

ced Romanism and again joined the Protestant communion.—*Hampshire Chron.*

IRELAND.

The Rev. Theobald Mathew, 'the Apostle of Temperance,' died last week, at his lodgings, Queenstown, and was, at the time of his death, in the 67th year of his age. Theobald Mathew was descended illegitimately from a very ancient Welsh family, whose pedigree is carried in the record of this principality to Gwaythoed, King of Cardigan, in direct descent from whom was Sir David Mathew, standard bearer to Edward IV., whose monument is to be seen in the cathedral of Llandaff. From him was descended Francis Mathew, of Annfield, a gentleman of large estates, who was eventually raised to the peerage as Earl of Llandaff. Having lost his parents at a very early age, Theobald Mathew was adopted by his distant relative, the Lady Elizabeth Mathew, sister to the Earl of Llandaff, who placed him under the tuition of the Rev. Dennis O'Donnell, parish priest of Tallagh, county Waterford. At the age of 20 he was removed to Maynooth, to pursue his ecclesiastical studies; and on Easter Sunday, 1814, he was ordained in Dublin. From the moment of entering upon his missionary duties at Cork, he devoted all his spare time to the temporal and spiritual wants of the poor, to whom he acted as counsellor, friend, treasurer, and executor. He acted as a magistrate as well as a minister, and his charities kept pace with his exertions. When the graveyards in Cork were full, Father Mathew himself purchased the Botanic Gardens of that city, and, allowing them to retain their former agreeable walks and statuary, he converted them into a cemetery, not for Roman Catholics alone, but for members of every other denomination. To the poor burial was allowed gratuitously, and the fees derived from all other interments were devoted to charity. The Northern Infirmary in Cork for many years derived an income of two guineas weekly from this source. About the same time he commenced building a beautiful Gothic church, at the cost of about £15,000. Some twenty years ago, when the vice of intoxication had spread devastation in Ireland, and many even of the wise and good deemed it hopeless and incurable, some members of the Society of Friends and a few other individuals at Cork bound themselves into an association for the suppression of drunkenness, but found that they were unable to make head against the torrent. In their despair these gentlemen, though Protestants, applied to Father Mathew, who responded to the call. He held his regular meetings twice a week in the Horse Bazaar for a year and a half, and at length he had the satisfaction of seeing the mass of indifference begin to move. He continued to apply the lever, and the motion was increased; some of the most obdurate drunkards in Cork enrolled their names in his 'Total Abstinence Association.' In August, 1839, the movement burst out into one universal flame. The first great scene was at Limerick, where Father Mathew had engaged to preach at the request of the Bishop, and the Mayor of which city declared that within ten months no less than one hundred and fifty inquests had been held in the county, one half of which were on persons whose deaths had been occasioned by intoxication.

As soon as the country people heard that Father Mathew was in Limerick they rushed into the city in thousands, and so great was the crush that, though no violence was used, the iron railings which surrounded the residence of "the Apostle of Temperance" were torn down, and some scores of people precipitated into the Shannon. It is said that some of the Scots Greys, who attended to keep order in the streets were actually lifted from the ground; and so densely were the people thronged that several, in their eagerness to touch the hem of Father Mathew's garment, ran quietly along on the head and shoulder of the vast crowd. At Parsontown order was only maintained by a body of the Rifles, with their bayonets fixed and pointed, so as to form a barrier to the rushing multitudes in front of the chapel in which in strong contrast to the striking scene without, sat the mild and unassuming man who had collected this display of numerical force. At Nenagh 20,000 persons are said to have taken the pledge in one day; 100,000 at Galway in two days; at Loughrea, 80,000 in two days; between that and Portumna from 180,000 to 200,000; and in Dublin, about 70,000 during five days. Father Mathew reduced his brother, a distiller in the south of Ireland, to bankruptcy; and his death followed shortly upon the losses resulting from the "Temperance" crusade. Yet this man, and other branches of the family, though extensively connected with the wine and spirit trade, not only bore their losses without a murmur, but even

supplied Father Mathew with large sums of money for the prosecution of his work. A few years since her Majesty was pleased to settle upon Father Mathew an Annuity of £300. The funeral took place on Friday. The streets of the city and the roads leading to the cemetery (says the *Cork Examiner*) were lined by thousands of spectators, and as the head of the procession slowly appeared in sight, a like anxiety and excitement were exhibited to obtain a glimpse of the coffin of one who, in town and country, had won the dearest affections of the people. For hours before the procession left the chapel the graveyard was being rapidly filled, and when the cortege entered the cemetery there could not have been less than 40,000 to 50,000 persons present. Every alley and avenue of this beautiful burialground was filled with people; and as the coffin was borne into the yard, every head was uncovered, and many a face was suffused with tears.

SPAIN.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Times* gives the following curious account of the origin of the proposed union of Carlist and Christiano interests:—

"It is not, perhaps, forgotten," he writes, "how much the King's mother, the Infanta Carlotta, had to do in persuading Ferdinand to change the law of succession, and that without her influence over him at a particular moment, the law, which had already been annulled by him, would have been re-established in all its full purity, and she would have been deprived of the pleasure of making acquaintance with the Christiano. Some time after, Carlotta, whether from expectations unfulfilled, long cherished hopes baffled, some motive of personal pique, or it may be, conscientious scruples increasing with age, took a decided part against the new order of things, and on her death-bed expressed her regret and remorse at having been accessory to the change in the succession, and what she considered the defrauding of the rightful heirs. It is even said that she made her children promise to aid in a restoration whenever the opportunity offered. I will not vouch for this, but what is certain is, that the Infanta left behind her a letter, in which she expressed her deep contrition, and her hope that a day would come when the rightful branch would again enjoy the Throne. These dying words and this document have made a great impression on the King; and this impression, not undeserving of respect from its origin, has been deepened by the tact of the clergy working on his known tendencies. They tell him that his mother is in purgatory for the assistance she gave to an unrighteous cause, and that she will irrevocably remain there until one of her descendants undoes what she aided to do; and, in fine, until religion and the monarchy flourish again under the real anointed of the Lord. This version I believe to be perfectly correct, and it explains what is otherwise unintelligible. It is also certain that the Queen is at this moment completely, even abjectly, under the authority of her husband. This exaggerated fulfilment of the vow of matrimonial obedience is attributed generally to the King being in possession of certain important papers, to which I will not allude further than to say that they would bring a certain question to a crisis. The King is not quite the fool he is thought, and he knows a hawk from a handsaw, even when the wind is not southerly.—His mind is not without cultivation, and he has great amenity of manners. But he hates the 'Liberals,' and the 'Liberals' abhor him, so that there is injustice of opinion on both sides. Prejudices, when merely prejudices, are bad things. Everybody cried out for the expatriation of Maria Christina; since she has left things have gone on quite as badly, if not worse, particularly at the Palace. She, at all events, never seriously listened to the return of the Carlists."

The *Times* Vienna correspondent writes—"Two persons, who know exactly how matters stand, have informed me that the Bessarabian frontier question may be considered settled 'in as far as Bolgrad is concerned.' It was not said whether Russia had yielded, or whether England, Austria, and Turkey had come to an understanding with France; but the positive assurance was given me that New Bolgrad would eventually be ceded to Moldavia. The same may be said as regards the isle of Serpents."

Accounts from Berne, received at Berlin, state that the Federal Council unanimously refuses to comply with the demand of Prussia to set at liberty the Neuchâtel prisoners. The Council declares, moreover, that it is ready to negotiate, and that it is willing to reopen the relations of friendship and good neighbourhood with Prussia. Preparations are making that justice may take its free course with regard to the prisoners from Neuchâtel.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* directs attention to what is now going on in the Protestant Church in South Germany. A Württemberg correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette* writes—"The High consistory is evidently working into the hands of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and Protestantism will receive a fatal blow if the proposed measures (private confession and stricter Church discipline) are carried out."

M. Nazon, the Protestant Minister at Saint Affrique (Aveyron), has just died at the Age of 100. He had been in the exercise of his ecclesiastical duties for

seventy five years. He was president of the Consistory and directed its labours with perfect clearness and precision to the last, retaining all his faculties unimpaired. He was followed to the grave by all the inhabitants of the commune.

Nine Russian forts are about to be built along the coast of the Bay of Finland; a row of forts connected by coast batteries is to stretch from St. Petersburg up to Riga, by way of Narva and Revel.

A Berlin letter states that it is now understood that the marriage of Prince Frederic William, which was fixed for the 18th of October next (the Prince's birthday), has been postponed, and will now take place on the 21st of November, the day on which the Princess Royal will complete her seventeenth year.

Austria has decided on summoning a general Synod in May next from the Protestant Churches in her dominions, to hear their complaints and make general regulations for the future.

We learn by telegraphic despatch from Paris by the *Daily News*, dated this morning, that the *Moniteur* contains an article upon the question of Neuchâtel. France demanded, it is said, at an early stage of the dispute the release of the prisoners, and represented that Swiss honour would not be compromised by this step, as it would be taken at the solicitation of France, and not on the demand of Prussia. This concession became a sort of obligation, for France, in preventing an appeal to arms, and making efforts to obtain from the King a settlement, conformed to the views of Switzerland. These wise counsels were not appreciated; the advice of France was rejected by the Federal Government, which preferred gratifying the demagogic influences which agitated around it to following friendly suggestions. Switzerland, therefore, must not be astonished if in the progress of events she no longer finds the good feeling which was to be obtained at so slight a sacrifice.

P. E. ISLAND.

We witnessed, during the last week the examinations of the Sunday and Infant schools in connection with St. Paul's Church of this city. In the Sabbath School there were over 200 children, and their proficiency in Scriptural knowledge gave pleasing evidence of the useful and laborious teaching of their ministers and teachers.

The Infant School examination took place on Monday. This popular institution has now been in operation thirteen years, during which time five hundred children have benefited by its moral and religious training. In consonance with the liberal spirit of our national church, instruction has been afforded to all without distinction of sect and without the introduction of peculiar denominational dogmas. We are only sorry to add, that what is almost peculiar in this island to this school and a few kindred institutions is the large share that Scriptural teaching has in the allotment of instruction.

There were more than fifty children present at the examination, and their appearance was characterized by cleanliness, intelligence, and good behaviour. The examination was conducted in a lively, interesting manner, and elicited the warm approbation of its numerous friends. And the Rev. C. Lloyd, the Rector, well expressed our own feelings, when in a neat speech he alluded to the debt of gratitude due to Mrs. Hubbard for her long continued and faithful labors for the welfare of this community.

The children met their teachers in the evening, and were regaled with a bountiful supply of tea, cakes, and the wonders of our worthy friend Mr. Hubbard's magic lantern. The following day the children of the school had their annual feast, and the noise and merriment of the two hundred and fourteen were properly interspersed by the singing of hymns, and a few words of good advice from their kind and respected ministers.—*Hazard's Gazette, Dec. 21.*

THE STEAMER HERMANN.—The *Boston Daily Times* says that much anxiety is felt about the safety of the steamship Hermann, now in her twenty-sixth day out from Southampton to New York, with seventy one passengers and six hundred tons of freight. She sailed on her regular day, and has not since been heard of. It is probable that she was disabled by the same gale which struck the *America* and compelled her to put back to Liverpool.—This opinion is also entertained by Mr. Sand, the President of the Company to which the Hermann belongs.—*N. Brunswick.*

We copy the following, which accounts for the Hermann, from a London paper, Dec. 17:—

"The *Hermann* steamer, which sailed with the mails for New York on the 3rd inst., has been obliged to return to Southampton, having found the Atlantic in a perfect hurricane when about a thousand miles on her voyage. One of her engines was broken down by the storm, otherwise she is uninjured."