

than in this country; and it may be that the Roman Catholic population, already accustomed to implicit submission in matters of ordinary administration, will display a similar docility in religious matters. If so, the Russian and German Governments may be congratulated on being spared the chief difficulty of religious reforms. We had thought, indeed, that the readiness to adopt a new religion—for a Roman Catholic it would be nothing less—at the command of an Emperor or a King was confined to Japan; and even German peasants displayed at one time considerable obstinacy in their belief. But, at the same time, it will be seen from the very terms of the law itself that its whole efficacy depends upon the voluntary consent of the people. In the last resort, the Government calls upon congregations to appoint their own Pastors; and all depends on their willingness to do so. The question, in short, is whether the mass of the people are sufficiently predisposed to Protestant or Old Catholic principles to be ready to embrace them at the instigation or compulsion of the Government. It is a question which events only can answer; but a Government ought to be very sure of its ground which challenges such an issue. If the people are thus far advanced, it may be doubted whether such a forcible reformation was necessary; and, if they are not, the Civil Power is arraying against itself the whole force of popular fanaticism wielded by a skilful and powerful hierarchy. Can it be worth while to run such a risk for the sake of intercepting the flow of Peter's Pence to the Pope's Exchequer? In a word, such legislation can only be justified, as we have said from the first, by its corresponding to the real wishes of the religious communities whom it affects. It is then conceivable that, in certain circumstances, it might usefully accelerate valuable reforms. But there is little sign of this at present, and the progress of the struggle between the Ecclesiastical and the Civil powers cannot be viewed without apprehension for the peace of the German Empire.—*London Times*.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE HOME RULES are moving sundry things in Parliament, but there was one subject which will open up an old score. Mr. A. M. Sullivan will on next Friday, call attention to the circumstances under which certain changes have recently been made in the Medical Supervision of Irish Convict prisons, "whereby the previous custom of committing such supervision to visiting physicians of especially high standing and extensive out-door general practice has been abolished, and medical officers entirely resident in the prisons, who are exclusively prison officials, have been appointed to the sole medical charge of convict prisons in Ireland." Now this will raise a *furor* in the House of Commons, the like of which has not recently occurred in it, and I expect that one member who has not yet loosed his tongue in Parliament, but who can do it eloquently, Dr. W. H. O'Leary, if he retains his seat in the present election petition trial in Drogheda, will speak. There is much more in the matter than appears on the surface; and it is really a trial of the Government for their usage of the Fenian prisoners when they were in Mountjoy jail. The usage has been that there was a resident apothecary to that jail, and a physician who did not reside within it, and was usually a man of eminence in his profession. Dr. Robert McDonnell, one of the most distinguished of our Irish scientific medical men, and a member of half the learned societies in Europe, was appointed Physician and Surgeon to the prison. He held of course a number of other appointments of the same kind. He was a lecturer on anatomy in St. Stephen's Hospital as well as surgeon to it. He was Royal Examiner in the Queen's University and had a large and increasing practice. He was independent and of the highest social standing, being son of one of the Commissioners of the Poor Law in Ireland and nephew of the Right Honourable Sir Alexander McDonnell, and of two of the Judges of the Landed Estate Court, besides being a connection of Lord O'Hagan. The aroma of officialism was around him, and the Government made itself easy that the State prisoners might be treated as they liked. The *un-patriotic* physician would not interfere with them. But they counted without their host. Doctor McDonnell undertook nothing but duty, the duty of his profession, and without the fear of the Government before his eyes, required relaxations to be made in their treatment of the State prisoners who were either being killed by inches or absolutely tortured out of their reason—indeed many of them were—by a system of bodily and mental torture. The ruling authorities were astonished. They remonstrated, but Robert McDonnell was not the man to be cajoled. The thing reached Parliament and relaxation had to be made in spite of the Government. They were enraged, and they had a ready tool in the jail, a Director named Murray, who was a Catholic and a plebeian, let it be observed, and who ought to have more sympathy with those of his race and creed, whilst Dr. McDonnell was a Protestant and a born aristocrat, if that had any influence the other way. The Director suggested that the Doctor who interfered with the Government should be shelved. He could not be dismissed, and thus the brilliant plan was formed, that a physician should be appointed who would reside within the prison, restrict his practice to its inmates, and thus rid the Government of independent and humane Doctors for ever. No sooner said than done. Doctor McDonnell was superseded, and he forced them to give him a pension for life, which he at once conferred by deed on the fund for Orphans and Widows of medical men, and left in the record of the fact a signal mark of his scorn on the Government and his philanthropy for the suffering and indigent at the same time. Since that time, he has never ceased to ventilate this opposition upon his part to the cruelties of the English Government in Ireland to its prisoners, and with the aid of powerful pens at the press, amongst whom I think I can mention principally that of your chief Editor, he has repeatedly brought the business in some shape before the Parliament and before the public. Once more he is trying in this fashion the Government in their own Court—in their own Senate house. You may expect ray developments from it.—*Dublin Cor. of Baltimore Catholic Mirror*.

DUBLIN, May 30.—Mr. Justice Lawson has delivered judgment at Galway, unseating Mr. O'Donnell, convicting him of the personal exercise of undue influence and intimidation, and condemning him in the heavy costs of the Petition Trial. The decision of the learned Judge will be received throughout the country with unalloyed regret. Profound sympathy will be felt with Mr. O'Donnell, a young gentleman who has, at an early age, when other men are but commencing life, established in the great arena of letters a high, a deserved, and an advancing reputation. The presence of such a man in Parliament was an honour and advantage to Ireland; and the vast majority of his countrymen, including many who differ from Mr. O'Donnell in political opinions will regret that so honourable, and so promising a career should experience even a temporary check. The history of the two election trials at Galway, before Judges of the Court of Criminal Causes, will, we have no doubt, when fairly considered, do much towards raising a question which sooner or later must be fully considered. Is the system which prevails under the recent Act, of trying election petitions before single judges, a sound and useful system, to be cherished and preserved; or a great legislative blunder to be at once rectified?—*Freeman*.

A great many persons are leaving Mallow bound for the Far West. Farmers are complaining that it is almost impossible to procure labourers.

As that a great increase is visible in the number of emigrants embarking at Queenstown for America. In one week alone over two thousand persons were booked for the steamers leaving for New York, and many had to be left behind for want of room. On the other hand, it is noted that travel to Europe from America has fallen off fifty per cent as compared with last year. This is accounted for by the panic and the absence of any great international exhibition on the continent. Another reason is the unusual number of disasters to ocean ships with which the year opened, and which had the effect of deterring cautious people from the dangers of the sea.

ARRIVAL OF ROCHEFORT.—QUEENSTOWN, June 16.—When the steamer Parthia arrived here this evening, a large and unruly mob had gathered on deck awaiting the appearance of Rochefort, who was generally known to be on board. As Rochefort passed down the gangway he was immediately recognized by the crowd, who received him with hootings and execrations, and made a rush for him as he landed. The police surrounded Rochefort, who it is feared would have been lynched but for their protection. The intensely excited mob pressing forward, hooting and yelling, followed the Frenchman to Queen's Hotel. From that place the police escorted him to the depot, where only passengers were admitted. His arrival at Cork was not expected. He therefore passed through the city unnoticed and took the train at 9 p.m. for Dublin, whence he will proceed to London.

THE DUKEDOM OF CONNAUGHT.—This title, which has been conferred on his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, is not quite new in the Royal Family. According to the Peerages of *Lodge* and *Darke*, Prince William Henry, a younger brother of George III., was created in 1764 Duke of Gloucester and also "Earl of Connaught," and these titles passed to his son, the second Duke of that creation, but became extinct at his death in the year 1834. It is also not true that the present is even the second instance of one of the Royal Family being directly connected with the sister kingdom by an Irish title; for example, the Prince of Wales is Earl of Dublin, as was his grandfather, the Duke of Kent; the late and present Dukes of Cumberland have always enjoyed the title of Earls of Armagh; the late Duke of Cambridge was created Earl of Tipperary, and his son, the present Duke, still holds that Earldom; the Duke of Edinburgh is Earl of Ulster; the late Duke of Sussex was also Baron Arklow, in the county of Wicklow; and the Duke of Clarence, afterwards King William IV., was created Earl of Munster in 1789. Probably other examples of Irish titles conferred on Royal personages could also be discovered by the careful antiquary.

At this moment, when the Dublin Athletic season is opening with remarkable vigor, it may not be out of place to draw attention to a very quaint and curious outcome of the controversy on Athletics now raging in England. Mr. Ruskin is not alone the greatest living master of the English tongue, but he is a priest and prophet for thousands of young men of the cultured classes, attracted in the first place by the sustained eloquence of the great critic, and then charmed into discipleship by the trenchant power and transparent sincerity with which the Master attacks all that he deems base and low, ignoble and unworthy. Now, Athletics is to Mr. Ruskin a special object of horror. Resident for a part of the year in Oxford, the medieval calm of that beautiful city is to his ear sadly jarred on by the shouts of "young barbarians all at play," and as he looks down on the classic waters of the Isis, he sees in the rowing boats which swarm on its bosom types of wasted time and ignoble contests of the elevation of the betting book above the Iliad, the muscles above the mind, the body above the soul. Some little time since Mr. Ruskin gave utterance to his views on this subject in prose almost lyrical in its intensity; and, descending from the abstract to the practical, he urged that useful exercise was to be sought in delving roads and digging gardens, not in propelling the outrigger and winking the bat. The word was spoken in season; it fell upon a fruitful soil. Some little distance from Oxford stands the little village of Hinksey, immortalised in the exquisite poem in which Matthew Arnold laments the early death of Arthur Clough. Between Hinksey and Oxford runs a country road, full of ugly ruts, almost impassable in winter and very dangerous in summer. Every day in this present month of May a number of young men are, with pick and spade and wheelbarrow, seen working hard, levelling the hillocks, filling up the ruts, laboring to convert the road into a safe and easy one. These laborers are the Oxford disciples of Mr. John Ruskin. They are students of Oxford's ancient University. They come from these Colleges and Halls, to which through the *jeuneurs d'ore* of England, there are men working on the Hinksey road whose fathers are peers of Parliament, who will some day be lords of manors whose princes might envy, and rent-rolls at which Cressus would stand aghast. Of course it would be easy to over-estimate the import of this matter, and to forget that the novel, the sensational, and the bizarre will always have charms for youth. Mr. Disraeli's young marquise, who turned from a table loaded with delicacies to implore the waiter to bring him some cold meat, is but the type of a class.—*Freeman*.

The subject of "The differences between English and Irish Laws" is one which has had for the people of this country an interest seven centuries old, and seldom, during that long lapse, of a pleasant sort. The most enlightened and liberal minds in England and Ireland have been turned upon a matter of vital moment to the welfare of both countries, and it is honorable to human nature to know that in the darkest hours of our history the oppressive measures employed to debilitate the national strength and destroy the national sentiment were honestly and indignantly condemned by Englishmen and Irishmen charged with the odious office of devising and administering them. Of late, and only of late, there has appeared a change for the better in the spirit of English, or let us say, Imperial, legislation for Ireland. It required a long and anxious process, it demanded the efforts of successive generations of devoted men, and it cost Ireland the lives of many of her noblest sons, broken-hearted by their bitter labor, to shatter the world system of legislative enactments in which she had languished, the shame as well as the terror of England. The national records are one unbroken narrative of resistance to cruel laws. Even with the decided growth of a wiser and more benign course of government, unhappy conditions are still maintained in needless and insulting Coercion Bills, in the denial of measures calculated to advance the national prosperity, and in the enforcement of laws which operate in total antagonism to the moral and religious as well as to the industrial and political instincts of the Irish people. Many reforms have been effected, but much remains to be returned.—The gravest errors and omissions can hardly be said to have been corrected and repaired, while there still await settlement such questions as those now more or less prominently before Parliament.—*Dublin Freeman*.

The first instalment of the census for Ulster was issued on Saturday. It contained the census of the county Antrim, including Belfast. The population of the entire county has increased from 354,178 in '41, to 404,018 in '71. The population of the portion of Belfast in the county Antrim stood at 127,759 in '41; 179,126 in '51; 111,991 in '61; 158,287 in '71. Carrickfergus has a population of over 9,000, and seven other towns of over two thousand inhabitants in the county. Of these, Antrim, Ballymoney, Larne, Legnall, have from 3,000 to 3,000 inhabitants. Carrickfergus has 4,000; Ballymena, 3,000; and Lisburn, 6,000. There were 291 vessels

in the rivers, harbors, &c., of the county on the census night. There are 158 foreigners in the county. In the borough of Belfast there are 55,575 Catholics, 46,423 Protestant Episcopalians, 60,149 Presbyterians, 6,776 Methodists, and 5,390 of all other denominations. In the whole county, including Belfast, there are 107,840 Catholics, 87,311 Protestants, 178,343 Presbyterians, 9,473 Methodists, and 13,651 of all other denominations. The other denominations include 3,581 Unitarians, 1,467 Baptists, 531 Quakers, 21 Jews, 26 Mormons, and a Deist, and an Atheist, and a Confucian. In the county 27 per cent. of the Catholic population over 5 years of age, 17 per cent. of the Protestant, 9 per cent. of the Presbyterian, and 6 per cent. of the Methodist population is illiterate. In the last twenty years the county lost 132,156 by emigration, which was higher in 1870 than any year since 1859.—*Dublin Freeman*.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT TO A BARONET.—I regret to have to inform you that intelligence has just reached Naas of a most distressing accident to Sir Gerald G. Aylmer, Donadea Castle. As I am informed, it appears that Sir Gerald descended to one of the vaults of the castle, with a lighted candle in his hand, to examine into some accident or leakage connected with the apparatus for lighting the mansion with gas. A quantity of gunpowder was also kept in the same place. Immediately on his entering an explosion of gas took place, which was quickly followed by that of the powder, inflicting most serious injuries on the unfortunate gentleman. The full extent of the injuries are not yet ascertained, as Sir Gerald lies insensible, with his shoulder and leg broken, and extensively burned. Great sympathy is felt by all for this distressing accident to a good resident landlord and a kind and courteous gentleman.—*Correspondent of Freeman*.

THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—The Irish Church Commissioners have since 1871 been in possession of a property worth £632,438 a year, which is practically mortgaged for a sum of £11,556,907. The property they have been gradually realising at the rate of about £150,000 during each of the three years which have expired, and out of the sum thus realised, their annual receipts show they have reduced their gross liabilities to £10,555,572, finally placing a capital value of the title rent-charge at £9,621,924, of the landed property at £6,626,948, and of the other funds in the Commissioners' possession at £494,505. Lord Monck estimates that he and his colleagues have £16,748,366 in hand to meet their liabilities. Lord Monck places those at their original amount, or £11,556,907, and estimates that he has a probable surplus of £5,186,459; but, if we follow his lordship correctly, he should have placed them at the reduced amount of £10,555,572, and have credited himself with a surplus of £6,187,794. There are, indeed, good grounds for fearing that the real surplus will far exceed either of these sums. The Commissioners are gradually reducing their liabilities out of their correct revenues, and, as a matter of fact, Lord Monck himself tells us that they will in this way reduce them by £810,000 in about two years from the present time. The property of the Commissioners at the end of that time will still be worth £16,700,000, but their liabilities will be less than £10,000,000. It is evident that as the receipts of the Commissioners exceed their actual requirements, every year which passes before the whole estates are realized must result in a similar consequence, and that the present surplus of £5,000,000 or £6,000,000 will annually become larger. The ultimate disposition of this sum, it must be remembered, has not even been decided.

WATERFORD, Sunday, 31st ult.—Last night some parties broke into the Tramore Coast-guard Station and carried off a large quantity of arms and ammunition. It appears that up to two o'clock this morning, when the reliefs took place, everything was secure, the burglars, whoever they were, must at the time have been secreted in the vicinity of the watch house, because the burglary was detected shortly after the burglars carried off every rifle, sword, and other weapons that they could lay hands on. Inspector Stubbs of the Tramore Coast-guard Station, was at once apprised of the robbery and he at once communicated with County Inspector Heard who, without delay, had a strong police force at work, but without success. The burglars, whoever they were, must have deliberately entered the door and carried off their booty. How they succeeded in effecting an entrance is hard to divine, as it was guarded carefully. There is not the slightest suspicion attached to any person.—*Cor. of Dublin Freeman*.

The publicity given by Mr. G. J. Shell, emigration agent in Dublin for the Government of Ontario (Upper Canada), respecting the resources of the Dominion in general and Ontario in particular, has resulted in diverting a large proportion of our annual exodus this season to British North America. Mr. Shell forwarded by the Allan steamer Nova Scotia from Liverpool and Londonderry on Thursday and Friday last, forty emigrants of the agricultural and female servant classes. Some of these went under the care of the Archbishop of Toronto; others were entrusted to the Rev. M. Stafford, of Lindsay; and the remainder sought various destinations. Immediate employment awaits each individual; and here it is but justice to say that Mr. Shell encourages no person to emigrate whose services are not in demand and likely to secure an instant engagement on landing. The emigrants going out under Mr. Shell's guidance are provided with letters of introduction to the Government agents, and to the clergymen of the various parishes so that they are neither friendless nor homeless on their arrival in their new country. Since the beginning of March, Mr. Shell's efforts have been hardly taxed in despatching emigrants by steamers weekly. It is to him a labour of love as well as of duty, as he knows the benefits he confers upon his fellow-countrymen in directing them to a land where their toil is well rewarded. This gentleman, Irish by birth, but for many years resident in Canada, is acquainted with the cities, towns and districts in the principal provinces, and therefore may be expected to know what part is best suited to persons emigrating to Canada. The visit of Mr. O'Leary, delegate to Canada from the Irish Agricultural Labourers' Union, was brought about by Mr. Shell's instrumentality. Altogether we have sufficient guarantee for the *bona fides* of this respectable agent and the reality of the system he represents. We deplore the constant depletion which is robbing our country of her richest treasures, her industrious and faithful children. But if emigration is to continue, as we fear it will, it is at least satisfactory to feel that the voluntary exiles do not go forth into a strange and inhospitable land, but that their lives across the waves are cast in a wealthy and bounteous soil, and among friends and patrons who take a genuine interest in their welfare.—*Dublin Freeman*.

Wholesale evictions are the order of the day in the County Louth. Seventy-two families, counting over 400 individuals, living in the townlands of Carrickedmond and Monastrib, have been served with notices to quit. This despotism step on the part of the landlords has, it is needless to say, thrown the whole farming community of the county into a state of alarm. The tenants under notice were always punctual in the payments of their rents and no cause is assigned for their eviction. Six years ago their rents were raised six shillings in the pound, and it is thought by some that the present action of the landlords may be a ruse to force them into a still further increased rental. The experiment is a dangerous one, and the man who would try it deserves disappointment.

Reports from all parts of Ireland state that the present agricultural season compares favorably with

the corresponding portions of the past three or four years. Wheat, both winter and spring, is well forward and strong. Oats, Ireland's staple cereal crop, are excellent, and sown over a great breadth of land, barley most promising. At no former period were potatoes so forward or so strong, and but few misuses have occurred. Every prospect of an abundant crop of fruit, and all kinds of vegetables fully a fortnight earlier than usual. The country people, taking advantage of the heat of the weather, are busily engaged cutting peat. Turnips extensively sown. More ground than usual has this year been occupied with mangolds. An experienced agriculturist who has recently been on an extended tour, says he never saw the country looking so charming, or witnessed at this time of the year so rich a promise of early abundance.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—We (*Standard*) understand that the Senate of the new Catholic University for England will include the ecclesiastical superiors of the Jesuit and other Catholic schools in Great Britain. The lay members of the Senate embrace the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Arundel of Wardour, Lord Petre, the Earl of Denbigh, the Marquis of Dute, Sir George Bowyer and Lord Clifford of Chudleigh.

MODERN PROGRESS.—If we wish to estimate the cost at which the Standing Armies of modern Europe are kept up at their present numbers, it will by no means be sufficient to confine our attention to the mere military Estimates. Large as these are, they represent only a small portion of the whole expense which is entailed. It is not only the cost of the arms and maintenance of the soldier that has to be taken into account. We must remember that with few exceptions, every soldier is withdrawn from industry, and that the entire wealth of a nation is lessened by the whole of what he might have produced if he had still continued to be engaged in the pursuits of peace. National defence must of course, be provided for, and it would be poor economy to neglect it; but, when this is once done, every new conscript added to the roll not only increases the yearly burdens of the State, but, at the same time, more than equally diminishes its power of sustaining them. We shall, perhaps, best judge to what extent this twofold result has been brought about if we compare the number of men contributed for military purposes in the principal European States with the total number of inhabitants, and so arrive at the percentage of soldiers in each of them. We ourselves, for every thousand of our population, maintain about three soldiers available for offensive purposes. Italy and Belgium maintain more than four times as many, France and Austria about five times, and Germany nearly seven times as many. In this matter Germany leads the way. Her army is not only numerically larger than that of any other Power except Russia, but it bears also a larger proportion to the whole number from which it is drawn, and constitutes, whether intentionally or not, a standing menace to her neighbours. It is in vain for her to pretend that she cannot defend herself with less. She is well aware that she is in no danger of an attack. France, her great rival, may have given her a fair enough excuse in the time of the Second Empire, but France has had a lesson since which she is not likely to have forgotten, and has at present as little real intention as she has ability of re-commencing the game of war, at which she has been so heavy a loser. Nor is the suddenness of the late attack on Germany any reason why large German forces should be kept continually in the field. It is true, of course, that the actual notice of the late war was very short; but it was known long before to be impending, and the storm did not burst finally until there had been full and ample opportunity of preparing duly to encounter it. The spectacle we now witness is one of needless preparation on all sides, where no danger threatens, or rather where the only danger is such as arises necessarily from mistaken efforts for security. There has been, we are well aware, a great deal of foolish language on the part both of Frenchmen and Germans, and not unnaturally, a great deal of angry feeling. No nation submits willingly to such humiliations as those which France has undergone, and it is necessarily some time before men have learnt to accept facts and to acquiesce in what cannot be avoided. But France, as she has grown stronger, has grown calmer too; and all accounts agree in representing her present sentiments as much more peaceable than they have been for many years past, while there is no doubt, at the same time, that her apprehensions are really excited by the spectacle of an armed Germany, and that she is asking anxiously against whom so many new Krupp guns and Mauser rifles are being got ready, and is beginning to doubt whether her neighbour, not satisfied with his late triumph, may not even now be seeking occasion for a new quarrel in which she is to be again the sufferer.

Our present Peace is such literally as the world has never known before. It is a Peace not only full of mutual suspicion and mistrust, but one which entails as great a burden as Europe collectively has ever borne as the cost of war, and which weighs accordingly on her resources and impedes her progress until a war which would give a real Peace has almost come to be the lesser evil. The worst feature of the case is that the process which is now going on may go on apparently without end, and each new year may only add to the evils of those which have preceded it. Our talk still is of peace and progress; but Peace has been shorn of its accustomed blessings, and progress has chiefly enabled us to devote more money and greater efforts to the preparation for mutual destruction. Is the Europe of the present day, we may well ask, wiser and better than the Europe of our forefathers?—*Times*.

ALLEGED SPLIT IN THE LIBERAL CAMP.—Alluding to the split among the Liberal leaders on Mr. Trevelyan's Bill for Household Suffrage in Counties, the *Standard* says:—Whether the peasantry should have votes or not ought solely to have been settled long ago. As a point of Liberal policy, it was not a question brought forward for the first time, and it may fairly be presumed to be one about which Liberals have been occupied even before the time of Mr. Trevelyan. Mr. Gladstone having announced it in his prospectus of measures for the present session, we are bound to conclude that it could have been no novelty to his colleagues. They must have considered long ago whether it was or was not a measure within the lines of the Liberal policy, and there is no other lesson to be drawn from their disagreement on the bill except that their minds were not made up about it when Mr. Gladstone issued his address, and that as independent members of Parliament they had an opinion, and as Liberal Ministers another. All this is not creditable to the condition of the political conscience of the Liberals, nor very reassuring as to the future; yet the *Apologist* has all the courage necessary to its part of the prophet whose mission is to breathe hope and promise of power to the fallen Liberals. In the course of its apology for those Liberals who did vote for Mr. Trevelyan's Bill it lays down the singular doctrine, that "Evidence of foresight is not what we must look to in our statesmen's professions of policy." Those who aspire to control the course of affairs in this country must, in fact, not look too deeply into the future, but must be content to administer to the humours of the day and the exactions of a not too denoted following. English statesmen are, to a large extent, captains on whom the rank and file rely for their immediate confidence and courage, and if such captains, instead of giving liquid orders for the moment, and telling their troops enough of their minds to enable them to fight hopefully, were to dwell on all the disadvantages of the campaign, they

would find that their followers had little heart for the struggle of the latter days." It is a notable saying and a shrewd policy which we have often attributed to the Liberals, but which we could hardly expect to be avowed in this candid manner. We cannot be at a loss to understand the principle of political strategy which is here laid down. Liberal statesmen are to take care not to reveal too much of their minds to their party; they must keep the future out of sight as much as possible, for fear of damping the enthusiasm of their rank and file.

There are thousands of educated men in the Civil Service, in banks and merchants' offices, who work harder than masons or carpenters, and far more hours in the day, and do not get half their wages; but nobody counsels them to strike, or cares whether they sink or swim. The bastard statecraft of our day obeys no impulse but fear. We are told that a company is in formation, though it has not yet been advertised in the *Daily News*, which will stipulate with all iron and coal masters that they shall henceforth furnish every miter with a silver fork and a champagne glass; that ices shall be supplied in factories whenever the thermometer is above 70; and that an easy-chair and a glass of sherry shall be deposited by farmers at the end of every furrow, to afford repose and refreshment to our unappreciated ploughmen. It is believed by this unenviable company that after a few years of this improved existence they will be fully qualified, with the help of Mr. Arch, to take the Government of the country into their own hands, when they will send Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli, and their disinherited colleagues, to take a turn at the plough. We should say, if we were not afraid to provoke the "roughish drollery" of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, that they had a truer science of Government in Catholic times.—They had no strikes then, and the labourer blessed, and was blessed by his employer. They can only curse each other now. When one-fifth of the soil of England was the property of Religious Houses, what belonged to them belonged to the poor, and even Mr. Carlyle ungrudgingly confessed that it was used for "noble purposes." There were no such landlords as the Monks, because they did not live for themselves, and the "Abbot Samson," the hero of "Past and Present," was only a type of his class. Those days are gone for ever, and nobody hopes to restore them. The age is not worthy of them. Only the other day they seized the furniture of a community of Little Sisters of the Poor for arrears of taxes, and left the old men and women, whom they nursed, lying on the bare ground; and the law justifies them. "This is what the countrymen of St. Guthbert and St. Hilda have become; and they are evidently still improving. One of the effects of the so-called Reformation, of which the world has still to reap the final harvest, has been to convert human society, once a community of brothers under the headship of the Vicar of Christ, into a mass of incoherent atoms, each moving in its own eccentric orbit, and eluding unity in its own eccentric orbit. In killing unity it has destroyed charity, for no man has charity, as St. Augustine says, *nisi qui diligit unitatem*. And there is worse to come. We are drifting rapidly towards Chaos and Antichrist, and when the Reformation has begotten those crowning evidences of its fertility, which it already carries in its womb, even its most enthusiastic admirers will confess that it has completed its work, and has nothing more to give.—*Tablet*.

THE HOME RULE CONFEDERATION.—The Bolton branch of the Home Rule Confederation is on the alert in view of contingencies which may take place from the election petition. The constituency has 12,300 and odd voters out of a population of 92,600. This gives one vote to less than every eight of the population, while you in Ireland enjoy the franchise as one to twenty of the population. The Irish vote of Bolton is 700. At the last election Mr. Cross, against whom the petition is now being tried, had a majority of 132, and it is reasonable to suppose that he obtained that majority because of his adhesion to the principle of Home Rule for Ireland. At Durham, too, the local branch of the Confederation is bestirring itself. I have not been able to ascertain the Irish vote, but it must be something powerful, when, at the last election three professed Home Rule M.P.s were returned between the county and the borough. A new branch of the Home Rule Confederation will be opened at Ormskirk in a few days. This will make the twenty-fifth recognised branch in this district, which embraces Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales. Liverpool has at length commenced to work somewhat better than it has done hitherto, and the accounts received from there this morning are encouraging. The returns for the National Roll continue to improve.—It is likely that some important changes in the manner of working the Confederation will be proposed at the meeting of the general council on June 17th.—*Freeman*.

UNITED STATES.

DEDICATION.—CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.—The Church of the Blessed Sacrament, at New Rochelle, Westchester County, N.Y., was dedicated on Sunday, 7th inst., by Archbishop McCloskey, assisted by Father Daubresse, S.J.; Rev. Dr. McGlynn, Rev. Dr. McSweeney, Rev. P. McGovern, Rev. Dr. Bursell, Rev. S. Malone, Reverend J. Farley, Reverend J. Cole, and Reverend J. Dowling. Mass was celebrated by the Pastor, Rev. Thomas McLoughlin. Mozart's twelfth Mass was sung by the regular choir, assisted by a quartette from St. Stephen's, New York. After the first Gospel, the Archbishop preached an eloquent sermon on "The Unity of the Church." In the evening, at Vespers, the Rev. Dr. McGlynn delivered a very able discourse. The church will seat about 1000 persons, and will cost about \$25,000.—*N.Y. Irish American*.

CONFIRMATION.—On Sunday, the Feast of the Blessed Trinity, Right Rev. Bishop Eenni, celebrated Pontifical Mass at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Milwaukee, and in the afternoon administered confirmation to seventy-three persons. The Right Rev. Bishop was assisted by the Rev. Pastor, Father Conrad, Reverends Batis, Holtzner, Krauthauer, Rodowicz, Decker, and Gieseler of the city, and Reverends Vappelhors, Rector of the Salesianum, and Bruenner, President of the Pio Noni College, and Leygraf, of the Seminary. Father Sigg, Professor from the Seminary, also arrived before the ceremonies terminated.—*Catholic Mirror, Baltimore*.

The Rev. John McEvoy, S.J., now stationed at St. John's Church, Frederick, Md., is the oldest Catholic priest in North America. He was ordained by Archbishop Carroll, sixty years ago, and has, consequently, spent over half a century in the ministry. He is now ninety-eight years of age.

The will of the late General Dyer is a model for brevity and clearness. It is as follows:—"I, Alexander B. Dyer, Chief of Ordnance, U. States Army, reposing the utmost confidence in my beloved wife, Eliza B. Dyer, bequeath all my property, real and personal, to her, and constitute her sole executrix." Gallant, this, from the Rochester *Express*:—"Men do not dare to be as impolite to one another as ladies are to each other or to gentlemen. To be a woman now-a-days includes the right to be selfish and insolent."

VIRGINIA CROPS.—A recent circular of a firm in Richmond says:—"We are approaching our wheat harvest in Virginia, with an unprecedented yield. We have not had a prospect equal to this since the war. Our next tobacco crop cannot be very large on account of the general ravages of the 'fy,' and it is too late to raise more for planting. This fact has improved the value of all good tobacco of the last crop, now coming forward and upon the market."