

some time spent in devotion in their chapel they repair to their labor in the fields, which is only interrupted by a short rest or by prayer at stated hours. Absolute silence is imposed upon them, the only exception being in case of illness. When the Emperor visited the place a year or two ago he expressed a wish to see the features of one of the sisters who air of distinction even under her coarse attire struck him; but he failed to obtain what he asked. It would be a mistake to suppose that the Community consists exclusively of the poorer class of society. Young persons belonging to families of good standing and means have sought, and still seek, to be received in it. There are instances where postulants of the class I allude to have been rejected on the ground that their health was not robust enough to practice the severe rules of the Order. They were not received even as novices, and after repeated entreaties contented themselves with becoming sisters of the neighboring Community as 'Servantes de Marie.'

The ordinary route from Bayonne to Biarritz is the high road from the Port d'Espagne to the village of Anglet. The other passes by the beautiful walk known as the Allee Marines, along the banks of the Adour to the downs which lie between the villes and gardens of Bayonne and the sea. There are few sensations more delicious than those you experience while descending on a summer's morning the banks of the river, which, from this point, where its waters are increased by its junction with the Nive, really looks like a noble stream. At the extremity of the Allee Marines you enter the pine woods the verdure of which defies the winds of autumn and the cold of winter. The road winds through this wood for about an hour, when it emerges on the downs. At one time you enter a deep ravine, where you are shut in among sandhills, and a moment after you catch a glimpse of the sea glittering in the beams of the morning sun. As you proceed along towards the Chambers d'Amour and the Lighthouse, you perceive groups of women working in the maize field on your left, whom you recognize as Bernardines by their peculiar habit and the large blue cross on their shoulders. If you happen to inquire which of the many paths before you leads to Biarritz, they raise their faces for a moment from the ground, and point with the finger, but not a word is uttered. From this spot half an hour's smart walk brings you to Biarritz.

It is possible that at some future time the Refuge and the plantations of the Bernardines will be cited as instances of the skill of religious communities in selecting the most favorable site for establishing themselves. It is certain that, however flourishing the site may be at some distant period, nothing could be more desolate, and, apparently, more incapable of being turned to account than the spot on which, not many years ago, the Bernardines and Servantes de Marie pitched their tents.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

On Thursday last, in the hamlet of Smeem, county Kerry, on the north side of the mouth of Kenmare Bay, amid scenery of surpassing grandeur, the Earl of Dunraven laid the foundation stone of a new Catholic Church, the site of which was presented, rent free, to the parishioners, by the liberal Protestant landlord, Mr. Bland. Lord Dunraven purchased the site for a fishing lodge, there, some few years since, and the following incident in his lordship's address, on the occasion of the ceremony, last week, are highly creditable both to himself, as a pious and devoted Catholic, and also to the liberal Protestant landlord. The *Curk Examiner* reports his lordship to have said:—

'I well remember the day when I first came here to Mass. Immediately that I saw the place in which the Holy Sacrifice was performed, I said to myself, 'How strange it is that I should go build for myself a residence, and surround myself with every comfort and ornament which it is in the power of a gentleman to procure, while the church of the parish—the house in which the mysteries of God's Church are celebrated—is left desolate and in ruin.' From that moment I determined, if it pleased God to give me my life, that I would contribute, as far as lay in my power, to the building of an edifice in which the people of the parish would be able to worship God without being exposed to the inclemency of the weather, and in which the Holy Sacrifice could properly, and with due solemnity, be performed. I have been able to do that. I have seen the work happily inaugurated to-day, and I assure you it affords me the most sincere gratification. Amongst the many things which I have to rejoice at to-day, there is one which gives me the most profound satisfaction, and I shall not lose this opportunity of mentioning it. I mean the noble conduct of your landlord, Mr. Bland, in giving us the ground for the church. When I asked him if he would give a lease for ever of the old site, as we were going to build a new church, his reply was—'Certainly, I will.' I then said—'Will you give us some more of the ground surrounding the building, as we wish to plant it and make it ornamental?' He again most readily responded that he would, and said, 'Come down and point out what you want. This is a matter which I will leave entirely to your self.' I came down with him; we went over the place, and then he went away leaving me to mark out as much land as I might consider necessary. 'I leave you,' he said, 'to fix the boundaries yourself; take as much as ever you want.' When next I met him I asked him about the rent—what rent he would require. 'What?' said he, 'do you suppose that I am going to take rent for this land? No; whatever extent you want it, must be a free gift from me to the parish.' I only wish every landlord in Ireland would take an example of liberality from Mr. Bland. I can assure you that poor as this parish is, there are many parishes in Ireland which would be glad to exchange land-lords, for it is not every where you meet with the like of him. I have known Mr. Bland for many years, and I am happy to say that my relations with him have always been those of the warmest friendship; and so truly will always be, because I believe him to be that which it is by no means a common thing to meet with in these days—a just, honorable, and liberal-hearted man.'—*Cor. of Weekly Register.*

The Catholic University is steadily filling up the gaps that separate its own direct and immediate mission from the extreme end of the series of functions which, in different degrees of remoteness, appertain to its position and need its supervision. The numerous affiliated colleges throughout the several dioceses which receive its Rector and Examiners, and co-ordinate their course of studies to the University Programme, give it a footing of immense strength, whilst the recent establishment of High Schools, under its own direction, in some of the provincial cities is another important step in a lower and much-neglected direction. The direct control of such an institution in Dublin, has long been felt as a great want by the University, but one which, owing to the liberality and generosity of the very Rev. Dr. Quinn, has now been remedied. The St. Lawrence Seminary, for many years so successfully directed by the Rev. Dr. Quinn, now Bishop of Brisbane, and for the last few years by his brother, the Rev. Dr. Matthew Quinn, has been generously handed over by the latter to the University, as a High School of which it will reopen the week after next. The establishment accommodates 200 boys; and will consist of four graded schools, each self-contained, and specially fitted up and officered, suited to its own work in the stage of studies. Boys will be prepared to go direct from that school to the University, or to compete for the prizes in the higher grades of the Civil Service, or to pass off to mercantile or private life. Again, the College of Evening Classes, for that large and influential body whose daily occupations exclude their attendance either at the High School or at the University, forms another valuable provision for the social section for which it is designed. And, finally, the proposed

Training College for Teachers, the direction of which appears to be a fit function of the University, would to some extent connect it with the working and the life of primary education, thus completing the gradual connection of the extreme links of the chain of education.—*Id.*

OUR NATIONAL LANGUAGE.—It is cheering to perceive that there is no danger of decay in our venerable language. In our youth such was the insane ignorance of parents even in small towns, not to say cities, in Ireland, that they used to punish their children for speaking the Irish language. But that was the result of the penal law against it. So far did the relic of Catholic persecution extend as that the schoolmasters had been in the habit of tying a small wooden score around the necks of children, which, when they arrived at school, the master put to his ear and pretended that he whispered to him how many Irish words the pupil had spoken from the time he left till his return to school, and for each word the child received a slap. This we, ourselves, witnessed. This barbarous custom had two effects—it helped to prevent the growth of the language, to bring it into disrepute—and it was calculated to secretly superinduce a habit of lying—whilst, at the same time, it impressed the pupil as he grew up, with a poor opinion of his teacher's veracity. He then learned, with disgust, that the score was only a knavish exercise of hypocrisy. Thank heaven such an infamous system has, long since, ceased, and that the old tongue is now in general esteem. If Poland is battling for the use of her language, making the matter of its preservation—a condition—surely we should exert ourselves in sustenance of the Celtic language which is, according to the expressed opinion of the learned of every country, the *mater inguorum*. Doctor Parsons in his magnificent work, 'The Remains of Japhet,' has an interesting table in which he proves the truth of our statement. He says, therein, that the Irish is the parent of the Celtic dialects, and that it is the parent of the language of every country through which he travelled. This being so no man can be a linguist nor an accurate historian unless he has competent knowledge of our rich tongue. Homer abounds in words, whose roots are to be found in our vernacular. The test for the derivation of terms is—the short word is the root of the long one—and not the long one of the short. This is natural.—*Connaught Patriot.*

ORANGE ATROCITIES IN THE NORTH.—For some time past Gilford and its neighborhood have been the scene of a series of Orange outrages which have provoked a very bitter feeling in the minds of the Catholics all through the North. The latest deed of the Orange fraternity is an attempt made last Saturday to burn an honest and unoffending man named Farewell and his family in their beds. This diabolical attempt was very near succeeding. One account says—The thatch of the house had been ignited in three places and was burning most furiously when observed. The night of the occurrence being the first Tuesday of the month, the 'blues' at the several lodges had congregated, and, as usual when returning home after their night's debauch, they amused themselves by firing pistol shots. The reports awoke poor Mrs. Farrell, who was much alarmed at the unusual red appearance which enveloped her house. Having drawn her husband's attention to the matter, he rose, and on going outside, to his astonishment, found the roof of his house in flames. He gave the alarm and assisted by his neighbors, soon succeeded in extinguishing the blaze. During the time poor Farrell was working life and death to preserve his all, the Orange incendiaries were scattered in the fields round his house, and continued firing pistols all the time he was engaged. Could human villainy possibly exceed this cruel attempt to burn alive a man, his wife, and eight children, for the purpose of affording a pleasant spectacle to the members of the Orange Lodges returning from their orgies? We shall see whether the Government will take any pains to bring the actors in this disgraceful scene to justice.

STATE OF THE CROPS.—Up to last week nothing could be more favorable than the reports of the potato crop; it was considered, in every part of the country, to be both abundant and free from disease. The crops from the north of Ireland, however, are not so satisfactory. The late rains, which greatly improved the green crops, seem to have seriously damaged the national cereal, and the old and dried crop of 'rot' is once more being re-echoed in the journals. The *Northern Whig*, a paper that devotes considerable attention to agricultural matters, affords only too positive evidence that the crop in the north is in danger. It publishes from correspondents reports on the progress of the harvest: from 11 districts, scattered over the counties of Antrim, Down, Armagh, Tyrone, and Londonderry, in no less than seven of which the blight, or rot, is said to have manifested itself with more or less destructiveness. This is a serious circumstance, and happily as yet no parallel to it has occurred in any other part of Ireland. It is gratifying, at the same time, to find these correspondents reporting in sanguine terms of all the other crops, including flax. In Ballymore the general crop will be in early; flax is turning out well, and the potatoes are emphatically declared to be all right. In Ballymena the general crops are also good, the yield of flax is more than an average, and the potatoes are excellent and plentiful. In Larue, and here the bad accounts begin, hardly a diseased tuber was to be discovered last week in the potato crop, and now they are numerous. In Saintfield the disease is not increasing, but the flax and other crops are large. In Holywood the blight is becoming more general, flax is yielding well, and the green crops cause no complaints. In Donaghadee the rot is visible in some fields, and the farmers, fearing a fall in the price of flax, are hurrying it in all ill-preserved state into the market.—In Newtownards there is some grumbling about the potato, the harvest is general in the neighborhood, and one person got the sum of £36 for the produce of two barrels of Biga flaxseed, sown on about three Cunningham acres. In Banbridge the potatoes are greatly injured, the stalks being nearly all decayed; the ripening of the grain crops has been retarded by the rain; and the flax is excellent in quality. In Portadown the rain has improved the green crops, which will be over the average of former times. In Donaghannon all kinds of crops are 'doing first-rate,' and for the last 20 years it 'has not been blessed with a better crop of oats, nor, since the famine, with a better crop of potatoes.' In Strabane wheat and oats are full, large, and heavy in the ear, the flax is being rapidly prepared for market, and the potatoes are diseased. In Newtownlimavady a hailstorm which passed over it some days since greatly damaged the crops. Some of the hailstones are described as being nearly an inch in circumference.—This exhausts the reports in the *Whig*, and the principal lesson derivable from them is that no dependence can be placed in the potato. It is a precarious crop at best, and ought not to be planted largely. The extreme caution with which the northern farmers sowed flax this year, notwithstanding the encouragement they received from all quarters, will also be regretted by many of them. It is now evident that it would have been the most lucrative crop they could have grown. Next year, probably, they will reserve a larger acre of ground for it.—*Cor. of the Post.*

We (Kenmare correspondent) were agreeably surprised here on Monday (1st ult.) by the visit of no less than two monstrous whales. One of them came in with the tide, and was first seen between Ormond's Island and Ardea by a man named Shea. The sea monster soon floated into a creek, and apparently fell asleep, when Shea and two boys took to a boat and made him fast to a rock by means of a rope. The tide having receded, Shea dispatched the animal with an axe. It was found to measure 26 feet in length and 15 feet in girth. Crowds of people flocked to see it during the day, and while it was being cut up another whale drifted in with the tide and was captured.

A man named Martin Mullavan, a native of the King's County, was killed on the railway which is at present making between Rosoree and Birdhill. The unfortunate occurrence took place near Shalee. Mullavan was engaged in driving the waggons, and, going to the wrong side, the waggons went over him and caused instant death. The coroner held an inquest, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.—*Limerick Reporter.*

A Letterkenny correspondent writes:—'Three poor girls were coming through Glendown to Mass at Gortan chapel, on Sunday, when a heavy shower caused them to take shelter under the arch of a bridge on the road. While there the torrent came suddenly upon them, and swept them away. Two were drowned, and the other escaped, though severely injured, her skull being fractured. A waterspout must have been the cause.'—*Derry Journal.*

A Waterford paper says:—The blight has unfortunately made its appearance on the potato crop, though rather later than last year, and the potatoes were of excellent quality, until the mysterious disease began to show itself. It is hoped that the blight is gradually dying out, and that the 'Murbies' will shortly be as healthy and prone to 'laughing' as in the good old times. As to the tide of emigration, it appears checked, but it has not entirely ceased. 'During the week we noticed several small parties of emigrants arriving in town for America, all of whom were young, and apparently belonging to the respectable farmer class.

The time for saving an abundant harvest has brought with it a singularly slight abatement of the exodus of the Irish peasant class. Nearly all the steamers calling at this port for passengers for the United States depart full, and in many cases hundreds are left behind in the absence of space to accommodate them on board. The steamship *Edna*, of the Inman line, called at Queenstown yesterday afternoon from Liverpool, but of the 400 passengers awaiting her—with scarce an exception belonging to the farming class, and many appearing in comfortable circumstances—a few only could be taken, the ship being nearly full from Liverpool. The remainder are detained till the sailing of the next steamer of the line, being, provided for by the company, as stipulated by the statute. The preponderance of the softer sex amongst the emigrants is now considerable, and it would gladden the heart of a hydropathic to observe the groups of our fair countrywomen who, decked in their rustic finery, enliven the wharf of Messrs. C. and W. D. Seymour, the local agents for the line, on each sailing day. They appear to regard their departure from the country as the commencement of a brighter era in their lives, and the occasion is honored by them with quite a holiday and singularly joyous appearance.—*Cork Herald.*

At a Killalea Petty Sessions, on 7th ult., before J. Brown, William Spaight, and W. S. Studdert, Esqrs., a case was heard in which two factions, the Connells and Skelans, were pitted against each other in court, as they had been in the field, and the immediate cause was a disgraceful fight which took place on the 20th of August, at a place near Fahybridge. The parties on both sides are of the respectable class of farmers, and comprise all ages, from the gray-headed man of three score years to the young boy and girl of sixteen. They are all hale, hearty, and comfortably dressed, and nearly every one bore some mark of the savage fray in which they had been engaged. The original cause of the hostility between the factions was a dispute as to the possession of not more than about an acre of land. Litigation followed the first disagreement, and, resulting in favor of one party, embittered the already acrimonious feeling of the other, and their animosity found issue in various fights between the offshoots and the 'old stock.' Every effort was made to settle the matter by the residents of the neighborhood, but without success; and a short time after a more serious battle than the one in question took place between them. As a last effort at a pacification, the disputed piece of land was divided between the parties by their landlord, but even the good-natured mediation of the landlord was so far thrown away. What made the entire proceedings the more disgraceful was the fact that the contending parties were family connexions, nearly all being first or second cousins. The case created a good deal of interest in the neighborhood, and the court was crowded. Mr. John O'Donnell, solicitor, Limerick, appeared for the Connell party; and Mr. Daniel Doyle, solicitor, for the Skelan party. There were 16 summonses for assault and eight for witness fees. Informations had been sworn in nearly all the cases. The magistrates after consultation, read the informations, which were all indicative of the wilfulness of the assaults, and exciting surprise that the fray ended without fatal results. Mr. Brown said he never saw such brutality in all his life. All the parties bore terrible marks of the fight, and he was very much shocked at their conduct. They were the very class of persons he would have called on to quell such a riot as that which took place, and something should be done to prevent a recurrence of such scenes. After further consideration the magistrates, through Mr. Brown, announced they had well considered the case from the evidence before them, and they believed the Skelans were evidently waiting for the Connells to come up to quarrel with them; and they believed the Skelans had gone home quietly, as they ought to have done, there would be no fight at all. But, at the same time, the court considered that the Connells, by their conduct had deserved punishment, because they went a good deal farther than defending themselves. The decision of the bench was, that Patrick Skelan, lat. Skelan, Jr., and Thomas Ryan be imprisoned for one month with hard labor; and that Michael, Peter, and Daniel Connell be imprisoned for one month with hard labor; and that John Connell, Jr., and John Connell Sr., lat. Skelan give bail for their good conduct for three years, themselves in £40 each, and two sureties in £20 each. Mr. O'Donnell asked to have the alternatives named in each case. Mr. Brown said that the court had determined to impose no fines. They knew a fine was useless to these men, and that reason they left them no alternative but to go to jail. The parties sentenced were then taken into custody.—*Clare Freeman.*

GREAT BRITAIN.

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.—We learn from our American correspondence of yesterday that, while Mr. Seward is paying Canada a visit, the American press is urging it in the most pressing language to put itself under the protection of his paternal government. The New York papers supplement their threats to this country of annexing Canada by force with the most tempting invitations to Canada itself. The unassisted speculation of our readers would probably be exercised in vain to discover what advantages the United States can offer the Canadians in exchange for the temperate freedom and material prosperity they experience under the government of the Queen. But the New York *World* certainly holds out a prospect which might tempt a young and growing community. If the Canadians obtained admission into the federal Union, they are told that they would be insured exemption for ever from all the horrors of war; they would be saved the enormous expense the mother country is trying to impose upon them in the way of fortifications; they would have the boon of absolute free trade with the Federal States; they would have 'the benefit of Yankee energy and capital to develop their resources,' and, lastly, 'they would gain a share in the destiny' of the great Yankee nation. This language really sounds like the mere cry of an ignorant rapacity but as it seems from our correspondent's letter of yesterday that it actually represents the feelings of not a few well-informed Americans it may be worth while to draw some attention to it. The extraordinary part of the matter is not so much that the Americans should display such entire ignorance of the feeling of this country respecting its relations

with Canada, as that they should be so hopelessly blind to the most patent facts of their own condition. That a people in the agonies of a bloody and exhausting war, and threatening war every day to the most powerful and warlike States of Europe, should hold it out as the principal advantage of union with their country that it insures exemption from war forever, implies an amount of acidity or fatuity which is quite incomprehensible.

As to the value of a share in the destiny of the great Yankee nation, we must leave the Canadians to form their own estimate. The people who once formed the United States have, no doubt, an important destiny. It does not look very hopeful at present, enveloped in the glare and gloom of war, devastation and debt. But we will only ask the Canadians to consider that they would have to give up some certain and present advantages for the sake of this doubtful and distant destiny. At present they are to all intents and purposes in possession of perfect self-government. The appointment of a Governor General by the Crown is almost the only restriction on their political freedom, and his authority is as little check upon the free action of their Legislature as the veto of the Queen is upon the English houses of Parliament. As a member of the federal Union they would not have half the independence they now enjoy; and they must remember, too, that as matters look at present, the destiny which they are invited to share would very probably involve a sacrifice of this independence to a military despotism. They enjoy, moreover, at present the certainty of an equal and impartial administration of the laws. They are sure of personal liberty, of the freedom of the press and of complete security for property. In contrast with all these advantages, let them reflect on the presence of Mr. Valandigham on their soil as an exile, for no other offence than that of free speech, upon the state of siege in which New York is held, and upon the reminiscences of Fort Lafayette suggested by Mr. Seward's visit, and they will be perfectly able to judge for themselves of the sort of exchange they would make. We urge all these considerations on the attention of the Canadians without any anxiety for their decision. We have set them up as a nation, lent them money for their public works and supplied them with troops and munitions of war; and if they make their choice to stay with us, and will but show a reasonable willingness to bear a fair share of the necessary burden of defence, we shall be heartily glad to keep them, and quite ready to help them to the utmost of our abilities. We only stipulate that we cannot and ought not to do all the fighting for them. If, however, with their eyes open to the prospects, they prefer annexation to the United States, we are equally ready to let them go. We are quite sure they have no other alternative but these two. They could no more exist as an independent nation by the side of the United States than a lamb by the side of a wolf. They have to choose between union with us and annexation to the Federal States; and by the choice they make we shall abide. By way of bringing these considerations to a point we beg to suggest for their particular consideration at the present moment the following question:—They have lately shown an excessive unwillingness to provide even an reasonable force of militia to resist a possible invasion by the United States. If they were annexed to the Union they would immediately have the conscription forced on them by gunboats and artillery. Which will they choose—to fight freely and willingly for the defence of their own homes, or to be dragged at the cannon's mouth to feed an alien struggle in the heart of a distant, foreign and unhealthy country?—*London Times.*

MR. BUCKLE ON CATHOLICITY.—The following letter addressed to the Editor, has appeared in the *Bombay Catholic Examiner*. Sir,—In these days, when men's minds in England are occupied in denouncing the works of Bishop Cullen, Professor Jowett, &c., it will doubtless be interesting to your readers to know the thoughts of the late Mr. Thomas H. Buckle, the celebrated author of the 'Civilisation of Europe,' respecting the Catholic Church. I had the pleasure of travelling with Mr. Buckle, shortly before his death, from Mount Sinai to Jerusalem, through the great desert of Arabia Petraea, and also through a part of the Holy Land. Speaking to me on one occasion upon America, Mr. Buckle remarked, that he had heard that Catholicity was making great progress in that country. A slight pause followed this remark, which was broken by Mr. Buckle continuing to say—'Yet what is there astonishing in it, for what has Catholicity to compete with in America. Protestantism—a system which professes to allow every man to believe what his private opinion dictates, and at the same time condemns any man's opinions which differ from the various teachings of Protestantism.' Mr. Buckle also remarked to me more than once during our travels, that, of all the doctrines propagated by the various bodies of Christians, the doctrines taught by the Catholic Church he believed to be the most consistent with common sense.

In his work on 'Spain and Scotland,' when speaking of the latter country, Mr. Buckle writes—'It is almost impossible for any man, whose opinions differ from those of the people around, to live anywhere in Scotland, except it be in one or two of the largest towns, without becoming a marked man.' This quotation I have written from memory only. Curiously led me to ask Mr. Buckle if he thought he himself would be more chummed as a Catholic, were he living in Scotland, than he would as a Deist. Mr. Buckle did not hesitate one moment, and at once told me, that he believed the Scotch would be un-Christian enough to prefer him amongst them as a Deist, but he thought it advisable not to write anything in his works disparaging to Protestantism in comparison with the Catholic Church. On asking a friend of Mr. Buckle's how it was that Mr. Buckle did not write as freely as he spoke upon Protestantism and Catholicity, I was immediately told that Mr. Buckle's works had already brought upon him an immense amount of ill-will amongst a certain class of Englishmen, and that he would only incur the more displeasure by writing anything in favor of the Church of Rome as compared with Protestantism.

The gentleman who mentioned this, told me at the same time that he coincided very much with Mr. Buckle in his opinions respecting the Catholic and Protestant Churches. Mr. Buckle was born a Protestant, and I am sorry to believe, died a Deist. The other gentleman I allude to was born a Presbyterian, but confessed to me that he had all but become a Catholic, some time before I met him, and told me when we parted, he was going to Germany for the purpose of studying the German theology of the nineteenth century. Such is the state of many of the educated English one meets both at home and abroad now-a-days.

When all this will end, God alone knows; but it is difficult to imagine, what a chaos of confusion the world would now be laboring in, had there been a 'Rock of Pella' to meet the fifteen hundred 'ites,' and 'isms' that have sprung up within the last three hundred years.

Scotus.

Bombay, June 11th, 1863.

See how it fares with Catholics, and especially with Catholic Priests. Their claim to the observance of celibacy is felt as a reproach upon the lax morality prevailing among all classes and conditions of our people—and among none more than among our married merchants and gentlemen; and, therefore, every opportunity is taken of having a fling at them in the newspapers—more especially when any charges of a criminal tendency can be brought against them. Nobody finds the least fault with the daughter of the Archbishop of Dublin and her father's Chaplains for establishing what is called the 'Birds' Nest,' where poor Catholic children are caught; aged, and reared up as staunch Protestants, in defiance of the threats and entreaties of their parents; but the whole Press is scandalised at the conduct of a Priest of the Oratory, who received into

the Catholic Church the Captain of the Westminster School because he is only eighteen years and six months old! And no wonder. Those who commend and admire the missionary zeal of the managers of the 'Birds' Nest,' and the Bishop of Tuam and his family, cannot but be grieved to see that, while these worthy persons are subscribing and squabbling to obtain possession of the very scum and sediment of the Catholic body, they are losing in reality some of the most promising and many of the most distinguished members of their own communion. To employ a phrase borrowed from the gold-fields of Australia, the No-Popery Societies are getting only the product of the clay washings, as obtained in 'Birds' Nests,' Ragged Schools, and Work-houses; whereas the Priests obtain all the rich nuggets, in the shape of such converts as the Oxford men, Hope Scott, and several Members of the two Houses of Parliament. No wonder, then, that Ultra-Protestant paragraph-writers make a point, whenever they have an opportunity, of holding Catholic Priests up to ridicule, and trying to show that they are rather worse than their neighbors.—*Hull Advertiser.*

THE FLEET AND THE PRIESTS OF GREENOCK.—A greater measure of success, as to the prevention of the sin of looking at ships on Sunday, has attended the Beggs of the West than was attained by the head of that act nearer home—and it is worth while to take notice what that success came to.—Warned by the blunder made by the less wise man of the East, the Western Beggs did not address an order to the admiral of the fleet to the effect that, on visiting the fleet on Sunday would be shocking to the feelings and principles of the people, the admiral most forcibly prevent the people from so shocking themselves. Neither did they go to the opposite extreme, of enjoining the people themselves to act according to their own principles and feelings.—They hit on the happy medium of appealing neither to the visitors nor to the visited, but to the gods between. They first got 'the authorities' into their possession, and then induced the authorities to see their rather irresistible 'influence' with the owners of steamers to sign bonds not to take people to the fleet on Sunday, under a penalty of 20l. The result we find thus stated in the *Greenock Advertiser* of Tuesday:—'A large number of persons went off to the vessels in shore-boats, and during the day forty to fifty boats plied constantly between the fleet and the quays.' In the primitive days of chimney-sweeping, a humane old lady, as Joe Miller tells, objected to the prevalent practice of having her chimney swept by the pulling up and down of a live goose, but expressed herself satisfied with the proposal to have the operation performed by means of a couple of live ducks. Just so are the old bodies of both sexes at Greenock satisfied with having prevented the Sunday sailing of four or five steamers, and having the operation performed by 'from forty to fifty boats.' As much as Joe Miller's old lady did against cruelty to animals have her sisters and brethren at Greenock done against Sabbath desecration.—*Scotsman.*

THE RANS.—On Monday one of these formidable vessels, concerning which so much has been said, was towed out of Messrs. Laird's Dock at Birkhead, and taken into the Morpeth Dock basin, where it is understood the remainder of her fittings will be completed. It is expected that her trial trip will take place in a few days. It is but right, however, in the meantime to state that her builders do not affect any mystery or secrecy with regard to what is going on in their works. On the contrary, they have invited Admiral Dueres and the officers of the Channel fleet to visit their building yard and inspect all that is going on there—a privilege which has been availed of to a considerable extent. A similar privilege as to inspection has also been conferred on the officers of the fleet by the Messrs. Steel and Iron Works.

The public will certainly have learnt with some satisfaction that the two iron-clad steamers now approaching completion in the Mersey will not be allowed to leave that river until something more is known of their ownership and destination. As Lord Russell acknowledged a short time ago the inability of Government, in default of evidence, to venture upon this step, we may presume that the grounds for interference have since acquired strength, and, indeed, although not yet a warrant for conviction, it was hardly possible to overlook the universal impression, whether justifiable or otherwise in the case before us. What ever might be the complexity or the innocence of this party or that, it was every where accepted as beyond reasonable doubt, that these two vessels were ultimately destined for the service of the Confederate States, and the proceeds of the Alabama and the Florida enabled us to manufacture the future stages of their equipment, and the uses to which they would be turned.—*London Times.*

The *London Star* feels that it is the intention of French Government to speedily recognize the Confederate States. It adduces various acts and demonstrations to justify the belief, and comes to the conclusion that we must be prepared for French recognition before long.

SHIP BUILDING BY NEUTRALS.—As long as the transaction is merely a business one bullioner right has no operation in the dominions of a neutral Power, and, therefore, the trade of merchants in the market of such a Power cannot be subject to any interdiction. This is the opinion of many lawyers of experience and standing, and in that case the course of the merchant is very clear. If he merely constructs a vessel to be employed in war by others, he does not infringe the law. He is, therefore, perfectly safe, and is liable to no interference, but he must be equally ready to supply either party with what they require. Our Government, however, has shown that it thinks the trade ought to be put a stop to, and there is no doubt that the two vessels now in the Mersey will not be allowed to leave the port of Liverpool.—*The News.*

The *London Herald*, advertising to the rumored probable recall of Mason from London, says it is in consequence of the systematic ruthlessness with which he has been treated by Earl Russell. The *Herald* hints that it has been through the suggestion of Mr. Adams that Mr. Mason has been excluded from official intercourse with the British Government.

EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERIES IN WHITECHAPEL CHURCH.—Some months ago a dead body was found in the roof of one of the galleries of Whitechapel Church. On Wednesday week another, that of a child, was discovered during some repairs of the roof on the southwest corner, and the fact caused so much excitement that the churchwarden, Mr. Lancaster, gave orders on the following day for a thorough search of the roof, when eleven coffins, three of which contained the bodies of children, were brought to light. Eight of the coffins were broken asunder and were in pieces, apparently from violence; three were in good condition, and one had written on it in blacked pencil, 'Mrs. Foster, 35 Bedford-street.' Two of the children are supposed to have been stillborn. It is not apparent how the third child came by its death. In addition to these remains, about seven skulls of children were found, and they were stained with blood. There were some bones and dust, and the remains of clothing. A esp was on the head of one of the bodies, and napkins were also lying amongst the remains. The sexton, Mr. Wilkinson states it is his opinion that the bodies prove, by the manner in which they crumble into dust when touched, that they must have been deposited in the roof forty or fifty years ago. Other persons, however, are of opinion that at least one of the bodies has been dead only twelve months. The bodies are at present deposited in a cupboard in Whitechapel Church. From inquiries that are now being instituted by the coroner, it would appear that the bodies were chiefly those of stillborn children, and that they had been secreted by a bygone sexton, for the purpose of 'pocketing the burial fees.'—*Guardian.*