

some discontented members of the Protestant community, but not, I believe, natives of Carlow; and if I mistake not, it will be long before it is smaller. The Presbyterian revival movement, so attractive last year, has even now brought its originators into deserved contempt. I watched that strange phenomenon from the beginning, and I at once saw that its object and scope was to win to the Presbyterian meeting-house the members of the Established Church, and I accordingly warned the parsons of their danger, but many of them instead of guarding their flock were carried away by the madness of the movement, and the consequence has been a momentary triumph for Presbyterianism. The authorised organ of revivalism, the British Messenger, in its last issue, states, "that in Belfast there is the prospect of five new Presbyterian congregations as the result of the revival." Five congregations lost to the Established Church. Let the clergy read that, and add it to the already crowded ranks of Dissenters. The movement I admit is now fast going down, amid the contempt and execration of all sober minded people, but it has left its mark behind. It has thinned the ranks of the State community, and raised the Presbyterian heresy in the North to an equality in point of numbers with the Church going people, and thereby weakened the argument by which Church endowment has long been sustained.

Your mission, Mr. Barnett, in Carlow, must ever be a failure, even greater than that of your predecessor, and I may as well at once tell you the reason why. Coming amongst us as an utter stranger, you had the folly to assail the character of our people, with a bitterness and sourness seldom surpassed, with a fierce and vulgar recklessness in which alone you seem capable of obtaining distinction, you perished these lines, and they shall remain as the handwriting on the wall against you—Here they are—

"Let a man deliberately murder his landlord, or agent, or neighbor, and he will find protection and sympathy, and may roam the country unmolested; but let a man in the communion of Rome abandon her jurisdiction, and honestly avow his change of opinion, the hue-and-cry from the priest in the college to the ragged urchin in the lane is, away with such a fellow from the earth—it is not fit that he should live."

I often wonder that you did not even for the sake of the few professing your creed, and living amongst us, abstain from giving such deadly offence. In the face of this atrocious libel, it is evident that you can make no way. It will neutralise all your preaching, no one can hear you talking of the Bible without asking, is this the man who calumniated us all? You were charged with this offence before and you had neither the manliness to sustain it, nor the honor to retract it, nor the virtue to apologise and repent of it; and if you had done so, it would not now be brought in judgment against you. When the Protestants have time calmly to consider you in the light in which your handwriting has placed you, you must see that Presbyterianism under your ministry must suffer decrease in Carlow. Meditation on McCauldres' case may perchance neutralise the rancor of your bigotry, whilst the folly and fanaticism of Presbyterianism as displayed in the revivals, may stimulate all sober minded Church of England people to discontinuance that nasty, attributions, turbulent heresy, with which it is now sought to infect Protestantism in Carlow.

I am, it is true, no advocate of the Established Church, yet I am free to confess, that it is infinitely preferable to any form of religious dissent into which the pride and ignorance and restlessness of conceited pragmatic individuals have seduced a portion of the people.

JAMES MAHER.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The Cork Examiner of the 13th ult., says:—"We may hope that we have at length reached the close of a winter which in this quarter has had no parallel for severity within the memory of any living man. Storms have been the almost normal condition of the atmosphere for the last eight months, and a fearful list of shipping disasters has proved their terrific power. Rain is no great rarity in the neighborhood of Cork, but so copious and incessant was the fall, that the river up to within the last month was not for a single day of the winter free from a flood of greater or less volume. Despite of this, we have had more frost, and more snow than is usual in our remarkably mild climate. Indeed, so extraordinary has been the condition of the weather, that on more than one occasion it was remarked that it was freezing while snow and rain were falling together. The effect upon the sanitary condition of our population has been very bad, all the diseases resulting from severe weather with rapid change of temperature having been very rife, and deaths amongst invalids, infirm and old persons very numerous. Medical men remember no season, free from any actual epidemic, in which mortality was so great. A great deal of agricultural distress has been also caused, as, for at least three-fourths of the winter season, all out-door work was suspended and of course day labourers suffered severely from want of employment. In fact, the whole spring operations of the year may be said to have been confined to the last three weeks. The cattle have had no pasturage of any sort, and they have risen to such a price and has become so scarce that farmers cannot procure it. The enormous price of pork is too well known already to need special mention, but all other descriptions of butcher's meat command proportionately large rates. Corn, after having been for months a drug to holders, got a sudden impulse about a fortnight ago, mainly through the state of Continental politics. However, it is a satisfaction to know that the prospects for the coming harvest are considerably better than they were a short time since. Great apprehensions were entertained from the severity of the weather, and in fact heavy losses were sustained, as seeds sown during the winter were for the most part destroyed by the unnatural coldness of the season, a matter hardly to be wondered at when it is a fact, that so recently as Monday, we had snow upon the mountains in this and neighbouring counties. Nevertheless, during the latter part of the month of March the cold was accompanied with a drying wind which facilitated work, and the very delay of vegetation seems to have made it more ready to spring forward with rapidity. The past two days have been soft and genial, and the spring green has spread itself over the fields as if by magic. We may fairly hope that with a continuance of favorable weather we shall have a harvest fair in extent, though in all probability late." The Waterford News reports as follows:—"The ground is in fine order for tillage; the wheat crops look strong and healthy; but grass lands are unusually bare and cold. Fodder being out of the way dear, and grass being so bad, the result is that we never witnessed the cattle of the country so bony and miserable-looking as they are at present. The late rains have, however, effected a wonderful improvement in vegetation." Other accounts complain of the great backwardness of tillage. The Limerick Examiner says:—"The labouring classes are filled with dismay and cherish emigration as their only hope."

MADRYN QUARTER SESSIONS.—On Thursday the Quarter Sessions for Graigue district, Queen's county, was held as usual, in the Carlow Court-house, before James Gibson, Esq., Chairman for the Queen's Co. The Grand Jury having been sworn, his worship congratulated them on the fact that there was not a single criminal case for trial. The other business of the court was very light, and was disposed of at an early hour. At the Quarter Sessions for the district of Fallow, County Carlow, held before T. R. Henn, Esq., Chairman for the county, on Saturday last, there was not one criminal case for trial either; and at the Carlow Quarter Sessions, held a couple of days previous, there were only two or three criminal cases, all of a trifling nature.—Irishman.

CHARLES WASHINGTON STUDDERT, Esq., of Riverston, has been appointed a magistrate for the County of Clare.

SADLERISM.—Although eight years have elapsed since the terrible tragedy on Hampstead Heath, the name of the hero of it is still fresh in the daily records of the Irish law courts. Yesterday some fresh complications turned up in the Landed Estates Court, before Judge Hargrave, in the matter of the late Lord Glengall, relative to conflicting claims to a sum of £18,000 the amount due for principal and interest on the foot of a mortgage bearing date Sept. 29, 1849, on the estates of the Earl of Glengall sold in the court above named. The facts are these:—

"One claim was made by Mr. Norris, in whose name the mortgage was executed originally, and the case set up on his behalf was, that he had been engaged in making advances upon securities in Ireland, and that the late John Sadler was his agent; that there had been considerable money dealings between them, and that at the time of Sadler's death he was indebted to the claimant to a large amount. The mortgage recited a judgment for £8,000 which was obtained by Mr. Norris against Lord Glengall, and an advance to his lordship of £4,500 being altogether £10,500. Mr. Norris replied, in support of his claim, on a document by which John Sadler allowed him to hold the mortgage as security. The document in question was executed the day before the death of John Sadler. The official manager of the Tipperary Bank made the case, that the advances made to Mr. Norris had only allowed his name to be used in the deed of mortgage as a trustee for the bank, and was not entitled to make use of the deed as a security for himself. Previous to the death of John Sadler there had been legal proceedings between the parties on the subject of these securities. In a final schedule made out subsequent to the sale of the estate Mr. Norris was returned as a creditor on foot of the mortgage in question for the amount mentioned, and it was on an objection to that claim, filed by the official manager, that the case now came before the Court."

Several witnesses were examined yesterday; among them a person named Hickey, who had been in the employment of John Sadler. The cross-examination of this person was quite a curiosity:—

"Mr. Sullivan.—Were you not concerned with the late John Sadler in forging the bank deed of the Tipperary Bank?—I was an innocent party in the matter.

"Did you with your own hand forge the deed?—I did not. I made some alterations by his directions.

"After that bank deed was executed?—I believe so.

"Yours was the hand that altered it?—I engrained it first.

"After it was executed as a deed did you forge a passage in it?—I altered a passage in it by the directions of John Sadler; under the circumstances I did not look upon it as an improper transaction. I altered the deed increasing the salary of James Sadler prior to his marriage. John Sadler directed me to meet him in Kilkenny, and there, in the Court-house, or in the house of a gentleman, the alterations were made. John Sadler had a printed document, which he said was a form of a new deed, and that the first deed was to be cancelled altogether. He directed me to make the alteration with the view of putting it in the new deed. He said, 'We are going to get a new deed according to this, and I want to get the alterations made.' I was perfectly satisfied with this explanation or I would not have made the alteration.

"Mr. Sullivan.—Here is the letter of the 7th of November, 1855, from Mr. Hickey to John Sadler, requiring an explanation from him with reference to this transaction.

"Mr. Sullivan read the letter, in which Mr. Hickey stated that John Sadler could not forget that he (Hickey) had been made the innocent fabricator, for the purpose of making a bank deed long after it had been executed by the shareholders, and without their knowledge or consent; and asked the witness if that was true.

"Witness.—Yes, it is true in substance.

"The learned counsel read the remainder of the letter, which stated that the writer might take an erroneous view of the transactions, but that in case Sadler failed to give a satisfactory explanation he should explain to the shareholders and the public the part he was induced innocently to take in what appeared to him to be a gross fraud perpetrated upon them. (To witness).—Did you ever tell the shareholders of the fraud you perpetrated?

"Witness.—I did not.

"Mr. Sullivan read the words of the letter:—'In case I do not hear from you in a week, I will send a copy of this letter to each of the shareholders, and asked the witness did he hear from Sadler within the week?

"Witness.—I did not.

"Did you send a copy of the letter to each of the shareholders?—I did not; I was advised by counsel that in such a transaction I ought not to volunteer.

"To Sergeant Fitzgibbon.—When I altered that deed, under the direction of John Sadler, I believed that he was about to get a new deed, to which the shareholders were to be parties, and that the alterations were merely to substitute the new deed for the old. I did not know at that time that Sadler was acting so for fraudulent purposes; if I did I would not have made the alteration. I do not know whether Morrigh and Kennedy knew of the alteration in the deed. I did not know of the effect of the alteration until after it was executed. I should say I knew it was for the benefit of James Sadler.

"Judge Hargrave.—You did not know it was fraudulent?

"Witness.—I did not, my Lord, particularly as I knew that the deed was to be substituted by the new one. They told me that the shareholders had consented to the increase of the salary of James Sadler; that was afterwards done, and was included in the new deed which was prepared.

"Mr. Sullivan.—Do you swear that?

"Witness.—I do.

"Where is the new deed?—I saw the two in the official manager's possession.

"You thought there was no harm in doing what you did?—I thought there was no harm. I became uneasy afterwards.

"Were you pressing John Sadler in November, 1855, for a settlement of account, when you wrote that letter?—I believe so.

"Did you think it was a fraud when you wrote that letter to him?—Yes, in the meantime I began to suspect it.

"Did you find out the true nature of it in November, 1855, when you were quarrelling with John Sadler?—I supposed.

"Did mortal know that you altered that deed except John Sadler?—James must have known it. I will not swear that he was present at the alteration; he accepted it. I will not swear that there was any man present except John Sadler.

"Mr. Norris was then examined and cross-examined at considerable length, after which the case for the bank closed.

"Mr. Sullivan stated that there never was a second question. He wished to ask the official manager a question.

"Mr. McDowell, in reply to Mr. Sullivan, deposed that there had never been but one bank deed in his possession, and that was the deed referred to by Mr. Hickey as the one in which the alteration was made; he never heard of any subsequent deed, but there was a deed executed before it.

BROTHERY IN THE POORHOUSES.—The Protestants of this country, with only a few exceptions—be they Episcopalians, Unitarians, or Anytingarians—entertain as great an antipathy to the religion of the Irish as was entertained by their forefathers. At every board in Ireland, wherever the majority are Protestants, there is not the least toleration shown to Catholics. Hatred to "Popery" is the predominant feeling with the bigotted; and in the exuberance of their intolerant zeal they stoop to every act

that is low, in order to carry out their desires. From the only two corporate boards in Ulster, Catholics are rigidly excluded; no matter how fitted they may be for civic honors; and until the Catholics in Belfast and Derry be strong enough to return a majority to the corporate boards (an event remote from the present time) there is not the slightest chance of one of their co-religionists ever enjoying the dignity of chief magistrate. Every board of guardians in Ireland must have a Catholic chaplain, it is no act of toleration on the part of the Protestant boards—for, as the law provides for their appointment, Catholic chaplains must be elected like other officers. Of course where bigotry is rampant the sight of a Catholic priest officiating must be rather unpleasant to those who only "believe in the word of God," and accordingly on those boards exclusively Protestant Catholic priests are treated with the greatest discourtesy. The Newtownards board of guardians has gained some notoriety lately through their success against the Commissioners in the Court of Queen's Bench. The Catholic chaplain of that union applied to the guardians for an altar and vestments to enable him to perform the duties of his office in the house for his inmates. Now it is well known that a Catholic priest cannot perform the functions of his ministry without certain requisites, and wherever he officiates he has to be supplied with them. Mere preaching and catechetical instructions are not the essential duties of a priest; he has others more important which belong to his office. A Catholic chaplain to a poorhouse is in the same position as if he were chaplain to any other asylum; he must officiate for the inmates in the establishment in which they reside, and therefore he must have apartment set aside as a chapel, with an altar, vestments, and other requisites. Is a priest, appointed chaplain to an asylum, to be obliged to carry an altar and vestments with him? Why compel him to provide out of his own pocket for those requisites which his office should supply him with? Every other officer in any public establishment is supplied with every requisite necessary to enable him to perform his duties; and why should a Catholic priest be made an exception to the general rule? The chaplain of a poorhouse is only an officer within its doors; the duties which he has to perform are to be performed within the establishment; therefore, whatever the priest requires to enable him to officiate should be supplied by the establishment and become its property—not that of the priest. The inmates could not be expected to supply him with every requirement; he could not, in equal justice, be expected to supply out of his own pocket the requisites to enable him to officiate only in the establishment and for the benefit of the inmates.—The sapient guardians of the Newtownards union, though forced to pay a Catholic chaplain for officiating to the inmates, could not stomach the proffered, of providing an altar and altar requisites for "Popish uses." It was quite enough to be forced to tolerate the presence of the priest in the establishment; but in the performance of his duties he should get every opposition; every obstacle that could be availed of should be thrown in his way; so the application of the priest for an altar and its requisites was stoutly refused by the covenanting guardians of the poor of Newtownards. The commissioners were applied to, and they sent an order to the board to have the requisites provided for the priest, but the guardians cried "no surrender," and when subsequently taken before the Queen's Bench they succeeded therein in legalizing their intolerant conduct. The poor-law commissioners have never shown themselves liberal towards the Catholic Church in this country; but on the other hand they have never exhibited any partiality to the other side. Being Englishmen, they carry out the law strictly in accordance with the statutes enacted for their guidance. When they called upon the Newtownards guardians to carry out their order, they simply acted in justice towards the inmates for whose benefit the order was made; but when bigotry is placed in opposition to justice and conscience, it will never give way; it is opposed to reason and common sense, and must either succeed or be crushed. Unfortunately the bigotry of the Newtownards union succeeded in the Court of Queen's Bench; and thus has been established an intolerant precedent for the future guidance of the Protestant boards. The chaplain of the union could not perform the duties of his ministry when denied the altar and vestments, and as he would not get a small increase in his salary to enable him to provide the requisites, which he offered to do, the guardians proposed to send the inmates to the Catholic chapel. In every union the majority of the inmates are infirm and sickly, and therefore unable to walk over any distance of ground; and when they made the proposition the guardians of Newtownards were aware—or ought to have been—of the injustice to helpless individuals in compelling them to leave the establishment on Sundays and walk a distance to the Catholic chapel. The commissioners approved of the proposal, considering it the "most satisfactory arrangement that could be made, under all the circumstances of the case."

The priest, the Rev. Mr. Close, was written to on the subject; but he naturally, and with good reason, declined to enter into any such arrangement. In his letter he says:—"As the parish chapel is a considerable distance from the workhouse, I believe that only a few of the paupers would be able to attend service at it. Those who would be able to go would have no divine service unless I attended the workhouse to officiate for them. Moreover, I could not officiate in the workhouse, as an altar and vestments have not yet been provided. I believe the workhouse is the proper place for performing divine service for the paupers, and I can see no reason why Newtownards should be made an exception to all the other unions in Ireland." The aged and infirm inmates are unable to walk to the chapel; the priest cannot celebrate mass in the house, for want of an altar and vestments; and as the guardians will not supply the latter, the poor Catholic inmates are made the victims of an act of bigotry which has scarcely a parallel.—Droghda Argus.

THE PACKET STATION.—The Irish press has again warmly taken up the affairs of the Galway Packet Station. The proceedings of the last meeting of the Company, and their published report, form subjects for severe comment. It was by the aid of the press that the great project became a success, and it will be through the same agency that the blundering and mismanagement of the Company must be rebuked and reformed. From what has already taken place in London, an agitation has sprung up which will continue operative until the principal seat of the Company shall be established in Ireland. This will not only give increased confidence to the great body of the shareholders, but will also secure that attentive management and scrupulous direction which can alone lead to profitable results to individuals, as well as national benefit to the country. We admit there was much public spirit influencing these who took shares in the concern. But every man who invests his capital in a speculation, does so, in sober reality, for purposes of profit and for making the best use of his money. This is legitimate as well as prudent and praise-worthy. It was not judicious then to tell Galway shareholders that they ought to be content with their patriotic feelings when they expected something more substantial. They wanted advice and counsel for the future, and a practical plan for the prevention of more errors in management. Let us confine our efforts to that single point and there can be no fear for entire and ultimate success.—Galway Vindicator.

MONSTER PADDLE-STEAMER FOR THE GALWAY LINE.—Messrs. Palmer, Brothers, the celebrated ship-builders at Jarrow-upon-Tyne, have nearly completed a monster paddle-wheel steamer for the Royal Mail Steam Company, which is of such dimensions that when launched it will be the largest vessel afloat, with the exception of the Great Eastern. She is 370 feet in length, and has a depth of 32 feet from the top-spar deck. Her width 40 feet beam, and 71

feet over the paddles. She is provided with three oscillating engines on the main shaft to drive the paddles, besides several auxiliary engines, giving an aggregate of 800-horse power. She will stow 1,200 tons of coal, and is guaranteed to run twenty miles an hour. Berths for 700 passengers are provided, and her crew will number 100, so that provision is made for 800 souls on board. One of the principal portions of the fabric is the saloon which will be large enough to dine 250 persons, that being the number of berths constructed in the after part of the vessel, where the saloon is situated. The fore part of the vessel is fitted for emigrants. The saloon and its furnishings are of the most costly description. The panels are of bird's-eye maple inlaid with Hungarian walnut. A handsome range of mahogany tables stretches all round the saloon; two bath rooms are situated at one extremity on either side of the vessels, and the saloon is beautifully lighted from the roof through glass partially stained. The entire cost of the vessel will be about £100,000. The masts, of which there are two, are of wrought iron; she is provided with the whole of her machinery, and at the time of her launch she will have no less than 3,000 tons on board. She is of 4,000 tons register. The launch of this noble vessel is fixed for the 21st inst. (this day). She is to ply between Galway and New York, and is named the Connaught. Messrs. Palmer are engaged in the construction of a sister vessel, of similar dimensions, for the same company, to be called the Leinster.—Irishman.

GREAT BRITAIN.

According to the directions in the Pastoral Letter of His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, collections were made last Sunday in all the churches and chapels of the Diocese towards a "Benevolence" in favor of the Holy Father. We are assured that the result was most gratifying, and that the contributions were not only largely in excess of the usual receipts when the piety of the Faithful has been appealed to, but in many instances tripled or quadrupled the amount of any previous collection. An account has been opened with the London and Joint-Stock Bank in the names of Lord Petre and the Very Rev. Dr. Hoar, the Vicar-General; and steps have been taken towards forming a lay committee for organising a general subscription throughout the diocese in aid of the Holy Father.—The total amount of the Westminster collections last Sunday will be published shortly. The contributions of the Diocese of Southwark have exceeded £1,500. We do not anticipate that there will be any slackness or indifference on the part of the English Catholics in such a cause, but it is well to remember that though there various modes of showing our fidelity and zeal, others have already preceded us and left us examples which must tax our energies if we would imitate them.—Tablet.

THE DUCHESS OF LEEDS.—In a letter addressed to the Freeman's Journal, in which allusion is made to a previous announcement of the liberality of Her Grace in contributing £1,000 to the Pope, we are informed, "that, whilst Her Grace, as a Catholic, has subscribed so handsomely for the Head of her religion, she has not been unmindful of other claims on her charity. The winter this year has been unusually severe on the west coast, as well as in other parts, and the Duchess having learnt that many of the people on her estates of Applecross and Lochcarron had been reduced to great want, has kindly ordered £100 worth of meat to be distributed amongst them. Such a noble example of charity deserves to be made public. It will never be forgotten by the poor of Applecross, especially as this is not the first time that they have experienced the charity of the Duchess. Last year, and the preceding years, a considerable quantity of blankets and clothing was distributed amongst them by her orders. If Applecross is again in the market, as it is reported, the poor here will lose a kind benefactor in the Duchess of Leeds. May it be only to find one equally charitable in her successor."

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is expected to return to Buckingham Palace on Tuesday next, from Germany, and at the close of the week, according to present arrangements, his Royal Highness will take his departure for Canada.—Times, 20th ult.

The Brussels Independence states that Queen Victoria is expected at Berlin towards the end of June.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—APRIL 19.—FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—Mr. Horsman called attention to our foreign relations, declaring that at the present moment the governments of Europe are more disturbed and alarmed than they have been for some time past. He denounced—amidst "murmurs"—the government of France as the most immoral government in Europe; and expressed his conviction that the special alliance between it and our own would not last a day longer than it subserved the aggrandisement of France. He called upon ministers to rouse themselves to the declaration of a manly and definite English policy, and to enter their protest against the annexation of Savoy as the first open act of French aggression.—Lord John Russell said the honorable member appeared to be preparing the house for war, but without stating what were its objects. If we do not now protest against the cession of Savoy, neither did we protest in the case of Cracow. The neutrality of Switzerland was another matter. It demanded the coolest heads and maturest deliberation; and that the other Powers of Europe should agree as to the precautions to be taken to secure it. If the house left it in the hands of the government, they would not be forgetful of the honor of the country and the interests of Europe.

The dissensions amongst the Scotch Episcopalians still continue, the verdict in the case of Bishop Forbes not appearing to have satisfied any one of the parties. We have already stated that the charge against Dr. Forbes was almost identical with that against Mr. Cheyne, and that it arose from the fact of his having taught doctrine concerning the Eucharist opposed to the received notions of Protestants. An address to Mr. Cheyne has been signed by a large number of well-known Anglican clergymen who sympathise with him and support his views. Yet the English Churchman, a paper representing the moderate party in the Establishment, declares that "every clergyman who has signed that document—from Archdeacon Denison and Mr. Bennett downwards—knows that he dare not preach, or publish in his own name, such language as that of Mr. Cheyne, which has been condemned by the Scottish Episcopal Synod."—Weekly Register.

A FEW PROBABLE TRUTHS.—That of 1,000 men and 1,000 women taken at random in the British Islands, there is, on both sides, an equal per centage of good indifferent, and bad; the indifferent predominating. That any lady who may be reading these lines belongs emphatically to the category of the good.—That the vices and virtues, the qualities and defects of the two sexes are different; but that, on the whole, there is equilibrium. That all men are not brutes, nor all women angels. That in so close a union as that of married life the stronger will prevail, and that the force of will is as strong with women as with men; but that it works otherwise to its result. That the power of a woman is based upon her thorough perception and appreciation of the weakness of the man. That men, in the vast majority of cases, are very weak. That positive law never touches, and never can touch the miseries and discomforts—where they exist—of married life, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. That if a man values his own peace of mind he had better keep out of the way of pink bonnets and Balmoral boots. That the marriage day and that day year, are two different days. That the longer the courtship, the greater the chance of error, for the deception has been more enduring and continuous. From all which it follows as a corollary, Leap before you look!—Once a Week.

We (Dial) should like an opinion from the Peace Society upon the following extract, which we make from an advertisement in a Scotch paper. For ourselves, we fancy the affair smacks too much of the quack advertiser to be otherwise than distasteful.—If the Bible needs such vendors, it has sunk much lower in popular esteem than it ought to have done: "Advertisement.—The Rifleman's Bible!—We have before us a copy of this very beautiful edition of the Scriptures. A copy of it, bound in Turkey morocco or silver velvet, would be a sweet thing for a wedding present. Young men who have pretty sisters, or elderly men who have got nieces, had better think of this. Bound in the finest Turkey morocco, 6s.—in the finest Geneva silk velvet, 10s. Sent free," &c.

COMMITTEES OF INCOME-TAX RETURNS.—A genuine find has been achieved by Sir Stafford Northcote, and it is one which we firmly believe is only a legitimate specimen of what is going on all around us undetected if not unsuspected. On the transfer of the business of the Ecclesiastical Courts to the New Court of Probate, a claim for compensation was successfully preferred by those who were especially affected by the change. A return was to be furnished by all practitioners of their professional receipts during a certain period, which was to form the basis of the allowance for compensation. Great astonishment was excited by the results disclosed. It was determined to institute an invidious comparison between the claims which were now made for compensation, and the returns at which they had assessed themselves during the corresponding period to the income-tax. On pursuing the investigation upon this footing, Sir Stafford Northcote informs us that "very painful disclosures were made." Books and accounts completely substantiated the claims preferred, and thus served to render the contrast yet more glaring between the contents of the ledger and the amount of the returns under schedule D. One gentleman had paid income-tax for some years on an average income of £3,000. This proved, upon further inquiry, to have been exactly half his ordinary receipts, and one-third only of the incomings in an unusually favourable year. In fact, so gross was the imposture which had been practised upon the public creditor, that arrears to the amount of upwards of £204 were voluntarily tendered to the commissioners, in order to place the claimant in a position to come into court at all. In another case a "very respectable firm," who had in the course of five years made a trifling sum of £31,000 in the way of business, had credited the commissioners only with profits which fell somewhat below the more modest figure of £9,000. The climax was reached by an individual who, while professionally existing upon an income of a couple of hundred a year, coolly put in his claim for compensation at the rate of as many thousands. Upon remonstrance, he had raised his assessment to £1,101, and, upon being questioned as to his motive for selecting these particular figures, replied that "he thought an odd figure would look better than a round sum." Yet it never seems to have occurred to any of these respectable men that their character was compromised in the slightest degree by the deliberate and wholesale falsification of the returns. We have reason to know that similar evasions are, to say the least, extensively prevalent.—Morning Post.

POT-HOUSE PROTESTANTISM.—The "muscular development" theory has been much vaunted of late, but there seems some probability of having rather too much of it. The Churchwarden of St. George's-in-the-East, a publican of the name of Thompson, has been just re-elected, and with the assistance of a Dissenter, chosen as his colleague, seems determined to prove himself the champion of East End Puritanism. The papers report that on Easter Sunday, at St. George's East, "the conduct of the mob was perfectly brutal." The Times says:—"The Easter hymn, 'Jesus Christ is risen to-day,' which was sung by the choir after the sermon, was travestied by the congregation with disgusting profanity. As the rector and his staff left the altar for the vestry a violent outrage was committed upon them, and it will be no matter of surprise to hear that some of them have been seriously injured. So savage was the conduct of the mob who attacked them, that Mr. Superintendent Howse, who had been waiting outside, rushed in with a large body of police, and having first guarded the altar furniture, succeeded in course of time in clearing the church, many parts of which have suffered serious injury." At the evening service this publican churchwarden came out of the vestry-room, and, approaching the altar, evidently in a very excited state, exclaimed to the people who were crowding round the altar, "Take your seats!" The mob shouted, "Where?" To which Mr. Thompson replied, "Anywhere." And forty or fifty people at once broke through the altar-rails.—A gentleman named Adams, who has for a long time past taken an active part in favor of the rector and his party, rushed to the altar gates to preserve that sacred part of the sanctuary from further invasion, and, being a powerful and determined young man, succeeded to a great extent in accomplishing his object. The rioters quailed before him, but his triumph was of the most short-lived character, for two police constables, and a parochial officer named Burton, acting under the direction of the churchwarden, hurried him from his post of defence, and he was summarily ejected from the church with a good deal of violence. When the clergy entered they were hemmed in by the mob, who were laboring under the deepest excitement, and then driven back in the most insulting manner to the vestry. At half-past seven o'clock another attempt was made by the priests and choristers to get to their places in order to commence the service, and this time they were more successful. After a struggle, which did infinite credit to their perseverance, Mr. Dove, and Mr. McDonald, and the choristers made their way to the altar, and Mr. King to the reading-desk, his ascent to which was the signal for another display of howling, yelling, hissing, and slamming of pew-doors.—Amidst a succession of similar interruptions he went on with the service until he came to "the Belief" when he turned round to the altar, with his back to the congregation, who, in their ignorance, hissed at the red lining of his Master of Arts' hood. This was the signal for a fearful clamour, during which the police, who had long odds to contend against, turned several people out of the church, those being the principal offenders. When Mr. Bryan King descended from the desk there was more howling, and this process was renewed when the Rev. Mr. McDonald went into the pulpit. There was a loud shout that he wore a huge cross upon his back, but this was a slight mistake, inasmuch as the simple adornment which the St. George's critics mistook for a cross was a white fur university hood. The rev. gentleman selected for his text Acts xvii. 30, 31.—"And the times of this ignorance God winked at," &c. The preacher proceeded very well until he made some particular direct references to the congregation. He stated that for eleven months past the church in which they were assembled had been the scene of awful sacrilege; that it was a monument of shame to penitent worshippers; that the clergy had been subjected to persecution, malice, and spite; and that if the people continued in this course God's judgments would surely fall upon them. The courage of the preacher was great, but his success was doubtful, for his very serious admonitions and his well deserved reprofs were evidently thrown away.

A WORSHIP COUPLE.—We mentioned some time back that an aged couple, named Laurens, of Saint Aubunde-Oretot, near Rouen, celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage; and that their son, aged sixty years of an adjacent parish, officiated on the occasion. We learn that the couple have just expired within three days of each other, aged respectively eighty-four and eighty-two.—Morning Star.

It is believed that the French Government has taken into consideration the proposition for a Treaty of Navigation with Great Britain.