

assembled the wives and daughters of the senators and their friends, and the fairest of Erin's daughters looked down on that senate-hall wherein were assembled the most talented and noble of Erin's sons. Wearers of coronets and mitres from the House of Peers came and helped to fill the gallery. The students of the university also were there, and those citizens who had been so fortunate as to obtain admission. The bayonets of the Volunteers glistened even there, for some of them stood on guard within the senate chamber. Now again from outside, from the crowded street and crowded square, is heard another cheer, louder and deeper far than that which they within had heard greet the viceroy ; for this cheer came from the hearts of the people, and the applause sounded in its echoes even like a blessing. That cheer was for Henry Grattan.

When the excitement had somewhat subsided within Hely Hutchinson rose and delivered the same message as that which Fox had read to the Commons of England. Mr. George Ponsonby, a creature of government, then rose and moved an address of thanks to the King, and assuring him that the house would proceed to the consideration of the great object recommended. This was the opening only. Grattan arose, his countenance worn and furrowed by illness and thought ; his frame enfeebled and attenuated, seemed hardly that of a man fit for the mighty task he

had set himself, and which he knew was to be this day accomplished. Clear as a clarion note his matchless voice rang through the senate-house :

"I am now to address a free people ! Ages have passed away, and this is the first moment in which you could be distinguished by that appellation.

"I have spoken on the subject of your liberty so often that I have nothing to add, and have only to admire by what heaven-directed steps you have proceeded until the whole faculty of the nation is braced up to the act of her own deliverance.

"I found Ireland on her knees ; I watched over her with an eternal solicitude ; I have traced her progress from injuries to arms, and from arms to liberty. Spirit of Swift ! spirit of Molyneux ! your genius has prevailed. Ireland is now a nation. In that new character I hail her, and, bowing to her august presence, I say, *Esto perpetua !*"

He concluded his splendid oration by moving the Declaration of Rights. It was voted unanimously, and Ireland was free !

How the solemn pact hereupon entered into by the two nations, ratified by the Parliaments of England and Ireland, was foully broken by one of them is not within the scope of this article to repeat ; if it reminds its readers of at least one glorious day in Ireland's life its object will have been attained.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION.

TEACHING was the sacred duty of the Apostles, and must be that of the Catholic clergy, their successors : a duty not merely extending to Catholics, but to all nations in the world, Pagans, Moslem, and Christians. The mission of Jesus Christ himself was to enlighten and instruct the world, and this He has confirmed by the unmistakable charge which He gave to His followers : "feed my sheep."—Not with bread, but with the words of salvation, the commandments of God and the precepts of wisdom. If education in its widest sense is not *ali* the business of the Catholic clergy, it is certainly their office to watch over parents and guardians in

the discharge of their several obligations. Morality and religion are the first things to be taught, the most essential to happiness, the most needful to prosperity, and the most indispensable to eternal welfare. Whether we view it with regard to the present or future state of man, either in a theological or philosophical aspect, the positive necessity of moral instruction is convincingly evident. No scientific eminence, no mathematical fame, no linguistic celebrity, no literary renown, no scholastic glory, can ever achieve eternal felicity : nay, not even temporal enjoyment can be the direct and permanent result of these applauded accomplishments : so true is