

and the warbling of her canary-birds, whose cage, now covered with their mistress's great shawl, was as silent by day as by night. Even Henri's dog would scarcely wag his tail when his master called him. Every day Jules came softly to ask after the health of the invalid and carried the news to the frequenters of the bridge whose meetings were no longer merry.

'It is sorrow that is killing her,' exclaimed one. 'It is the fright she got the day that the road crumbled from under her,' asserted another. 'It is very sad in any case,' sighed M. Charles.

'You should say rather that it is tragical,' cried M. Firmin; 'I always promised that our Rose would wither away like a true rose.'

'Do have done with your verses, M. Firmin,' said Jules angrily; 'do you consider it a time to be making fine speeches when the poor girl is dying, perhaps?'

Madame Vidal was much grieved when she heard of Rose's illness she longed to see her, but was withheld from going by a fear of the reception she might expect to receive from Babet. Rose, meanwhile, lay prostrate with fever; she constantly fancied herself on the brink of a precipice, and would cry out that her feet were slipping and that she should fall over. Then she would implore Henri to come and help her, and could not be calmed unless he held her hand or supported her head; once she looked at him fixedly, and then burst into tears. The Cure and Sister Theresa came to see her; their visits did her good, and very slowly she began to recover. Sleep returned to her, and by degrees her strength also. One beautiful morning in autumn they carried her into the garden; she was still very weak, but the air seemed to revive her. Henri brought her some flowers, a beautiful crested hen, and a bullfinch in a cage. As she was caressing the bird with her little thin hand, the thought of the mule came across her again. She turned quite white and shuddered.

'I was thinking of that poor beast that is dead,' she said, 'and how you saved my life that terrible day.'

'Life,' said Henri, but not loud enough for her to hear, 'life is not worth much without happiness.'

'There is the postman,' exclaimed Rose, suddenly.

Henri got up and went to meet him. 'Look,' said he, as he came back to her, 'here is some happiness for you, perhaps,' and he put a letter into her hands. A feeling of delicacy made him withdraw to a little distance while she read it, and when he returned to her side he saw that she had been weeping.

'Don't cry,' said he, rather sharply. 'In a few days you shall be happy, Rose!'

'Oh, no,' answered Rose; 'I feel that I shall never be happy again.'

'Do not talk such nonsense. When at the top of the mountain, in the face of death, I promised God that I would make you happy, do not think I did not mean it.'

'Oh, no, I know how good you are, there is no body in the world so good,' cried Rose.

'Well, be merry then. Laugh as you laughed a month ago, and sing as you used to sing to put me in a rage when I scolded you.'

'Oh, if you would but scold me again, only for once,' said Rose, hiding her face in her hands.

'Well, then, let me see you open this directly,' replied he, taking Rose's money-box out of her basket.

'What for?'

'To obey me.'

'Oh, in that case I will. Give me your knife.' She made a slit at the bottom of the box and widened it with her fingers. The contents rolled out upon the table; no less than forty-five pieces of gold.

'It is for a substitute,' said Henri coldly, as Rose looked up at him quite bewildered.

'For Andre?' asked she, almost breathless.

'Yes, for Andre,' he repeated in a constrained voice.

'Oh, what do you mean?'

'To-morrow morning I start for Bordeaux, and I shall take this money to Andre, and shall tell him at the same time of a man I know who will take his place, and in a few days he will come back to marry you.'

'No, no, Henri; I entreat you to take back the money. I will earn enough to set him free myself. I cannot and will not owe it to your generosity and goodness of heart.'

'And then what becomes of my promise, the promise I made to God; do you think I do not care about fulfilling it? Who knows, Rose, whether you or I or Andre have long to live?—Twice within the last month you have been very near death, my poor child. I swore to make you happy, and I must do it as I value my salvation. God only knows what I suffered during those days when you was at the point of death. And now let nothing more be said. You shall marry Andre and be happy; you will forgive me for what I have made you suffer, and not be angry with me any more.'

'Angry with you! oh, Henri!'

'And whenever you may feel inclined to resent my past roughness and unkindness, perhaps you will try to think leniently of me, remembering the sacrifice I have made.'

'Henri, dear Henri!'

'Come, do not cry; that will do no good either to you or to me. We will never speak of what is past; and will be friends whether we are near each other or far apart.'

'Far apart! what do you mean, Henri? she cried.'

'I mean to say that you may always reckon on my affection.'

He paused, and passed his hand across his forehead; and, after a moment's hesitation added—

'On the affection of a brother—who loves you.'

The following day Henri started for Bordeaux and Rose returned to her daily occupations in her uncle's house. But while Babet went about as usual, and the sun shone, and the birds sang

and the dog snored, and the children sported on the village green, and the insects on the banks of the stream, Rose, the merriest of all the maidens of Pau and its environs, was silent, and often heaved a deep sigh; the uncertainty of the future seemed to weigh heavily on her spirits.—Six times in an hour she would read Andre's letter, which certainly, was not the way to get on with her work; she seemed to be learning it by heart. But whether it pleased her, or the reverse, remained a mystery which she revealed neither to Babet nor any one else. It would appear, however, that she had confided the secret to Henri's old dog; for twice she took his rough head between her hands and pressed it to her heart.

CHAPTER X.

Alice de Morlaix lived with her grandfather in the old castle of La Roche Vidal. Her childhood had passed calmly and peacefully in the midst of the old family pictures, the dismantled halls, and the stately enclosures of the ancient building, whose foundation and part of the walls dated from the middle ages. Among the flowers, the birds, the green hills, and the rural scenes of her native country, she had grown up surrounded by noble traditions, and in the midst of scenery that was imposing without being gloomy. Her heart was full of the love of God, and she had a passionate admiration for the good and the beautiful, and an enthusiastic reverence for the faith of her fathers. Her life was not spent in idleness: prayer, study, work, and the service of the poor and the sick, to which she devoted herself with all the ardor of a young and fervent mind, divided the day, which she always found too short for the sacred duties and the innocent pleasures of her untroubled existence.—An expression of peace and serene happiness shone in her face, and there was a wonderful tenderness in her voice, whether she spoke, or sang, or prayed. When she sat reading at her turret window, or at the foot of a spreading oak, her whole soul engrossed by the words which riveted her eyes, she might have been taken for Vittoria Colonna; but when kneeling at the bedside of some dying man, or strewn with white roses the cradle that had been visited by death, while she gently raised the thoughts of the agonised mother to Heaven, she seemed more like the angel whom God sends to His elect in the hour of anguish. She wandered alone over desolate heath and forests, following the course of the rivulets, or climbing the mountain sides, strong in her innocence, fearless in her simplicity; like Dryden's milk-white Hind,

'She fear'd no danger, for she knew no sin.'

Alice had friends in every cottage, and every hut. The little shepherd boys saluted her when they saw her in the distance. When she went into the village, the children greeted her with shouts of joy; and the very dogs would run to meet her. The love which overflowed her heart was extended even to animals. She might have said, with St. Francis of Assisi: My brothers the birds, my sisters the bees. Neither were inanimate objects excluded from a place in her affections. She had an almost passionate attachment for the home of her ancestors, the old feudal castle of La Roche Vidal, with its walls cleft by time, and threatening to crumble away; and for the garden where the roses bloomed amid the yews and cypresses, and where the lilacs and snow-berries mingled in the spring with the white hawthorn blossoms, and the long clusters of laburns. There was music for her in every stone, in every tree, in every shrub, and a crowd of childish recollections was attached to each and all of them; to the bench where she made her morning meditation, seated at the foot of a broken statue, to the arbor where she mused in the evening as she watched the setting sun. From thence she would gaze lovingly on the old porch where the poor came every day for bread, on the church steeple and the cross of the burying ground, on the valley where the breeze swept the undulating corn, and the vines bent under their rich burdens, and on the sea which bounded the view with a shining line, even as life is bounded by eternity.

(To be Continued.)

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DEDICATION OF KILMACANOGUE CHURCH.—This church, situated at the base of the Sugar-loaf Mountain county of Wicklow, and about five miles from Bray, was solemnly dedicated on Sunday, to the service of God, by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin in the presence of a crowded congregation. The church of Kilmacanogue, or, as the word implies, 'The Church of the Son of the Virgin,' is generally called 'Kilmacanick.' Though built many years since it had never been dedicated, owing to the influence of the penal laws and other causes. It is a district church of the parish of Baniskerry, and has been lately enlarged and decorated by the revered pastor, the Rev. T. O'Dwyer, who, it is deeply to be regretted, is confined to his bed, in consequence of severe injuries which he received some days since by a horse taking flight and throwing him out of the vehicle in which he was driving, but it is most gratifying to know that he is progressing favourably.

THE PENAL LAWS AGAINST THE DOMINICAN FATHERS.—The subscriptions to make up the £500, of which the Fathers were unjustly deprived by the existing state of the law, progresses steadily, and already approaches £400. The parish of Blarney made a timely and admirable initiative of country subscriptions—its respected clergymen having made up and handed in the sum of £15. A few other parishes following this example would soon realize the proposed sum.—Cork Examiner.

Not one among us desires to ignore the anomalous character of the Irish Church. It is the onerous inheritance bequeathed to us by our forefathers. If the members of the House of Commons were privately examined, it would be found that there is not one of them which does not regret that the Irishmen of two centuries ago were not as vigorous and united as Scotchmen in resisting the imposition of a religious establishment repugnant to our wishes. But they were disunited then as they always are, and we are cursed by the success of their ancestors. The difficulty is before us, and it is not very easily managed. If it has not been more vigorously dealt with, it is because no one knows what would be carried away by the momentum of its downfall.

The Cork Constitution states that the mere rumour that the American Government is about to impose an export duty on cotton has caused a rise in the price of wool in that city; and it will also operate in favour of fax.

THE COLONIAL DEPARTMENT OF THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.—We learn from the Dublin Evening Mail that on the 2nd of June His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and Lady Wodehouse paid a special visit to the Colonial Department of the Exhibition, and first visited the Canadian Court, where they were received by the Rev. Dr. Adamson and Mr. Thomas Devine, P. R. G. S., two of the Commissioners sent over by the Canadian Government. Lord Wodehouse remained for half an hour, entering into a full inspection of the products of the province, making minute enquiries with respect to its manufactures, minerals, geology, and general resources. The beautiful photographs of the scenery and buildings in the different parts of Canada attracted his especial attention, and his Excellency put several questions with respect to the percentage of the various mineral products of the country, and examined with attention the skins of its animals, manufactured into furs, comparing them with the skins of other furred countries, with which he showed a remarkable acquaintance. Lord Wodehouse, after expressing great interest in the province, parted with the Commissioners in the most cordial manner.

The most prominent figure in the Dublin Exhibition is a large statue of the Pope in the act of penning the famous dogma of the Immaculate Conception. It is the property of a Roman hospital, but is understood to be for sale if a purchaser can be found. The Irish people are so grateful to the Roman Court for its generous assistance to the Exhibition that a subscription has been started by the principal citizens of Dublin to purchase the statue as a memorial of it.

TENURE OF LAND IN IRELAND.—The Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to consider the subject of the improvement and tenure of land in Ireland has examined Judge Longfield and Lord Dufferin, and the enquiry still continues.

Judge Longfield's evidence was that the chief drawback to the progress of Ireland is the absence of manufacturing industry in the greater part of the country, and the consequent dependence of the population upon agriculture alone. The general result of his experience is, that no adequate capital is expended in permanent improvements either by landlord or tenant. Such improvements as are made, are made by the tenant, and the tenant is prevented from making improvements by the feeling that if he expends his capital on the land the landlord will reap the benefit without contributing towards the improvement. Judge Longfield thought that legislation on the subject was necessary. He did not propose an extension of the Ulster Tenant Right. Judge Longfield's recommendations are, leases for twenty-one years with good covenants and compensation. But he does not recommend a lease for holdings under twenty acres, unless the holding be close to a town. If the tenant makes no permanent improvements he ought to get nothing. If he makes permanent improvements he ought to have the full value of them in hard cash when the lease expires. Judge Longfield would not allow the tenant to claim compensation for improvements made of his own motion without notice to his landlord, but if the landlord were to object to any proposed improvement Judge Longfield would give the tenant the right of proving before the Court of Quarter Sessions that the improvement would benefit the estate. A further recommendation of Judge Longfield was, to take from the landlord the power of distraining for rent, and in return to shorten the time in which the landlord can recover possession of his land by ejecting the tenant. The advantage of these changes in Judge Longfield's eyes is that landlords, knowing their inability to recover arrears of rent, would be careful to select none but good tenants.

In defending his opinions under examination, Judge Longfield insisted that in the Landlord and Tenant Question, there is no complaint made that the law in England and Scotland is more favorable to the tenant than in Ireland; on the contrary, he said, it might be laid down, that in one respect the law is more favorable to the tenant in Ireland.—But he did not think that the same system which prevailed in England and Scotland ought to be applied to Ireland, where the character of the people was different. The farming classes were not so frugal and industrious in Ireland and although an Act of Parliament cannot make a people frugal and industrious, still frugality and industry may be encouraged by Act of Parliament.

Lord Dufferin's evidence is, that as compared with other parts of Ireland, the counties of Down, Armagh, Monaghan, part of Londonderry, part of Tyrone and part of Donegal, are less backward in agriculture, that the inhabitants are more industrious, that the relation between the tenantry and the landlords are on the whole better, and that the custom of tenant right exists there, but he says, 'I think it right to state that I should not be disposed to attribute those good relations subsisting between the tenantry and landlords in the north of Ireland to the existence of tenant right, but should rather say that what is called the custom of tenant right has been the consequence of those good relations.'

He defined the custom of Tenant Right as follows:—'Tenant right is a custom under which the tenant farmers in the North of Ireland, in those districts where the custom prevails, are under the belief that when the occasion shall arise for them to give up possession of their farms, their landlords will facilitate their obtaining such a sum as shall remunerate them for their improvements upon their farms. But at the same time, though that is a perfectly legitimate definition of the custom now understood, there is undoubtedly another element which exists and influences the operation. But that element is a very impalpable one; because although, particularly of late, since the question has been agitated and the real elements of tenant right have been analysed by public discussion, even the farmers themselves will refer their claims to a claim for improvements, there can be no doubt that the sums which have been in the habit of being paid by the incoming to the outgoing tenant very often have no relation whatever to the real valuation of those improvements; and instead of being called tenant right of the farm, which is now the term, it used, until very recently, to be called the goodwill of the farm, and under that designation a different thing would be understood. Under the first (tenant right) the sum would be paid for the value of improvements into which the incoming tenant is about to come. Under the other term of goodwill it would almost approach to 'black mail' paid by the incoming to the outgoing tenant, in order to induce the outgoing tenant not to interfere with his quiet possession of the farm.'

This custom, he said, 'on the whole and in a certain sense' had been a benefit to the North, and had given the farmer a sense of security. But he distinguished, and said—'So far as tenant right represents a custom under which the landlords of the north of Ireland have been in the habit of allowing facilities to the outgoing tenant to receive from the incoming tenant fair compensation for permanent improvements which he may have effected on the farm during the term of the tenancy, and for which he may not have to recoup himself for the money expended and a fair interest on it—that custom has been an excellent one. But so far as tenant right is a custom under which, without any reference whatever to improvements, the incoming tenant has been in the habit of paying to the outgoing tenant an enormous sum of money, amounting in many cases to ten and twenty years' purchase of the rent, the custom is a most unfortunate one.'

That an industrious tenant should receive compensation for his improvements he thought most desirable. If a tenant had built a house without the sanction of the landlord of any objection he would give the tenant the full value of the house at the determination of his tenancy. But with regard to improvements of a different description which may be repaid to the tenant, capital and interest, within a

certain period, he thought the compensation ought to be regulated by such a custom as is adopted in England and Scotland under similar circumstances.

Lord Dufferin would wish that throughout Ireland the tenant might receive compensation for his improvements. That would be his best inducement to invest his capital in the soil. The best way of arriving at an estimation of the value of the improvements would, he thought, be by the decision of some professional man totally unconnected with the neighborhood. He would give the value of the improvements in a lump sum. In counties where the custom of Tenant Right existed, he thought that an Act of Parliament containing such provisions would work rather to the disadvantage than the advantage of the tenant; but in other parts of Ireland he thought it would be beneficial to provide for compensation, though he did not see how the result was to be arrived at and thought Judge Longfield's suggestion of an appeal to the Quarter Sessions bad in principle and not practicable. Lord Dufferin thought that the farmers in Ulster, generally speaking, are rather prosperous than otherwise, and that as a general rule the sum given for the tenant right of small farms is higher in proportion than that given for large farms. But, he said, in many instances one of the original causes of the decline of small farmers is the enormous price they have to pay before they can enter into possession of their farms, and he gave a discouraging description of the prospects of the small farmer, even when the custom of Tenant Right was established. He said:—'During the last few years especially, I think it is very evident that the small farmers of 15 acres or so, are going to the bad. They are struggling men, and I do not think they will be able to survive for many years. The career of the tenant is this:—He has a large family in the first place—if his sons grow up they do not like to grow up as labourers, and prefer to assist him on the farm. He is unable to keep a sufficient number of cattle, his rent grows into arrears, and at last he comes and says he wishes to give up his farm.'

We confess that as far as the evidence of these two authorities are concerned, we do not see much ground for hopefulness. The proposal to abolish the landlord's power to distrain for rent, that he may be careful to select solvent tenants, appears to us the most powerful incentive to consolidation and extermination that can be suggested. The class of small holders, the occupiers of less than twenty acres, are the class in whose behalf the Tenant movement was principally begun, and seem to be the class on whose behalf nobody has any suggestion to make that can ever be made to look like an advantage. As far as the country at large is concerned, there is no doubt that anything which would cause tenants with good holdings, with some skill and a little money, to put their capital and labor into the land would be a boon. Whatever may be the reasons why this class require more inducements to do so, and more protection after having done so, in Ireland than elsewhere, let the inducements and the protection by all means be provided. They will become richer, and the country more prosperous, and their interests are worthy of the State's best solicitude. But they are not the class whose trials, sufferings, and danger, gave the Land Question in Ireland that importance which caused its settlement to be considered the country's highest object and chief interest.—Tablet.

THE FENIAN BROTHERHOOD IN IRELAND.—The following is from the London Globe of the 9th May:

A meeting of the 'Fenian Brotherhood' was held in Clontarf on Sunday. About three o'clock a crowd of men and boys, to the number of 1500, assembled at Dollymount, and proceeded in procession to the plains of Clontarf, where they were joined by a large body of their confederates. Inflammatory addresses were delivered by a Mr. Doyle, who appeared to be the leader in the proceedings. The ostensible object of the demonstration was to express sympathy with the people of the United States, but the real purpose seems to have been to give vent to a quantity of sedition, and to advise the working classes not to join their countrymen in giving a loyal welcome to the Prince of Wales. The advertisement calling the meeting was as follows:

'Sic semper tyrannis' 1865 versus 1172

'Irishmen!—63 years of bloody extermination and rapacious plunder by British butchers (countrymen of the Queen of England's son) demand of you silence and contempt, and not even by your outward appearance show the slightest participation in the hollow rejoicings that will be paraded before you on the 9th by the descendants of Strongbow and Cromwell who happen to be born in Ireland, but avow their allegiance to England. Irishmen! testify your loyalty and devotion to Ireland by uniting in the bonds of brotherhood to have Ireland for the Irish! By order of the Vigilance Committee. God save the people! the speakers talked of planting the green flag and the stars and stripes on the Irish soil, with the help of the Americans.

SISTER ERIN.—Ireland is a truly wonderful place! It may rain there as if the Collector of the Clouds had mislaid the key of the celestial water plug after turning it on; but it also shines there as if the sun had bought property in the Encumbered Estates Court, and meant to be residential landlord. The Irish girls, too, are like the Irish weather—their sadness just as dark as their black hair, their joy just as radiant as their blue eyes; and whose else in the world, except in a land of Celtic contraries, does one see blue eyes and black hair together? When they weep it is like the rain of Slieve-na-moon; when they laugh it is like the orb of day rising on the Hill of Howth, 'half sunshine, half tears.' The puzzled world, all history through, has been constantly breaking its heart for or with them; and Erin, green Erin, the Irish girl par excellence, with the harp that was touched so sweetly by the fingers of Tom Moore and Tighe—with the mouth that has often been so passionately eloquent when Curran and Grattan and Sheridan spoke—with the heart that has given us half our heroes, and with the blarney and the brogue that made us laugh at them—Erin is, of course, the type and brief epitome of her daughters. When she rushes into the House of Commons, between Scully and Mr. Pope Hennessy, with her beautiful black hair down and her blue eyes streaming with weep or un-speakable, because the pig didn't fetch a good price or the potato has failed, or shillelals have been put down at Belfast—that is Erin the Rainy. When she entertains visitors at Dublin, proud of herself and her handsome capital, does it like a lady as she really is, then that is Erin the Sunshine—Erin that laughs more wonderfully than she weeps—Erin, the dear, the delightful, the abnormal, who fights at a christening, and who gets shockingly jolly at a funeral, generous and absurd, faithful and furious, radiant and despairing, clever and inconsequent, the mother of heroes and of bulls—a Celt in fact, of Celts, and therefore dowered with all the good qualities and half the foibles of every other race of mankind.—London Daily Telegraph.

GROSS ORANGE OUTRAGE.—A Man Shot and Two Wounded.—Armagh, Sunday.—At half-past two this morning three men were fired at as they were passing through Gallan-street. One of them, it is said, was shot in the back, and it is thought he cannot recover; his whole back has been frightfully cut up from below his shoulders to his head. Another of them has received several slugs in his back, and so did the third. Gallan street is one of the Orange quarters of this town. A person—a well-known Orangeman—is charged with being principal in the outrage, and informations have been sworn against several others.—Irishman.

The Sligo Champion says:—The number of emigrants who left this port en route to America, during the past week, was 170; besides 40 who were dispatched by the Derry route. They were principally young men and women of between 16 and 25 years of age.

THE EXODUS.—The steamer Vesta left this port for Liverpool on Monday with the largest number of emigrants that yet took their departure from our quays by one boat for a length of time. They all appeared to be of the middle class, respectable and good looking, and included a number of young women. Every day the exodus assumes more formidable and alarming dimensions, every county in Ireland contributing its quota to the ever outward flowing and tideless stream. Even the proverbial fecundity of the Irish can never keep pace with this arterial drainage of life and youth from the country, and its future portends a civilized waste.—Waterford Mail.

The Limerick Reporter of May 26, says:—For the last two or three mornings whole caravals of emigrants of both sexes of the agricultural class have passed from the Clare side of the Shannon through Limerick, to take their passages at the terminus for Queenstown, preparatory to expatriating themselves to the United States of America. Each set was accompanied by a musician, who played in lively airs, the company all keeping chorus. There is no new feature in emigration from Clare. The regrets and lamentations are reserved for the moment of parting.

The local press are all complaining of the exodus of the Irish to America. The Mayo Constitution says:—'Those who believe that emigration to any extent will tend to the mutual advantage of those who go and those who remain, may have their theory gratified this season, at least so far as the departures are concerned. The numbers of our peasantry who weekly leave our shores are in excess of any former years, especially since the news of the termination of the war. The steamers from Cork, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Derry are not able to afford accommodation to the emigrants, passages being actually engaged weeks in advance, and passages running up from five guineas to £7 and £8 by some lines.'

At the meeting of the Cork Agricultural Society held on Saturday, Mr. N. Dunscombe in the chair, Mr. Egan directed attention to extensive frauds in the Cork butter trade, which seriously affect the character of the Cork brand. He asked why the committee and merchants did not exclude from the market all fraudulently made up butter. They should brand it, and then people would know what they were buying. Mr. Sarsfield said that the fraud was widespread over the whole country, and Mr. Meade said that most of the butter that came from the west was fraudulently made up. The following resolution on the subject was passed unanimously:—

'That the attention of the Cork Agricultural Society having been called to the quantity of fraudulently made up butter introduced into the Cork market, we recommend the committee of merchants to add to their rules one declaring that no member of their body shall be concerned directly or indirectly in its manufacture, or shall knowingly receive it from the makers, and we recommend them to make such further regulations as will prevent the Cork brand from being affixed to fraudulently made up butter.'

TYRANNICAL AND CORRUPT.—There is no necessity to tell any thinking politician that the fate of the Irish Church does not depend on the retention of a form of words in the Catholic Oath, which would never prevent a single member of Parliament from voting on a division whenever the fate of that much-assailed institution shall be in question. If the Irish Church fall, it will fall through the agitation of the Roman Catholic population of Ireland, who are not bound by an Oath; it will fall by their alliance with the English Dissenters and Liberals, who are equally untrammelled by any form of words; and, finally, it will fall by the deliberate judgment of a Protestant House of Commons, the members of which, whether Anglican or Dissenters, are perfectly free from any obligation to maintain it. To suppose that in a country where 'Liberation Society' exists, directed against all ecclesiastical establishments, and where not a Session passes without Protestant members of Parliament denouncing this very Irish Church as the chief iniquity of the age, any advantage can accrue to the Church from the conscientious scruples of a few Catholics, is a delusion so complete that we cannot believe any man entertains it. In fact, no people would be more ready than the Conservative leaders to admit that the Irish Establishment must maintain itself by its own strength, and not exist by the forbearance of its adversaries.—Times.

The report which has been published by Sir Robert Kane, as President of the Cork Queen's College, does not present a very gratifying picture of progress in that institution, and will scarcely give satisfaction to its supporters. The most remarkable feature in the report is the apparent absence of material advance either in the number of students attending the College or the educational standard maintained amongst them. The report extends from the beginning of the Session 1863-64 to the opening of the present Session. It appears that the number of matriculated students at the commencement of the last Session was 241, the number of non-matriculated students being 19. In the present Session the number of matriculated students is 249, and 14 non-matriculated students are attending lectures besides. This shows a numerical increase utterly insignificant when we regard the great inducements which the College is able to hold out. In a young institution too, we might fairly expect steady, if not rapid, progress for years to come, and when we find the annual increase consisting of no more than three students we certainly are entitled to doubt the glowing accounts we occasionally hear of the complete success of these Colleges. But when we examine the statistics of the several faculties we discover not only no advance, but even a falling off in the most important of them—the faculty of arts. In the Session of 1863-4 there were 68 matriculated students in this faculty; in the present Session the number has fallen to 65. In the department of engineering also there has been a decrease, the number being 46 in the Session 1863-64, and only 41 in the present Session. There were beside five non-matriculated students in arts in the former period, and none in the latter. In engineering there were two non-matriculated students in the year 1863-64, and none in 1864-65. The total falling off, therefore, has been, in arts, four matriculated, and five non-matriculated students; in engineering, five matriculated and two non-matriculated students.

FORGERY ON THE BANK OF IRELAND.—A few days since a cheque for £3,000, bearing the name of Sir Robert Peel, was received from a London bank by the officials at the Bank of Ireland. The cheque was at once fortunately discovered to be a forgery. On enquiries being made it appeared that a person supposed to be one who had been employed as a clerk in the Bank of Ireland got an introduction to a London bank and presented the cheque above mentioned. It was forwarded to Dublin in the usual course for advice, and the fraud sought to be effected was discovered. The presenter of the cheque, consulting his experience, suspected that his plans had been frustrated, and very wisely absconded. He has not been since heard of.

The Ulster Observer says:—Amongst the noticed motions on the table of the House of Commons, the following important one stands for debate at the call of Major O'Reilly, M.P., for the 18th of June:—'That, in the opinion of this house, the evidence taken by Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Belfast riots, and laid upon the table of this House, contains statements so seriously impugning the official conduct of certain magistrates named therein, that equity to the magistrates so accused, and a due regard to the vindication of the impartiality of the administration of justice, require that a full inquiry into the truth of these charges should be instituted by the authorities intrusted with the supervision of the magistracy of Ireland.'