor child! No!" And Christ sang, "Child, I will soothe thy woe."

Oh, Christ, let his sister's prayer be heard; Let her look on his face once more; Ah! that prayer was a wall—without a word—She will look on him nevermore.

The long gray distance unmoored swept. Between the dying eyes and the eyes that wept.

He was dying fast, and the hours went by: His mind had hidden away somewhere. Back of a fretful and wearied brow. Ere he passed from life away.

And one who loved him in death of night. Crept up to an altar, where the light That guards Christ's Eucharistic sleep. Shone strangely down on his vow.

Spare him, Oh, God! Oh, God! for me. Take me, beautiful Christ, instead. Let me taste of death, and come to Thee—I will sleep for him with the dead.

The Angel of Death said, "No, Priest! No! You must suffer and live, but he must go." And a voice like Christ's sang far away, "He will come to Me, but you must stay."

We leaned on hope that was all in vain. Till the terrible word at last. Told our stricken hearts he was out of pain, And his beautiful life had passed.

Oh! take him away from where he died; Put him not with the common dead; For he was so pure and so true, And the city was stirred, and thousands cried.

Who's tears were a very prayer: "No, no, no! take him home again, For his Bishop's heart has been there; Cast him not with the common dead. Let him go home and rest his head—On the heart of his Father—he is mild, He loved him as if he were his child, And they brought him home to the home he died."

With life so sweet and fair; He blessed it in his deathly rest—His face was a pure and so true, White as snow, pure as the foam Of a weary wave on the sea. He drifted back, and he drifted him where He would lay at last to be.

His Father in God thought over the years of the beautiful happy past; Ah, me! we were happy then; but now The sorrow has come, and saddest tears Kiss the dead priest's virgin hair. People, and priests, and all! No, no, no! "He is not dead yet—When the evening shadow fall, Let him rest alone, unwatched alone, Just beneath the altar's light. The holy hosts on their humble throne, Will watch him all through the night."

The doors were closed, he was still and fair. The dead priests came with soundless prayer, Their faces wearing smiles.

This was the soundless hymn they sung. And his was beautiful, fair and young. The fairest flower in the church's vale, (Ah! 't was in his own soul's pass) In the vase of his coffin sleep.

We bore him out to his resting-place, Children, priests, and all; There was sorrow on almost every face, And ah! what tears for a heart steep, Tears from sorrow's deepest deep.

"Dust to dust"—he was lowered down; Children! kneel and weep, still prayer—Give the white-robed priest a flower and crown For the white rose passed away.

And we wept our tears and left him there, And brought his memory home; Ah! he was beautiful, sweet and fair—A heavenly hymn—sweet, still prayer—Pure as the snow, white as the foam, That seeks a lone, far shore. A dead priest, bless from afar the blast. The heart that will guard this place of rest. Forever, forever, forevermore.

ENERGY—WHAT IT DOES.

We love your upright, energetic men. Pull them down heavy and that, they only bend, but never break. Trip them down and in a trice they are on their feet. Bury them in the mud and in an hour they will be out and bright. They are not yawning away existence, nor roaming about as if they had come into it with only half their souls; you cannot keep them down—yon world must soon degenerate. They are the salt of the earth. Who but they can start any noble project? They build our cities and churches, and rear our manufactures.

They whiten the ocean with sails, and blacken the heavens with the smoke of their steam vessels and furnace fires. They plough the earth. Blessings on them! Look to them, young men, and take courage; imitate their example; catch the spirit of their energy. Without life what are you good for, if it is passed idly away. We should never thus measure life's employment.

If there is anything that ought to be said, say it; if there is anything that ought to be done, do it. What a man will do to be well do it.

THE HOLY APPARITIONS.

MIRACLES AT KNOCK.

FURTHER EVIDENCE OF EYE-WITNESSES.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the day, during which the rain poured down in cold and blinding streams, says the Tuam News, the roads leading to Knock were filled with numbers of young and old of both sexes, of the blind, too, and disabled; cars, heavily laden with those of the better class, and the most honorable, well packed with their living freight.

Coming in sight of the church, the vast black crowd of moving beings could be seen. It was a busy spot. The supernatural was there easily manifest. One, no matter how indifferent in belief, could not escape the effects of the power which animated the people. Some on their knees before the scene of the apparition, praying with an earnest, supplicatory tone; others going around the chapel reciting the beads and other prayers. Inside the chapel the scene was equally animated; some before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, where some twenty wax lights are constantly burning, offerings from the faithful, thanking Mary for relief granted; others, with an assured confidence, demanding her intercessory power in their favor. One should go to Knock and see and feel for themselves the power which the supernatural does exercise upon the people. The pilgrims who crowd to Knock in thousands will leave nothing undone to render themselves more favorably disposed to become recipients of our Blessed Mother's favors towards them. Mass is celebrated each morning, and, no doubt, devotions are, let us suppose, carried on each evening. Many, too, receive the Holy Communion at early Mass. But the want of confessors is sadly evident, for, after all, what can a single priest do amidst such a large crowd. The place is a regular Babel with beggars, blind and deaf, who, on account of their number and their endeavor to obtain a hearing, shout each other down, and roar out their petitions. The ground all around the chapel is more than ankle deep with mud, worse than ever the Tuam fair. It has been after the cattle fair in October. It would not cost much to scrape away all the soft stuff and scatter over the ground a few carts of sand or gravel. Instead of that it is at present a regular sea of slush. The removal of the fly in such places of pilgrimage, would help very much to improve the surroundings of a spot so venerated as Knock is at present. There were very many on yesterday present who had come from Tyrone, Antrim, Monaghan, Armagh, Waterford, Cork, Kerry, and Liverpool, and Manchester; others again from Glasgow. These had spent three days at Knock in wet and cold, performing a station each day, up to their ankles in a stream of floating clay, with the rain beating on their way-worn faces after journeys of such trying magnitude.

THE TESTIMONY OF DOMINICK BEIRNE. I live at Knock; I remember the evening of the 21st August; my cousin, Dominick Beirne, came to see me about eight o'clock, p. m., and called me to see the vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary and other saints, at the south gable of the chapel. I went with him. When I reached the south side of the chapel, we saw the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, having her hands uplifted, and her eyes turned up towards heaven, as if in prayer. To her right I saw St. Joseph, and on her left St. John—just as the other person had told me before I came. I saw an altar there and figures representing saints and angels, traced or carved on the lower part of it. The night was dark and raining, and yet these, in the dark night, and with bright lights. At the time it was pitch dark and raining heavily, and yet there was not one drop of rain near the images. There was a mitre on St. John's head nearly like that which a bishop wears. I was there only for one quarter of an hour. At the time I was there five other persons were in it with me, looking on at the apparition. All the figures appeared clothed in white; the whisks on St. Joseph were an iron grey. The Blessed Virgin had a white dress, and a white mantle, and a white sash. The third figure St. John is, because some saw his likeness at Lakaney parish chapel. I considered myself about the whole of the chapel; and it was observed by several who were passing along the road at the time; I remained there altogether about an hour, and when I came there first I thought I would never leave it; I would not have gone so soon had I considered that the figures and that brightness would continue there always, and that on coming again I would again behold them; I continued to repeat the rosary on my beads while there, and I felt great delight and pleasure in looking at the Blessed Virgin; I could give thanks to God and repeating my prayers.

TESTIMONY OF CATHERINE MURRAY, A GIRL OF EIGHT YEARS AND SIX MONTHS, GRAND DAUGHTER OF MRS. BEIRNE. I am living at Knock; I was staying at my grandmother's; I followed my aunt and uncle to the chapel; I there saw the likeness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and that of St. Joseph and St. John, as I learned from those round about where I was; I saw them all for fully twenty minutes or thirty minutes, a young boy of about six years old.

The child says she saw the images—beautiful images—the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph. He could state no more than that he saw the fine images and the light, and heard the people talk of them, and giving thanks to God and repeating my prayers.

TESTIMONY OF JESSIE CAMPBELL, OF KNOCK. I live at Knock; I remember the evening and night of the 21st of August last; Mary Beirne called at my home about eight o'clock that evening and asked me to come to see the great sight at the chapel; I ran up with her to the place and I saw outside the chapel, at the gable of the sacristy facing the south, three figures representing St. Joseph, St. John, and the Blessed Virgin; the figure of the Blessed Virgin, but I felt nothing in the embrace but the wall; and I wondered why I could not feel with my hands the figures which I had so plainly and distinctly seen. The three figures appeared motionless, statue like; they were standing with the gable of the church in the background, and I raised about two feet above the ground; the Blessed Virgin was in the centre; she was clothed in white, and covered with what appeared one white garment; her hands was raised to the same position as that in which a priest holds his hands when saying the Mass; I remarked distinctly the lower portions of her feet and kissed them three times; she had on her head resembling a crown, and her eyes were turned up heavenwards; I was so taken with the Blessed Virgin that I did not pay much attention to any other figure; I saw also the two other figures—St. Joseph standing to the right of the Blessed Virgin, and to the left as I looked at him, his head bent toward her, and his hands joined, and the other figure, which I took to be St. John the Evangelist, was standing at her left; I heard those around me saying that the image was St. John; it was raining heavily at the time, but no rain fell where the figures were; I felt the ground carefully with my hands and it was perfectly dry; the wind was blowing from the south, right against the gable of the chapel, but no rain fell on that portion of the gable or chapel in which the figures were; there was no movement or active sign of life about the figures, and I could not say whether they were what living beings would in their place appear to be or not, but they appeared to me as if they were life-like and so life-size that I never forgot them.

TESTIMONY OF MARGARET BEIRNE. I, Margaret Beirne, live near Knock Chapel. I am sister to Mary Beirne who has seen the vision; I remember the night of the 21st of August; I left my own house at half-past seven o'clock, and went to the chapel and looked it; I came out to return home; I saw something luminous or bright at the south gable, but it never entered my head that it was necessary to see or inquire what it was; I passed by and went home shortly after, about eight o'clock, my niece, Catherine Murray, called me out to see the Blessed Virgin and the other saints that were standing at the south gable of the chapel; I went out

then and ran up to see what was to be seen; I there beheld the Blessed Virgin with a bright crown on her head, and St. Joseph to her right, his head inclined a little towards the Blessed Lady, and St. John the Evangelist to her left, eastward. Holding in his left hand a book of the Gospels, and his right hand raised the while as if in the attitude of preaching to the people who stood before him at the gable; the Virgin appeared with her hands uplifted as if in prayer, with eyes turned towards heaven, and wearing a lustrous crown; I saw an altar there; it was surrounded with a bright light, and with a light at times sparkling, and so too were the other figures, which were similarly surrounded.

THE DARK SPOT OF EUROPE. The London Express of the 28th ult. says: On Monday night the annual general meeting of the Nottingham Catholic Union took place in Mechanic's Hall. There was a large attendance, the chair being taken by the Right Rev. Dr. Bagnshaw, Bishop of Nottingham, supported by the Very Rev. Canon McKeena, V. G., Monsignor Harnett, Monahan, and Douglas; Dr. Hovley, etc., etc.

The chairman, after apologizing for the absence of the chairman of the Catholic Union owing to domestic affliction, said there was one subject which he could not help mentioning, and that was that which he considered the principal business of the evening, and that was the defence of Catholic interests and for the redress of Catholic grievances, and inasmuch as the Catholics of Ireland had for centuries suffered, and were still suffering, under a very cruel oppression, they might fairly look to the English Catholic laity and associations to help them to make known and to redress their sufferings and their grievances. The Catholics of Ireland could not get the English public to listen to their complaints. Then they brought them forward in the House of Commons, leaving them to speak to empty benches; the reporters would not put their speeches into the newspapers; the newspapers left the English public in total ignorance of the cruel and unjust wrongs which were being inflicted on the Catholics of Ireland—may, they even added to their conspiracy of silence on this matter columns and insults. They attributed the famine and sufferings of Ireland to the want of industry and to the want of industry or ignorance, or to a marvellous success of which Irish laborers preferred potatoes and water to bread and beef, and the economic papers added to this the grossest and crudest insults in the pictures which they drew of the Irish people. Their desire was to expose to the English public the grievances of their Irish brethren, and to demand from the English Government and the English Parliament a redress of those grievances. He knew that there were those who thought that there was no hope of redress in that quarter, and that the only hope of redress was in the hands of the English people, however, no one could speak that evening. That meeting was not called to discuss that question, but as had been said, it was called in order to claim from the English Government the removal of unjust and oppressive laws of any political party. Whigs and Tories, Conservatives and Liberals, had rivaled one another, had vied with each other, in the oppression and ruin of the Irish people.

The resolution would deal with the famine which was impending, or which rather had begun, in Ireland. Many people there had already died of starvation, and thousands were slowly perishing from insufficient nourishment, and thousands would have died of want before this but for private charity. The starvation of Ireland was far more widespread, far more complete and hopeless than the famine of the year 1847. For months past thousands upon thousands had been kept alive by private charity, although Government relieved this distress by loans which would have to be repaid at considerable interest. The benefit went to the landlords, who, having used it to improve their estates at the public cost, would, many of them, probably proceed to give from their tenants a higher rate of interest. The money was taken from the Irish exchequer, and not from imperial funds. The destitution in Ireland was not through the visitation of God, but from the cruelty of man; it was an artificial famine, and not a natural one. After giving an historical account of former famines in Ireland, the speaker remarked that the union of Ireland with England was too much like the union of the spider and the fly; the fly kicked and struggled, but its vitals were sucked dry despite all it could do. There was no equality in the world to be read of like that to be read of in Ireland, and which existed now in a mitigated form. It was mitigated in some respects, but in the land laws, which were at the root of

all evil, it existed in full operation. Those laws kept about THREE MILLIONS OF IRISH CATHOLICS IN SUBJECT AND SERVILE DEPENDENCE to about 10,000 landlords, who seldom allowed them to rise much above the lowest state and condition of poverty. With regard to the distress which existed, he remarked that if the English people knew it as it was there might be some reason to hope that there was enough sense of justice and humanity in England to put an end to it at once.

Canon Harnett moved the first resolution: "That our representatives in Parliament be requested to urge upon her Majesty's Government the necessity of taking more adequate measures to relieve distress and to prevent famine in Ireland, and of ensuring their immediate effectual execution." Canon Monahan, in seconding it, asked how much of the millions that England received from Ireland had the Government expended for the relief of those districts in which famine was prevalent? The astounding answer to the question was, "Not a shilling." The Government had opened her national purse, the Dominion of Canada had voted one hundred thousand dollars from her treasury to relieve the suffering Irish, but the British Government had yet to give to that cause its first shilling. "Shame!" The Government was invited to see that there was distress in Ireland, and it had been profusely liberal with respect to it. It had given permission to the local government to give permission to the Irish landlords to place themselves whether they adopted certain measures of relief that would benefit themselves at the expense of their unfortunate tenants or not. It would be more creditable to England to leave Africa to the Africans.

and to turn her attention to the incomparable wretchedness of Ireland, which he called "the dark spot of Europe." Father Garvey, in supporting the resolution, said the Irish people would not be paraded as beggars; they would not have charity doled out to them. They demanded their rights and they would have justice.

The resolution was carried unanimously and by acclamation.

IRELAND'S TIME OF TROUBLE. CONTINUANCE OF THE DISTRESS. SPREADING EVEN TO COUNTIES LIKE TIPPERARY.

INFAMY OF THE POOR LAW GUARDIANS—THE DANGER OF GREATER FAMINE NEXT YEAR.

While the vast majority of the Boards of Guardians have, on the whole, behaved well, within the last pinching period of the trying crisis, not a few of them have covered themselves with infamy. Some have objected to avail themselves of the provisions of the Indemnity bill to extend outdoor relief, and, actually there are at this moment unions in Donegal and other counties scheduled for months as distressed, in which no outdoor relief is afforded, either under the old restricted Poor-law, or under its relaxed or suspended action. I submit the opening of an important speech, delivered in the House of Lords on Friday last, by Rt. Hon. Lord Emly, Lord Lieutenant of Limerick County, and the carriage of the Indemnity Bill through the Upper House, illustrating the heartless failure in the administration of the law, through the selfishness of Boards of Guardians.

Lord Emly said—My lords, now that the bill is on the point of becoming law, I hope the noble duke will not think me unreasonable if I make some comparisons of the manner in which its provisions are to be administered. I regret to say that only yesterday I heard a very alarming report of the state of starvation in the poorest part of Ireland from one of those excellent men belonging to the Society of Friends, who, having worked hard in the cause of charity in 1847, has now returned to the scene of his former labors. He says that the people there are only being preserved from starvation by the relief of the Duke of Marlborough and the Lord Mayor of Dublin; and I fear that all along the western coast is that great suffering and even starvation is to be averted, there must be no delay in putting to work the machinery provided by this bill. Mr. Duke says—"The Poor-law is at this moment in abeyance in the west of Ireland, and judging by that, there is no distress in the west. But there is at this moment in one part 600 or 700 families who are fed from day to day by charitable funds, yet the Poor-law is not working in that part of the country. There are very few inmates in the workhouses. Take, again, another large union in which we have been working for some days. It is bounded by the rugged Atlantic coast and has a population of 33,000, and the assumed market value is £29,000. How many persons do you suppose are receiving outdoor relief? Just 143, and yet in that district the greatest distress is existing." If properly administered, the provisions of the bill will reach every nook and cranny of the land. The Poor-law guardians are bound to give outdoor relief to the cottiers as well as the laborers where it is required, and if any board of guardians neglect their duty the Government have the power to displace them, and to appoint in their stead persons who will give the relief facilities given to the landed proprietors and corporations for reproductive employment will, I trust, render any great extension of outdoor relief in any but the districts inhabited almost exclusively by cottiers unnecessary. In those districts outdoor relief must be given, or the land will remain untilled, and famine will be re-stereotyped. But here again everything depends on the Government.

Lord Emly was followed by the Earl of Kimberley, formerly Viceroy of Ireland. Earl Kimberley said that before they took measures for the relief of a district they ought to be sure that the ordinary resources of the Poor Law had been put in force first. If it was true that there were unions such as Lord Emly had described, where the workhouses were not nearly full, and there were only one hun-

dered and forty-three persons receiving outdoor relief, and the rates not more than three shillings or four shillings in the pound, he would say that the board of guardians in that union had grossly neglected their duties, and that the Government ought, at once put in force the law to supersede the guardians, and appoint fresh ones who would administer relief to the poor.

It is humiliating to an Irishman of spirit, in view of the sympathy and generosity of America, Australia and Europe to his suffering countrymen, to chronicle such hard-hearted infamy, but the sad record is unavoidable. The Poor Law and the Land Code are one and the same, as I have often pointed out in your columns. Within the past week, several Boards of Guardians have, by majorities, decided against the giving of outdoor relief, either under the old law or new act. Thus Balinashow, while in the Tipperary Union, some three hundred unemployed and hungry men besieged the Board of Guardians, demanding "Work or Bread," and the decision to postpone the consideration of their demand, the applicants blocked the doors and the stairs and refused egress to the Guardians until they sent for the Relieving Officer and ordered him to accompany the men to the bakers' stores and find bread for them. On hearing of the incident, the good and noble Archbishop of Cashel, the Most Rev. Dr. Croke, sent his own draft for \$500, to the venerable parish priest, Very Rev. Dr. Howley, V. G., for the relief of the suffering. And when this is the condition of "Galant Tipperary," in the very center of the "Golden Vein," one of the most fertile tracts in the world, what must be the miserable state of large districts in Mayo, Galway, Donegal, Sligo, Kent, Clare, and West Cork!

THE NUMBER OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF POOR LAW RELIEF. The week ended 22nd ult., was 113,137, the highest since the close of the great famine period, namely, 67,342 on in-door and 52,795 on out-door relief, being 16,713 in excess of the aggregate number in figures useful so far as that goes, fail to afford any true indication of the increase of distress. Outdoor relief may increase until close on 100,000 persons may be on the list. It is estimated that fully 200,000 persons are, at this moment, mainly or partially supported from the charitable funds in operation; but while I discount the number at 200,000, I have no doubt that at least 300,000 are being relieved through either legal or charitable assistance. The Duchess of Marlborough's fund, now reaching £400,000, is restricted to 32 counties, earlier scheduled as distressed, and with trifling relief from the unions. Little more than half the fund has been expended, chiefly in grants through local committees in money, in food, in clothes, and in large grants for seed potatoes. The Mansion House fund reaches \$500,000, and has been applied in over 29 of the 32 counties of Ireland, through 720 local committees, in money, in food, in clothes, and in seed. About half the fund awaits allocation. The Land League acknowledges some \$400,000 for relief, which is being applied through Local Committees, chiefly either under the old restricted Poor-law, or under its relaxed or suspended action. I submit the opening of an important speech, delivered in the House of Lords on Friday last, by Rt. Hon. Lord Emly, Lord Lieutenant of Limerick County, and the carriage of the Indemnity Bill through the Upper House, illustrating the heartless failure in the administration of the law, through the selfishness of Boards of Guardians.

According to the latest cable news from America, the aggregate subscriptions therefrom foot, as you say in the American tongue, nearly \$1,000,000. If so, a large fund has been received. Little from the United States, but fair contributions from the Canadian Dominion. The Mansion House Fund received only about \$400,000 from America, while it received more than \$300,000 from Australia, and more than \$200,000 from New Zealand. The whole of the fund of the Land League may be said to have come from the United States, while vast sums have been received from America by the Catholic archbishops and bishops, who distribute them through the several Local Committees. France is now putting in her hands, chiefly through the hierarchy, while the venerable and illustrious Louis Veuillot of L'Univers, is in the van of the noble friends of Ireland. The private family remittance to Ireland from the United States, Canada and Australia, amount, it is believed, to little short of \$1,000,000.

THE WONDROUS MORALITY OF IRELAND. The close connection between poverty and crime is generally admitted. Yet the Spring assizes have virtually closed with an absence of serious crime perhaps without parallel in the world amongst an equal population. West and east, north and south, in the counties sunk in the deepest distress no less than in the counties most free from affliction, the judges delivered the same general charge, congratulating the Grand Jurors on the absence of crime, and even the diminution of minor offences on the panel. Suffering but holy Ireland, her exiled children and her generous benefactors throughout the world will rejoice at the noble display of patience, hope and courage, in the dark hour of her temporary affliction. No false friends, no rash advisers can lure the people from the path of Christian duty. O'Connell's contemporaries teach their sons the Liberator's condensed code—"He that commits a crime gives strength to the enemy."

CARDINAL NEWMAN. It is with deep regret that we announce his rooms, at the Oratory, Edgbaston, Birmingham, in consequence of a somewhat serious accident which he met with a day or two ago. While walking across his room he stepped upon his gown and fell on his side against the projecting corner of a heavy piece of furniture. After the necessity of a medical examination showed that he had broken one of his ribs. As the bone was not displaced the surgical treatment was very simple. The accident has caused little pain or inconvenience to his Eminence, who is progressing rapidly towards recovery, and continues most of his ordinary pursuits. He is expected to visit London shortly after Easter.

PROSELYTIZING.

THE CLERGY OF CONNEMARA DENOUNCE THE SUPPERS. The clergy of the Deanery of Clifton, county Galway, held a meeting in Clifton, Monday, Feb. 16, and unanimously adopted the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That we, the Catholic clergy of Connemara, in conference assembled, declare that there is no fair proportion whatever between the grants sent to the Duchess of Marlborough of £200 to the Archbishop of Tuam, for £150 to the Protestant Bishop of Tuam, for the relief of the distressed of their respective flocks in Connemara; and we believe that money sent to the Protestant Bishop of Tuam to be distributed in Connemara by proselytizing clergy will be merely a supplement to the funds of the Church Mission Society unless some stringent measures be enforced by her Grace's Committee that none but honest Protestants in distress be relieved, and so-called "converts" enjoying their share of the Church Mission Society's bounty.

After giving an historical account of former famines in Ireland, the speaker remarked that the union of Ireland with England was too much like the union of the spider and the fly; the fly kicked and struggled, but its vitals were sucked dry despite all it could do. There was no equality in the world to be read of like that to be read of in Ireland, and which existed now in a mitigated form. It was mitigated in some respects, but in the land laws, which were at the root of

all evil, it existed in full operation. Those laws kept about THREE MILLIONS OF IRISH CATHOLICS IN SUBJECT AND SERVILE DEPENDENCE to about 10,000 landlords, who seldom allowed them to rise much above the lowest state and condition of poverty. With regard to the distress which existed, he remarked that if the English people knew it as it was there might be some reason to hope that there was enough sense of justice and humanity in England to put an end to it at once.

Canon Harnett moved the first resolution: "That our representatives in Parliament be requested to urge upon her Majesty's Government the necessity of taking more adequate measures to relieve distress and to prevent famine in Ireland, and of ensuring their immediate effectual execution." Canon Monahan, in seconding it, asked how much of the millions that England received from Ireland had the Government expended for the relief of those districts in which famine was prevalent? The astounding answer to the question was, "Not a shilling." The Government had opened her national purse, the Dominion of Canada had voted one hundred thousand dollars from her treasury to relieve the suffering Irish, but the British Government had yet to give to that cause its first shilling. "Shame!" The Government was invited to see that there was distress in Ireland, and it had been profusely liberal with respect to it. It had given permission to the local government to give permission to the Irish landlords to place themselves whether they adopted certain measures of relief that would benefit themselves at the expense of their unfortunate tenants or not. It would be more creditable to England to leave Africa to the Africans.

and to turn her attention to the incomparable wretchedness of Ireland, which he called "the dark spot of Europe." Father Garvey, in supporting the resolution, said the Irish people would not be paraded as beggars; they would not have charity doled out to them. They demanded their rights and they would have justice.

The resolution was carried unanimously and by acclamation.

IRELAND'S TIME OF TROUBLE. CONTINUANCE OF THE DISTRESS. SPREADING EVEN TO COUNTIES LIKE TIPPERARY.

INFAMY OF THE POOR LAW GUARDIANS—THE DANGER OF GREATER FAMINE NEXT YEAR.

While the vast majority of the Boards of Guardians have, on the whole, behaved well, within the last pinching period of the trying crisis, not a few of them have covered themselves with infamy. Some have objected to avail themselves of the provisions of the Indemnity bill to extend outdoor relief, and, actually there are at this moment unions in Donegal and other counties scheduled for months as distressed, in which no outdoor relief is afforded, either under the old restricted Poor-law, or under its relaxed or suspended action. I submit the opening of an important speech, delivered in the House of Lords on Friday last, by Rt. Hon. Lord Emly, Lord Lieutenant of Limerick County, and the carriage of the Indemnity Bill through the Upper House, illustrating the heartless failure in the administration of the law, through the selfishness of Boards of Guardians.

Lord Emly said—My lords, now that the bill is on the point of becoming law, I hope the noble duke will not think me unreasonable if I make some comparisons of the manner in which its provisions are to be administered. I regret to say that only yesterday I heard a very alarming report of the state of starvation in the poorest part of Ireland from one of those excellent men belonging to the Society of Friends, who, having worked hard in the cause of charity in 1847, has now returned to the scene of his former labors. He says that the people there are only being preserved from starvation by the relief of the Duke of Marlborough and the Lord Mayor of Dublin; and I fear that all along the western coast is that great suffering and even starvation is to be averted, there must be no delay in putting to work the machinery provided by this bill. Mr. Duke says—"The Poor-law is at this moment in abeyance in the west of Ireland, and judging by that, there is no distress in the west. But there is at this moment in one part 600 or 700 families who are fed from day to day by charitable funds, yet the Poor-law is not working in that part of the country. There are very few inmates in the workhouses. Take, again, another large union in which we have been working for some days. It is bounded by the rugged Atlantic coast and has a population of 33,000, and the assumed market value is £29,000. How many persons do you suppose are receiving outdoor relief? Just 143, and yet in that district the greatest distress is existing." If properly administered, the provisions of the bill will reach every nook and cranny of the land. The Poor-law guardians are bound to give outdoor relief to the cottiers as well as the laborers where it is required, and if any board of guardians neglect their duty the Government have the power to displace them, and to appoint in their stead persons who will give the relief facilities given to the landed proprietors and corporations for reproductive employment will, I trust, render any great extension of outdoor relief in any but the districts inhabited almost exclusively by cottiers unnecessary. In those districts outdoor relief must be given, or the land will remain untilled, and famine will be re-stereotyped. But here again everything depends on the Government.

Lord Emly was followed by the Earl of Kimberley, formerly Viceroy of Ireland. Earl Kimberley said that before they took measures for the relief of a district they ought to be sure that the ordinary resources of the Poor Law had been put in force first. If it was true that there were unions such as Lord Emly had described, where the workhouses were not nearly full, and there were only one hun-

dered and forty-three persons receiving outdoor relief, and the rates not more than three shillings or four shillings in the pound, he would say that the board of guardians in that union had grossly neglected their duties, and that the Government ought, at once put in force the law to supersede the guardians, and appoint fresh ones who would administer relief to the poor.

It is humiliating to an Irishman of spirit, in view of the sympathy and generosity of America, Australia and Europe to his suffering countrymen, to chronicle such hard-hearted infamy, but the sad record is unavoidable. The Poor Law and the Land Code are one and the same, as I have often pointed out in your columns. Within the past week, several Boards of Guardians have, by majorities, decided against the giving of outdoor relief, either under the old law or new act. Thus Balinashow, while in the Tipperary Union, some three hundred unemployed and hungry men besieged the Board of Guardians, demanding "Work or Bread," and the decision to postpone the consideration of their demand, the applicants blocked the doors and the stairs and refused egress to the Guardians until they sent for the Relieving Officer and ordered him to accompany the men to the bakers' stores and find bread for them. On hearing of the incident, the good and noble Archbishop of Cashel, the Most Rev. Dr. Croke, sent his own draft for \$500, to the venerable parish priest, Very Rev. Dr. Howley, V. G., for the relief of the suffering. And when this is the condition of "Galant Tipperary," in the very center of the "Golden Vein," one of the most fertile tracts in the world, what must be the miserable state of large districts in Mayo, Galway, Donegal, Sligo, Kent, Clare, and West Cork!

THE NUMBER OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF POOR LAW RELIEF. The week ended 22nd ult., was 113,137, the highest since the close of the great famine period, namely, 67,342 on in-door and 52,795 on out-door relief, being 16,713 in excess of the aggregate number in figures useful so far as that goes, fail to afford any true indication of the increase of distress. Outdoor relief may increase until close on 100,000 persons may be on the list. It is estimated that fully 200,000 persons are, at this moment, mainly or partially supported from the charitable funds in operation; but while I discount the number at 200,000, I have no doubt that at least 300,000 are being relieved through either legal or charitable assistance. The Duchess of Marlborough's fund, now reaching £400,000, is restricted to 32 counties, earlier scheduled as distressed, and with trifling relief from the unions. Little more than half the fund has been expended, chiefly in grants through local committees in money, in food, in clothes, and in large grants for seed potatoes. The Mansion House fund reaches \$500,000, and has been applied in over 29 of the 32 counties of Ireland, through 720 local committees, in money, in food, in clothes, and in seed. About half the fund awaits allocation. The Land League acknowledges some \$400,000 for relief, which is being applied through Local Committees, chiefly either under the old restricted Poor-law, or under its relaxed or suspended action. I submit the opening of an important speech, delivered in the House of Lords on Friday last, by Rt. Hon. Lord Emly, Lord Lieutenant of Limerick County, and the carriage of the Indemnity Bill through the Upper House, illustrating the heartless failure in the administration of the law, through the selfishness of Boards of Guardians.

According to the latest cable news from America, the aggregate subscriptions therefrom foot, as you say in the American tongue, nearly \$1,000,000. If so, a large fund has been received. Little from the United States, but fair contributions from the Canadian Dominion. The Mansion House Fund received only about \$400,000 from America, while it received more than \$300,000 from Australia, and more than \$200,000 from New Zealand. The whole of the fund of the Land League may be said to have come from the United States, while vast sums have been received from America by the Catholic archbishops and bishops, who distribute them through the several Local Committees. France is now putting in her hands, chiefly through the hierarchy, while the venerable and illustrious Louis Veuillot of L'Univers, is in the van of the noble friends of Ireland. The private family remittance to Ireland from the United States, Canada and Australia, amount, it is believed, to little short of \$1,000,000.

THE WONDROUS MORALITY OF IRELAND. The close connection between poverty and crime is generally admitted. Yet the Spring assizes have virtually closed with an absence of serious crime perhaps without parallel in the world amongst an equal population. West and east, north and south, in the counties sunk in the deepest distress no less than in the counties most free from affliction, the judges delivered the same general charge, congratulating the Grand Jurors on the absence of crime, and even the diminution of minor offences on the panel. Suffering but holy Ireland, her exiled children and