

THE DEATH OF JOHN O'CONNELL.—Who the melancholy news became generally known yesterday it is a gloom over the patriots; and the theme of conversation amongst the rich and poor was the sudden demise of John O'Connell, who had occupied so conspicuous a place in all his great father's triumphs. There was but one feeling pervading people of all ranks and classes of every shade of political or religious creed—a feeling of deep and unaffected regret. Those who differed widest from the deceased respected him for his steady and uncompromising adhesion to his principles; and his manly vindication of them when circumstances called him to do so. They also respected him for his many virtues in private life, and for the manner in which he discharged his duties as a citizen and a parent. With the poor he was always in that high favour which time, nor change, nor circumstances could shake or alter, for in him they recognised an asserter of their rights and a sympathiser in their sufferings. Apart from his own claims on the affections of the people, he was esteemed as the son of the Liberator, who was in the fierce battle a hundred times beside the great chief, and being so much about the person of their leader, he became, in their minds, thoroughly identified with him. Though a comparatively young man, John O'Connell may truly be said to have known more of public life than men of twice his years, who had made politics the principle object of their existence. He fell upon busy times, and when scarcely arrived at the years of manhood he was called upon to take a prominent part in the great political warfare which his country was engaged in. Through all the turmoils, differences, bitterness, and strife which are sure to be called into existence in such contentions, the lamented deceased maintained, without question, a high character for unbending integrity, and an intensity of love for his native country rarely to be equalled, and on few occasions surpassed. His decease, therefore, cannot be failed to produce amongst all classes the sincerest sorrow. He was a thorough Irishman in every acceptance of the phrase, and the most cherished hope of his life was to devote those capabilities with which he was endowed to the promotion of her true interests. Notwithstanding Mr. O'Connell's long absence from the political affairs of the country, his past exertions were not disremembered, and when the intelligence of his death spread many were the indications exhibited of the sorrow which pervaded, not only the local community, but, we may truly say, the entire of the country. The announcement of his death became known while the people were occupied in the Catholic Church at Kingstown at those beautiful devotions peculiar to the month of May, and when that eloquent Divine, Father Petcherie, in language most apposite, declared that "the beloved son" of "the Catholic Emancipator" had passed from this mortal world, the feeling evinced by the crowded congregation at once bespoke the virtues of the man and the gratitude of the people; but this exhibition was not confined to the sacred edifice, for yesterday we observed that this sorrow was evinced by every mark of external respect throughout the city which invariably accompanies the death of one who has earned the high esteem of his fellow-men. From the inquiries which we have made we learned that Mr. O'Connell was in possession of excellent health up to Sunday week, when he attended Mass with the members of his family at Kingstown Church. This was the last day Mr. O'Connell was out of his house, and on Monday he was attended by Drs. Trant and Kavanagh for an affection of the chest, resulting from a cold. In the course of the week his indisposition assumed a more serious character, and disease of the liver became apparent, but no alarm was excited until Sunday last, the day previous to his death, when symptoms of a dangerous character set in, and the attendant physician deemed it necessary to call in Dr. Corrigan, who, we are informed, on examination pronounced the malady fatal. The melancholy intimation was communicated to him at once, and he received it with the resignation becoming a Christian. The Rev. Mr. Kavanagh was in close attendance upon him up to his death, which took place at six o'clock on Monday evening, surrounded by all the members of his family. His departure was marked by most perfect calmness, and he died apparently free from all suffering. Mr. John O'Connell had attained his 47th year, having been born in 1811, and leaves a young family of eight children and a widow to lament his premature death.—*Freeman*.

DIRECT STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN IRELAND AND AMERICA.—The following announcement appeared in the *Galway Mercury* of the 22nd ult., "Galway has been frequently disappointed in her hopes of becoming united by steam with the great transatlantic republic; but we are under the impression that her hopes of seeing that most desirable consummation are now upon the eve of being realised. The very enterprising Mr. Lever has purchased a first-class steamer to ply between Galway and New York or Boston. A company has been already formed for the purpose of seconding the intentions of Mr. Lever in this project, by which the interests of Galway will be so materially promoted. The Midland Great Western Company will also come forward in aid of the undertaking, an undertaking which, if successful, most greatly improve the resources of the company's line, as Galway will certainly, in the event of a first-rate steamer starting from this port for America, become the only point of departure for all emigrating from Ireland to America. The voyage can be made in about eight days, and the intended arrangement is that the trips be fortnightly made. It is calculated that on her first trip this steamer will take out about 600 emigrant passengers and that on her return she will take 1,000 bales of cotton, with a quantity of other American produce. These goods can be transported hence to the markets of Dublin and Liverpool." In the same paper there is this additional notification:—"Two memorials, most respectable and numerously signed, have been transmitted from this town—one to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the other to the Post Office authorities—praying that the American mails be transmitted for one month by the first-rate steamship about to be started by Mr. O'Reill Lever from this port to New York or Boston in a few weeks."

A company has been organized in this town (Tralee) for the purpose of building a small steamer, to be employed ancillary to the steam communication from this country to London, Liverpool, and Limerick, which the Limerick Steam Ship Company has recently established with so much success. So energetically have the managers of this undertaking worked that their new purchase, the 'Weasel,' has already arrived in the canal; and will be available for the purpose of local trade next week. This vessel is a screw boat, schooner rigged, not a year old, and capable of carrying 120 tons of cargo.—Should she be found too small for the trade, one or two large lighters are to be purchased by the company to meet the deficiency.—*Kerry Post*.

Amongst the latest discoveries of an antiquarian character, in the excavation for the main sewer, in Bagwell street, are portions of some old iron bullets and a piece of polished steel, belonging, it is supposed, to an ancient firelock. Several old coins had also been found in the red clay turned up—one bears a cross in relief on one side, and the words 'Casell Market' on the obverse. These coins are very interesting, and worthy the attention of the curious in such matters. The excavations, though not many feet in depth, give abundant proof, from the quantity of human bones and other remains exposed by the shovel of the laborer, of the contest which must have taken place on this spot at a period when the attempt made to storm Clonmel and batter the town wall, which extended only to where Mr. Newell's establishment is now situated.—*Clonmel Chronicle*.

The extensive estates of the Earl of Granard, situated in the county of Westmeath, have been sold by private contract in the Incumbered Estates Court, to Colonel Fulke Greville, M.P. The purchase money was £125,000.

TIPPERARY—PAST AND PRESENT.—In our county gaol, ten years since, there were 1,035 prisoners, and at present the number confined within its precincts is 107, the greater majority of whom are charged with offences minor in their nature. Verily Tipperary has changed; let us trust that with advancing time the change will become still more decisive in its nature, and more satisfactory in every degree.—*Tipperary Free Press*.

CATHOLIC INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL—SOUTH DUNGS IN CONNEMARA.—On Friday, May 18th, 1858.—At one of our conference meetings, held twelve months ago, we deemed it to be our duty to denounce the extensive kidnapping of children in many parts of Ireland by the Souters of Connemara. On that occasion we gave the names of some of those unfortunate children, and of the places from which they were taken. Some of them have been rescued by the Clergy of Clifden, as they were claimed by their relatives, and traced to the Rev. Mr. Darcy, chief of the Souters, who was forced to admit that they were consigned to him by a Parson in a distant parish in this county. Amongst the names of the children alluded to above was that of Mary Anne Hearn, from Cork. We notice now the name of that poor child, because she died a few days ago in the greatest agony of heart and soul in the soup orphanage at Clifden. Oh! who can pourtray the bitter anguish, the excruciating remorse of that young creature? No mother's heart being near to sympathise or to abate the racking pain that was hurrying the soul into eternity—no kind relative's hand to wipe away the thick damp of fast-approaching death from that brow on which the blackness of the fatal sudden sickness was fastened long before the immortal spirit had fled. No; but as a substitute for a fond mother's care, or a relative's soothing attention, there was the cold, veteran, proselytising nurse, calculating, mayhap, the pecuniary loss incurred by an over-kind attention to the dying stranger. Good gracious, can it be possible that Irish parents or Irish relatives have degenerated so fearfully as to abandon their children to the keeping of the reputed harpies of the Souper creed?—And yet there are children from different parts of Ireland to be found in the soup dens of Connemara, from Limerick, from Ennis, from Moate, from Dublin, Gloucester street and Westland-row. From these and many more places have children been brought by these soul-jobbers, these money-making proselytisers, and are paraded before their credulous English patrons as the fruits of their mission to the Catholics of this district. Even some of our own friends, misled by the lying statistics of the enemy, have put their numerous subscriptions to the credit, or rather discredit, of the Priests and people of Connemara. Be it so; we accept the responsibility. Charity is not exclusive; they shall share our solicitude as well as those for whom we are personally answerable;—but we humbly hope that we will be aided to reconstruct with fresh vigor our industrial school, and to provide an asylum for such deserted creatures. With this twofold object in view, we earnestly implore the charitable public to come to the rescue of those innocent children. We have now a powerful auxiliary in the Convent of Mercy. The same deep mine of charity from which were drawn the funds for the erection of that magnificent edifice will continue to be our source of cheering hope, and the contemplated charitable institution, managed by the devoted Sisters of Mercy, must be attended with lasting signal success. Grateful for the continuous aid we have received from many quarters both in England and Ireland during the past years of wide-spread destruction, we are happy to inform the Christian public that never was defeat so complete as that sustained by the Souters. For this stronger proof than their chagrin and howling need not be required.—They had, and have still, money, and meal, and clothing, and bribes. There was, too, credulity without limit to believe their lying reports; and, notwithstanding all this, they have been foiled by the fidelity of the people of Connemara. Blessed be God, and praised for ever be the Immaculate Mother of God, under whose benign patronage the good fight was fought. Never were there such large overflowing flocks in Connemara since the days of St. Patrick as there are at present. In truth, each and every one of our Christian Schools are entirely too small, while the Souters have brought, to the utter disgust of all enlightened Protestants, the Protestant creed to its lowest and most degrading phase, Superstition. Enlightened Protestants are vexed at seeing their religion steeped in soup or yellow mealwash, like certain seeds before they are cast into the soil. We have just now received a letter from Charlemont street, Dublin, inquiring for two young children detained in the Clifden soup-house. We shall attend to it. We humbly entreat the Liberal press to continue to us its generous kindness.—(Signed) PATRICK McMAHON, P.P., Chairman. THOS. McWALTER, C.G., Secretary.

The days are full of prodigies, and signs and portents crowd thick and fast. England, on the one hand, begins at last to doubt the advantage—then on the ground of expediency—of her policy of selfishness and aggression; while on the other she seems uncertain whether the moment of repentance and restitution or of judgment and punishment shall first arrive. From end to end of Europe men prepare for the great accounting day which all now augur to be at hand; and nations begin to scan the vulnerable points and prepare to take advantage of the weakness, internal or external, of each other. Volcanic France crams its arsenals to repletion; each fort and citadel is thick with bayonets, mortar and cannon, and grape choke the depots of the Empire. The channel coast is fast being lined with battalions; the fleets converge from every point from the Mediterranean to the Baltic, and concentrate between Brest and Cherbourg. England too prepares. Prepares—Alas! Ten thousand miles away her last army is being wasted in hopeless conflict with the countless myriads of her ill-gotten "Indian Empire." At home the rusty guns that ornament the crumbling towers of old Saxon towns are being carted to the coast—to grin with ludicrous impotence at the expected foe. Weak walls and rickety bastions are being repaired and strengthened from Hull to Plymouth, and one-limbed veterans called forth to man them. But who imagines that England's fatuity is so complete as to believe that France has never heard of depopulated highlands, exterminated Celts, and "Irish discontent"? Who believes that England does not know that her wisest "fortification" and "defence"—her surest safety in the coming struggle would be the conciliation of Ireland by an act of justice, by restoring that which once before surrendered to the demand of Ireland, organised and unanimous, was indignantly filched from her in an hour of discord and weakness. England can do this now with far less sacrifice of pride—yet not with less justice and benefit to us—than ere she had conceded to mere colonies so just a claim. To believe that she would now reply with threats to our demands for simple justice, if made with sufficient unanimity, were to impute to her an amount of besotted folly which her most open enemy could not with justice lay to her charge;—which certainly would not be consistent with the opinions now openly expressed in her councils; and manifestly rendered as expedient as just by the aspect of her affairs. This, then, is not a crisis at which Irish Nationalists should be inactive—traitorously inactive while the destinies of Ireland may be said to hang in the balance. The best fruits of Mr. Smith O'Brien's address would be an imitation of his toleration and forbearance towards each other on the parts of all who hold in the main the creed of Nationality; and an active movement to assume an organised existence and give a louder and bolder utterance to the aspirations of that political faith of which he is so pure and worthy an apostle.—*Nation*.

In Ireland a sharp relief is said to be 'as cute as Power's fox,' the fox of Ballybotherem, which used to read the newspaper every morning to find out where the hounds were to meet.

If an universal consensus may absolutely be relied on—least everybody says is sure to be true—it is at least very highly probable that Catholic political men are the laughing-stocks of their more resolute, active, and astute Protestant contemporaries. The lessons of experience seem lost on the Catholic politicians; the continually recurring examples of success furnished by the tactics of other public men pass by without the feeblest attempt at imitation. Nay, even the brilliant and only victory achieved in our own times, or in the times of such of us as can remember 1829, has not given the Catholic party the external aspect of self-confidence, nor encouraged them to rise from the attitude of beggars, or trembling petitioners for favour, into the dignity of men who are earnest, determined, and self-sacrificing assertors and postulants of rights. This attitude of the Catholic party, or rather of its elements for there is really no such party in existence (although the elements of one are superfluously abundant), is not only mean and inglorious, but also ineffective and unwise. It not only has not the wisdom of the serpent, but it lacks also the harmlessness of the dove, for there is no such thing in political influence as mere stagnation; it waxes or wanes—it moves one way or another; we are always either losing or gaining ground. Even those who have been found faithful feel bound apparently, as "practical men," to swim somewhat with the stream, and to content themselves with vainly and fruitlessly asking for an instalment of our rights, which it is as difficult—nay, as impossible—to get as the full measure of them, but which, inasmuch, as it is the full demand put forth, is, by the rule *expressio unius est exclusio alterius*, a virtual surrender of the rest. Any demands we make on the Legislature can from the actual necessity of the case, only be put forth on the grounds of justice. We have not the right to demand favours. When we do so the Protestant majority have the right to refuse them, and they do what we would ourselves do if the tables were turned. When the question is either purely a religious one, or, as almost always happens, a mixed one, the Catholic politician is not only under the disadvantages we have already pointed out, in putting forth only a part of his just claim instead of the whole of it, but, on higher grounds than those of expediency and political craft, he has not the right on his side, for he is treating on behalf of the Church without powers, and is tacitly surrendering her absolute and inalienable Missionary rights. He touches the Ark with rash and unauthorised hand. What it is possible to obtain, and what right shall be sacrificed for some partial concession, are, indeed, most important practical questions which must be considered and decided—but not by lay politicians, if the question relate, directly or indirectly, to the Church. This rule is in question whenever the Catholic legislator treats the question of education. He has not the right, in that character of a Catholic, which is his supreme characteristic, to come to any terms with Government or Parliament on any educational question by which he shall be a consenting party to the smallest abrogation of the sovereign authority of the Church over education. He may think it very desirable to gain some amelioration of this or that proselytising rule or practice in the mixed education, which is the disease and curse of the times— which is now sowing the wind to reap the future whirlwind; but he must not gain this apparent advantage by being a consenting party to the deprivation of any portion of the prerogative of the Church. He is not necessarily obliged to put forward any of the claims of the Church; but, if he put forward any, he is bound to put forward all, and to accept of what he may be able to get only as an instalment. And his mode of putting forward anything should be definitely based on his rights as a British subject, and not on any assumed representative character as a Catholic—i.e., a spiritual subject of the Pope, who is represented, so far as he is represented at all, by the Bishops, and not by laymen—though they should happen to be members, and even influential members, of Parliament. Our claim, as Catholic laymen, is simple and intelligible, and has, moreover, the advantage of being logically deducible from admitted premises. We claim no new concession of either right or favour. Everything has already been conceded to us on which we base our claim, and our claim is this, that spiritual, and what is called secular instruction, are one and indivisible, and that the attempt to separate them in accordance with the principle of "mixed education," has been condemned by the Pope, whom we are bound in conscience to obey. The free exercise of our religion having been conceded to us, the State can only in justice inquire—not whether the Pope is right or wrong in his decision, but only as to whether he has or has not decided the question. Any Catholic who co-operates in the system of mixed education by modifying its least flagrant and noxious practices and tendency is simply supporting what the Pope has condemned. Any one who claims of the State anything short of its abrogation, or consents to its modification without his permission or authority, is allowing his private judgment to go beyond its province, and it is usurping the rights of the Church, which alone can consent to the abrogation or diminution of the least of her rights, or can treat on such questions. It is also true that any claim founded on admitted principles and justice, as we have frequently had occasion to remark, is far more likely to be conceded to us than any modification which cannot be based on such grounds. We are actually more likely, if only we get the right way to work, to obtain a Catholic education for Catholic children, than to be able very favourably to modify any of the incidents of a mixed education. But this is not just now our point. What we now say is, that we are not authorised to apply ourselves at all to the modification of a condemned system—we cannot help to build a superstructure on forbidden ground and a condemned basis.—*Tablet*.

THE ENGLISH LAW OF SETTLEMENT.—At the Cork Police Office on Friday, two girls, the eldest about sixteen, and the other a few years younger, appeared before the bench, accompanied by Mr. Thomson, relieving officer, and applied for assistance under the following circumstances:—They were of English birth, but born of Irish parents, and had spent all their lives in England. About seven months ago their father came over to Ireland, from Liverpool, to look for employment, leaving them behind him, and in a few months after, they, being quite destitute, applied to the poor law authorities for relief. Although of English birth, the fact of their parents being Irish seemed to disentitle them to any relief, and they were taken up, put on board a steamer, and thrown on the quays of Cork to look for their father, though they had not the remotest idea of where he was, nor had they a single friend or acquaintance here. Fortunately, the eldest succeeded in obtaining a situation as a servant where she had lived for the last five months, and having heard that her father returned to Liverpool, she now applied to her sister and herself sent back there. Mr. McNamara, who was on the bench, directed a sum of 10s to be appropriated to that purpose. Another young Irish woman, with a child in her arms, and who gave her name as Anne Clocknesky, appeared before the bench, and stated that she had been married in London to a Pole, who is a French polisher by trade, and he having deserted her for another woman, she applied to the parish for relief. Though she told them where her husband was, they would take no steps to compel him to support her, but put her on board the steamer and sent her to Cork. She applied to be sent back, as she would be able to support herself in London. The bench directed that arrangements should be made for sending her back, and also remarked in terms of commendation on the interest and sympathy evinced by Mr. Thomson in the case of all the unfortunate beings who are flung on our quays by English poor law authorities.—*Cork Examiner*.

As the four o'clock train on Thursday, for Limerick, was passing Caher, the boiler exploded, doing no injury but giving a slight scald to the driver.

THE CLERKSHIP OF HANAPER.—It is said that the list of candidates for the office vacated by the lamented death of Mr. John O'Connell has already swelled to the enormous number of 180. Two gentlemen have been started as the probable winners, but, as it is well-known that Lord Eglintoun will not announce the successful candidate till the close of the week, it is needless to mention the parties indicated. It is painful to reflect that the favorite son of "the Liberator" has died in very straitened circumstances, and has left a large and youthful family almost wholly unprovided for. He held the office of Clerk of Hanaper for two or three years only—too short a period to enable him to make any provision for the future.

DONORAL DESTITUTION.—The following correspondence relative to the conduct of the police in the districts of Gweedore and Cloughaneely has taken place between the Rev. Mr. Doherty, P.P., and Sir Duncan M'Gregor, Inspector-General of Constabulary:—

"Sir Duncan M'Gregor, Inspector-General of Constabulary.
Committee-rooms, Dunfaughny,
May 14th, 1858.

Sir—I am directed by the Gweedore and Cloughaneely Relief Committee to convey to you the numerous complaints that daily reach us, and which arise from the excited feelings of the unfortunate peasants of these districts, in reference to the visits which are now being made to their cabins by the constabulary.

"We feel anxious to know if such visits are made under your sanction and authority, and if at the instance of her Majesty's government.

"If under such sanction, we will lend them every assistance, in order to render the inquiry as full and complete as possible, as there is nothing we desire more than that the real state of her Majesty's subjects in this part of the kingdom, should be investigated. But we beg to state, that the impression on the public mind here is—and we fear it is but too well founded—that the landlords, in their magisterial capacity, have, without such sanction, employed a number of unfriendly constables, and prevailed on them to conduct a partial investigation, for the purpose of exculpating themselves before a select committee of the House of Commons, which has been granted on the motion of the honorable member for Clonmel.—Nor can we help thinking that such injudicious employment of the constabulary is connived at by their inspectors, who have, on an inquiry lately made by Mr. Hamilton, poor law inspector, too hastily lent themselves in bearing testimony on a matter of which they were not in a position to judge for want of sufficient knowledge, and that these constables are now instructed to hunt up evidence to sustain such rash statements. And we think we are borne out in this opinion when we state that, although the special correspondent of an impartial journal, the *Dublin Evening Post*, requested the head constable of Gweedore to assist in arriving at the true state of things in that district, has been refused every co-operation, while now he and other constables are lending themselves to the avowed organs of landlordism.

"We submit, if this view be correct, that such employment, on the part of this force, is highly calculated to stir up ill-feelings between it and the peasantry, and will go far to mar the effectiveness of a body hitherto extremely useful for the public good, while it cannot fail to throw doubt and discredit on all and every information derived through that medium.

"Our committee request your attention to this subject.—I remain, most respectfully yours,
John Doherty, P.P., Hon. Sec.
Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
18th May, 1858.

"Rev. Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, and beg to inform you that, being totally unacquainted with the matter therein referred to, I have sent your letter to the County Inspector of Donegal for explanation.—I have the honor to be, Rev. Sir, your obedient humble servant.
D. M'Gregor,
Inspector-General of Constabulary.
"Rev. J. Doherty, P.P., &c., Dunfaughny."

ESCAPE OF THREE DESERTERS.—Early on Friday morning an occurrence of a most daring character took place at Fermoy, resulting in the escape of three soldiers from the guardhouse, where they were temporarily confined awaiting the sentence of a court-martial, before which they had been that day tried and convicted for desertion. At about 1 o'clock, finding the entire of the sergeant's party on guard, 12 men—lying about the room fast asleep, one of the fellows, named Smith, put on his slacks and overcoat and left the room, followed by the other two prisoners. They attacked the sentry, who alone was keeping watch, and beat him in a terrible manner. The three deserters—two Englishmen and the other an Irishman—then scaled the barrack-wall, and effected their escape so successfully that up to a late hour on Friday evening all search had proved fruitless. The sentinel lies in a precarious state.—*Clonmel paper*.

A correspondent writes from Nenagh:—"A paragraph to the effect that Burke, one of the witnesses in the case against the Cormacks, was arrested in Liverpool for perjury, having caused a good deal of sensation, and added an unpleasant degree of importance to a subject which has been freely canvassed since the execution of the Cormacks—namely, their innocence—I have learned the facts connected with the rumour. Burke was some days since transmitted in conversation that he gave his evidence under coercion, and that he knew nothing whatsoever of the transaction, and agreed to prevent his being detained in custody. The matter was reported to the Inspector-General of Constabulary, which caused Burke to be brought back to Dublin, and the police constables who escorted him from Nenagh were also ordered to attend there to be examined. After a full investigation before the authorities in Dublin, the statement of Burke was found to be groundless, or rather given with a view to stand well with the people, and he was discharged.—*Nation*.

Three men were killed near Clonmel, on the 24th May, by the explosion of a quarry.

CIVILIZATION—WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—When the English invasion first reduced Ireland from a nation to a province, it was the boast of the adventurers that they came to bestow civilization. When, in after years, Viceroy's gradually contracted their powerful hold on Irish liberties, and obtained the consent of their respective Sovereigns to harass and oppress the natives of the soil, they acted upon the pretence of spreading civilization. When, later still, fraud and treachery effected the Union, crushing, baneful results, and a native Parliament was forever lost to our native land, the legislators of England besought this country to remember that their object and aim was solely to confer upon us the blessings of civilization! Whether it was the passing of an act to deprive us of commercial prosperity, or the imposition of a new taxation, ever and always the plea was paraded before the world as that of civilization. If the people groaned under a ruinous code of arbitrary laws, and demanded redress, their complaints were unheard or unheeded; their petitions were despised and scoffed at—why? Our masters and governors desired to strengthen and increase our civilization. When Pollok beheaded the peasants of the West out into the dyke of misery, it was done in the furtherance of civilization; and when our autocrats of Donegal converted a peaceable, comfortable population into destitute beggars, their haughty defence before the world was this—they wanted to introduce civilization! Thus, invasion and plunder, confiscation and deprivation of ancient rights, prohibition of manufactures and extermination, taxation and coercion, and the terms enlightenment and civilization are considered by our poor peasantry synonymously; and when they hear the cant phrase made use of in their presence, and when they are told of the blessings and boons in store for them, they, poor igno-

rant, innocent creatures, begin to fear an approaching ruin; and thoughts of future poverty, with all its concomitant evils, pass swiftly and harrowingly through their minds, and strike terror into their hearts! Beighted souls! how foolish they are! And yet, when we calmly come to consider the change which modern improvement has effected in Ireland, we can almost participate in the dread of our unfortunate peasantry at the onward march of civilization. Ireland was free and a nation. Civilization has deprived her of the one and annihilated the other. Ireland enjoyed commercial prosperity when her woollen trade flourished. Civilization, in the English acceptance of the term, restricted and destroyed the prosperity of our manufactures. Ireland had a linen trade which gave constant employment to thousands of happy households—food and raiment to a thrifty population—peace and contentment to millions of joyous hearts. Civilization monopolized, and in its greedy maw, swallowed up the inimitable blessings which once shed happiness round the industrious toil of our hardy peasantry; and what jealous rivals failed to accomplish, was secretly effected by the monstrous, poisonous factories, and the steam and the craft and the cunning of civilization! And now—as the gifted Davis said—"In a climate soft as a mother's smile; on a soil fruitful as God's love, the Irish peasant mourns." Any wonder, then, that our oppressed people reply in answer to the question—civilization, what does it mean?—that it means ruin, sorrow, and gloom; that it means exile from the home of their fathers; that it means expatriation from the soil they have tilled so long; that it means confiscation of property, plunder of immemorial rights, robbery of improvements created by sweat of brow and patient suffering; and that it means misery to themselves, destitution and poverty to their children, to their country fresh injustice, and to posterity all those hideous iniquities, vice, crime, and wickedness which distinguish the present civilization of Ireland.—*Londonderry Journal*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES.—In the House of Commons, on Friday night, Mr. Monzell said it would be in the recollection of the house that in 1853, when the Charities Act passed through the house, the Roman Catholic charities were exempted for two years, on the ground that, without some previous legislation on the subject, those charities would be confiscated if they were brought under the operation of that act, by reason of the disclosures that would thus be made. Since then there had been several bills continuing the exemption. The exemption at present existing was on the point of expiring, and he wished to know if there was to be any legislation this year. Mr. Adesley said her Majesty's government had not contemplated the necessity of another act for continuing the exemption of these Catholic charities in the hope that by further conference with Catholic members, a bill might have been passed this session for dealing permanently with the subject. At this late period, however, there was no hope of passing a bill this session, but he trusted it would be possible in the next. He, therefore, proposed to introduce a bill continuing for one year longer the exemption of the Catholic charities.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—The *Globe* reports the rumour to the effect that Mr. Gladstone would become Chancellor of the Exchequer, in place of Mr. Disraeli, to be moved to the India Board, preparatory to succeeding to the Governor-Generalship, in the event of Lord Cairns's resignation.

The rumour is repeated that a Russian naval force, coming from the Baltic, will appear shortly in the British Channel. The squadron is composed of twenty-two vessels, and they are all to make for Brest. A French naval division is mustering at Cherbourg. Our ally, however, is not to be alone in his glory. If France is to have her great naval demonstration, so also is England. On Saturday the Admiralty issued orders for the whole of the ships now under fitment at the several dockyards to be got ready for sea with all expedition, so that we may have a naval spectacle about the same time that the French display will take place at Cherbourg.

FUNERAL OF THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS.—The interment of the remains of the late Duchess of Orleans took place on Saturday last at the Catholic chapel erected by Miss Taylor, a short distance from the railway station at Weybridge, Surrey, where, as will be remembered by many of our readers, the bodies of the late King Louis Philippe and the Duchesse de Nemours are deposited. Many eminent Frenchmen, statesmen, and military men availed themselves of the mournful opportunity to leave the continent for our shores, to testify their respect to the fallen Royal Family of France, and to offer the last tribute of esteem for the virtuous Princess whom it has pleased Providence to remove from the turmoil and anxieties of this world.

THE DIVORCE ACT.—The new Divorce Law of England need not excite a feeling of shame in any Catholic except Lord Cairns. We have all denounced it as utterly loathsome; and, thank God, such is the practical freedom of England, that we still may, and do so denounce it. Some of our Protestant contemporaries avail themselves of this liberty as freely as we do; but the simple fact is, that despite their protests, the people of England and the Church of England gladly embrace and avail themselves of it, and accept in their fullest sense the congratulations which Lord Campbell thought fit to utter from the Bench upon the number of married persons of both sexes whom he had already sent out into the world single and unmarried persons. The Act has not been in operation many weeks; yet, besides the divorces already decreed, there are now no fewer than 173 petitions for divorce or separation before the higher Court. It is fully and fairly an exclusively Protestant measure. The law of the Catholic Church continues the same as it has ever been; and no Catholic can avail himself of this loathsome secular law, without renouncing his religion, and cutting himself off from all its rites and consolations. As a matter of fact, no Catholic has attempted to avail himself of it; and though there are bad Catholics enough amongst us, if any one of them is so utterly degraded as to seek to legalise his sensuality by it, he must begin by ceasing to be a Catholic. While, then, as Englishmen, we feel deep pain at so open an act of national apostasy on the part of our country, we trust that the Catholic Church may gain by it, not lose. What religious Protestants want to be taught, is the difference between the Catholic Church and the so-called Church of England. Some Protestants, as we have said, look on the measure with deep and avowed disfavor. But the Church of England has accepted it. Individual members and Ministers, as such, may wash their hands of it; but they do not relieve the body from guilt and degradation of accepting it.—*Weekly Register*.

HAVELOCK'S REMAINS TO BE BROUGHT TO ENGLAND.—The *Edinburgh Witness* states that a letter has been received from a British officer in Alumbagh, which was recovered from the wreck of the *Arva*, in which the writer says he has given his signature, along with that of the officers of his regiment, to an order to remove the remains of the late General Havelock to England. This, the writer says, is to be at the joint expense of the officers who were under the command of General Havelock.

While public attention has been attracted so strongly by the unusual dimensions of the Leviathan that the name of the vessel is in everybody's mouth, greater length, and of a more remarkable character, have been advancing to completion in Liverpool without the general public being cognisant of their existence. These vessels are each 700 feet long.—They have been constructed by Messrs. Vernon and Son, for the Oriental Inland Steam Company, and are intended for the navigation of the Indian rivers.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.