

sorrowing flock. At the time the letter was written, the young companions of Father Bonnard were still in prison, and their fate undecided.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

The monthly meeting of the Catholic University Committee was held on Thursday at the Committee Rooms, 27, Lower Ormond-quay.

On the motion of his Grace the Lord Primate, the chair was taken by the Archbishop of Dublin, Apostolic Delegate.

The other Prelates, and Clergymen, and gentlemen present were—His Grace the Lord Primate of all Ireland, his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Cashel, the Lord Bishop of Clogher, the Lord Bishop of Meath, the Lord Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, the Very Rev. Dr. O'Brien, V. G., the Rev. Dr. Leahy, the Rev. James Maher, P. P., the Rev. Patrick Brennan, P. P., the Rev. Dr. O'Hanlon, Charles Bianconi, Esq., Jas. O'Ferrall, Esq., Myles W. O'Reilly, Esq., D. L., J. P., Michael Errington, Esq.

The meeting commenced at twelve o'clock, and continued its sitting until three o'clock, p. m.

After the usual routine and financial business was disposed of, the first report of the committee, accompanying the list of subscriptions, was received, and ordered for distribution.

The correspondence was then read, and other business of importance transacted.

The Secretary stated that it was with the deepest and most sincere regret that the committee had to record on their minutes the death of the Rev. Dr. Cooper, an event which had occurred within the short period of six months from the death of the universally regretted Mr. William Nugent Skelly, thus depriving the committee of the services of a Clergyman and a layman for whom it would be most difficult to find fitting successors. The loss of the Church in general, and the University Committee in particular, of a Clergyman so distinguished as the Rev. Dr. Cooper for the variety and universality of his learning, and the piety and unostentatious sanctity of his character, must be severely felt in times like the present. Upon the loss of William Nugent Skelly they had dwelt before. The recollection of his virtues, his gentleness, his piety, and his zeal, was still fresh in the public mind. Seldom had two such losses to be deplored within so short a period.

A sub-committee was appointed to consider and report upon the best manner of testifying to the memories of the Rev. Dr. Cooper and W. Nugent Skelly, Esq., the respect of the Catholic University Committee.

The receipts amounted to £1,534 16s 10d, and the committee adjourned on the 15th February.

THE TUAM RESOLUTIONS—THE DESERTERS.—The series of resolutions adopted at the Tuam meeting express with such precision and force the real feeling of the country that we to-day only deem it necessary to direct attention to them. The regret that an issue should be raised between "bad principles" on the one hand, and the "abandonment of all principles" on the other, is one which the patriotic people of Tuam share in common with the universal Irish public. So also is the sense of popular triumph which they express—that public honor, public faith, and public truthfulness had been vindicated in the rejection of the man who headed the treason, and attempted to break up the party and trample on the principles from which alone the Irish people had hope of redress. Tuam has appealed to Athlone to complete the victory over corruption so nobly commenced in Carlow. In that appeal the whole island joins—and we have reason to believe that the appeal will be answered and acted on by the most influential parties in that town. For the sake of the liberal cause, as well as for the safety of Ireland—for the instruction of Lord Aberdeen as well as for the punishment of treason—it is the duty of every honest man in Athlone to drive from the hostings the man who joined the treason, and advanced himself by abandoning his principles.—*Freeman*.

PENALTY OF PLEDGE-BREAKING.—In common with every friend of principle and every enemy to a treacherous infraction of solemnly pledged pledges, we hail with delight the defeat of the Junior Lord of the Treasury in Carlow. With that defeat has departed for ever the prestige, which, for some unintelligible reasons, hung around the name of Mr. Sadleir. By some mysterious contrivance that gentleman endeavored to impress upon the minds of shallow-minded and unthinking men an indefinite idea of the endless resources of wealth and patronage which were said to be at his command. He is now reduced to his legitimate proportions as plain John Sadleir. He can no longer impose upon the ministry by his pretended power over the Irish party; and the Aberdeen government have now practical experience of the futility of the attempt to corrupt and debauch the national mind by the purchase of a few place-hunters. The defeat of the pledge-breakers at Carlow is an indication of the healthy state of the national mind. We trust the overthrow of Mr. Sadleir will not both as a salutary warning and stimulant to every other constituency in Ireland whose representatives may attempt to traffic in broken pledges and political apostasy. The guilt of political apostasy is being followed by its retributive penalty, with a promptitude, force, and precision which indicate the wholesome state of the national sentiment. From end to end of the country there seems to be no second opinion about the nature or extent of the crime, of which the deserters from the Irish party have been guilty.—At the Religious Equality and Tenant League meetings held in Dublin a few days ago, the verdict was pronounced against these men, and that verdict is every day receiving its ratification throughout the country. We trust the example will be followed up throughout the length and breadth of this province. Silence under present circumstances will be equivalent to open sanction of the demoralising principle of pledge-breaking. Carlow has already done its duty. The eyes of universal Ireland are now fixed with trembling anxiety upon Athlone. Will the Athlone constituency imitate the noble example of Carlow, or will they justify the charge, that Catholic Ireland looks upon the violation of solemn promises to God and to the country as a matter of sinless indifference?—*Tuam Herald*.

One of the latest rumors about Mr. Sadleir is, that Mr. F. Scully is to give up his seat for Tipperary, or that Mr. Lawless is to vacate Clonmel for his especial convenience. Both these rumors we regard as im-

probable; that which speaks of Tipperary as impossible. In both places, however, and in every place honest men having to deal with a thoroughly unscrupulous enemy, should be prepared for the worst. Perhaps the very latest rumor of all is, that Mr. Sadleir is to do without a seat in Parliament, and to retire on the Under-Secretaryship. If so, it would appear that even though he is beaten we are not altogether to lose the services of this great patriot. "More is the pity," will be the cry of honest men, to whatever party they may belong.

THE PARLIAMENTARY APOSTASY.—An English correspondent of the *Tablet* writes as follows:—"I cannot describe to you my own feelings, nor those of the numerous Catholics with whom I am acquainted, at the utter recklessness with which Messrs. Sadleir and Keogh have disregarded the solemn and sacred compact entered into between them and their constituents to be independent of every government that would not make cabinet questions of the three great measures that are claimed by the Irish people. Farmers have been persecuted and shopkeepers deserted because of their support of the above-named individuals. They asked them on the hustings—'Will you despise the gold of the Treasury, which we know from sad experience to have silenced the oratory and cooled the patriotism of the most hopeful men that Ireland ever produced?—Will you despise that gold until you obtain for us tenant right, religious equality, and the rest?' They promised that if elected they would trample on it; and one of them carried his profanation so far as to say 'so help me God, I will keep that promise.'"

THE POLICY OF THE ABERDEEN ADMINISTRATION.—The *Morning Chronicle* lets out a little more of the policy of Lord Aberdeen than we had previously received on authority. It regrets the failure of Mr. Sadleir only because of its effects upon the "progress" of Ireland, and thus describes the policy which influenced Lord Aberdeen to give places to Messrs. Keogh and Sadleir:—"Lord Aberdeen and his colleagues (says the *Chronicle*) have deliberately and wisely determined to conciliate the Liberal Catholic members, not by unworthy concessions, or by empty professions of good will, but by giving them a fair share in the rights and duties which belong to all classes of British Subjects." Words could not be more plain and unambiguous. The policy is not to "conciliate" the country by "concessions," but to "conciliate" the "members" by places; and it was just because this was the policy that Mr. Sadleir has been defeated, and two votes lost to the Liberal government in England. Now the English public have as much interest in this matter as we have. They will lose no less than we by the perseverance in such a corrupting and degrading policy as that openly avowed by the *Chronicle* as the secret of Lord Aberdeen's movements—concede nothing to the country, but conciliate the "members" by places!—We repeat, if this be persevered in, the Liberal party in Ireland will do anything rather than submit to be once again ruled by corruption. They will meet the open foe on the floor of the House of Commons rather than have to watch perpetually against the silent and stealthy march of the corruptionist; and rather than be parties to the policy thus avowed, they would struggle again for years with the greatest despotism Toryism could invent.—*Freeman*.

GREAT MEETING AT KILLS.—The requisition is almost unprecedented for the array which it presents of influential names on the Catholic side in the politics of the county. Almost all the Clergy of the county, a great array of Justices of the Peace, Town Commissioners, Poor Law Guardians, and respectable gentlemen from every part of the county, are the names to be found in this requisition. We understand that, besides the Bishop of the diocese, several neighboring Bishops, and all the true men of the Irish party in Parliament, have been invited to attend. Mr. Corballis, the respected member for the county, takes the chair, and no doubt the proceedings will be worthy of the occasion. The meeting has arisen out of the recent religious persecution in Kells; but the unprecedented political crisis which has followed the purchase of Messrs. Sadleir and Keogh will give a new significance to it. The question of religious equality in Parliament has received a great blow by this base desertion, or rather would have received a great blow if it had been allowed to pass unpunished; but the frank expression of public opinion at such meetings as that of Kells will stop the spreading of the plague, and keep all right both in Parliament and out of it.

THE IRISH FISHERIES.—Mr. McMahon, the popular member for Wexford, has introduced "A Bill to amend the Laws relating to the Irish Fisheries." The object of it is to restore to the people their common-law rights of fishing in all tidal and navigable waters—and to the proprietors of land on the banks of freshwater streams those rights of fishing to the undisturbed and undiminished enjoyment of which they are as much entitled as to the fruit in their kitchen gardens—to abolish the system of licenses, registration, &c., all restraints on trawl fishing, and to abate all weirs not warranted by the common law or the statute law as it existed up to 1842. This is proposed to be done by a bill of two or three clauses repealing all the statutes from 1842 down to the present year, and extending to Ireland all the statutes now in force in England with reference to fishery and navigation, and declaring all those extended to Ireland by Poynings's Act (10th Henry, c. 25.) including the great charter, and not specifically repealed by the act of 1842, to have continued and to be in full force.

THE POOR LAW BOARD AND THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.—A correspondent begs us to exhort poor law guardians throughout Ireland to take care that the lists of ratepayers made up this month may be as correct as possible. They are generally full of errors. Dead men's names are allowed to stand on them, and also men who have removed or emigrated; while misnomers and misprints add frightfully to the original stock of blunders. Now the two most important arrays of men in the country depend upon these lists—viz., the jury panel and the registry of electors. Voters are disfranchised wholesale by them, and many a poor prisoner they have defrauded of a fair jury; for the errors which are trivial on the poor law books, are fatal in the jury book of the registry. We trust the guardians will give more attention to this business for the future, and dismiss summarily any collectors who fail to correct the list up to the last moment.—*Nation*.

THE CONSOLIDATED ANNUITIES.—The *Tuam Herald* reiterates a statement which appeared some time since in the *Evening Mail*, to the effect that it was the intention of the Aberdeen Cabinet to inaugurate its Irish policy by a remission of the Consolidated Annuities. Such a concession, "would be not only just, but politic

in the extreme," and a suggestion is thrown out that a general and well-founded remonstrance in the present half-formed state of the Ministerial plans of campaign might decide any wavering doubt that may happen to exist regarding the justice and the policy of wiping away these odious charges.

THE "WORLD" v. THE "NATION."—In the Queen's Bench on Friday a plea in abatement in behalf of the defendant, with the usual affidavit accompanying it, was lodged with the Clerk of the Crown. The plea objects that Messrs. Mallet and Snel Duffly, two of the jurors by whom the alleged indictment was found a true bill, were beyond the age of sixty years; and also that Mr. Simon Foot, another of the jurors, was not at the time of his being summoned on the grand jury, nor at the time of his being sworn, nor at the time of his finding the said bill a true bill, resident within the county of the city of Dublin. A demurrer to these pleas has been put in by the other side.

BIRCH v. THE "FREEMAN'S JOURNAL."—In this case the defendants have filed a plea of justification, embodying extracts from the *World* newspaper during a long period. The plea, we understand, is a very voluminous document, covering some hundreds of sheets. The venue of the trial, if it should proceed, is laid in the county of Wicklow.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF '53.—The correspondent of the *Times*, writing at Berlin under the date of January 21st, says, on the subject of the preparations now being made in Prussia for the great exhibition of '53:—

"The Dublin Industrial Exhibition of this year will receive a most valuable contribution from Prussia; the indefatigable agent of this undertaking here has succeeded in getting together a most interesting collection of the works of the most celebrated living painters, sculptors, and other artists of Prussia, which, together with the *élite* of Prussian manufactures, to which the government is now summoning the different Chambers of Commerce to exhibit, will form a most complete representation of the present state of the fine arts and industry in this country.

MR. W. DARGAN—A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION.—The Irish correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that Mr. Dargan has added another sum of £10,000 to his advance for the purposes of the Great Exhibition of '53, making the total which he now gives £50,000!

THE POLICE.—Forty men of the Metropolitan Police will be employed in the interior of the building now erecting for the Great Exhibition. Those men will be chosen from the different divisions for their experience and good conduct, and forty additional constables will be raised in consequence. The committee of the exhibition have undertaken to pay the entire expense of this additional force.

INCREASED VALUE OF LAND.—The "confiscation" of Ireland is proceeding at a marvellously pleasant rate for the confiscated, whatever the new "intruders" may say to the contrary. The sale of the estate of Mr. Bagwell Taylor yesterday, before the land tribunal in Henrietta-street, is some of the latest instances of the "awful sacrifices" effected in the Irish land-market. The property is situated in the county of Tipperary, and yields a net rental of £753 19s., which was sold in one lot for the sum of £20,300, or at the rate of 27 years' purchase.

The magistrates of Limerick have refused to sit on the bench with Mr. Thomas Boyse, J. P., because he complimented the late Mayor on his retirement from office. They have also refused to sit with the late Mayor, because when returning thanks for the usual complimentary vote on his retirement from office he omitted to acknowledge the assistance he received from the local authorities in preserving the peace. The administration of justice has accordingly been suspended in Limerick. A correspondent of *Stamford's News Letter* says, when leaving the court, Mr. Boyse was served with a writ for £500, at the suit of Mr. Henry O'Shea, solicitor, for an assault on the latter a few days since, in the office of the Provincial Bank, in that city, arising out of an altercation which took place consequent upon a conversation in relation to a speech about the late Mayor.

CONC.—The service companies of the 31st Regiment, under command of Major Frederick Douglas Lumley, left barracks on Saturday morning for embarkation for Corfu. In addition to the band of the regiment, the bands of the Royal Regiment and 57th Regiment were in attendance, and nearly the whole garrison, who happened to be off duty, left their quarters and accompanied them to Patrick's Quay, where two of the river steamers were waiting to convey the 31st to her Majesty's ship *Simoon*, screw frigate, Captain Kingcombe, lying at Queenstown. Owing to the legal proceedings relative to the Six-mile-bridge affair, Lieut. Colonel Staunton remains until the investigation is judicially disposed of.

COST OF SOUP.—One of the reverend soup compounders lately assured an audience of old women, male and female, assembled in Exeter-hall, London, that it cost thirty-six thousand pounds last year to carry on their work in the west, and that he would require as much money for the year current. Think of that pretty little sum! Thirty-six thousand pounds for filling the stomachs of a few peasants with soup, for scattering a few cheap bibbles, and enticing a squad of hungry unfortunates to go now and again to church for show. Thirty-six thousand pounds! Only think what inestimable labor a little band of Catholic priests laboring in distant India or Africa could accomplish with the physical support of such a sum as this, what journeys through forest and desert they might make, how widely plant the symbol of Christianity, pouring light on countless souls. Thirty-six thousand pounds for a monthful of soup and a load of tracts and Bibles!—*Ulsterman*.

THE ARDEE RANTERS.—This fraternity of impostors still continue to annoy the Catholics of Ardee. On Thursday last one of them entered the shop of a respectable inhabitant, and in the absence of the proprietor, who was in an adjoining room, placed a tract under an account book on the desk. Parties who can act in this way have mistaken their vocation, for it is evident that they belong to the light-fingered class.—*Dundalk Democrat*.

MALIGNANT PERSECUTION OF AN IRISH EXILE IN VAN DREMAN'S LAND.—The *Nation* states, on the authority of the colonial papers, that Patrick O'Donoghue, one of the unfortunate exiles of '48, has been deprived of his ticket of leave, and sent to a penal settlement for no other cause than that of writing a letter to a local newspaper in reference to the political treachery of a Mr. Balfe who, it appears, acted as a spy for the government in the Irish confederation, for which honorable service he has been rewarded with a lucrative post in Van Dieman's land.

EMIGRATION—WATERFORD, JAN. 22.—The Admiral sailed last evening with 250 and the Mars this day with fifty passengers, for Liverpool, for the United States.—*Waterford Chronicle*.

On Friday two hundred persons went into the railway train at Templemore station, all bound for Australia.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

Several of the Claddagh fishermen have left and gone to Scotland, where they obtain constant employment in mending nets for the Scotch firms, to fish on the Galway shores. For want of means to open such a source of riches the native fishermen must emigrate!

Mr. Kearns, Relieving Officer for the Oranmore district, has reported the intended extermination of 130 persons off the property of Walter A. Blake, Esquire, of Oran Castle, at present under the management of a receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery.

A large war vessel is daily expected at this port, for the purpose of enrolling seamen for the navy. It is supposed that the badness of the times will coerce several of our stout Claddagh fishermen to join the service.—*Galway Packet*.

The agent of Lord Hertford has denied any further use of the news-room to the people of Lisburn, because many of the inhabitants who frequented it voted for Mr. Smyth, the successful member, and against his Lordship's nominee at the last election. The *Northern Whig* of Thursday says:—"The shabbiness of this petty and spiteful persecution is not greater than its impolicy. It gives strength to the cause against which it is used, and in reality does injury to none and to nothing but to Lord Hertford, and the just influence which Lord Hertford might possess but for the nature of the transactions which are carried on in his name.

Everywhere throughout Ireland the apprehension is expressed that, as all the coming crops will be spring-sown, the harvest must be late, and prices consequently rise. Indeed prices have seriously risen up to the present.

A Belfast paper informs us that the Orangemen of the Belfast district will hold a secret meeting of their body in the first week of February.

THE LATE EXPRESSIVE ROBBERY—A CHANGE IN THE SCENE.—Bridget Brien, charged with the robbery of a gentleman in Cardill of upwards of £600, and who was transmitted thither on the warrant of Edmund Power, Esq., of Tramore, has been claimed by the gentleman in question as his better half, and was quite thankful to the police officer who restored her once more to his fond embrace. He stated that he frequently committed £2,000 to her safe keeping.—*Waterford Mail*.

A correspondent sends us (*Telegraph*) a statement of a sacrilege in the chapel of Portrush, county Antrim, which was broken into, and despoiled of many sacred ornaments, two chalices, two patenas, and other articles. No trace of the sacrilegious offenders have yet been discovered.

Two sacrileges were committed in Kildare last week—the robberies of Newbridge convent chapel, and of Miltown chapel.

CHARGE OF RIBBONISM—ARRESTS, &c.—At the Chapel-street Police Office, Dublin, on Friday, 21st ult., Gerald Farrell and John Rooney were brought up in custody of two of the detective force before the presiding magistrate, Mr. O'Callaghan, charged with being implicated in a wide-spread system of Ribbonism.

Mr. Seed, crown solicitor, was in attendance for the prosecution.

Police-sergeant Craven, G division (detective) stated that he and Sergeant Meares, of the same division, had on the previous evening proceeded to the house 55, Lower Mecklenburgh-street, in which the prisoner Gerald or Garret Farrell occupied a room. They met him there, and informed him that they had come to search for letters or papers. He made no objection to their doing so, but said he should get a candle. He then went out of the room, Meares accompanying him to the hall. In a short time after they returned, Meares having a bundle of papers, and thrusting Farrell and the other prisoner before him into the room where witness was. Amongst these papers they found two which contained what witness believed to be passwords connected with Ribbon societies. These passwords were in the shape of question and answer.

[Here some documents were handed to the bench.] Witness—Farrell said that they were only some papers that he happened to have in his hat. In the room there was a great quantity of papers strewn upon the floor, as if there had been a picking or sorting of them from a box that stood close to them. These papers lay mostly between newspapers. The documents were evidently written by different persons, and were from various parts of this country, and from places in England and Scotland. They were all directed to the prisoner Gerald Farrell, and were in his (witness's) opinion a correspondence on the subject of the Ribbon system. The Post Office mark was on some of them—the envelopes of others were gone or torn off. There were three communications from Liverpool.

Mr. O'Callaghan—I see that some are dated two years ago. Do you consider all these papers as relating to Ribbon societies?

Witness—Yes. Sergeant Craven—We have found a book which Farrell says is his, also the writing in it. From this book it would appear that this city has been divided into different districts, all running from a given boundary line to several points.

Crown Solicitor—One of the letters from a person named—, dated 27th September, contains the words—"send the goods." Now, all acquainted with the Ribbon system know what the word "goods" means, and that it is a password.

Sergeant Craven—We last night read some of the papers in the presence of Farrell, and he said that Rooney had nothing whatever to do in the matter.

Mr. O'Callaghan—Farrell, I perceive, is a person employed by shipping agents on the quay.

Craven—Yes; but he is better known as a "man-catcher."

The prisoners were then remanded.

On Wednesday Mr. Corballis applied to Mr. O'Callaghan for a further remand of the prisoners to that day week. He said warrants had been issued for the apprehension of other parties as participants of the offence and several arrests had been already made in England, Scotland, and Ireland—in Manchester, Glasgow, and in the county of Meath. Under these circumstances, and in order to ascertain what results such arrests might lead to, the crown desired a postponement of the case to that day week.

Farrell—I defy any one to say anything against my character.

Mr. O'Callaghan—I shall, on the application of Mr. Corballis, remand you till this day week.

The prisoners were then removed.—*Freeman*.