

Thank you, as I do most warmly, for your generous contributions to the Association of St. Peter's Peace, a work in which your zeal for the defence of your faith, and the welfare of the supreme Head of our Church has not been surpassed in any country.

It becomes our painful duty to record the demise of the Rev. Father Lavan, C.O., which occurred on last Monday, at his residence, in the parish of Drumcliff. Father Lavan's career, though short, for he had hardly completed his second year since his promotion to the Priesthood, yet was more than sufficient to afford abundantly convincing proofs of his kind and generous nature, of his gentle and unassuming manners, of his genuine piety, and of the charity and zeal, which will ever be the distinguished mark of the worthy Minister of the Altar.

The new church of St. Alphonsus, Limerick, erected by the Redemptorist Fathers, was solemnly dedicated on the 7th Dec. The ceremony was attended by the Archbishop of Cashel, Bishops Finnelly, of Killaloe; and Moriarty, of Kerry, in addition to the Venerable Bishop of Limerick, Dr. Ryan, and his Conductor, Dr. Butler. A large number of the clergy and laity of the different dioceses also attended.

LETTER FROM THE O'DONOGHUE. To the Editor of the Dublin Morning News. Sir.—The accompanying letter was addressed to the Editor of the Freeman's Journal, who has refused to publish it. Will you allow it to appear in the News? It was written for the purpose of correcting an erroneous interpretation given in the Freeman of the 30th inst., of my speech at Killarney. The suppression of my letter seems to me like an attempt to stifle discussion on a matter of great national interest.

Sir.—Judging from your article of the 20th, headed 'O'Connell,' I perceive you have misapprehended the tenor and object of my speech at the recent meeting in Killarney. You will, I am sure, allow me to set you right. From your article, I fear it might be supposed that I agree with you in thinking that the Irish people ought to erect a statue to O'Connell merely as the Emancipator; whereas, I distinctly stated at Killarney that, in contributing to the statue, it was my intention to honor him as the Emancipator of the Catholics—as the apostle of Irish legislative independence—and to pay him at least equal honor in both characters.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

TO THE CLERGY AND PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF KERRY.

My Dear Brethren,—The cry of a great distress has reached us from England. In the diocese bordering on our's generous efforts are being made for its relief. We hesitated some time to invite the co-operation of your charity, for there is deep distress amongst yourselves; and with the exception of a few hundred pounds received from America, even from the distant shore of California, we have had no success.

THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT.—IMPORTANT LETTER OF HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM.

To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Hon. Secretaries of the O'Connell Memorial Committee.

My Lords and Gentlemen—Your circular letter, bearing date this month has duly come to hand, which I beg respectfully to acknowledge. Having cast my eye over the resolutions contained in it, I found to my surprise, that they were the identical resolutions of the 13th of October, adopted by the Dublin Conference. You are aware that I had, in my answer to the letter of Dr. Gray, taken exception on the ground of its exclusiveness, to the first of those resolutions, and that, in consequence, I had a communication from the committee, through the Very Rev. Dr. Spratt, their chairman, to the effect that it was not the intention of that body to imply that any portion of O'Connell's career was undeserving of the gratitude of his country.

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state of dissatisfaction pervading the farming class that the efforts of agricultural societies will cure. They see and feel that legislation gives to the landlord powers which, though they may be seldom exercised, nevertheless exist as a perpetual sword of Damocles over them. If they venture to improve their land, so as to enhance its acreable value, the whole community suffer, and will suffer, until the class-legislation is amended, and the tenant's improvements are as sacred in the eyes of the law as those hereditary rights by which only landowners hold their claims, and which it is, after all, only legislation has given to them.

DEATH OF SIR TIMOTHY O'BRIEN, BART.

With feelings of sincere regret we have to record the removal from amongst us of one of the last of those men who, amid the earlier struggles for civil and religious freedom in this country, contributed to the raising of the social and political status of the Irish Catholic. Fifty years ago Sir Timothy O'Brien arrived in Dublin an unemancipated Catholic—on Wednesday he died in Merriam-square after vindicating in his own person, by an honorable, energetic, and patriotic life, the right of his co-religionists to stand on the same platform as their Protestant fellow-countrymen—as equals in all things—having attained by his own ability the highest mercantile position in the city of his adoption, and having twice filled the chief magistracy with credit and honor in periods of no ordinary difficulty.

Cork.—On Saturday, two Sicilian sailors belonging to the barque Biggio, of Palermo, lying in Passage Reach, got ashore accompanied by a comrade who acted as second to both, and fought a duel with long knives in a field adjacent to the town. Both combatants striped and fought with great fury. In a short time one was stabbed to the heart, and his successful enemy fell on the ground covered with wounds. The survivor who is in a dangerous state, is in custody, but the third is at large. The name of the murderer is Thomas Pajicico.—Cork Examiner, Dec. 13.

A most influential meeting, announced by the High Sheriff of the county Limerick, Captain Croker, for the relief of the distressed Limerick, was held this day in the county courthouse, the Right Hon. Lord Montagu in the chair. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed, and a committee of noblemen and gentlemen appointed to collect subscriptions. About £300 was subscribed before the meeting separated.—Munster News.

MIDWINTER OUTRAGE.—CARRICK-ON-SHANNON, 2nd Dec.

On the night of the 1st instant a party of about nine men, some of whom were armed, went to the house of Pat Bohan, a miller, residing at Lisduffy, and having knocked at the door, demanded admittance to light their pipes, which Bohan's wife refused. Her husband went to a small window and told them they would not be admitted, whereupon they broke it in, and thrust a gun under it, and fired, lodging a large charge of heavy shot in the opposite wall, but inflicting no injury on any of the inmates. Bohan, his wife, and children commenced shouting out murder and robbery, which was heard by some of their neighbors, who at once came to the scene, and saw the attacking party leaving whom they pursued without coming up with any of them. Bohan informed the police that he could identify two notorious characters as being of the party. They were immediately arrested, and brought before H. O'Beirne, Esq., J.P., but Bohan having failed to identify them they were discharged.—In.

INFORMATION WANTED.—The whereabouts of John Brogan, who left the parish of Roslea, county Monaghan, Ireland, soon after the famine.

GREAT BRITAIN.

BRITISH CIVILIZATION.—We boast of our education, as they do in America, and with as good reason. "The only really useful and corrective education in America," says a well-known Protestant writer, "is that of the Catholic schools and colleges." "It is now half a century," said the Times of the 15th October in the present year—and it is notorious that one of the chief authorities of the Government Education Committee contributes to its pages—'since education became one of the great objects of social and political enterprise in this country. What is the result? Our agricultural population are still generally so ignorant that no reasonable being, for pity's sake, would ask them a question of history or geography out of their own village, or more than fifty years back.' They are still a prey to the first fanatic or impostor that chooses to work upon them.

We are really astonished at the earnestness with which the distress in Lancashire and Cheshire is deplored by men who will neither support mediation in America nor an immediate appeal for relief to the Treasury. We cannot comprehend how any thoughtful man can be blind to the fact that an unapprehended misunderstanding with the Federal States, and no emptying of the Public Treasury, can operate so disastrously upon this country as the reducing millions of hardworking men and women to the position of paupers, by feeding them with the collected arms, and clothing them with the cast off raiments of their more fortunate neighbors. We are for providing an immediate remedy for the overwhelming distress in the cotton manufacturing districts. But such a remedy is only to be found either in putting an end to the frightful slaughter of the Anglo-Saxon race in America, or in a successful demand for relief from the Treasury. As well undertake to raise the national revenue by voluntary contributions as to propose to house, feed, and clothe half a million of cotton spinners for an indefinite period by such a process. The martyr-like resignation of the cotton spinners of Lancashire is greatly extolled. But men who see their wives and children dying of cold and hunger may be too patient.

RAILWAY TO WEXFORD.—We have the pleasing duty to announce that the projected railway from Wexford to Enniscorthy is likely to be an accomplished fact ere many months pass over. The plans, which are lodged in proper departments, are prepared with much care and scientific accuracy, and are of a very plain and simple character, and from all we can learn, the works will be fully constructed for the estimate. This is good news for Wexford; and we trust that its citizens and those who desire to see our great resources properly developed, will urge the project their heartiest co-operation.—Wexford Independent.

SKEKDARLE.—The word is said to be pure Irish. Perhaps Dr. Elliott can inform us if it is so. The Irish sgeadul means scattered; sgeadul-ol means all scattered. An old version of the Irish New Testament contains this passage:—'For it is written, I am the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be sgeadul-ol.' The word was probably first used in the army by an Irishman, and, being looked upon as particularly felicitous, was at once adopted.

A dispatch dated Rathfriggan, county Meath, Dec. 4, says:—'A few nights ago a desperate encounter took place between William Walsh, Esq., J.P., of Stead House, county Meath, and a returned convict who effected an entrance into the mansion about midnight. Mr. Walsh had his brother on a visit with him at the time, and when the latter had retired he heard some noise in the house, which appeared to have proceeded from the drawing-room. Mr. Walsh, therefore, walked cautiously to the drawing-room door, which he opened, and to his utter astonishment observed a man with a dark lantern, the light in which was at once extinguished. The key was fortunately in the drawing-room door, and the proprietor locked the burglar inside. Mr. Walsh next called his servant man, and finding that the desperado was in the act of making his escape through the drawing-room window, he fled with haste to the outside of the house, where he grappled with the burglar, when a desperate struggle ensued. Mr. Walsh, who, although a small, being a powerful, active man, succeeded in disarming the fellow, and, with the assistance of the servant, binding him. He was at once handed over to the police, by whom he was recognized as a notorious character named Farrell, who had already undergone penal servitude. He at present lies in Trim Jail, to abide his trial at the ensuing assizes of Meath.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan, editor of the Morning News, has had a triumph over his Conservative opponent for the Dublin Town Council. The spirited burgesses of the Royal Exchange Ward placed him at the head of the poll.

The investigation into the charges brought by the Police against the officers of the South Dublin Workhouse continues to reveal the horrible atrocities committed by the officials against the wretched inmates.

DEATH OF THE REV. MAJOR AHERN, P.P. CASTLEMAHON.—We greatly regret it is our duty to announce the death of the Rev. Maurice Ahern, P.P., Castlemahon and Feoghena, in the sixty-second year of his age, and after a laborious course of Missionary duty in parishes of this diocese, in each of which he was equally loved. Many of the years of his life were passed in the parishes of Knockree, Ardagh, and Dromcolloher; and in each the qualities by which the deceased was adorned as a clergyman, and the dispositions by which he was ruled as a man, riveted to him the reverence and affection of the people amongst whom his duties were fulfilled. He bore with him, as he bears to his grave, the accumulated regrets of all who ever knew him.—Munster News.

This is an important chapter in the eventful history of O'Connell's career which the committee will do well to ponder. Let them be assured, that it will be duly pondered by Catholic Ireland, when it shall give its decision on the O'Connell Monument. Nothing could be more grateful to the government than to justify the iniquitous proceedings of its predecessors, regarding the condemnation and imprisonment of O'Connell. We are waiting then with deep solicitude to ascertain whether the committee mean to exclude this portion of O'Connell's life, and, by dedicating the statue to O'Connell, the Liberator, to confirm the verdict of the immaculate jury and of humane government of that day, and proclaim to the world and to posterity that the man of peace, the advocate of the law and of the constitution, was a conspirator. We are waiting to know whether the committee, under the plea of doing him honor, are prepared fully to libel the illustrious dead, and to enable the Irish Secretary—the enemy of our religion and of our race, who leave the one to starve without succor, and labors to destroy the purity of the other—to come forward and offer his subscription to the O'Connell Monument, and then to proclaim to the civilized world that the verdict of the Irish people themselves had now condemned O'Connell as a conspirator, and absolved the hostile and unjust policy of the government, of which his father was the chief.—I have the honor to be, your faithful servant, J. J. J. Archbishop of Tuam.

I must on all sides farmers who tell me that, if they could be secured in their improvements, they could make their land much more productive—that they could use much more manure, mix more lime through their soils, drain, deepen, and improve their farms in various ways, if they were not afraid that their profits would be advanced consequent on the larger crops they could thus produce. Is the landlord always to have the discretion whether he will advance the rent in those cases or not? And is the tenant to have no legal claim that the improved condition of his land, which he has farmed, should be recognized as the termination of his tenancy? If the rights of both are to continue as at present, Ireland must continue backward in her farming, with, in most cases, the minimum of capital in place of the maximum applied to the cultivation of the soil—her farmers, instead of having inducements (as they ought to have) to improve every acre of their holdings to the utmost, will continue in their present backward state, and we shall always be a taunt and a by word among the nations of the earth. I am quite satisfied that this is a subject that is essential for our legislators to approach. There is a chronic