

for the Lord High Chancellor for the time being of Ireland respectively, within their respective jurisdictions, and they are hereby severally required, as soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this act, to appoint a commissioner or commissioners (and on the death, resignation, incapacity, or dismissal of any one of them to appoint another in his room), who shall be allowed and paid out of the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, and Ireland all their travelling expenses while employed in executing the duties of their office, and also such amount of annual salary as shall be determined by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury by minute under their hands.

II. That every commissioner to be appointed by virtue of this act shall, before he shall be capable of acting in the execution of any of the powers and authorities given by this act, take the following oath before the Lord High Chancellor of England or of Ireland, as the case may be (who are hereby severally authorised and empowered to administer the same):—

"I do swear, that I will faithfully, impartially, and honestly, according to the best of my judgment and ability, execute the several powers and authorities vested in me under the statute of the sixteenth and seventeenth years of the reign of her Majesty Queen Victoria, intitled 'an act to facilitate the recovery of personal liberty in certain cases,' without favor or affection, prejudice or malice, and will keep secret such matters as may come to my knowledge in the execution of the said powers, except so far as I may be obliged to disclose the same by lawful authority or in fulfillment of the duties of my office. "So help me God."

III. That in any case in which any one of the said commissioners shall have reasonable ground to suppose that any female is detained in any house or building against her will, he is hereby authorised and required, in company with a justice of the peace of the county in which the said house or building shall be situated (who is hereby required when called upon to accompany the said commissioner), to visit the said house or building, and, if necessary, to make a forcible entry into the same, and to examine every part thereof, and to ask for and obtain from the occupier or occupiers of such house or building a list of all persons then resident therein, or who slept there on any night within seven days next preceding such visit, and to see all and every the inmates, and to examine each, either apart and separate from all others, or otherwise, and ascertain whether any female is detained in the said house or building against her will; and the said commissioner is hereby authorised to make complaint on behalf of any such female as last aforesaid, and to proceed by writ of *habeas corpus* or otherwise according to law to obtain the liberation of such female, provided always that such entry shall be made between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning and eight o'clock in the evening.

IV. That in any case in which either of the said commissioners shall sue out a writ of *habeas corpus* or institute any legal proceedings under the provisions of this act, the costs and charges in and about the same shall be paid out of the said consolidated fund.

V. That there shall be presented annually to parliament a report from each of the said commissioners, in which shall be stated the number and description of all houses and buildings visited by him under the provisions of this act, with the names of the occupiers, also the names of all females as to whom the said commissioners shall have taken any proceedings under the provisions of this act, with such other particulars in reference to the same as he shall think fit.

VI. Any person obstructing any one of such commissioners in the execution of his duty, or wilfully concealing from him any of the inmates or apartments, or premises of the house or building so visited as aforesaid, or knowingly misrepresenting any facts or circumstances with a view to mislead him, or otherwise hindering or impeding him, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to be fined any sum not exceeding fifty pounds, or to be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for any period not exceeding one year.

VII. Each of the said commissioners and the justice of the peace by whom he may be accompanied in any such visit as aforesaid shall be entitled, in any action or proceeding which may be instituted or commenced against them or either of them for anything done in execution of this act, to all the privileges and to the protection given to justices of the peace by the eleventh and twelfth Victoria, chapter forty-four, so far as the same may be applicable.

The readers of this *Tablet* have now before them the text of Mr. Chambers's Bill for the inspection of nurseries. A more atrocious production it is impossible to conceive; and as Mr. Chambers, I am informed, has publicly stated that his Bill was prepared with the kind help of the Protestant Alliance, we can understand without much difficulty that it is eminently worthy of its origin. The first words of the Bill are untrue. It says that, "whereas difficulties have been found to exist in applying for and obtaining the writ of *Habeas Corpus* in certain cases, in which females are to be supposed to be subject to restraint." The truth is, that up to this moment not a single such instance has been or can be produced. I challenge Mr. Chambers to lay any such instance before the House, and am quite willing to stake the question on the simple issue of his being able to prove or to render probable the preamble of his Bill. In the ordinary case of a private Bill brought in to authorise the making of a new street, or the pulling down of an old street, and referred to a select committee up-stairs, the first duty imposed upon the promoters of the Bill is to prove its preamble. Mr. Chambers must and should be subjected to the same reasonable and moderate ordeal. He undertakes to provide a remedy for a class of grievances; let him prove that the grievances exist. Let him adduce—I will not say a single instance, though I am persuaded I might safely rest the case on that extravagant challenge—but let him produce half a dozen instances of the kind which his Bill contemplates, to which the existing law of *Habeas Corpus* is inapplicable, and for which a more stringent remedy is required. If he cannot, then he confesses the falsehood of his preamble and the iniquity of his Bill. If he can, he will at least have laid some ground for this new legislation.

But let us see how he defines the cases for which new legislation is necessary. I find this definition in the third clause. The first clause authorises the Lord Chancellors of England and Ireland to appoint a Commissioner or Commissioners "within their respective jurisdictions." (Qr. as to Scotland.) The second clause sets forth the oath these Commissioners are to take—in which they swear to "keep secret such

"matters as may come to their knowledge in the execution of the said powers, except"—when obliged by lawful authority, "or in fulfillment of the duties of their office." One of the duties of the office is explained in clause five, and it is to report annually to Parliament certain particulars, "and such other particulars as he shall think fit." So that the oath in reference to secrecy is what is called a Highgate oath. These Commissioners of lubricity are solemnly sworn to observe secrecy except when "they think fit" to make their knowledge public—an oath, I think, that is hardly likely to be broken.

"Reasonable ground to suppose?"—Observe these words. Not in case informations are sworn alleging certain facts; but in case the commissioner has in his own private breast ground which he need not specify, but which in his malice he chooses to consider "reasonable"—in that case he may enter my house at his own absolute discretion—in my absence, and without notice or legal proceeding of any kind may break down my street door with a crowbar—he may shut up my wife in one room—my children, if I have any, in separate apartments—my servants either separately "or otherwise" as he pleases—may examine every corner of the house at his discretion, and on mere private suspicion—if my wife, or sister, or daughter is in the agonies of death, or happens to be in bed after eight o'clock, he may burst open the bedroom door—without a warrant, or sworn information, or proved necessity of any kind, he may subject every inmate to a strict examination ("separate or otherwise") about my family affairs—may compel my wife, or other representative of mine in my absence, to give a list of the persons resident in the house, "or who slept there on any night within seven days next preceding such visit"—and by these means ascertain whether any female is confined in my house against her will.

The liberal persons say nearly with one accord that this Bill is not stringent enough. If it passes into a law, one thing is clear. In the house of every Catholic householder where the custom is to rise at nine o'clock in the morning no man's wife or daughter will be safe from the purely discretionary visits, in her bedroom, of magisterial or official reprobates. Every Catholic householder, therefore, must on an emergency be prepared to resist force by force; and in such a case, it is hard to say what, on occasion, may be the result. To anything in the nature of law, guarded by legal formalities, based, I will not say upon proof, but upon sworn and tangible evidence, I, like all reasonable men, am perfectly ready to submit peaceably, however much I may grumble at what I may think its unreasonableness. But a pretended law, which gives my next door neighbor an absolute authority, without legal evidence of any kind, to enter my house the moment my back is turned, and to overhurl the females of my establishment at their personal discretion, such a pretended law is establishing, not law, but war by Act of Parliament, and neither will, nor can receive, any of the respect due to almost everything, however impolitic, that wears the livery of statute.

Just take the case of "anybody" who has a young wife or a marriageable daughter. On the other hand take—who shall I say? Not the mover of the Bill, Mr. Chambers; he is not a magistrate; but take the second of it, Mr. Craven Berkeley. Imagine the member for Cheltenham, or any other magistrate, hand and glove with the Commissioner of that district, and able—(for the Commissioner must require a magistrate to accompany him)—to force his way with the Commissioner into the house of this "anybody" when his back is turned, and no one but his wife or daughter is at home. Every man, of course, has his taste; but for my part, if I caught these gentlemen in my house under such circumstances, I should muster such help as I could find available, and, if strong enough, I should, without one moment's delay, fling them out of the window to end their researches with broken bones upon the pavement.

"No Popery."—Popery has received a blow in its most brittle part. Mr. Spooner has contrived to break the windows of Maynooth, or rather has done his best to contrive that when broken there shall be no possibility of getting them repaired. By a sudden and unexpected move on the vote of £45,000 for the maintenance and repair of public buildings in Ireland, Mr. Spooner and his friends surprised the house into refusing Maynooth College the paltry sum of £1,200 payable under Sir Robert Peel's arrangement for repairs. Since the Catholic students of Maynooth must be educated, says the Protestant Mr. Spooner, let them catch cold at their lectures, let old tiles have a chance of tumbling on their heads, let their doors creak, and the wind whistle down Popery about their rooms and galleries. We will sap the foundations of Maynooth in some way, Mr. Spooner and his friends are resolved. And theirs is not the way of showing by example that their own creed makes more sensible or more Christian men, for the example would want excitement. Nor is it the way of showing by argument, for in argument they do not shine. But it is the material and literal way, best suited for their capacity, of keeping the Maynooth walls and Maynooth roof unrepaid. The vote of Thursday night was a No-Popery achievement precisely level to the comprehension of the Protestant who cunningly throws a brick bat through his Catholic neighbor's window. The effort of Mr. Spooner and his brother bigots for the punishment of Romanists at Maynooth by the rack of rheumatism, and the slow torture of colds in the head, by pinching their bones with frosts, worrying their eyes with inflammations, laying stout blows of lumbago on their backs, and otherwise beating them with rain, has been paired with a simultaneous effort on the part of Sir Robert Inglis, happily less successful, to inflict upon a large class of the British public similar pains and penalties. Hardly had Mr. Spooner obtained his triumph, when up Sir Robert rose and made a gallant stand for the rights of shabby, broken-windowed, disjointed and disjointing cabs.—Mr. Spooner's motion for the disrepair of Maynooth having been duly carried, in immediate sequence rose Sir Robert with his motion for preventing the repair of London cabs: Is No-Popery at the bottom of both attempts? If so, it is rather hard that, for the sake of the few Catholics who may sometimes be caught in hackney carriages, every man too poor to ride in his own should be compelled to suffer for the Faith. No doubt there are many who would bear worse tortures for the sake of securing the same infliction on their enemies. But we are not so vindictive. We desire neither for ourselves nor our neighbors that we or they should be shaken, bruised, pinched, starved, or worried with dirt, whether in cabs or colleges, for any Protestant or other cause whatever. If we are suspecting Sir Robert wrongly in this matter, the fault

is hardly ours. We can judge of a man's act only by known antecedents and attendant circumstances; and who does not know that Sir Robert and Mr. Spooner are the two great champions against Popery? That they are two men who share between them one idea, and are by many people certainly not known to possess more than one? It is true that we do not clearly see the logic of a simultaneous agitation in favor of the never-repaired cabs, and against the college wanting repair; but it is to be borne in mind that logic was never held in much esteem by either agitator.—*Examiner*.

UNITED STATES.

It is now announced positively that the New York Crystal Palace will be opened for the exhibition between the 1st and the 15th of next month.

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 10TH.—Spring, the murderer, was hanged to-day at quarter-past eleven o'clock. He died asserting his innocence. The last question put to him he answered—"I believe my son is innocent. He had no more to do with it than I had." The words were greeted with a general groan from the spectators. He died easy. He also declared his innocence of the Rink murder. The Rev. Messrs. Sheet and Kensil spent nearly the whole night in the prisoner's cell. His conduct was marked with disgusting levity. A part of the time, however, towards morning, he engaged in religious exercises.

A PRECEDENT IN THE LAW OF DIVORCE.—A married couple in the Far West, found, soon after the honeymoon, that there was no affinity in their dispositions, and that they must either lead a quarrelsome and miserable life, or separate. Both being convinced of this fact, they agreed to have recourse to the justice who tied the Hymeneal knot for them, and who, they supposed, could untie as well as tie. On arriving at the justice's log cabin, they informed him that it was their desire to be unmarried, as it was impossible for them to live together harmoniously. The justice reminded them that they had promised before God to live together till death should part them. This was a damper, and they offered him any share of their crop of corn and potatoes, if he would devise some means of sundering the marriage tie. The justice being a Yankee of much acuteness, and stimulated by the reward, hit upon an expedient. He took the house cat, and ordered to hold her between them. His next command was, to stretch her across a log that lay at the door. This done, he took the axe, and exclaiming—"Thus shall death part you!" he brought its keen blade down upon the devoted grimaldine, and cut her in two at a blow. Perfectly satisfied that they had been sundered in strict accordance with the terms of the marriage contract, they went away as highly pleased as they did on their first visit.—*American Paper*.

U. S. STEAM MARINE.—No portion of the trade of the United States has grown more rapidly within a few years than that connected with the steam marine. The total number of the steam vessels now employed on our coast is 625, with a tonnage of 212,500, and employing 11,770 men as officers and crew. In the interior, the number of steam vessels is 765, with a tonnage of 204,725, and employing 17,607 men. Our whole steam marine, therefore, amounts to 1,390 vessels, with a tonnage of 417,225, manned by 89,377 men, and carrying, besides freight, about 40,000,000 of passengers every year.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—You know that the Paphian goddess Sea-born had established her shrine in these ocean isles, and that here for ages along all her rights ordinary and extraordinary, had been duly and fully celebrated. All this had to be reformed. Possibly the lights of Christianity, aided by the restraints of laws judiciously adapted to the position of things might in time have effected this. The missionary government set about it in too hot and zealous haste. Heavy fines and long imprisonment, aided by the machinery of that power, new and mysterious to the native, the written law, were brought into restless and harassing action. A child born out of marriage cost the mother \$50, or one year's imprisonment; any unmarried man or woman caught in suspicious circumstances, \$15; a man and woman found out doors after 8 P. M. and not able to give any cogent reason for it, \$5. The check was altogether too sudden and severe to be beneficial or effectual. The laws were evaded, many delinquencies winked at by the officials; some coming right before them laid hold of, and others vindictively pursued. Numerous evils arose from this state of things. It should have been the aim of an enlightened legislation to take with it the aid of public opinion, or at least never go far ahead of it. Thus the one would have helped the other. Here the two stood in opposition to each other. Hence the Kanakas, men and women, have learned that a thing may be a sin and a crime, and notwithstanding that no shame.—Those who are caught are laughed at and laugh themselves at their bad luck, and at the good look of the government and its officers, who have pocketed too many of their dollars. That is all. An obtuseness of feeling in this respect pervades all ranks to an extent which you can scarcely conceive. The particular transgressions I speak of have changed their character but by no means their frequency. Real, practiced, heartless licentiousness is rife than at any other period.—It no longer, indeed, comes abroad in joy, amid feast and song and revelry, but it skulks in every corner, or hides itself under the mantle of hypocrisy, a more soul-deforming sin than even itself. This is what all those who have lived longest among them and best know them tell you, what one mixing among them tell you is led to conceive, and it is a conclusion at which any one acquainted with the statistics of the population question must arrive from the consideration of the data before him. The severity of the laws against illegitimate births was a direct incentive to abortion and child murder, which the previous practices of the natives rendered familiar to their ideas.—*Cor. of Catholic Miscellany*.



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Since the commencement of this publication, we have often had occasion to express our grateful acknowledgments to the Rev. Clergy and others, who have manifested an interest in its success, particularly by getting up clubs, and sending us lists of subscribers. That we fully appreciate their friendly co-operation, and are disposed to make a liberal return for the patronage we design to increase the contents of work number, commencing with the month of August, by adding SEVEN PAGES OF MATTER WITHOUT FURTHER CHARGE. This enlargement of the work will enable us also to diversify its contents in such way as to make it an interesting and instructive Magazine to the more numerous class of readers to the clergy as well as laity, to the better educated as well as to the less enlightened. As this increase of matter, together with the introduction of original articles from able writers, will involve a considerable outlay, we appeal with confidence to the friends of Catholic literature in the United States, for their zealous co-operation in extending the circulation of the work.

P. S.—As we have experienced some difficulty, not anticipated at first, in sending the METROPOLITAN, free of postage, to clubs, we wish to notify our friends, that on subscriptions received hereafter, the postage will not be pre-paid, except the American postage to Canada and the British Provinces.

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