

the Common Pleas, and the Chief Baron, the visitors of the King and Queen's College of Physicians sat on Monday in the Court of Chancery, and pronounced a unanimous judgment on the appeal of Dr. M'Sweeney from a decision of the board of that institution. It will be remembered that Dr. M'Sweeney having become a candidate for the Fellowship of the College, an election was held by ballot, in accordance with a by-law passed by the Board in 1822, which provided that one black bean in five should exclude the candidate. The result was that Dr. M'Sweeney was rejected, although a majority of the votes given was in his favour. Against this decision he appealed, praying that the by-law in question might be declared illegal, and inconsistent with the College charter. The Lord Chancellor delivered a written judgment, the effect of which was that the by-law, declaring that one vote in five should exclude in an election for Fellowship, was contrary both to the common law and charter, and was therefore illegal and void, and should be expunged from the college books. A second question was as to the validity of voting by ballot. The opinion of the visitors was that voting by ballot was not sanctioned by the charter of this corporation, and was therefore illegal. The result of this was that Dr. M'Sweeney, although he obtained eighteen votes to nine, could not be declared duly elected, but that there must be a new election. The Chief Justice, the Chief Baron, and Chief Justice Monahan expressed their concurrence. The costs incurred by Dr. M'Sweeney and also those incurred by the college are to be paid out of the college funds.—Saunders.

THE MARCHIONESS OF QUEENSBERRY.—The annexed letters, which we have no doubt will be perused with pleasure, have been forwarded to us for publication.—

Dublin, 25th June, 1870.

Sir—I feel pleasure in sending you a copy of a letter I have had the honor of receiving this morning from the Marchioness of Queensberry, with an enclosure of £5. Such noble and patriotic sentiments most awaken an echo in all true Irish hearts, and encourage those earnest men who, casting aside ancient prejudices, are banding themselves together to win a nation's life, and to gather into our loyal folds all who have been driven by neglect and poverty to dream of violently attaining remedial changes.— Soon shall we witness the realisation of the patriot's brightest hope—Ireland happy and prosperous under her own Queen, Lords, and Commons.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. LEDGER BACON.

Chateau Neuf, Pas de Calais, Boulogne, June 23rd 1870.

Sir—For your kind note and its accompanying enclosure I cannot thank you sufficiently. I feel grateful to the good God for thus commencing a work which I shall continue to look to Him to finish—praying Him to draw together yet more and more all hearts, and guide those engaged in council with His wisdom and His spirit, which will enable each member freely and willingly to resign every prejudice, and to cast aside all hindrances for the attainment of the one Divine end, UNION. Indeed you have my sympathy and prayers, and if it is not asking too much, I shall be obliged by your letting me know presently how matters proceed. Assuredly no one takes a deeper interest in this work and the attainment of self-government than yours, sir, faithfully,

CHARLOTTE QUEENSBERRY.

I do not know if I am doing right in enclosing my note towards expenses. To W. Ledger Bacon, Esq., Dublin.

The Times says—"The Lords' amendments revising the scale of penalties in the Land Bill will not be agreed to by the Commons. It cannot but lament the passing of this amendment on the most important issue. The change effected would be painful, even if it could be enduring. It will necessarily be ineffectual, as it can only serve to mar the grace that would have characterised a cheerful acceptance of the bill."

The Daily News considers the modifications introduced into the compensation scale indicate a bagging and niggardly spirit, but with this exception the Peers have approached the issue in a sober, sensible, and business-like spirit which does credit to them and deserves respectful acknowledgment.

The Telegraph says—"No doubt the Lords' amendments will again be reconsidered by them, possibly with modified and even enlarged views of the subject in some of its most important bearings."

The London correspondent of the Freeman remarks—"Afraid to touch the secured tenant-right of Ulster, the Lords have battered unmercifully at the third clause. They have adopted a new and miserable scale of compensation for eviction, and have restored to the bill the penal clause, making the letting of potato con-acre sub-letting. This word con-acre was omitted in the Commons on the motion of the member for Kilkenny city, and its restoration would, in fact, render the clause a mere trap, and worse than a delusion. On four points the government was defeated, and their lordships have adjourned on a discussion as to prohibiting assignments of holdings without the formal consent of the landlord. This would, in fact, set aside the Ulster custom, which they were afraid to assail openly. This point they will, no doubt, carry, but the government cannot tolerate such a mutilation of their measure, and will firmly resist it."

THE ACQUITTAL OF BARRETT.—Immediately on receipt of the telegram announcing the acquittal of Barrett, a deputation consisting of Messrs. J. Kirwan, T. C.; Denis Kelly, P. L. G.; and T. Flanagan, waited on the Rev. John D'Arcy, Rector of Galway, asking permission to have the bells of St. Nicholas rung to celebrate that event, which Mr. D'Arcy refused doing. The deputation then went to the Abbey convent for a similar purpose, and the Rev. Mr. Hologan having acceded to their request, the bells of that church were rung instead. It would be impossible to describe the popular feeling of anxiety that day until the arrival of the news. The streets were crowded, and rejoicing was general when the result became known.—Galway Vindicator.

FLOOD DRAINAGE AND NAVIGATION OF LODGE ERNE.—It is confidently expected that the obstacles which have hitherto prevented the accomplishment of this great work of engineering, will be overcome before the floods of next winter commence their annual depredations on the lowlying lands bordering the Erne in the Counties of Galway and Fermanagh. Mr. Porter, of Belle Isle, who has greatly interested himself in the matter, states that in August next an inspector will be appointed by Government, to sit, in Roskillen, to examine and report on the plans, maps, and estimates prepared by several eminent engineers, towards carrying out the drainage of the lake. About 20,000 acres are annually inundated.—Freeman.

THE CORRUPT DUBLIN FREEMEN.—The Freeman teaches us as to be preserved, thanks to the report of the Dublin Commissioners. The Executive does not consider that the report would justify it in bringing in a measure of general disfranchisement. As to the prudence of this determination there will be a great variety of opinions, and many reasons will, no doubt, be assigned, pro and con. Disfranchisement. Such a measure is, however, generally oppressive and of necessity unjust, inasmuch as the honest and honorable are subjected to the same treatment as the corrupt and crafty. This is the inevitable operation of a measure of disfranchisement; and this operation the Government, it seems by the statement of the Chief Secretary for Ireland in the House last night, is anxious to avoid. The alternative is simple and plain. The Government will at once bring in a bill disfranchising those per-

sons reported by the recent commission as having been guilty of corrupt practices, and by this means the electoral body of the metropolis will be purged, to a great extent of both bribers and bribed.

THE IRISH CLAIM.—The Zealster Independent says:—"The vast majority of the Irish priesthood are advocates, earnest and anxious, for Repeal, and when public opinion grows strong and vivid let us trust it will be found that the Hierarchy are not behind the priests, of which the great and overwhelming number is national. It may be that delay to which Dean O'Brien, of Limerick, alluded recently as being wise, in his letter to Repeal, which prevents for the present the most prominent and able members of the Party prete in Ireland from conjoining the demand for a national parliament with those which have been already upon the programme of political action with which they were identified. But it must yet, and will yet, we have no doubt, be one of the features whose appearance they will sanction. The drift of politics in Ireland compels such a movement. Its justice has been infallibly demonstrated by O'Connell, and the work of justice, when religion descends into the arena of politics at all, is one which cannot neglect, or forego. The Party prete in Hungary for national independence, and struggled through good and ill for the great boon until it was won. The same party helped to build up the most prosperous kingdom in Europe out of the pitiful Belgian province of the Dutchman's crown. The Party prete in Germany preserves the sovereignty and nationality of its lesser states, as the Party prete in Italy demands it back from the Piedmontese plunderers. The time has come when the Party prete in Ireland can take the stand of their brethren in Poland, their brethren in Italy, their brethren in Hungary, their brethren in Belgium, and the brave and wise Teuton politicians of Catholicity. Their spirit of nationality is neither dead nor sleeping. Let it but have its proclim in this good time on the banner beneath which they advance for the consummation of great rights, and they can then be lauded no more with silence on the greatest question that their country has ever kept closest to settlement to her heart. Then there will be no disparity between the political combination of faith and nationality which in Europe has preserved the continent from the oppressions of infidelity on the one hand, and tyranny on the other; and that which in Ireland has already achieved the victories preliminary to the greatest and most crowning victory of them all."

The Liverpool Catholic Times says:—"For all this we see no need of apprehension, nor danger of disturbance if our government only elects to do its duty heedfully, but fearlessly. The connection between the countries would not be weakened, but to our minds rendered much more intimate, much more friendly, by the re-establishment of a National Parliament in Dublin. With the recent example of Canada before us, we see no reason to doubt the success of such an experiment, if that can be called an experiment, whose success is certain, even before it is tried. The Dominion of Canada has its own federation, its own legislature, and, but lately, has been entrusted with its own defence. Its loyalty has not suffered, whilst its self-respect must grow daily, and stimulate it to increased exertions to progress, and advance, step by step, with every other civilised nation. Internal disaffection is almost unknown there; while invasion from without has, within the last month, been generally and successfully opposed. Why are we not to believe that, under similar treatment, Ireland would exhibit a similar spectacle of unity, energy, and prosperity? If further encouragement be wanted, there is the example of Victoria, a colony mainly founded, peopled, and governed, by Irishmen, many of whom is Ireland, were rebels and traitors to the English crown; and it is yet within recollection that the people of Canada were disloyal and disaffected, even to the taking up of arms against England. It is but reasonable, then, to expect that the self-government, which has made Canada peaceable and loyal, Victoria prosperous and contented, will produce like happy results in Ireland. We feel, therefore that it is the duty of everyone who wishes well to England and to Ireland to welcome the approach of the time when an Irish Parliament will be allowed to manage Irish affairs. And, feeling this, we cannot but look with approval on those Irishmen who lawfully and openly refuse to be content with instalments of justice, however great, but demand its complete and perfect fulfilment."

The following is the text of the new Processions Bill introduced by the government in the House of Commons:—

A BILL TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO CERTAIN PROCESSIONS IN IRELAND.

Whereas numbers of persons have been in the practice of assembling and marching together in procession in Ireland in a manner calculated to create and perpetuate animosities between different classes of her Majesty's subjects, and to endanger the public peace, and to promote or encourage treason or sedition:

Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords' Spiritual, Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 1. This act may be cited for all purposes as "The Processions (Ireland) Act, 1870."
2. This act shall extend to Ireland only.
3. In the construction of this Act—
The term "Lord Lieutenant" shall mean the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Lords Justices or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being;
The terms "Chief Secretary" and "Under Secretary" shall mean respectively the Chief Secretary and Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.
4. Every assemblage of persons who, without lawful authority in that behalf from Her Majesty, shall meet and parade together or join in procession, and who shall bear or have amongst them or any of them, any firearms or any other offensive weapons, and every procession or parade together of persons which may be calculated or tend to provoke animosity between different classes of her Majesty's subjects, or to provoke a breach of the peace, or to promote, propagate, or encourage treason or sedition, shall be unlawful assemblies, and every person thereat shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly; and every such unlawful assembly may be suppressed, dispersed, and dealt with in all respects as any riot may now by law be suppressed, dispersed, and dealt with.
5. If it appears to the Lord Lieutenant that any persons intend to meet and parade together or join in procession, and if in the opinion of the Lord Lieutenant such meeting and parading together or joining in procession would be calculated or tend to provoke animosity between different classes of her Majesty's subjects, or to provoke a breach of the peace, or to promote, propagate, or encourage treason or sedition, it shall be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant, by an order in that behalf signed by him or the Chief or Under Secretary, of which public notice shall be given by posting a copy thereof upon every police barrack, or upon some other conspicuous place or places within the district to be affected by such proclamation, to prohibit such meeting and parading together or joining in procession, and if such meeting and parading together or joining in procession shall take place after the same shall be prohibited the same shall be an unlawful assembly, and every person present thereat, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly; and every such unlawful assembly as is in this section mentioned may be dispersed, suppressed, and dealt with in all respects as any riot

may now by law be dispersed, suppressed, or dealt with.

Upon the trial of any indictment under this section for any such misdemeanour the question as to the sufficiency of such public notice shall be determined by the judge or judges presiding at such trial. 6. From and after the passing of this act, the act passed in the thirteenth year of the reign of her present Majesty, chapter two, intitled "An Act to Restrict Party Processions in Ireland," shall be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

The "Evening Mail" insists that the Processions Bill is really intended to restrict the expression of public opinion in Ireland. The animus of the measure is set forth in the second clause, which provides that the act is to extend to Ireland only. Here again Ireland is to be exceptionally dealt with. As yet no ministry dare propose any such violation of public liberty and restriction of the common rights of subjects, in England. This Coercion Bill (it adds) is a very effective supplement to the Cullen press-clauses of the Peace Preservation Act. It empowers the Lord Lieutenant, on his own mere motion, to suppress any assembly of persons whatsoever who may meet together, if their so meeting should, "in his uncontrolled opinion, be calculated to promote animosity;" and it makes every person present at such a meeting guilty of misdemeanour.—This is, in fact, "pro tanto" to confer the power of a Dictator upon the Minister who represents the Queen in Ireland. The bill will, no doubt, be passed into a law. Being in the nature of an exceptional dealing with Ireland, all English members will vote for it. Being in the nature of a tyrannical interference with liberty, it will not be opposed by Irish members.

The Irish Times, speaking of this atrocious measure, says:—"It is one of the most stringent and despotic measures ever introduced in any age or country. Its effects can only be seen by its operations. It may become a dead letter or a ukase. Every meeting—every procession—may be prohibited, and they who participate in either may be treated as guilty of misdemeanour. Any assembly, no matter for what purpose convened, may be "dispersed, suppressed, and dealt with as any riot," if calculated "to provoke animosity." If we ask who or what authority is to decide whether a meeting is calculated to provoke animosity, we are answered, "If it appears so to the Lord Lieutenant." Even the words "in council" are omitted. The caprice, impulse, or passion of any assembly of et armis. One construction may be put upon a meeting in the north of Ireland—a very different one upon those in the south. The supporters of one candidate, exhorting him to the hustings may be punished as rioters; those of another may be commended and even protected. The will of the Chief Governor of Ireland is the sole test of loyalty or disloyalty, offensiveness or harmlessness. It will be seen, too, that in any assembly a single person carries a revolver, the whole assembly is to be deemed treasonable. We need hardly speak of the stringent measures adopted by the Emperor of the French in the earlier days of his power, when the British government proposes to enact such a measure as this.

GREAT BRITAIN.

DIOCESE OF STREWSBURY.—HOLYWELL NORTH WALES.—Amongst our other local privileges may be counted that of being allowed, by a recent indent of the Holy See, to celebrate on June 22nd the anniversary of Walside's martyrdom which attracted this year an unprecedented concourse of pilgrims and strangers. The Lord Bishop of Strewsbury, recently compelled by ill-health to withdraw for a while from the labours of the Oecumenical Council, had appointed this day for the blessing and solemn inauguration of the long-talked-of Hospice. The church was crowded at an early hour, and at the 8 o'clock Mass, which was celebrated by His Lordship, well nigh 200 communicants came to receive the bread of life at the hands of our chief pastor. The High Mass at 11 a.m., in which several of the Fathers of the neighboring Capuchin convent at Pantaslopp took part, was sung in the presence of the Bishop, who, after the Gospel, briefly alluded to the institution he had come to inaugurate as the first fruits in our days of that wonder-working Catholic charity which, in ages gone by, had studded the land we live in with its erections. But the mission of the Church was not only to assuage bodily suffering but to minister to souls the bread of God's Word. This he fulfilled by the ordinary ministrations of pastors and Christian parents, by the voice which speaks with authority from the chair of Peter, and in a still more solemn manner when as at present her chief pastors gather round him to whom the care of all the Churches is committed—His Lordship was listened to with deep interest while giving some few details of what he had personally witnessed in the Council, and the ineffable impressions made upon him thereby. He concluded by granting the usual indulgence. At the end of Mass His Lordship, preceded by a numerous body of clergy, went in procession through the garden of the Presbytery to the New Hospice. To avoid over-crowding and confusion, the main body of the congregation having been speedily marshalled by a few men of goodwill, proceeded in a desirable order down a street leading to the entrance of the new building. The fractions was simple enough, as it consisted merely in the recitation of the form in the Roman ritual in the blessing of a new house. The luncheon, which followed shortly after, wound up with the usual toasts. Waiving all needless detail, we will only observe, that the skill of Mr. Hughes, of Preston, the architect, in adapting the building to its present purpose, was warmly and deservedly eulogised. The solemnities of the day closed with Vespers and Benediction of the Most Holy, which latter function was preceded by a sermon on the importance of our eternal interests, by the Rev. Peter Bouge, S. J., who handled his subject matter so ably as to fix the attention, and to elicit the approval of a large number of Protestants of the town, who were among his hearers.—Catholic Times.

On Sunday, the 27th ult., we (Tablet) witnessed one of those interesting events which so clearly show the progress of Catholicity in England.—The Protestant Fathers have lately taken a place at Harborne, Birmingham, small and poor enough in itself, but which it is hoped will form the nucleus of a future church and monastery. On the above-mentioned day the temporary chapel was solemnly opened.

The Church of Our Lady of the Rosary was solemnly opened on Wednesday, the Feast of St. Peter and Paul. This little church arose out of the parish of St. James's, Spanish Place, in 1855, and it was not until after 1861, when it was made a separate parish, that it made any advance. Since that its great poverty and modest pretensions attracted attention, and it has gradually increased in importance and size to suit the necessities of a poor and large congregation; we speak more especially of the church, for the schools have always been good. They are now splendid schools, and afford accommodation for 600 children. When the present building can be used entirely for education, it will accommodate 1000 children, and will be a noble work. In these days of Catholic advance there is no telling what a few years will bring. A few years ago who could have imagined that the little Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, or Homer Row, as it is sometimes called would raise its head so nobly in the Marylebone Road, with the Madonna, life size, under a beautiful canopy, holding a Rosary of the fifteen mysteries, and her divine infant raising His hand to bless the passers-by?

It will not be said that the English Catholic laity are either indifferent to the religious education of their poorer brethren, or that they have come

together only because summoned and pressed by their Bishops and clergy to the rescue of clerical influence. The Bishops have been unavoidably absent from home, and we find ourselves overtaken by a monstrous crisis, which has threatened simply to destroy the existence of religious education for our poor. Impelled by their own instincts, a number of the leading Catholic laymen have several times met at Norfolk House, with the Duke in the chair, in order to consider how they could most effectively discharge the portion of the duty which devolves upon them in the present crisis. They have determined to open a subscription list, at the head of which appears the generous sum of £10,000 from the Duke of Norfolk and of £5,000 from Lord Howard. The collection already amounts to £20,000. The intention of the donors is to apply their gifts to meet the necessary expenditure which Catholics will have to make within a few months in order to provide such accommodation as is still required for the education of the Catholic poor. If schools are not provided for our 100,000 destitute ignorant children by ourselves they will in a short time be carried away from us and simply lost to the Catholic faith. The Government propose to augment their capitation grant from one-third to one-half for all our children in school. But they will make no further building grants. The immediate stress therefore which will be laid upon Catholics will be very great; and the Duke of Norfolk, and those who have been acting with him, have shown their wisdom and public spirit in losing no time in taking action. Their intention is, we understand, to approach the Bishops and to make known to them that they have a certain sum at their disposal, and to invite them to specify the educational wants of their Dioceses and the localities in which they desire assistance. A full but concise and able report has been drawn up by the hon. secretary and is about to be published next week.—Tablet.

Yorkshire is experiencing to a very alarming extent the prolonged drought. The condition of things on the Wolds and other high lands in the two agricultural Ridings causes great anxiety. The fly is almost as destructive as ever. Farmers with 150 acres of turnip land or more are not expecting even a third of a crop, and as a last resource are about to sow rape and mustard in hope of an autumn bite for the sheep. Added to this, the grass and clovers have never cut down lighter, and some time must elapse before there will be any available aftermath. Green corn has in some cases been cut for the stock.

A lady of title, the widow of an Irish peer, was among the recipients of out-door relief at Lambeth Workhouse during the week.—Court Journal.

The election of clergymen to vacant livings by vote of the parish ratepayers appears to be displacing the time-honored system of public sale in England. Such, at least, is probably the case in Birmingham, where a couple of clerical candidates have just been "stumped," in the true political fashion, for the prize of a fat local chaplaincy. One of them bargained the constituents "at the top of High street, Bordesley," and the other "on the waste ground at the corner of Heathmill-lane." The latter, a certain Mr. Badger, expressed his strong determination to "fight the good fight," and his hope to be "crowned with victory" in this holy strife for a suitable situation. Badgers do usually fight a good fight when they are driven into a corner. It is to be hoped that this clerical specimen of the interesting tribe gained the full reward of his grand Christian pugnacity.

It is said that Mr. Miall intends next session to bring the question of the Disestablishment of the Church of England before the House of Commons.

LAW APPOINTMENTS.—It was announced on Wednesday in the Chancery Courts that Vice-Chancellor Sir William Milbourne James has accepted the office of Lord Justice; and that he will be succeeded as Vice-Chancellor by Mr. James Bacon, the present Chief Judge in Bankruptcy.

Another postponement of the government bill which had been introduced with the intention of repealing the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. Twice already has the discussion in Committee been postponed. The Lord Privy Seal, partly because of Lord O'Hagan's absence from the House and partly at Lord Cairnes's suggestion, put off the Bill from the 22nd to the 30th instant, and the notice paper now showed that no further steps are to be taken before Friday next, when the ex-leader of the Opposition will move an important amendment.

The announcement was made in many of the Catholic Churches of Liverpool, on the Feast of St. Peter and Paul, that his Lordship the Bishop of Liverpool would be again among his people with restored health on Sunday next. The satisfaction which the good news gave was quite evident; and it is not surprising to find that the joy and gratitude of the Catholics of Liverpool is to find public expression to-morrow in the solemn performance of a Te Deum in the Pro-Cathedral, as a thanksgiving for their beloved Bishop's improved health and welcome return. The zeal, fairness, and independence which his Lordship displays in ruling his important diocese, have long commanded the admiration and respect of all his subjects; and we have no doubt that a crowded congregation will assemble to participate in the rejoicings on this occasion. The Bishop will himself be present, and is expected to preach if sufficiently recovered from the fatigues of his journey.—Catholic Times, 2nd instant.

THE LORDS IN LAWN.—For many years the removal of the bishops from the House of Lords has been a popular notion in various quarters of the empire and with some distinguished politicians; but we had not imagined that the idea had struck such deep root in the public mind until we saw the division list upon Mr. Somerset Beaumont's motion in the House of Commons on Tuesday that leave be given to bring in a bill to relieve the Lords Spiritual [hereafter consecrated] from attendance in Parliament. For this resolution one hundred and two members voted; and though the motion was resisted by the Prime Minister, it was defeated only by the small majority of 56, which included fourteen official members. Mr. Beaumont avoided any interference with vested rights, but some of his supporters seemed to think that the sooner the Right Rev. Bench was cleared away from the Upper House the better for Church and State. The motion was, with peculiar appropriateness, seconded by Mr. Locke King, whose father, the late thoroughly honest and liberal Lord King, was never so happy as when cracking jokes and making hard hits at the bishops—the "Right Rev. Ladies in Lawn" as he invariably pretended, by mistake, to designate the Lords Spiritual. We are pleased that the Catholic members, as a body, took no part either in the debate or division; and we cannot help thinking that Mr. Monsell, the only Catholic who voted—and whose vote went to increase the small majority—would have exercised a better discretion by doing as all the other Catholic members did on the occasion. We don't believe that the presence of the bishops in the House of Lords confers any benefit upon the State or upon the Church. They have never been remarkable for generous or liberal or even enlarged views of men and measures. On the contrary, they have always, with few notable exceptions, sternly opposed every measure introduced into Parliament for the general good. They opposed the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts which weighed heavily upon the Protestant Dissenters; they opposed Catholic emancipation; they opposed the removal of Jewish disabilities; they opposed Parliamentary reform; and they opposed the repeal of the Corn Laws. Indeed it would tax their friends sorely to mention a large, good, and comprehensive bill of any sort which they ever cordially supported. Still their continuance in the House of Lords is a matter for the decision of the people of Great Britain, and we hope the Catholics will abstain, as they did on Tuesday night, from interference in the question.—

In fact the question raised by Mr. S. Beaumont involves the much larger question of the maintenance of a State Church; and we own that we are not ourselves very anxious to see the State Church disestablished in this country. There might be a worse state of things.—Weekly Register.

In the House of Lords, on June 20, Lord Russell called attention to the change of Colonial policy on the part of the Administration, and expressed regret at the withdrawal of British troops from Canada and New Zealand. He contrasted the state of the colonies when the present Government came into office with the feeling provoked by the coldness and repugnance they had exhibited when the colonies were asked for any assistance. The colonies were proud of their connection with the Mother Country, and it would be a great evil and a crime to weaken their attachment. He moved that a commission be appointed to inquire into the means best fitted to guarantee the security of the Queen's dominions. Thereupon ensued a debate in which Lord Northbrook pointed out "the necessity of a greater concentration of troops at home for the security of the Empire," and Lord Grey declared that "the principles laid down by successive Colonial Secretaries must necessarily lead to the dissolution of our Colonial Empire."—Lord Granville, Colonial Minister, in explanation of the Government, said:—

The colonies must depend upon the power and influence of the mother country, and I am sure that the invasion of any of our colonies would be resented exactly as if it were an invasion of our own soil.—I am convinced that what foreign nations regard as our real latent power, and that they are discouraged by the presence of a few troops. By withdrawing the troops you actually confer a great advantage on the colonists: for you teach them to look to themselves, and you put on them a gentle pressure to create an army which would be of great assistance in case of a war with some other country an event which I hope will never happen. We have offered to let the colony have a whole regiment to form a nucleus for their own army, in raising which I believe they will be very successful, and we are quite ready to let them have some of our best officers, who, however, will not lose their position in the English army, although during the time they serve in Canada they will be entirely distinct from it, and will be the officers and servants of the Government of the Dominion.

UNITED STATES.

St. Paul's Church, on 117th street, New York City—in the region that is still called, by its old name of Harlem, has become inadequate to the needs of the congregation. Its energetic and devoted pastor, Rev. Eugene McGuire, has therefore commenced, and is prosecuting, extensive improvements. The Church has been enlarged by an addition of sixty-eight feet to its length—making it, now, nearly a hundred and fifty feet long. Besides, a fine school house, three stories high, and a lofty basement, has been built immediately adjoining the Church, and in such a manner that, if necessary, by throwing open the windows, Mass in the church can be heard from the school-house. The basement of the school house extends under the rear of the church, giving a fine hall, a hundred feet by sixty, for all suitable purposes. Mr. O'Connor is the architect.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

A New Church in Oswego, N.Y.—On Sunday, the 10th inst., the highly interesting ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the above church took place in the presence of over twenty thousand of the citizens of Oswego, of every class and creed. Upon the appointment of the Rev. J. F. Lowry to this parish, some twelve months since, that gentleman obtained by purchase a very eligible and extensive plot of ground, upon which he has erected a temporary church for the accommodation of his flock, and for some months past the foundations of the permanent structure, which has reached its present forward position, have been vigorously proceeded with, and from what we have seen of the zeal manifested on this occasion, promises a speedy completion.—Th.

THE CATHOLICS.—Their numbers in ten counties of Pennsylvania—100 Churches—180 Priests—two hundred and twenty thousand Communicants, etc.—The religious edifices of the Catholic Church of the United States are the monuments of their extraordinary resources and increasing numbers. The outside public has no conception of the variety and splendor of these structures. Every diocese has a cathedral, and not a few of them are noble specimens of architecture. Some idea of the present condition of the Catholic denomination may be formed from the fact that in the ten counties of Philadelphia, Chester, Delaware, Bucks, Berks, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Lehigh, Northampton, and Carbon, in this State, which constitute what is known as the diocese of Philadelphia, in charge of the Right Rev. James Frederic Wood, D. D., there are one hundred churches [including the magnificent cathedral on Eighteenth Street, near Vine], one hundred and eighty priests, and two hundred and twenty thousand communicants.—Western Watchman.

New York, July 19.—A statement is published that the President has decided to send Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan to Europe at once to observe the operations of the contending forces on the Continent. He will be accompanied by two or three members of his staff, and perhaps prominent officers representing the artillery, engineer, and infantry arms of the service.—Gen. Sheridan has been advised of the President's wishes, and is expected in Washington in a day or two.

WASHINGTON, July 19.—A special says Postmaster General Creswell expresses himself perfectly satisfied in reference to the transmission of foreign mails. He informed the President that he had arranged with the Inman and Cunard lines to carry our mails at his rate of charges. If the English steamers fail to carry our mails, it is arranged that they must be conveyed in our regular man-of-war steamers.

New York, July 19.—It is said the Prussian Government has made proposals by cable for the purchase of Stevens' battery, now completing at Hoboken under the supervision of Gen. G. B. McClellan. This is said to be the only vessel that can compete with the French iron-clad ram Dunderberg.

An anxious couple from Illinois recently arrived at a St. Louis hotel, and at their request a clergyman was sent for. After the marriage ceremony was over the happy groom tendered the minister a \$2 bill as his fee, but the landlord suggested that he ought at least to make it a 5. Upon the hint the bridegroom handed out \$3 more. Everything was lovely so far. The next day, when the pair wished to return home, the landlord found that his guest was short of funds—that he had in fact, paid all he had to the minister. The landlord, remembering that he had urged the liberality of the previous day, took it as a good joke on himself, recited their bill in full and bade them depart in peace.

The President has refused to call an extra session of Congress to reconsider his message in regard to admitting foreign ships to American registry. The former decision, arrived at after mature consideration was positive, and we are glad to learn that the President accepts it as such.

The New York Tribune of the 19th inst. says:—An informal declaration of our neutrality in the war between France and North Germany has been sent abroad in the form of instruction to American foreign ministers and consuls. Food, arms, and munitions of war are to be sold to either party to the conflict, but no enlistment of troops will be permitted in this country. This, it is to be hoped, will put an end to the proposition for raising independent corps among the French and Germans of this city, if the idea was ever seriously entertained.