

any servant. She opened the parlor door and said:—  
 'Daughter, a gentleman to see you, and went away.'  
 I mentally contrasted mother and child.—  
 Kate's snowy cuffs and collar, and dainty handkerchief, and bright dress; her slippers feet and beautiful hands! They were a contemptible sham, and stamped her as a vain, proud, wicked woman. I would sooner have drowned than married that girl! I despised her. I despised myself for having fancied her. It was with difficulty that I could treat her respectfully, and I could hardly stay as long as civility required. After that when I met a pretty, engaging girl, my first thought was, 'How does she treat her mother?'  
 'I found in you, my Kitty, one who was the sunshine of home; the helper of the needy; the kind companion of brother and sister; the self-sacrificing, devoted daughter. I know what it was, my darling, that darkened and hardened these dear hands; works of love; every home service; the faithful care that would not let a mother bear the burden and heat of the day. Bless you for hands like these, Kitty! If you don't admire them, remember that they are mine. I will not have you depreciate my property, and run down my treasures!  
 'Meanwhile, wear this, and let it prove that I love these dear hands, and the gentle heart that prompts them to works of love.'  
 So saying, Horace slipped on her finger an exquisite ring adorned with a pearl, encircled with diamonds.

steadily, systematically, energetically, and unflinchingly exerted to oppose all those measures and proceedings which were essentially to the improvement and salvation of the country. They encourage early and improvident marriages; they discourage emigration; they support the peasant in resisting the consolidation of farms into acreages on which a family can live in decency and comfort; they set their faces obstinately against the system of mixed education. Nor is this all though, this is much. Ultramontaniam is now rampant in Ireland, and is doing all it can of principle and by orders from Rome, to render the government of Ireland impossible, and that of England difficult, except on terms which sooner or later must involve for the former Island something very like restored Catholic ascendancy. Now it can, I think, scarcely be denied that the disestablishment of the Established Church in Ireland will not only be a great triumph and stimulus to the Roman Catholic hierarchy, whose influence is so mischievous, but a heavy blow and a great discouragement to the Protestant clergy, who, with all their shortcomings and their faults, are still the best counteractive to that noxious influence which exists. In a word, it will strengthen the hands of our and Ireland's enemies without in the least weakening or softening their enmity.

Finally, it seems to me idle and inconsiderate to pretend that the surrender of the Irish Establishment does not menace, even if it do not entail and prepare as a logical result, the fall of the Establishment in England. No doubt, the cases are widely different. But it is certain that many of the most effective arguments now used in the controversy are directed, or are valid, against the principle of a State Church anywhere and in any form. It is not denied that a great proportion of Mr Gladstone's followers in this attack are Dissenters, and follow him on Dissenting and Voluntarist principles, and would follow him even more eagerly in that Crusade against the English Church which they already scent in the distance. It is notorious moreover, that a large and influential section of zealous Churchmen are themselves prepared, and even anxious, for a severance of Church and State, in order to free the Church from State control, which they term Erastianism. It is believed, too, by many—and we have heard that Mr Gladstone's great speech on the celebrated Resolutions not obscures though perhaps unintentionally, intimated as much—that even our leader is still engaged as a High Churchman to incline to this view himself. Now, I have always understood that one of the most fundamental articles of the Liberal creed—the principle and feeling, at least, which underlies all true and deep-seated and philosophic liberalism—maintained that subordination of the Church to the State, that supremacy of the lay over the clerical element in the Church (to speak more definitely), that command of the law over the bishops, that ultimate appeal to Parliament and not Convocation, which lies at the very root of our Establishment, and is proclaimed and proved afresh on the outbreak of every controversy. The *idæ miræ*—the informing and vivifying conception of our Reformed Church—its distinguished feature, and its crowning merit and glory, is, that the nation and not the priest-hood must rule and determine in spiritual things, and must fix the limit of spiritual authority. I hold and the mass of educated and instinctively sound Englishmen hold and I believe the fathers and framers of our Church policy half unconsciously recognized, and I have been accustomed to consider the Liberal party held more firmly than any other doctrine, the conviction that the uncontrolled sacerdos, of whatever sect, or faith, or Church, is in virtue of his calling, and by the law of his being a mischief and a danger; that only the strong curb of Government, or of that enlightened public opinion which should constitute the Government, can change him from a noxious into a beneficent influence from the priest into the pastor, from a professional foe to freedom and progress into an ally of the best interests of the people; that if not strictly subject to the laity and the law, he will assuredly become the sovereign and oppressor of them both. We have had indications enough of late of what Convocation would do if Convocation could do anything; and Convocation in its folly and its tyranny, would be omnipotent if once the connection between Church and State were severed. Not only would it go hard with such extravagant though harmless eccentrics as Mr Meckonochie, such daring innovators as Bishop Coleman, such moderate but courageous liberals as Dean Stanley—it would go hard with every man in England who dared to think and act for himself in religious matters, or in any matters which the clergy deemed to hover on the skirts of religion. With the lovers of liberty and inquiry in science or in politics, with the sincere philosopher, with the anti-Sabbatarian, with the true Liberal, it would go hardest of all. Except, indeed, with the old National Church itself, which would be torn asunder by its own internal divisions—even now with difficulty coerced by the strong arm of the Privy Council—and would split into a host of sects, each tyrannizing mercilessly over the conscience and the actions of its adherents. It would go well only with the Church of Rome, which, with its mighty organization, its persistent dogmatism, its unflinching pretensions, and its relentless grasp, would stand forth contrasting, unique, and dominant, amid the circumambient conflict and confusion, offering shelter to weary and bewildered victims, crying out in their perplexity,—  
*O quis me gelidis in vallibus Hæmi Siat, at ingenti ramorum protegat umbra?*  
 W. R. G.

THE PROTESTANT CHURCH IN IRELAND.

A LIBERAL'S PROTEST AGAINST THE LIBERAL POLICY.  
 (To the Editor of the Fall Mill Gazette.)

Sir—I trust that you will not refuse to insert this remonstrance of a veteran Liberal against the line of action now adopted by the bulk of his party and their most eminent leaders, even though that line of action is approved by your journal. It is painful enough to be forced to separate on any question from the political friends with whom I have toiled and fought for five-and-thirty years. It would be more painful still to be debarré from stating the grounds of that separation. I believe the course of proceeding into which Mr Gladstone has led his party in reference to the Irish Church to be mistaken, dangerous, and entirely, and entered upon without any distinct or comprehensive foresight of its consequences. But more than all, I regard it as a decided contravention and reversal of one of the most essential and rooted articles of the old and true Liberal creed; and I cannot understand how this feature of the case should so completely have escaped the attention of our chiefs, as well as of the more thoughtful members of the party. I am not going to argue the case, naturally you would refuse me the space requisite for such a purpose. I only wish to state my points, and then leave them to fructify in men's minds during the reflective leisure of the recess.

I do not comprehend the principal or basis of the proposed policy, nor do I see any reason for believing that it was adequately weighed and digested before it was proposed. Nor do I even distinguish clearly what is proposed, nor does the language used by Mr Gladstone satisfy me that his own views on the matter are either defined or fixed. He speaks of disestablishing the Irish Establishment, yet in such a mode as to leave it still three-fifths of its actual property. Now, if these three-fifths are permanently secured to the Church, the disestablishment is only partial; the measure is imperfect, and the principle (if any) on which it is grounded and defended is not carried out. If these three-fifths consist merely or mainly of the life interests of existing incumbents, then they are left not to 'the Church,' but to A. B., and C.; and when A., B., and C. die the three-fifths die with them, or revert to some other fund, and the Church is without endowment at all. If the three-fifths are reserved on the grounds that such is the estimated proportion of Church property that has been given to it since the Reformation by Protestants and for distinctly Protestant uses, the principle of the reservation should be distinctly stated (which has never, I believe, been done) and the accuracy of the proportion should be ascertained by careful historical inquiry.

I can understand the view which regards all Church property as vested in the State for the general spiritual service of the community, and which, therefore, would distribute it *pro rata*, or by any other equitable rule among all sects and Churches. But I cannot understand the policy which would take away this property from a Church which has long held it, which needs it, and which uses it well, and might easily be helped to use it better, merely to gratify the envy or animosity, or (if you will) the aggrieved sense of justice, of another Church which declares it will not touch a shilling of the money. This seems the height of dog-in-the-mangerism. I can understand the plea which says, 'This property was taken from the Catholic Church three centuries ago; it shall be restored to that Church now.' But I cannot see the wisdom of confiscating it to other and unspecified purpose at the bidding of that elder Church, which distinctly and scornfully refuses the tardy restitution. I can understand the statesmanship which desires to endow the Catholic Church and to pay the Catholic priests, under the stringent conditions of a concordat, whether the means be provided out of the property of the Establishment or out of the Consolidated Fund. This policy would have been a wise and a possible one in 1800; it would have been wise and possible in 1820; it would, perhaps, be wise, but is certainly not possible, now. But I cannot perceive the sagacity or profundity of a policy which proposes to weaken and disarm a Church which is friendly to the British connection and the Imperial rule, in order to gratify, without attempting to control, or curb, or neutralize, a Church which of late years has shown itself inimical to both.

I can understand, and I fully share, the yearning desire which must exist in all patriotic minds to consolidate and loyalise the Irish people by any effort and at any sacrifice which promises success, and which justice does not forbid. But I cannot understand the *crassa ignorantia* which does not know, or the blinking vision which will not see, that the grievance which the Irish people really feel the inexorable fact which they so fiercely resent, is—not that the whole of the lands is held by the Protestant clergy, but—that eight-ninths of the soil is held by Protestant landlords—not that an alien Church has half a million a year, but that an alien race owns ten millions. This is the real grievance and fancied wrong which the mass of the people feel; the other they scarcely ever think of till reminded by their leaders. Are you prepared to entertain the graver complaint, to redress the bitter grievance, to grant the larger concession? If not, it is simply idle, as every one acquainted with Ireland knows, to hope peace from the smaller one.

Again, I would speak with tenderness and forbearance of any creed sincerely held by fellow-Christian and fellow-countrymen, and for the Catholic religion in particular, in its highest form and in its best phases; I feel unfeigned respect. But those must be strangely unacquainted with the facts of the case who do not recognize, however reluctantly and regretfully, that Catholicism, in the character it assumes in Ireland, is the worst foe to Irish progress and pacification; that the influence of the priests is

body of John Sullivan, one of the sufferers by the recent explosion of naphtha at Foss, county Cork. The deceased and two others, who were employed at the viaduct of the Cork and Queenstown Railway, were engaged in the act of filling some lamps from a barrel of naphtha, when a spark from a lamp fell upon it, and it exploded. They were enveloped in flames, and Sullivan ran across the line and rolled himself on the grass. A workman who witnessed the accident ran to his assistance, and helped to tear off his clothes, which were burnt to ashes, but he received such injuries that he died. It was sworn that there was only a wooden plug in the barrel, and no protection over the flame of the lamp.

Another murderous outrage was committed at OlonghJordan on Tuesday night. A man named Slattery was attacked by six assassins while crossing the railway bridge within half a mile of the town and was beaten in a very savage manner receiving three severe scalp wounds with a contusion under the right eye. The police happened to come up in time to prevent the completion of the intended murder. The injured man is either unable or unwilling to give any information respecting the outrage. Two constables were nearly murdered on previous Sunday nights in the same locality. They are not yet out of danger.

OPINIONS OF INCENDIARISM.—At the petty sessions of Carrickmacross, held a few days since, a man named Owen Trainor appeared on remand to answer the charge of maliciously setting fire to a house, the property of his aunt, Margaret Dwyer, but to which it appears he lays some claim. The house is at present occupied by a tenant, and but for the active exertions of the people of the neighborhood, would have been burned to the ground on the occasion of the fire, which was believed to be accidental. Subsequently, however, Trainor was heard to make use of expressions tending to inculpate himself, and he was summoned before the magistrate to answer the charge, when those expressions, which threw suspicion upon him were brought forward in evidence, and could not be denied. The magistrate accepted bail for his appearance at the next quarter sessions to stand his trial on the charge.

Another incendiary fire, involving the loss of about £2000 worth of corn in stock, occurred at Holyhill, in the neighborhood of Cork, on Saturday night. A young man named Wise, a laborer, who, it is said, was recently in a lunatic asylum, was found lurking in the neighborhood, and was taken into custody on suspicion.

PURCHASE OF RAILWAYS BY THE STATE.—Much time was devoted before and during the last session to this important question, and it is considered that the government will introduce a bill to enable them to purchase the Irish railways. As it is considered that much good would be effected by having all our railways under the supervision of the government, and that the expense of travelling and the charge for the carriage of goods would be considerably reduced, we think the advocates of railway reform throughout the country should pledge the different members to be returned at the general election, to advocate the purchase of the Irish railways by the state. The present proprietors of the different lines declare that, owing to peculiar circumstances, they can make no reduction in fares, and if we are to have cheap railway travelling, we can only expect it when the lines are under the government control. The electors in every constituency should take care to pledge their members to support such an important question.

Nowhere in Ireland, perhaps, has the improvement of stock been carried to greater perfection than in the county of Wexford. This was alluded to at the annual dinner of the Wexford County (county of Wexford) Farming Society on Tuesday evening by several speakers in terms that show a pardonable pride in the reputation of the county, and that also aid in bringing into relief the contrast between the Ireland of the past and the Ireland of the present.

The quarterly return of the Irish Registrar General shows that the number of emigrants from Ireland during the quarter ending on the 30th of June last was 25,433, or 9,436 less than in the same quarter of 1867. The number of births during the quarter ending in June having been 43,502, the deaths 22,401 and the emigrants 25,433, it would appear that the increase in the population reported in the previous quarter has not been maintained, and the decrease now reported consequently amounts for the three months to 4,352.

The leaders of the so-called Fenian party in Ireland are everywhere forming political coalitions with the Tories. They even oppose such candidates for Parliament as The O'Donoghue, in Tralee; John Francis Maguire, in Cork; and other equally strong advocates of Irish rights. The journals in Ireland which have shown most sympathy with the late Fenian agitators have come out strongly in support of these coalitions.

Supposed Fenian Attack on a Dwelling House.—An incident of rather doubtful character, and which has awakened considerable comment, occurred on Sunday last. About half past eight o'clock in the evening of that day a servant girl in the employment of Mr John B. Justice of Mount Justice, near Millstreet, was returning to the dwelling-house from the barn where she had been milking the cows, when she heard the noise of footsteps and the tramping of one or more horses in the yard. The girl hurried into the house and informed Mrs. Justice of the circumstances. Mrs. Justice happened to have heard the same evening that a strange man of suspicious appearance had been seen that day in Oullin, a hamlet some two miles from Mount Justice, and at once connecting the servant's story with the presence of this individual, gave directions to have the back and front doors locked and bolted, and the windows secured. Scarcely had this been done than a thundering rap was given at the back door. The inmates, startled by the threatening summons, remained in a state of helpless fright for some moments during which the knock was repeated with increased violence. The servant at last went to the door and asked who was there. A man's voice outside asked whether Mr. Justice was in. Mrs. Justice desired him to tell his business through the door. He said he was a Captain of Fenians and that he would have the door burst open, if there were any further hesitation, but at the same time pledged himself that no violence should be offered if the party were quietly surrendered. At this time the voices of a number of men were heard plainly in the yard as if in consultation. Seeing the futile and probable danger of further hesitation, Mrs. Justice opened the door and admitted the man, who entered with the confidence of one perfectly aware that no serious resistance would be made. Mrs. Justice describes him as a man of middle height, of gentlemanly presence, and very highly intelligent, courteous of manner, and with the accent and address of a person of superior breeding and associations. He wore a few horseman's accoutrements of the fashion used in the American civil war, and very shrewdly shined. His head dress was a velvet cap, turban-shaped, and carefully decorated with wreaths and rosettes of green riband. Mrs. Justice states that the stranger among other phrases said, 'Now we have commenced it, and we shall go through with it, referring apparently to some document of an insurrectionary character. He also drew Mrs. Justice's attention to his attire, observing that he was dressed for his business; threw back the cap and disclosed a sort of uniform jacket or waistcoat of a light-colored striped material. He remarked that if he wished he could be 'dressed in gold.' This friendly conversation, however, soon ended in a demand for the gun, which, he said, was in the house. Mrs. Justice replied she did not know where it was; whereupon he said, 'If you do not give it up to me, I will bring in sufficient men to look for it, and by my oath if you give it up, I shall not bring in a single man to disturb you.' Mrs. Justice upon

this told the servant to bring the gun, which was in the hall, and gave it up to the man. The man was a handsome fellow, and much valued as a 'president' from Mr. Justice's son. The stranger hearing Mrs. Justice remark upon the circumstance, asked what was the value of the gun, and said it should be refunded. At his departure the man said, 'We will not leave a gun in the country,' and added that he was going straight with his party to the house of a gentleman living near to seize the arms there. He then left the house hiding. Mrs. Justice good night. None of the inmates of the house saw more than this one individual, but all unite in saying that they heard the voices of several others. In addition to the above, it has been ascertained that about eleven o'clock the same night, and after quitting the residence of Mr. Justice, the unknown proceeded to the lodge of Mr. Philip Williams, of Derragh, not far off, and knocking up the lodge keeper, a man named Shine, told him he was about going to take the arms at Mr. Williams'. The lodge-keeper besought him not to disturb the family, as Mrs. Williams was then after her confinement, whereupon he said he would go on then, but would go next day, and added that he would also pay a visit to Messrs Wallis and Leader. He also said to Shine that he had five hundred men, that they were well prepared now—what they were not before—and that they would let the police see this winter what they could do. The lodge-keeper's description of his visitor's person differs somewhat from that of Mrs. Justice. The same night, at a still later hour the same person went to the house of a Mr. Hickey, a publican, at Oullin, and ordered him to open and supply himself and his men with drink. Hickey refused, whereupon he threatened to fire through the windows, but upon Hickey's persistent refusal, he retired without executing his threat. Neither Hickey nor Shine saw any men with him. He had been drinking late afternoon at Hickey's with some men to whom he exhibited several revolvers. It is right to add that a report is generally believed which affirms that many dwelling-houses have been visited, and a large number of arms taken from residents in this locality, and that some holding their arms without licence, and others from apprehension of bad consequences to themselves, have endeavored to keep the facts as secret as possible.—[Cork Examiner.

ALLEGED FENIAN REVIC.—The Birmingham Gazette of Friday contains the following, which it says, was found in MS. by a labourer on Thursday while engaged in clearing away the rubbish of a house which recently fell in Park-street, in that town. It is said to be a copy of the rules and articles of the F. Brotherhood:—1. Each colonel to call himself after the number of his regt., as col. regt. No.—. &c. 2. Each colonel to proceed very cautious, and pick ten privates—if possible military men—to be called captain of company or troop No.—. 3. Each captain to pick ten sergeants to be called sergeant of patrol No.—company No.—regiment No.—. 4. Each sergeant to pick ten men privates, to be called private No.—of No.—patrol company No.—regiment No.—. 5. Each colonel must have a messenger to travel from the colonel, and vice versa, and from the head centre and only to be acquainted with the particular colonel from which he travels. General Articles.—6. No name to be used in connection with the Association; every man to call himself and those under him and above him in rank by the rules laid down. 7. As few letters as possible to be written, and those to be carried, and burnt as soon as read. 8. All orders, if written, to be presented by the colonel to the captains, and from them to the sergeants, if necessary, and so on to the privates. 9. The colonel at stated times to drill the captains, the captains to drill the sergeants, and the sergeants the privates. 10. The officers of all ranks when bringing their men together to have them effectually disguised, so that they shall not know any person of the same rank as themselves. 11. Before bringing them together to learn elementary drill, in whatever branch of the service their regiment is—infantry, artillery, cavalry, or engineers. 12. Each man to be treated equally, but he must obey all the commands of the officers above him. 13. To have a secret police in our pay, if possible, so as to anticipate the Government in any movement they may make, and to watch the spies of the Government. 14. If by any chance or accident, a colonel, a captain, or sergeant dies, gets arrested, or is sent on special service to any place, the officer immediately above him, in whose regiment, company, or patrol he is, must immediately dispatch a man whom he appoints as officer in the place of the other to the head quarters in America. 15. Those immediately below the said officer, as there will be ten of them, must as soon as they can, go to America, as they will be known to each other, and find the appointed officer, who must stay at head-quarters until their arrival, when he will go back to Ireland with them, and thence go on as usual. 16. If a colonel is promoted by the authorities in America he must immediately examine the captains under him in military matters, and appoint his best man to be colonel and the captain, when promoted must do the same with the sergeants, and so on to the privates, always appointing the most proficient. 17. Any person in the army or navy are to be separate from the other in regard to receiving orders or anything else, each man so appointed proceeds to pick five men out and enrol them; he will enrol five more, and so on till they can have the greater part of the Irishman in the British services enrolled, in the cause of liberty. 18. No person in this is to be sworn in, nor are there to be any officers as each man will be considered of equal rank. No orders will be given, but they will have signs to know one and another. 19. The object of this is to encourage one another that when the blow is struck they will desert when they have an opportunity to the side of their country; each of these circles of five men each when they are full shall send a man who has been longest in the regiment to organize another circle, and then he will return to his own, and leave them all to the same. They can hold meetings occasionally to encourage one another in nationality and to buy papers. This need not talk or write anything that may be construed into treason by the enemy. They can enlighten one another on military questions.

THE BALLYCORK PROPERTY.—Mr. Carbery Scully, of Terry Park, Carrickoskin, writing to the Irish Times says:—  
 'There are so many different versions in the papers concerning the late melancholy fire at Ballycork, and as the article in your paper of the 15th of August seems more appropriate to the matter I write these few lines to give you the full information concerning this property. About the year 1822, when first Catholic gentlemen could get leases of property, my grandfather, James Scully, of Killeenahilly, took the lands of Ballycork and Ballycork, viz. his eldest son then living, Roger his third son James, and my father, whose name was Edmund, being the names in the lease. These lands were settled on my father on his marriage in 1816. He kept them in his own possession until about the year 1821, when he commenced letting them to tenants, and I see by the lease now in my possession that amongst the number a lease was made 21 February, 1823 to William Dwyer and his brother-in-law, John Toole, at a rent of £3 5s. An acre for their lives, or 21 years. The other tenants named in Ballycork were Ryan, Greens, Quins, Heffernans, Foley, Hanly, Tooleys, and some few others. They were the most honest, quiet and industrious people I ever met; all paid high rents and most punctually, and if I was to select the two most honest, not only amongst them but the two worthiest men I ever met, they were Dwyer and Toole (John) his brother-in-law. In the year 1839 at my father's decease the property (Ballycork) came to me, and I continued the same tenants, and renewed some leases of those which expired. When James Scully, of Tipperary (the last life in the lease) died in January

1841, the property went out of my presence into that of the landlord, Lord Portlinton, whose agent was the late John Sadler, and he continued the same tenants at the reduced rent I gave it at, when the potatoes failed in the winter of 1845. Some time after, when Lord Portlinton sold the property, Mr. Errington purchased Shrobbell, and Mr. Gray, agent to that best of landlords (Lord Derby) purchased Ballycork and I believe continued the same tenants at the reduced rent. Thus stood the matter until the property was purchased a few years ago by Mr. William Scully. As it was my father first brought those tenants or their fathers on those lands, and I continued them there, I feel bound to bear testimony to their honesty and industry when I know them.

AN ELECTION ROW AT DROGEDA.—Monday evening the roughs of Drogheda had a grand election entertainment at the Courthouse. A meeting of the Liberal inhabitants of the town had been summoned for the purpose of adopting measures to sustain their claims to the franchise at the approaching Revision. Somewhat or other it became calculated broad that this was not the true object of the meeting, but that the people had been called together to make a great demonstration in favor of the Liberal candidate for the representation of the borough. Of course, in a town in which party spirit runs high such a proceeding offered strong temptations to the adherents of the rival party to attend and enjoy an evening's entertainment. Accordingly, long before six o'clock, the hour named for the commencement of business, the Courthouse was densely thronged, the quay porters, navvies, millmen, &c. being strongly represented. It was quite evident from the demeanor of the people that they were not inclined to permit of the transaction of much business for long before those who were principally interested appeared on the scene the usual hoisting and yelling incidental to such gatherings had commenced. At the appointed hour, however, contrary to all expectation, the people allowed Mr. Kealy of Navan, to be called to the chair. Mr. Kealy unthoughtfully accepted the post. He had no sooner occupied the chair than—as if by pre-arrangement—a party of the roughs surrounded him on either side, and effectually cut off all means of retreat. A regular uproar then ensued. An elector came forward to address the mob, but the latter received him with such hissing and booing, menaces and threats, that he hastily retired. The mob then commenced to look at and threaten each other. This sort of by-play lasted for a considerable length of time, till at length one individual more sturdy than the rest, being unable to control his temper longer, advanced from amongst his friends and struck an opponent a regular 'downer.' He was immediately seized and beaten in a most unmerciful manner. His friends interposed, and a band-to-hand encounter took place. Sticks and stones were freely used, and each party sustained considerable injury before peace was proclaimed. In the meantime the chairman succeeded in effecting a retreat, and his absence was the signal for increased confusion and clamor. The rival parties revived the quarrel and another mêlée resulted. Then again they abused and looked wiled at each other, diversifying the proceedings by an occasional 'round' or two. At length the gas was extinguished, the court was cleared, and thus ended the first public meeting for the sustenance of the Liberal claims to the franchise. The crowd quietly dispersed after leaving the court, and with the exception of one or two street rows, no further fighting took place.—[Dublin Democrat.

THE ELECTION EXCITEMENT IN BELFAST.—There is not, perhaps, in any part of the United Kingdom a more remarkable election struggle than that which is now taking place in Belfast. Hitherto Orangemen in this country has been entirely identified with oligarchy. In their hatred of their Catholic fellow-countrymen the poorer class of Orangemen forgot their own interests, and were used as an instrument to defraud the masses of their rights. But now the Orange democracy has taken it into its head that it is no longer to be dictated to, and a broad gap runs between the possessors of power and those who have suddenly awakened to the idea of their rights. The Orange party which has hitherto been uppermost in Belfast has adopted as its candidates Sir Charles Johnston and Mr. Mulholland, to the plain exclusion of Johnston, of Ballykilbeg. The Orange working men are furious, and the struggle threatens to become one of classes. It is in principle a war between democracy and aristocracy. At one of the meetings in which Mr. Johnston recently addressed his supporters, he made use of these words:—'You have been hewers of wood and drawers of water for the Conservative party in Belfast, but you'll cast off your shackles and rally round the standard of freedom and independence.' The light in which his candidature is regarded he explains in the following:—'I said to-day to gentlemen who attended the Conservative meeting yesterday:—Why have you selected two candidates, and brought them forward in a coalition, so showing that it is hostility to me you entertain? And why do you do so, when I was in the field first? The people selected me in the Ulster Hall at a monster meeting. When the working men choose me, why do you disregard their vote?' He said:—'We won't have working men for our masters.' Mr. Johnston adds:—'We'll return the compliment, and say:—We'll not have Belfast dictators for our masters.' It is a good sign of progress to find the northern Orangemen engaged in some other pursuit beside that of assailing the faith of their fellow-countrymen. This tendency to look to the rights of the many against the domination of the few, affords some ground for hope that once the Church has ceased to be an object of the civil strife, the Protestant masses might at length be brought to cooperate with their fellow countrymen for the general good of Ireland.

SERIOUS ATTACK ON TWO POLICEMEN.—A correspondent of the Irish Times, writing from Mullinabone on Monday, says:—An other attack of a most unprovoked character, and similar to the one recently perpetrated on two members of the OlonghJordan Royal Irish Constabulary, has taken place in this neighborhood. It appears from the evidence which has come to the authorities that late on Friday evening, when dusk Sub-constables Wright and Perry of the police force stationed at Drogheda, a station in this district, were put on patrol duty in the neighborhood of the barrack, when they met two men, one of whom carried a rifle. The constables wished to inform themselves if the man had a license to have and to carry the gun, as the district was under the provisions of the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act. Sub-constable Wright asked for the license, and instead of getting a reply, the men turned on the policemen, and attacked them most savagely with sticks, which the villains carried. The constables defended themselves so gallantly with their swords that the two men ran away, and the two policemen were seriously injured, it was out of their power to arrest them. Information having been conveyed to the assistance of their comrades, who were conveyed to barracks, and medical assistance was procured. On Saturday evening Constable Guinness arrested two men who had been identified by the injured policemen as being their assailants. They were brought before the magistrate, who fully committed them for trial at the next petty sessions of Mullinabone, on charges of being the assailants of Sub-constables Perry and Wright in the execution of their duty. The injured police are progressing favorably.

Sergeant Barry, accompanied by The O'Donoghue, made a public entry into Danganarvan, and was received with the utmost perfect enthusiasm. An immense concourse of adepts and townspeople met the two gentlemen outside the borough, and escorted them in triumph to the Devonshire Arms Hotel. During the progress of the procession, and for the rest of the evening, the utmost excitement prevailed. Some of the opposite faction having interfered, a few

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CONVERTS IN VALENTIA.—The Constitution states that on the island of Valentia upwards of sixty persons, many of whom are young and intelligent, have abandoned the Protestant Church to enter the Catholic fold. Valentia is we believe one of the favored spots which the Irish Church Missionary Society takes under its special care. From the statement of our contemporary, it would appear that so far from making converts, the zealous missionaries have succeeded in alienating the Protestant population.—[Cork Examiner.

DUBLIN, Sept. 17.—At the Head Police office yesterday, Messrs. O'Farrell, tobacco manufacturers, Thomas street were fined in sums amounting in the aggregate to £500 for having in their possession six tons of tobacco adulterated with starch. There had been six separate seizures of the tobacco by the Excise officers, and informations were laid for each seizure. One full penalty of £300 and five mitigated penalties of £50 each were imposed.

DUBLIN, Sept. 18.—The corporation of Drogheda had a meeting yesterday to consider the propriety of supporting the resolution recently passed by the corporation of Cork declaring their opinion that the Irish political prisoners now confined in goal have sufficiently expiated their offences, and that the time had come for throwing open their prison doors and setting the captives free. A resolution to the same effect was unanimously adopted. One of the speakers complained that the attendance was very thin, and that a body which bore the name of patriotic showed so little sympathy. He observed, with some bitterness, that if there had been a situation to dispose of worth only 5s. a week, there would have been a full attendance. Mr. Oullen, another speaker, referred to instances of the injurious effects of confinement upon the prisoners, some of whom showed symptoms of insanity, and in a more judicious tone than has been adopted by other advocates, appealed to the compassion of the Queen reminding Her Majesty that 'blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.'—[Times Cor.

An inquest was held on Wednesday evening on the