

Government, for the appalling fact that in England there are 5,288,294 persons who do not attend any place of worship whatsoever.

Now Catholicity has preserved Ireland from this plague of infidelity and wickedness; while Protestantism has not preserved England from it. Our references to its existence afford a very inadequate notion of either its nature or its extent.

These considerations have arisen to our minds as we perused in the work of Mr. Browne the names of those English divines ("men" says Dr. Lushington, "of undoubted piety, of great learning, and of blameless lives,") who, after prolonged prayer and study, and after many a painful struggle with old and cherished associations, felt it their duty to adopt that ancient faith, in the profession of which it has pleased God to preserve the vast majority of the Irish nation.

Mr. Brown has given us a catalogue of the more distinguished lay persons, notable from their rank, talent, or position, who in England or elsewhere, have embraced Catholicity since 1792. His list, which includes the Duchesses of Hamilton, Buccleuch, and Argyll, with a large intermixture of other titled personages, extends to 346 individuals; thus showing that the serious thoughts which influenced two hundred and fourteen Protestant clergymen, also stirred the hearts of many of that class who are popularly supposed to be engrossed by the frivolities of fashionable life, and to a great extent unconscious of religious emotions.

Of the host of converts in the humble walks of English life, it is impossible at present to ascertain the extent. Their numbers are chiefly indicated by the vast and increasing demand for church accommodation, and for new missions.

And now, it may not unnaturally occur to the devout and serious members of the Church of England—and we know that there are many such!—to ask themselves, whether the Catholic arguments can be wholly weak, worthless, and unscriptural, which have borne conviction to the minds of two hundred and fourteen Protestant divines, of whom not a few notoriously possess all the moral and intellectual requisites for discovering religious truth?

On Saturday, the 21st inst., a poor man named James Buchanan, residing near Passage, was out in the morning, leaving two children, a boy and a girl, three years old, alone in the house, and fastening the door on the outside.

The London Standard publishes the following account of Mr. Buchanan's ancestry. It will prove highly interesting to our readers. James Buchanan is now President of the United States, and a brief notice of his historical lineage may not be uninteresting to some of our readers.

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It is a little history, which if neither strange nor eventful, is yet full of interest for the thoughtful. It is one worth while coming over curiously, to be read backwards and forwards. There is a charm in it, though it relates to the poor and simple folk, for, if you will, but the man who is wise in interpretation may see through it into the future, and be in a measure prepared for what is to come.

It will long be remembered what noble endeavours were made in many directions by members of all classes and persuasions in Ireland, to come to the aid of this famine-stricken people. And surely not one of those great or good deeds done in the days of shame and woe ought to be forgotten, nor, please Heaven, shall they, for they are recorded in the hearts of a people, who, though they are poor and simple, are yet noble and generous.

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