

Popish plunder? Our tell-tale friend, blue book, speaks:—

	£	s	d
Archbishops and Bishops	151,127	12	3
Deans and Chapters	22,624	5	5
Glebe Lands	62,000	0	0
The Composition	531,781	17	7

£767,533 15 4

Ah! but poor gentlemen, they are merely the channels through which so much money finds its way into the pockets of the poor. Is it dispensed in meal for the widow's bin, in fuel for the fireless hearth, in clothing for the purple-skinned shiriver in December? Those sainted men regard themselves as mere stewards of this charitable fund; none of it cleaves to them or theirs. Blue book once more:—

PROBATE OF IRISH PROTESTANT BISHOPS' WILLS.

Agar, Bishop of Cashel	2400,000
Porter, Bishop of Clogher	250,000
Knox, Bishop of Killaloe	100,000
Stuart, Bishop of Armagh	300,000
Hawkins, Bishop of Raphoe	250,000
Fowler, Bishop of Dublin	150,000
Bersford, Bishop of Tuam	250,000

£1,700,000

Behold, it is the work of a martyr to be a Protestant Bishop in Popish Ireland!

From what we have shown one will be apt to admit that we provide very liberally for the support of our Reverend anathematisers. One would think they should acknowledge the munificence of the sum, and if they did not feel satisfied with the division of the spoil, the fault should not be visited on the plundered by an additional razzia. But what is the fact? In addition to this vast treasure wrung from a poverty-stricken people, a still further sum is, extorted in eight cities or towns under the name of Ministers' money! Why is the tax levied in eight only? Because these were and are eight Catholic municipalities, and if the tax were levied in the others the gross injustice would be committed of making Protestants pay their own Ministers! Any one who lives in either of the towns subject to it may have seen ample illustration of the working of this law. In those towns they have seen the Proctor ply his trade; they have seen the whole process, from the presentation of the docket calling for the amount due to the Reverend Incumbent, to the seizure of the chattels and the auction in the street. They have known the poor Catholic widow, who never darkened the door of a law church in all her life, to have her humble pallet seized and her miserable hovel swept of its scanty furniture to furnish fodder for the Clergyman's banter. The Catholic trader has long been familiar with the knock of the collector, who calls one day for two pounds for the Minister and another for 7s. 6d. for the clerk; being the sum due by him, to the former for zealously dooming him to perdition, to the latter for earnestly responding "Amen" to the same. There are those who sneer at Catholic poverty—these are those who assert it is the penalty of the Faith. The latter are right in a measure; for in Ireland the penalty of professing that faith is a very sore one—we pay for it all.

By British bayonets this system is upheld; by British bayonets this wrong is thrust down the throats of the people of this Catholic country. On the face of God's earth it has not a parallel, created in connexion with the sacred name of religion, it is one of the most monstrous and indefensible. This is the state of things which we have long borne—not without struggles, though our struggles did not bring relief.—This is the rule of wrong and robbery which at length is about to receive its death-blow. To have this impost extorted from us was bad enough; but the refinement of insult, the full measure of humiliation, was to make us collect it ourselves. By the 17 Vic., cap. 11, the Catholic corporations were ordered to become instruments of their own degradation. Against this unparalleled insult, they have rebelled. Drogheda, Limerick, Cork, and Kilkenny have refused the ignominious task, and there is every probability that the remaining towns saddled with this miller will follow the noble example thus set them.

All honor to the men who have thus shown that deep as we are sunk in the mire of bondage, there is yet a lower depth to which we will not be driven—at least without a struggle.

AN AGITATION FOR IRELAND.

To the Editor of the Tipperary Leader.
Sir—At a time when the tocsin of war has been sounded, summoning nations to battle; when all the energy and skill of heroes, diplomatists, and statesmen, are called into requisition to support and maintain the prestige, dignity, interest, and honor of their respective countries; and that it appears the ruling hand of Providence makes an opportunity to humble the oppressor, and raise the fallen and long-suffering—may I ask what have the oppressed, neglected, and plundered people of Ireland a mind to do for themselves in this critical and opportune moment for regaining their long-lost liberties?

Are they to look on with cool indifference at the mighty changes that are taking place in the world around them, without making an effort to ameliorate their wretched condition or raise themselves one degree above the African slaves? No, surely, the abject brand is not so indelibly impressed upon their souls as that they will allow themselves to be the dupes of unprincipled renegades, slavish Whig scribes, and sham-patriots, who would strangle and crush any ebullition of public spirit tending to rescue them from the iron grasp of their unfeeling taskmasters.

The time has at length arrived—the long-wished-for golden opportunity, proud, haughty England, gorged with the spoil of plundered nations, and drunk with the blood of the hapless victims she immolated on the altars of her cupidity and cold-blooded revenge, stands the laughing-stock of unsympathising Europe.

The question now to be considered is this—Will Ireland follow the old system of whining, and begging petitions for tenant-right alone, and leave the rest of her multitudinous wrongs in abeyance? Will the country ask but for one item out of the vast debt due? Why is there not spirit enough in the Island to organ-

ize a non-parliamentary National League, that would agitate boldly, and embrace within its grasp the black catalogue of evils that crush to the earth the energies of her people?

Let the gifted Member for Mayo, and the patriotic Priests and Council of the Tenant League, enlarge the basis of their operations—let their aspirations soar to the assertion of Irish Independence—let them hold weekly meetings, and issue spirited addresses to the people, summing up the various grievances to be redressed—let those go forth on the wings of the honest press to the most remote parish in Ireland. Let a deputation of talented patriotic gentlemen traverse the Provinces, and stir up the latent spirit of freedom that smoulders in the Celtic heart, encourage and direct the people, organise parish after parish, and county after county, enrol all on the books of the National League, and the work will succeed.

Let the Tipperary Leader, Nation, Tablet, Freeman, Wexford People, Kilkenny Journal, Dundalk Democrat, Tuam Herald, Munster News, and the Liberal Press of Ireland, throw in their combined talent to give an impetus to the movement. Let honest men stand together, shoulder by shoulder, and speak and act boldly, vigorously, and fearlessly, and as sure as the sun shines the honest people will not be found wanting.

Let Dublin be the head, the Provinces the body, and the honest Press the arteries, to convey a bold, healthy, and vigorous national aliment to all the members of the body politic. Thus will the Association discharge its important functions to the people, and, guided and disciplined, will the people gain their long-lost liberties.

In the days of the Catholic Association the thunders of O'Connell add. Shall every week electrified the people, and made the then strong Administration of Wellington quail and yield to their demands.—Grattan stunned the British Senate, because an opportunity offered, and the tread of the "Volunteers" on the soil that bore them gave a thousandfold force to his stern resolve.

If a Hyde Park mob can intimidate the British Parliament, must not the man be either a sot, a slave, or a coward, who will persuade the people of Ireland that their rights are not within their grasp, if they only ask them with an earnest and bold resolve.

It is a well-known fact, that in almost every combination of Irishmen, for political purposes, knaves and traitors creep in among them in order to divide, or at least to cool their ardor. This device of the enemy should be now at least baffled, and none but men whose lives are unstained, and whose antecedents are well known, allowed to have any weight in the councils of a political body.

That some sleek lurking Whigs should now endeavor to molly the national tone, and bring it down to the *Castile Standard*, should not be wondered at, but, on the contrary, vigilantly guarded against.

What saith Tipperary? Let your gallant county lead the van, Mayo, Wexford, Kilkenny, &c., will follow, and the lukewarm will borrow heat and life, from their example. Apathy and indifference will vanish, the people will discriminate between friend and foe. Traitors will disappear, and Ireland will assume her ancient dignity among the nations.

"That glorious noon, God send it soon—
Hurrah for human freedom."

Let the association be based upon a broad national basis, firmly resolved to go ahead, and that without any hesitation or intermission, or modest fear of offending the tender scruples of Whig liberals. The Irish exiles in America, Australia, England, and Scotland will be glad to enrol themselves, and contribute to the funds, for a sincere and bold agitation.

But if it be of that cold limited character, the people will look upon it as a "mockery, a delusion, a snare."

Then in the name of religion, home, and country—in the name and for the sake of the Irish race, of the rising generation—in remembrance of the murdered dead, by the sword, pestilence, and preconcerted famine—let the dormant energies of the people be brought without delay into constitutional action. Let the people know their own strength, and use it to their own advantage. Let the honest Irish press sound the tocsin of agitation, and light the fire of liberty.—Let the people be up and doing, and you will soon find the minister recognising their demands.

Then will the tenant be secure in his father's home—then will the bloated cornorant establishment, sinking into decay from its own phlebotomy and plunder and rotteness, die the death of the wicked. Then shall the Irish exiles flock home to the haunts of their childhood, and the Green Emerald Isle shall emerge from the mire of slavery. Her verdant hills shall be gladdened by the voice of jubilation, when her children shall sing like the Hebrew maid of old; the song of freedom, and they shall establish the freedom of God's Church, toleration to all, and the civil liberty of the people.

JAMES JOSEPH O'DONNELL.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM.—The good and great Archbishop of the west has addressed a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, exposing the absurdity of compelling the Catholic Hierarchy to contribute their portion to the income tax, while the law of the land not only denies them aid in the collection of their just dues, but even formally and expressly ignores their very existence. A Catholic Bishop (as his Grace forcibly illustrates the case) is handed a document requiring him to enter therein the amount of his income, and whence derivable. If he comply, he is, in truth, bound to state that the receipts he returns are obtained by him in virtue of his Episcopal office, and by making this assertion he subjects himself to the severe penalty provided by the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. If he decline, the officer of the crown is at liberty to assess him in any amount he deems proper, and malt him to whatever extent his prejudices or his passions may dictate. Such is the admirable consistency and ingenuity of British law. In exposing these incongruities, and the hardships they inflict upon Catholic Clerics, Dr. McHale, with his usual vigor and eloquence, censures the conduct of the Irish members of parliament, to whose servility and mercenary spirit this unjust impost, as well as so many other evils, is mainly due. There is no man in Ireland who has greater occasion in complaint of those perfidious representatives than the Archbishop of Tuam; for several of them owe their elevation to his influence. Two of them—Omsley Higgins and Thomas Bellew—are indebted for their election to his personal exertions, and have been guilty of the grossest ingratitude to their benefactor. But the next election will consummate their political existence. We cannot refrain from noticing the tribute which his

Grace pays to the public character of Frederick Lucas; nor could anything be more effective in establishing the purity and sincerity of heart which distinguished the late representative of Meath than those passages from the pen of one whose whole life has been devoted to the advancement of religion and the emancipation of his country. To have possessed, in life and death, the esteem of so eminent a Prelate and patriot more than compensates for the aversion of a host of venal schemers or worthless nonentities; and it is a consolation to reflect that, through fair and evil repute, the first of Irishmen since O'Connell gave the sanction of his illustrious name to the party of which Lucas was a distinguished leader. Under such auspices that party could not go wrong; and so long as it possesses the confidence of "John, Archbishop of Tuam," its members may rest assured that the cause they represent, and advocate is none other than truly that of the Catholic faith and the poor misgoverned peasantry of Ireland.—*Kilkenny Journal*.

(We will give the Archbishop's letter in our next.)

The Rev. Mr. O'Donnell and the inhabitants of Upper Templemore, numbering about 300 families, have in carrying out a suggestion of Dr. McGettigan, the venerable Bishop of Raphoe, thrown down on the 4th June, last, the small but neat Chapel of Dungle, and have since well-nigh completed a spacious, substantially built house to replace it. The district is one of the poorest in Ireland, and had for eighty years been the field of the soup and proselytizer; but when such zeal is shown to carry out the pious suggestion of prelate and priest, it will excite no wonder that the meal-bag and soup-ladle, the fulsome treat and pharisaical slang and sanctimonious visage of parson and bible reader, were unavailing in their object.

Mr. Duffy sailed, per Australia, on Tuesday morning 6th inst., in good health and spirits.

"We have lost our two chief men," observes the *Wexford People*. "Despairing of being able to roll back the flood of corruption and treachery that overflows the land Charles Gavan Duffy flies from the country in whose service he has spent his life, for whose welfare he risked all that man holds dear, and for whose freedom he would cheerfully mount the scaffold. Overwhelmed by the obstacles he had to encounter in seeking justice for the Irish people and freedom for the Church, Frederick Lucas has died a martyr to the cause. There is not a tyrant or a knave in Ireland, but feels as if a load were taken off his heart; there is not an honest man but experiences the keenest sorrow."

BIDDERS FOR ATHLONE.—On Monday the Right Hon. Wm. Keogh, M.P., for this borough passed through Athlone en route to Rosecommon, to visit the Bishop of the Diocese, Dr. Browne. On Wednesday Mr. Keogh returned to Athlone, where he remained until Thursday evening, when he left for town by the last train. Of the nature of Mr. Keogh's visit we have no certainty, but rumor ascribes it to be connected with the hon. gentleman's elevation to the bench, and the security of the borough for a government candidate. To place Mr. Townley, the late candidate for Sligo, in this position is the wish of Dr. Browne, in whose interest Mr. Keogh is enlisted. Mr. John Reynolds, the rejected of Dublin, is also spoken of, but the wealthy Englishman is just now the favorite. The electors, as a matter of course, are not consulted in these matters.—*Westmeath Independent*.

BEAUFORT TRADE.—In 1829 Beaufort possessed only one flax spinning mill, with fourteen thousand spindles; now there are upwards of half a million of spindles. The tonnage, inwards and outwards, of the port is now upwards of one million five hundred thousand tons annually. The value of Belfast imports and exports for 1854 was upwards of sixteen millions sterling. The tonnage registered at Beaufort amounted last year to about 80,000 tons, viz.:—60,000 engaged in the foreign, and 20,000 engaged in the coasting trade. The amount received by the Customs and Excise of Belfast now exceeds one million sterling annually. The consumption of coals in Belfast exceeds one thousand tons per day. The annual consumption of tea and sugar in the Belfast district now amounts to about two millions pounds of the former, and six thousand tons of the latter. Since 1801, the tonnage entering the port of Belfast has increased upwards of fifteen fold.—*Mercantile Journal*.

Agrarian Assassination has begun again in Ireland; and with horror we say that we fear there will be more murders. Blood has been shed in districts where crimes never come single. Through the plateau stretching from the north of Louth and the south of Armagh across Monaghan and Cavan, towards the Connaught borders of Ulster, a jacquerie spread like an epidemic; and when Captain Rock's gory ghost reappears in his old haunts of Tipperary and King's; the wicked war never ends with a single life. Class arms against class—chains and gibbets avenge the bludgeoned and the blunderbuss, until the Crown, the landlord, and the peasant, are all sick of blood. And at this time, as we are told, Ireland ought to be so peaceful and happy!—Prices high; rates down; food plenty; wages liberal—how account for the savage murder of this helpless woman, Miss Hinds, and this old man Beucham? Alas, it is the old, unfortunate story—the tragedy of Maulveater, of Waller, of Scully, and of Coulter. It is the land that cries to Heaven for vengeance—for the innocent blood shed upon it, for the oppression of the poor as well.—*Nation*.

ATTEMPTED MURDER IN THE KING'S COUNTY.—We take the following particulars of a daring outrage in the King's County from *Saunders*.—Ballycumber, Nov. 4.—On Friday afternoon last, shortly before two o'clock, when William J. Ramsbottom, Esq., of Moorock Lodge, accompanied by his clerk and assistant, Mr. Edward Beecham, of Grogan, were returning on foot from Clonghatany, where they had obtained the possession of a house and a few acres of land under an ejectment decree, they were fired at from behind a hedge on the roadside at Wilton, within an English mile of this village, and within a mile of Mr. Ramsbottom's residence, by two assassins, who lay in wait for them, one of whom was armed with a gun and the other with a blunderbuss. Mr. Ramsbottom fortunately escaped unhurt; but poor Beecham was severely, if not mortally, wounded by a musket ball, which passed right through the neck, it having entered at the left side and come out at the right. He also was wounded with slugs in the mouth, arm, and other parts of the body. Mr. Ramsbottom's escape was most providential, as he was walking quite close to Beecham when they were fired at. The assassins were concealed behind some bushes, and fired from the side of the road on which Mr. Beecham was walking. Mr.

Ramsbottom states that he heard only one shot, but Mr. Beecham is positive that two were fired, and that both took effect upon him. After discharging their arms, the dastardly assassins made off; they ran in the direction of Clara. One of them had a blue blouse over his clothing, and a leather belt around his waist. Mr. Ramsbottom pursued them for a short distance, but Beecham having cried out for assistance that he was dying, Mr. Ramsbottom returned to the unfortunate man, and had him conveyed to Moorock Lodge, where he now lies in a very precarious state. Messengers were despatched in all directions for medical assistance, and Doctor Fry, from Moate, was soon in attendance, but owing to the confusion and the painful excitement which prevailed, the outrage was not reported at the nearest police station until after four o'clock. A despatch was forwarded to Fernane for Mr. Croghan, the efficient police officer of the district, who, on receipt of it, hastened to the scene of outrage, accompanied by a large party of police. The men from the surrounding stations—Moate, Tubber, Clara, Ballycumber, &c.—were soon concentrated, and a diligent search made by Mr. Croghan and the different parties for the assassins. During the night five persons were arrested on suspicion, and on yesterday the following magistrates, viz.:—John Armstrong, Marcus Goodbody, and John Wilcocks, R.M., Esqrs., held a lengthened private investigation. Sub-Inspectors Croghan, Malley, and McMahon were present. At the conclusion of the inquiry all the persons who had been apprehended were discharged.

Four regiments of English militia are expected shortly to be removed from Aldershot Camp to Ireland, and are to be replaced at Aldershot by four regiments of Irish militia.

Two privates of the Kerry Regiment who were tried by district court martial on Monday, for insubordinate conduct, and endeavouring to incite others to similar conduct, were sentenced as follows:—Thomas Higgins to four months' imprisonment with hard labour, and John Kerish to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. They were both bad characters, having only a few weeks ago returned from imprisonment in Cork military prison, after sentence of district court martial.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Ministers have, it is said, no intention to call parliament together before the usual time, nor do they anticipate the necessity of so doing.

The *Daily News* says:—"The prevalent rumor is not, we believe, without foundation, that Lord Palmerston has invited two of his late Peelite colleagues—namely, the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Sidney Herbert—to enter the cabinet, the one as Colonial Secretary of State, and the other as Postmaster-General."

THE WHEAT CROP OF 1855.—In a letter to the *Times*, on the wheat crop of 1855, Mr. Cahill says:—"The crop has now been tested in all parts of England, and while the yield is found to fall considerably short of the great crop of last year, and in some particular districts, owing to special circumstances, is very defective, yet, on the whole, it is believed to be nearly an average produce per acre over much beyond an average surface. The farmers' deliveries of wheat in the various English markets during the first week of October for the last three years, as shown by the *Gazette*, are a pretty accurate indication of the correctness of this conclusion.

The price of wheat is 20s. a quarter higher than it was at this time last year. A month's consumption is one million and a half quarters. The country, therefore, is now paying for wheat £1,500,000 monthly more than it paid last year.—*Bath Journal*.

Mr. Phillips, ex Provost of Leith, has been sentenced to 15 years' transportation for gross lawfulness and indecent assault upon two females.

THE FRAUDULENT BANKERS.—There is no foundation for the statement which has been going the round of the papers, that Strahan, Paul, and Bates, the bankers were about to be sent to Gibraltar to suffer their sentence at the criminal court. Gibraltar is not by any means an easy station, but may be reckoned perhaps one of the most penal and hard-working, as well as being far from the most healthy. The convicts are now in Newgate. They will, in the first instance, suffer the usual period of separate confinement, which is, we believe, a year. After that they will probably be transported to a penal colony for the remainder of their sentence; but no decision will be come to until after the customary probation of separate confinement.—*Observer*.

With regard to the final liquidation of the estate of Messrs Strahan, Paul, and Bates, it is expected that the amount of the dividend will not be more than 2s in the pound. The preparation of a balance sheet will not be long delayed, but it is questioned whether it will satisfy the Court and the creditors on its first presentation. Collateral investigations will also be necessary to trace the disposal of the large amount of property which has passed through their hands; and if all this has to be done before they leave the country, it is possible that at least a year of their sentence will have expired ere they are removed to Gibraltar.

MR. GOUGH AND THE INCOME TAX.—The following anecdote in relation to Mr. Gough, is from the *Berwick (England) Warrier*:—"While in Edinburgh Mr. Gough's equanimity at breakfast was much disturbed one morning by an income tax schedule being thrust into his hand. The commissioners had calculated that Mr. Gough would carry off no inconsiderable number of Queen Victoria's sovereigns across the Atlantic, there to be added to his store of 'almighty dollars,' and they reckoned he was quite as liable to pay their lawful 16d in the pound as any of her Majesty's subjects. Mr. Gough was of course much 'riled' by this specimen of British tyranny and rapacity, and made many strenuous protests, both against their right to tax a citizen of the United States, and when that would no longer avail against the amount at which he was assessed. Ultimately, he consented to be assessed on £1500, as the amount of his gains during his lecturing tour in Great Britain; and his contribution to the expenses of the war was the pretty little sum of £87 10s.

"Go any day to the guard mounting parade at St. James's, or watch about dusk the picket of Foot Guards march along the strand towards the city. Just look at the poor children who, clothed as officers command companies and other parties of men upon these occasions. Pity for their utter helplessness is the first feeling that comes over the spectator."—So says Sir Charles Shaw, in the *Daily News*.