

weak or nervous individual is very sensible of every change of weather or temperature, and so it has been for years with potatoes which have been weakened by an artificial mode of propagation. I am in possession of the strongest roots that we can again raise healthy and strong potatoes from seed. The potatoes which I have raised from seed the last six years have been free from the prevailing disease, and surpass in quality all the old sorts.

The fact that Potatoes may be raised from berry seed, and a great variety of them, has been long well known in this country, but the process by which this mode of cultivation is made available in Germany, in a single season, will be new to most of our readers:—

At the end of March, or beginning of April, the potato seed should be sown on a hot bed, the frame being sown a quarter of an inch asunder. If there are no ashes to put over the bed, it should be covered at night and in cold weather by mats or boards, as the young plants are very sensitive to frost. It is very important that the seed should be sown on a hot bed made of horse dung, as it sprouts with difficulty, and requires artificial heat to make it early productive in our climate. If the seed is sown in a cold bed, it remains until the middle of May before it comes up, and the crop will be retarded and diminished, but if it is sown as I have pointed out, there will be fine large plants in the middle of May, which may be planted out in the field. Until the plants are put out, the soil in which they were sown must be kept moderately moist, and when they are put out they must be freely watered if the weather should be dry.

If the potato plants have advanced so far by the middle or end of May as to have attained the height of four inches, they may be planted out in a loose rich soil, at about the same distance from one another as potatoes are usually planted, and this is best done on a cloudy day, or immediately after rain. It is of importance that they should be put down into the earth two inches lower than they stood in the seed bed: this will cause them to form fresh roots, which produce the most numerous and best tubers.

If the plants have not produced tubers, they may be left until they have attained a height of five or six inches, and may be planted three inches deeper in the ground than they stand in the seed: they will thus produce more roots; but care must be taken that the young plants do not produce tubers while they remain in the seed bed, and they should be often examined lest they should do so, as they will be very much weakened if allowed to form tubers before they are put out.

The earthing up of the potatoes raised from seed should be done early, and not too much; for if the plants are put out in weather which is not very unfavourable, they soon begin to shoot up, and the entire soil is penetrated by very small fibres, which would be injured by a high or late earthing up, the production of tubers be delayed for a fortnight or three weeks, and the produce diminished. I must remark that the potato plants thrive best in a rich sandy soil, which has been deeply dug up.

That there is an activity at present in all quarters of Ireland in preparations for potato culture is known in various ways. The representations in the newspapers and by private letters, of the traveller, and the extraordinary advance in the price of manure, attest the fact. We would advise the planters to be in time with their work, that they may be able to convert their ground to another purpose, if there should be a disappointment.

IRELAND—THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

In the hour of its darkest gloom Ireland was not false to the fame it had earned for pure love of the Christian religion and for the most genuine charity in wishing to extend that blessing to the heathen "who sits in the darkness of the shadow of death." The report of the receipts of the Irish branch of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith for the year ending January 3d, 1848, has just been published. *Three thousand and seventy eight pounds six shillings and sevenpence halfpenny* did Ireland give as a proof of its devotion to the sublime virtues of Christianity, and of its good will to all men in the gloomiest year of its dreadful history, the mournfully memorable 1847. Did ever famine stricken land before rise so sublime in its afflictions. Famine and pestilence on every side—monster graves, swallowing hecatombs of the promiscuous dead—no hope for man, and the more fearful hand of God apparently withdraws.

Such was the position of the perishing millions. Were there murmurs? No: a people whose virtue is as enduring as their hills, blessed the chastening rod that smote them—triumphed in their adversity—rose nearer to heaven the more they were crushed into the earth, and freely gave of their mites and their crumbs, three thousand and seventy eight pounds six shillings and sixpence halfpenny for the propagation of that religion which had sustained them in the direst of disasters, and willed that the pagan should have the light of faith even should they and their children be without bread.

Look on this picture of heroic charity you lordly calumniators of this religion-loving country. See before you open your mouths in slander, if there be anything equal to it among the nations of the earth. Learn you pampered great ones—you who know not sorrow nor affliction, nor what it is to see the objects of your dearest affections withering away and dying inch by inch of most excruciating hunger, and be without means to stop the serpent death, who is coiling his wreaths around them—learn you proud Divises, who live in a land rich in money but loathsome as a lazaretto for the deep depravity which as a mist overspreads it from shore to shore; learn to admire and imitate, not to calumniate, the enduring love of religion—the sublime love and heroic charity of the well-trying, true and faithful people of Ireland.

A large portion of the money collected was sent to the general fund in France. A considerable sum was expended in Ireland on the printing, publishing, and circulating of fifty four thousand seven hundred copies of the Annals of the Faith, besides collector's books and other similar matters; a taste for reading, education and charity, in its most heavenly form.—*Freeman's Journal.*

Report of the receipts and disbursements of the Irish Branch of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith, for the year ending January 3d. 1848:

RECEIPTS.	
Received from the 2d. of January, 1847, to the 3d. of Jan. 1848,	£3,078 6 7½
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DISBURSEMENTS.	
Remitted to France	£1,923 12 6
Printing of Annals, &c.	747 10 4½
Carriage of parcels to subscribers	127 1 1½
Advertising in newspapers	121 17 6
Expenses of administration, including rent, stationery, &c.	155 4 5
	£3,078 6 7½

Names of the Dioceses, and the sum which each has respectively contributed during the year to the Funds of the Association:

Armagh	£59 11 5
Ardagh	7 7 8
Clogher	2 0 2
Derry	22 13 0
Down & Connor	31 15 4
Dromoro	15 2 0
Kilmore	17 15 2
Meath	91 2 1
Raphoe	5 4 0
Dublin	1,154 1 6
Ferries	184 14 4½
Kildare and Leighlin	130 5 6
Ossory	111 8 5½
Cashel	113 5 0
Cloyne and Ross	167 3 10
Cork	340 13 11
Kerry	13 11 6
Killalee	80 15 0
Limerick	57 11 0
Waterford	363 0 10
Tuam	41 9 6
Achonry	14 8 8
Clonsfert	6 13 6
Elphin	22 13 10
Galway	4 6 10
Kilmacduagh	22 5 6
	£3,078 6 7½

A. O'CONNELL, P.P., hon. sec. Central Committee Rooms, 10, Essex bridge, January 7, 1848.

The clearance system has not abated. Thirty one dwelling houses in one townland in Clonsfert diocese were levelled in a day. In the neighbourhood of Kiltrush 185 people were ejected lately, and near Athlone 104 individuals. The poor law is rendered inefficient in its operations by the conduct of the guardians in many districts. Two additional boards, Longford and Kiltrush, have been dissolved. In Roscommon, a public meeting, convened by the sheriff, was held on the 20th, to petition for the abolition of the entire poor laws.—*Dublin paper.*

Father Mathew has signified his intention to leave Cork for America in May. He expects to be in New York in that month.

EXTERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE—PATIENCE OF THE VICTIMS.—On Saturday last we witnessed, with no small degree of sorrow and disgust, the wholesale levelling of twenty-one houses and the extermination of one hundred and forty unhappy individuals in the centre of this town by Mr. Hackett, sub-sheriff for the county Roscommon, under a writ of *habere*. The melancholy spectacle, the rain pouring down in torrents the entire day; and to be looked on the hapless inmates as they were hurled from their homes that were being destroyed over their heads, and heard their piteous lamentations, would have appalled the stoutest heart. It would be perfectly useless to attempt to describe the sufferings of the unfortunate creatures, or endeavouring to take from the ruins of their once happy homes their miserable articles of furniture. All this happened on a market day, in a crowded town, without the slightest disturbance occurring, the poor people submitting in silence and with Christian resignation to the heavy infliction which cast them houseless on the world.

It was truly a heartrending sight, and surely sufficient misery and destitution existed in this parish without adding to the number those who hitherto supported themselves by honest industry. But, alas! for the poor and afflicted, the majesty of the law must be vindicated, while human victims are offered up as holocausts to the enmity or caprice of heartless exterminators. What caused this wholesale eviction we are not at present acquainted with. We believe the property was involved in Law, in Chancery, but we are not aware at whose instigation the houses were levelled, and so many helpless beings sent outcasts on the world, to become a burden on the ratepayers. The greater number of the poor had their rent paid, and very few were in arrears.—*Athlone Sentinel.*

AN IRISH ELECTION SCENE.

THURSDAY.—The committee re-assembled at the usual hour this morning, Mr. Ryan in the chair.

The first witness called this morning was Miss Ryan, daughter of Pat Ryan, barber, of Kilsall. She stated that she had for some time been in the habit of assisting her father in his business, and she remembered being sent for on the morning of the election, between four and five o'clock, to go to Mr. Sisk's house, a publican at Kilsall, to operate upon the chins of a number of free and independent electors of the borough. She shaved the chins of no less than 35 voters, not one of whom could sit or stand for drunkenness. Some of them she found lying upon straw in the yard drunk, with bottles and drinking materials placed by their side, while others were snoring upon the kitchen floor, two or three of them lying amidst the contents of their own stomachs. The free and independents were held up by the sober portion while she shaved them; but D. McLellan was in that state that it was utterly impossible to shave him, because he could not be held up at all, he was so drunk. The consequence was, that during the operation of shaving, she unfortunately cut his throat and her own finger at the same time. Mr Guinness, the sitting member, and Dr Jago, his friend, were present, and assisted in holding up the free and independents, while she operated upon them, and appeared to her to be as drunk as the rest of them. The process of shaving occupied from between four and five o'clock till nine in the morning, and immediately after they had been rendered somewhat decent they were marched up to the poll. Parson Ryder was the Protestant incumbent of a neighbouring parish, and while the voters were led up to the poll he supplied them with whiskey, and talked about the liberty and freedom of election (roars of laughter).

Pat Ryan, father of the last witness, proved that he received 3s 6d from the agent of the sitting member on account of the chairing.

Mr Herd was recalled, and proved that several electors who voted for Mr Guinness came to the poll in a state of comparative intoxication. They came in a jingle or car, the curtains of which were kept closed by the Rev Mr Ryder, a Protestant clergyman, and a relative of the Archdeacon.—*London Paper.*

A recent statistical work on France states that the bulk of the property of Louis Philippe was in forests, and, as Duke of Orleans his income thence was at least £300,000 a year. The crown estates he possessed as King were also principally in woods, yielding him £250,000 more.

STATISTICS OF THE RIGHT REV. DR DAVIS, O.S.B.—In the year 1832, when Dr. Ullathorne went over to Australia, as Vicar-General of Bishop Morris (for Australia was then subject to the spiritual jurisdiction of the Vicar-Apostolic of the Mauritius), he found but three Priests in the whole of that extensive colony. During the sixteen years which have since then elapsed, a hierarchy has been there established, the metropolitan see being fixed at Sydney, with Suffragans at Adelaide, Hobart Town, and Perth. In his recent visit to Europe, Archbishop Polding procured a further erection of sees, one of which is fixed at Maitland, a town about sixty miles north of Sydney. To this see has been appointed the Rev. C. H. Davis, Prefect at St. Gregory's College, Downside, the ceremony of whose consecration took place in Bath, on the Feast of St. Mathias. The consecrating Prelate was the Right Rev. Dr. Ullathorne, Vicar Apostolic of the Western District. The Right Rev. Drs. Morris and Wareing officiated as assistant Prelates, the Right Rev. Dr. Brown, of Wales, was also in attendance; and about thirty Priests were present, amongst whom were the Very Rev. Dr Barber, President of the English Benedictine Congregation; the Very Rev. W. Henderson, O.S.B., Vicar General of the District; the Very Rev. Mgr. Brindle, D.D., of Prior-park; the Rev. J. Wilson, Prior of Downside; the Rev. Messrs. Turner, Brewer, Kendal, Duck, Wilkinson, &c. (O.S.B.) and the members of the community of Downside; Rev. Messrs. Mackinnon, Speakman, and Bampton, (S.J.) and the Rev. J. Rooker, D. D., Shattock, O'Farrell, Casey, Woollet, &c. All the students of Downside also assisted, in cassock and surplice. The Rev. Dr Rooker acted as assistant Priest, and the Rev. J. Hall and E. F. Davis as Deacon and Sub Deacon. The chaplains to the Bishop-Elect were the Rev. Prior of Downside, and the Rev. R. F. Davis, his Lordship's brother. The Rev. J. Bonomi, of Prior-park, officiated as Master of Ceremonies, assisted by the Rev. J. B. Tidmarsh of Downside. The choir was composed of the united choirs of Downside and Prior-park, with the assistance of Messrs. Field and Millar. J. Lambey, Esq., of Salisbury, a schoolfellow and an attached friend of the Bishop-Elect, presided at the Organ; and Lord Ansdell, of Wardour, also assisted in the choir. The Apostolic Mandate was read by Dr. Barber. After the usual examination of the Bishop-Elect, Bishop Morris preached a very eloquent sermon, from Acts i. 8, "You shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost coming upon you, and you shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the uttermost part of the earth." We understand that the sermon will shortly be published. A collection was then made for the new diocese. The chapel was crowded almost to excess. The music sung on the occasion was principally from Hayden; but the *Kyrie* was the composition of the newly consecrated Prelate. His Lordship will probably sail from England during the month of May; and as he has no prospect of receiving any aid from Government, his reliance must be placed on the charity of the faithful.—*London Tablet.*

The Printers of Paris took an active part in the late Revolution. They were foremost in the fighting ranks every where—leading on and encouraging the people to achieve the glorious victory which at length crowned their efforts. We cannot but feel proud of our craft—when we find the majority of them ever fighting with pen or sword, as the case may be, for the liberties of the down-trodden masses. Our readers may guess the part the Printers of Paris took, when we tell them that *Twenty-seven* of their number were killed.

The French Government has received a telegraphic despatch, announcing that the King of Bavaria had abdicated; no dates or other particulars are given, the telegraph being interrupted by the weather.

A letter from Copenhagen of the 14th inst. announces that a report was circulated that a Russian fleet was to pass through the Sound for the purpose of assisting the King of Naples; the Danish people had conveyed artillery to the coast, to oppose the passage of the Russians.

The Catholic population in the United States is estimated at 1,190,700.

The Queen and Prince Albert have subscribed £200 on behalf of the English workmen driven from France.