

**THE NUNNERIES BILL—ADDRESS OF THE RELIGIOUS EQUALITY SOCIETY.**

We (Catholic Standard) need hardly call attention to the admirable address of the above society, which we here append, signed by the Rev. Dr. Marshall. These, argumentative, touching; it appeals at once to the judgment and to the feelings, and will not only be read, but acted on by all who read it. We earnestly commend prompt action upon all who concur in the views of this admirable document:—

*Address of the Friends of Religious Equality opposed to the passing of the infamous Nunneries Inspection Bill.*

“People of Ireland—Once more and for the thousandth time the elements of strife and irreligious discord are in active agitation, and those who hate us and the creed to which, in every change of fortune, the children of this soil have clung, are at their evil work again—propagating falsehoods—insinuating suspicions—fostering prejudices—exciting clamor and threatening persecution against the most amiable and interesting portion of the Christian community—those holy and heroic women who have dedicated their lives in poverty and chastity to the glory of Almighty God and the service of His suffering poor.

“A plain and simple duty then have we to do.—From its discharge, our hope is strong that none will shrink; and in its performance that all will combine to act with spirit and determination.

“Our country has suffered much (who is there that does not know it—and which of us has not been made to taste the bitterness of this truth?)—Our country has suffered much. Every where around us are the traces of our heavy grief. Ruins of every kind strew the entire land—the roofless cabin—the deserted abbey church—the dismantled hall—are alone left to tell our fearful tale, and speak the story of long centuries of tears and blood. But still in all our misery Heaven has yet smiled upon our hearts, and, as if in compensation for the injuries of man’s inhumanity, has poured upon us the very choicest of its gifts, and has maintained amongst our starving millions the deepest veneration for virtue and for religion; giving to our altars faithful clergy, and raising up for our poor the noblest and the best of friends, those holy and devoted souls who have abandoned all for God their Saviour, and the little ones he loves and for whose welfare his spouses are called to spend their lives.

“Our nuns—the inmates of those many convents that have multiplied so rapidly throughout the land, and who have charged themselves with so many weary labors for our people’s good—are indeed our boast and our consolation. They are our boast; for they are the proof that St. Bridget’s sisters still possess the grace which made that saint illustrious; and they are our consolation when we see them pouring oil and wine into the wounds of those who suffer, and diffusing every where the fragrance they have gathered in the cloister’s hallowed shade.

“They are of ancient and honorable lines. Their fathers bled in time of peril, and their brothers may again be asked to fight against a common foe. There is hardly to be found a family amongst us that does not proudly speak of some valiant sister whose name brings tears of joy to many an aged eye, and for whom the pure affections of the bravest and the best are burning.

“Our most honored matrons were all trained by them. To their charge the daughters of Ireland have been entrusted. They teach both rich and poor.—They have stamped upon the women of this country that modest grace more precious far than beauty, and caused the virtue of our countrywomen to have won even a proverbial fame. We know their worth. The wide world has not their equal. Each class amongst us can attest their all-surpassing excellence; and the poor, where or what would they now be, if by their bedside, in the hospitals, and the lanes, these angels of charity had not kept their watch, and if Heaven had not sent these loving ministers of mercy to aid them in the endurance of their sufferings and wrongs?

“It is against these, then—against women—against religious—against the noblest and the best amongst us—that the libertine, the bigot, the infidel, the enemy of our creed, the slanderer of our people, the envious who cannot bear even to name that holy virtue the sight of which rebukes his vice—the caterer for popularity amongst the deadliest foes of liberty—the coward who dares not even lie boldly—all, in short, that is bad and base are now conspiring in a most unmanly warfare, and are found uniting now to disturb the peaceful homes, the sanctity of which awes even the worst amongst us, and to distress, by insulting visits, by officers paid for the very purpose of annoying, these devoted persons, our nuns, our sisters, and our countrywomen.

“And let us be assured of this, that in these unhallowed schemes our enemies must succeed if the people of this country do not bestir themselves—are not up and active in warding off this threatened danger, and filling the island from one end to the other with agitation—warn our rulers of what may happen if they permit this last insulting injury to be added to the already tremendous heap.

“Far in the north the cannon may be heard to boom. Kings long preparing may find the time arrived when Europe must undergo again the horrors of dreadful war; and not very far from home the caprice, the policy, nay, the necessities, of one man may in a single instant excite a warlike nation, that never yet loved the British empire, to obliterate the memory of fields to them disastrous, and crown again those Eagles beneath which, it seems, it is once more their pride to serve.

“Ill-timed then, as well as unjust, is this attack upon our religious women—miserable, indeed, is the policy, at no time good to sever the ties between Ireland and England—and it seems but just and rational to ask in time the question how can we rally, when danger comes, for those who would not leave our altars free—how can we be asked to unite with those who would desecrate the very holiest of our homes?

“People of Ireland, then, you know your duty—and as you love your country—as you respect religion—as you value peace—do not neglect it. Come forward—speak plainly and act with noble determination—forget past differences—heap up old quarrels—lay aside ungenerous suspicions, and use in firm fast union your best endeavors to protect innocence from slander, and women from the hands of the profane.

“Summon and attend your meetings—parochial and aggregate—go to them at whatever sacrifice of time or occupation.

“Go as you used to go when the great O’Connell led you, and when he forced your tyrants—in fear at least, if not in love, of justice—to respect the rights

you claimed, and to emancipate you from chains that had been worn for centuries.

“Prepare your petitions—instruct your representatives—prepare the elements of agitation—lose no time. Our only hope is in this; and upon our activity and union does our chance of ultimate success depend.

“Remember, then, you have a cause—a just and noble cause. It is that of Ireland—of religion—of woman and the poor. Where is the man who would be silent when these are injured? Or who is there who will not enlist beneath the banner on which these names are inscribed and cry,

“God Defend the Right.

“HENRY J. MARSHALL,  
Chairman of Committee.

“Religious Equality Association Committee Rooms, 45, Lower Sackville street, Dublin, June 5th, 1853.”

**CLARE ELECTION.**—Mr. Miles presented the report of the select committee stating that Sir J. Fitzgerald and Mr. O’Brien were not duly elected, and that there did not appear to have been any undue interference in the election on the part of the Catholic Clergy. On the motion of Mr. J. Fitzgerald, a new writ for the county of Clare was issued.

Mr. John O’Connell, in writing to the Editor of the Times says:—“In reference to the statement imputed to Lord John Russell (in the reported debate on Mr. Moore’s motion), to the effect that the late Mr. O’Connell desired the endowment of the Catholic Church, will you permit me to say that Mr. O’Connell was most decidedly of the contrary opinion? May I also use this opportunity to enter my most earnest protest, as an Irish Catholic, against the assertion imputed to another member in the same report, where he is made to say that the Irish Catholics are ‘not loyal?’—There never were a people so loyally disposed as the Irish.”

The business of the Incumbered Estates Court is not increasing to the same extent as heretofore. Only four petitions for the sale of Estates were filed last week. Very high prices are given for lands in that court, and also at occasional sales in Chancery and by private parties.

On the estate of the Marquis of Downshire, Drumrum, there has been lately discovered a mine, yielding copper ore of superior quality.

**THE CROPS IN THE WEST.**—It is remarked, in one of the Galway accounts received on Tuesday (says the Morning Chronicle), that the early potatoes appear quite healthy and luxuriant, and that the general crop of that vegetable is as extensive as it had been in the average of years before the famine, owing, in part, to the revival of the system of “concomers,” which had been abandoned after the total and disastrous failure of the crop in 1846. Laborers are now much better paid, and they have eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity to hire small plots of land for raising a crop of the old and favorite roots, even at a very high price, sometimes at the rate of £3 or £2 per acre. Year by year, since 1848, the virulence of the potato disease has been abating, and the confidence of the peasantry has been revived accordingly. But the mania for emigration nevertheless continues with almost as much intensity as ever, and the population has been so greatly reduced that laborers are now in a far better condition than ever they had been before in this country. The Belfast Trade Report mentions that it is difficult to obtain the requisite supply of hands for the mills and foundries of that thriving manufacturing district, because emigration has so much thinned the operatives in towns, as well as the agricultural laborers in the country.

**DISTRESS IN SHULE.**—The Rev. Michael Phew, P.P., writing to the Catholic Standard, says:—“I beg to inform you and all those who love the Almighty God has endowed with a competency of the wealth and luxuries of this world, that there are several very needy and very distressed poor families in this remote district in the West of Ireland suffering, and will continue to suffer for the next two months, the greatest privations for want of food. These poor families in whose behalf I appeal for assistance, consist principally of widows, with long and weak families who have been evicted from their small plots of land, and are on that account totally dependant on the charity of the faithful. I have observed these poor creatures for the last fortnight going through the fields collecting nettles and such green stuff, to boil for themselves and children. These poor families and myself will very often bless their benefactors.”

**JUMPER BRIBERY.**—A case of projected Jumper bribery has just come under our notice, which we feel bound to state, by way of illustrating the truth of the assertions which are repeatedly put forth by the proselytisers—that no pecuniary inducements are held out by them. On yesterday, as the Rev. Peter Roche, P.P., Killeen, was coming into Galway, he was met, near Banna, by a man named Martin Connelly, of Shell Lane, in this town—a locality known to be the abode of Jumperism, and other cardinal virtues—who was sent by two Bible-readers, named Begley and Reed, to the Rev. James Meereedy, of Spiddal, with a promise that he would obtain employment, at tenpence a day, provided he joined the Jumper ranks. Connelly, mistaking the Rev. Mr. Roche for Mr. Meereedy, addressed him, and solicited what he had been sent for. He promised that ‘herself’—meaning his better half—would also join for a consideration; but that he feared the children were not equally pliable. He confessed that distress alone drove him to such a course; but that he would only stay until the times got better. Mr. Roche called upon two policemen of the Barna station, and in their presence Connelly repeated all these admissions, which we now publish for the edification and benefit of all whom it may concern.—Galway Packet.

**DECLINE OF JUMPERISM IN ACHILL.**—It has been stated to us by a townsman, one whose Protestantism cannot be questioned, that the march of Jumperism in Achill has assumed a retrograde movement; and he adds, that two new Protestant churches, in course of erection in that island—one at Cashell, and the other in the colony—have been left to be finished by Father Time. The edifice at the colony was raised to the eve-stone, and upwards of £100 was expended on the erection of the other by the builder. Our informant says the reason why the erection of those two churches was given up is owing to the pious and successful exertions used by the Rev. Mr. Henry, who has plundered the Jumper hive of those bees who had, in the time of famine, strayed away in quest of food from the parent stock. It is also gratifying to learn that one of the Achill Bible-readers has thrown off the mask of hypocrisy, by returning to his own creed again.—

This man, we are told, having made due submission, was recently united by the priest to a young woman who has accompanied her husband to England. Need we offer a word of comment? It were waste of space to do so.—Mayo Telegraph.

The Killarney Junction Railway, forty-one miles long, a great portion of which is ready for traffic, will cost only £3,500 a mile, exclusive of the working stock, which is perhaps the cheapest line ever made in the three kingdoms.

A large portion of the Castlebellingham Hotel, the property of Sir Allen E. Bellingham, in the county of Louth, was destroyed by fire a few nights since. The injury was the work of an incendiary, who has been arrested and committed for the offence, but it is not in any way connected with any agrarian system.

Twenty-six whales were taken last week at Tyrella, county Down, and were generally twelve to twenty feet long, and from seven to thirteen feet in circumference. One had a harpoon embedded in its flesh apparently a considerable time.

**ANOTHER ACCIDENT ON BOARD A STEAMER.**—The village of Shannon Harbor, shortly after eight o’clock on Friday morning, was thrown into a state of alarm and excitement in consequence of an accident which occurred on board the Grand Canal Company’s screw steamer No. 2, by which one man lost his life, and another was dreadfully injured. It appears that the steamer No. 2, which plies from this harbor to Athlone with goods only, was preparing to start for the latter place, when the catastrophe occurred. Fortunately, at the moment, the crew only were on board. It consisted of four men, two of whom were engaged on deck, and escaped uninjured, but of the other two who were in the engine-room, one named Timothy Shea, the engineer, was so dreadfully scalded that he died the same evening; and the other, John Rigney, the fireman, sustained very serious injuries. As soon as the accident became known many persons hurried to the spot to render assistance, when it was ascertained that the deceased, Shea, and the fireman, Rigney, were engaged in the engine-room; and while the latter was in the act of screwing a nut on one of the mudhole doors of the boiler, the bolt twisted from the head, it having been screwed too tight, and the escape of water and steam fell upon the men. The deceased was a pensioner at 8s per day from the 97th Foot, with which corps he has served in India.—Tab.

**UNITED STATES.**

**TREATY WITH PRUSSIA, &c.**—The Washington Union publishes the Treaty recently ratified between the United States and Prussia, and other States of the Germanic Confederation, for the mutual surrender of fugitives from justice, in the case of the following crimes, viz: murder, assault with intent to commit murder, or piracy, or arson, or robbery, or forgery, or the utterance of forged papers, or the fabrication or circulation of counterfeit money, or the embezzlement of public moneys.

**THE NEW LIQUOR BILL.**—The efforts being made at the State Capitol by the Temperance party for the new Liquor Law, indicate a degree of strength on their part, that may well occasion alarm to that portion of the population who are inimical to the fanatical and unconstitutional restrictions imposed upon the sale of ardent spirits by a majority of the New England States. The particular provisions of the law attempted to be got through the Legislature of New York, we have not seen; and therefore cannot speak with accuracy about it, but sufficient has ‘leaked out’ to enable us to trace its near relationship to the illegitimate offspring of the notorious Neal Dow. This we perceive has been recently declared unconstitutional by the Circuit Court sitting at Newport, Rhode Island—a decision, we opine, that will be universally reiterated by every competent jurist in the country.—N. Y. Freeman’s Journal.

**INGENUITY OF TRADE.**—The Boston Herald gives the confessions of a dealer in the ‘ardent’ of that city, who has been sending off varieties ‘down east’ since the Maine law passed. He has packed eggs of liquor in molasses casks, headed them in and filled up with molasses; he has packed them in sugar boxes, filled around with sugar; he has packed them in oil casks, filled around with water, placing a piece of sponge saturated with oil over the bung, and covered with a piece of tin, so that when the cask is rolled over a little oil will be squeezed out, thus deceiving the most knowing; he has packed them in cheese casks, leaving a hole in the head through which a cheese—white oak—was visible.

**DIVORCE IN OHIO.**—The Legislature of Ohio has passed a law granting divorces on such a number of variant and frivolous pretenses as can scarce fail to afford escape for any badly-matched pair who may desire to avail themselves of it. Parties belonging to other States can by a residence of one year have all the benefits of the Ohio law, though the cause of divorce may have occurred elsewhere, and a decree of divorce in any court of another State is ground for a like decree in favor of the same party in Ohio. The law is only one remove from the socialistic theory which allows the marriage contract to be terminated at the will of either of the parties.—Catholic Herald.

**THE INTENDED SLAVE RISING.**—The excitement in New Orleans about the negro insurrection has entirely subsided. The story was greatly exaggerated. Several affidavits have been made against Mr. Dyson, an Englishman, implicated in the affair. Dyson for a past year has been teaching a school for negro children. He was accused a year ago of harboring a negro criminal, for which he suffered several months imprisonment. The affidavits are strong against him as the sole planner and instigator of the recent attempt. His examination was fixed for Wednesday, the 23rd ult.

**PROTESTANTISM AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.**—The Patriot, a Protestant Journal of Cincinnati, has the following in its last issue. The whole may be summed up in two lines. The Catholic Religion is making rapid progress in this country; we cannot oppose it by reason, we must therefore put it down by force. Very true and very honest:—“We must concede it as a lamentable fact, that Romanism is rapidly increasing in all parts of America. What with foreign immigration and Jesuitical propagandism, our country is filling fearfully full of these enemies to all Christianity, all general intelligence, and all liberty. Pius of the Holy See may well congratulate himself on his prospects in the United States. His subjects have gained a strong foothold in this country; and in many portions of it they already wield a balance of power in the elections. Already they feel so confident of their increasing influence, that they have come out in battle

array against our most cherished institution. They declare it to be their design by any whatever means openly or otherwise, to Romanise the Republic of North America. In view of these facts, what should be done to counteract the audacious invaders? We cannot answer, unless it is to treat them, as they owe eternal allegiance to a foreign tyrant, to a few of the disadvantages and disabilities of that despotism from which they have come, and to which they yet so fondly cling.”

The following article on “The Progress of Heathenism in New York” is from a Protestant paper, the New York Courier and Enquirer:—

“Fifteen years ago, there were 35 churches in the five lowest Wards of this city; there are now 16, all told. In the First Ward there were then 7 churches; now 4, one of which (Dr. Spring’s) will soon be removed. In the Third Ward there were 6 churches; now only St. Paul’s and St. Peter’s. In the Fourth Ward there were 4 churches; now 3. In the Sixth Ward there were then 11 churches; now 6. The churches in the contiguous Wards have also diminished, though not in the same proportion. The resident population of these five Wards is now above 90,000—a number, notwithstanding all the conversions of buildings into stores, considerably larger than the number fifteen years ago. We will not speak of the painful thinness of the congregation in some of these churches; but we believe we are entitled to say that the sixteen congregations every Sabbath do not average more than 400 each. Of the population of 90,000, little over 5000 there attend church in their own precincts. We will not dwell upon the character of these congregations generally; but they certainly do not consist of those who have the most need of religious instruction. They include very few of that great multitude of poor working-men whose only opportunity for mental, moral, or religious culture is on the Sabbath. The fact is incontrovertible, that at least nine-tenths of the people of our lower five Wards live on from month to month, and year to year, as destitute of religious instruction as the heathen in the interior of Africa.”

**OUTRAGES IN THE UNITED STATES.**—The outrage committed during the short interval between the late and present sessions of the Legislature of this state, and within twenty miles of the capitol, calls for the serious attention of all good citizens, and the determined efforts of those whose special duty it is to see that the laws are executed. We are informed that unsuccessful attempts have been made, for two years past, to serve a writ upon a man by the name of Dietz, the principal in this outrage, residing in the town of Berne in Albany county. They were unsuccessful for the same reasons that will still render abortive all ordinary means of bringing him within the reach of justice, namely, the combination of all or nearly all the citizens of that district, magistrates included, to resist the authority of the state. The parties who had sued Dietz, finding all hopes of reaching him through the officers of that county fallacious, obtained the services of Mr. Lawrence, of the adjoining county of Schoharie, who was made a special deputy for that purpose. Under pretence of purchasing cattle, he succeeded in evading the vigilance of the Anti-Rent sentinels, and executed his commission. He was an unarmed man, of peaceable demeanor, and his errand involved no violence or injury to Dietz, even in the name of law. He simply presented one of those papers which legal forms required in the progress of a suit, and then turned to depart. But Dietz seized him, the horn was blown, and soon five men, armed with rifles, and disguised as Indians, made their appearance. Then began the tortures of the Heiderberg Inquisition. Too brutal and even obscene are the details to be fully related. They beat him with small sticks and their fists until his back, arms and shoulders presented one continued bruise. They filled his clothes and boots, which they had taken off, with tar, and then put them on again. They filled his hat with tar, and after leaving it on his head long enough to adhere to the hair, tore it off again; and twice went through the operation of shaving his head with an old jack-knife, which was meanwhile sharpened on a rough stone. In tarring his head for this purpose, tow was used in place of feathers, and a few shrewd cuts where the knife slipped, were added by way of collateral amusement. Thus having tortured their victim with satanic ingenuity as much as was consistent with preserving his life, they made him go before them, with hands still bound, and let down the bars (for they had taken him into the woods to be tortured)—and when in the extremity of thirst which agony produces, he begged for water, they mockingly told him to go to the barn yard and help himself. A few days after this, a farmer from a neighboring town having his wife in the wagon with him stopped at a public house, and expressed a desire to purchase a cow. Anti-rent suspicion was immediately aroused, his wagon was surrounded, and he obliged to go back whence he came,—the poor woman nearly in convulsions from terror. The conduct of the Anti-renters in this and several other instances, shows the absence of true courage, and a total want of that moral dignity which invests the deportment even of common men when thoroughly conscious of a good cause. It shows also the presence of those brutal passions which are to be controlled only by the terror of certain and exemplary punishment. But during the dozen of years that this contest has gone on, there has not been a single instance, we believe, in which an offender has been visited with anything like the full penalty of the law. The plea “I am an Anti-renter” has proved more potent than did of old the title of Roman citizen. Now is a good time, and this a good case, to test the question whether our laws have or have not the power to protect the property and lives of the people; to guard the innocent and punish the guilty; or at least to defend and avenge their own insulted majesty. This fiendish outrage ought not to be passed over and forgotten. The question has been many years in dispute and unsettled; it ought by this time to be decided. Let us by all means know what the legal privileges and immunities of Anti-renters are.—Journal of Commerce.