

file; and that the Fusilier Guards could only produce on parade 210 men; corporals and sergeants included, out of 552 sent out from first to last. This statement is corroborated by many other accounts, and though it may be difficult to ascertain exactly the efficient strength of the army at any particular period, there can be no doubt the general facts. The most startling of the statements above given was confirmed, indeed, by a letter from an officer which we yesterday published, and in which the writer said: "Imagine the frightful mortality of the poor 63rd; they came out more than 1,000 strong, and they have now only seven duty men!" We must, of course, take into account the losses at Inkermann and in the batteries, nor is it to be understood that all the men thus lost to their regiments have actually died. Many are, no doubt, in hospital—we hope to recover—and some are now convalescent in this country; but the result, after all, is terrible beyond precedent.

(From the Tablet.)

DISASTER OF THE ARMY.—The old anticipation of the Tablet are more and more confirmed by every new intelligence from the seat of hostilities. The skies rain destruction on the English army when the missiles of the Russians pause in destroying them, and disease more terrible, because more irresistible than the Muscovites, does the work of the Czar without the intervention of an army. The folly of rulers at home has proved more fatal than the hostility of the enemy abroad. Paralyzed by the hand of God, the manufacturer of comforts, the distributor of luxuries, the proud nation of merchant princes cannot supply the meanest necessities to soldiers who fight for its interests while unfed by its sagacity. If the present tempest blow at the command of Heaven, to change the pilot, and substitute inexperience for imbecility, assuredly will not save the foundering ships. No! A visitation which has for its mission the punishment or intolerance and unbelief cannot be averted by the expedients of human policy. The irreligion of Britain is punished in the instrument of its conquests.—Threatened by the Russians, unaided by their countrymen, preyed on by pestilence and frozen by the icy blasts of a Crimean winter, the wretchedness of this army is the most appalling in history. A terrible retribution has visited the proud people who scoff at religion, mock at its priests, threaten its vestals, and refuse to believe its mysteries. They thought they could command fortune, but they cannot command the miserable rations of private soldiers.

The finger of God is here. Without receiving the wages of treason, the Coalitionists have done the dire work of traitors; and Russia could not be better served, nor English power more crippled, if Nicholas himself were a Minister in the Cabinet. That ministerial honesty which acted like treason could be only imbecility; and the apology of Ministers, their defence, is that they did "unwilling evil," were well intentioned fools. But it is God who has done it, and the empire which imitated the language and action is suffering the penalty of imperial Rome.

Though in action with the Russians many brave soldiers have fallen, it appears that thirty times as many have perished under the management of the Ministry, and we know nothing in history equivalent to English mismanagement at Balaklava. The climate, to the rigor of whose winter Ministerial negligence has stripped the British soldier, is a foe in itself. It is a remarkable fact that now, for the first time in British history, England fights a northern enemy on land. Unfortunately, as many nations have proved, the inhabitants of the north are as invincible as their climate. The northern nations have often triumphed in battle, but have never been conquered in war.—Repeatedly has the yoke of the north been imposed upon the world—never has the sceptre of the south cowed the tenants of the colder zones. To Russians the Crimea is a paradise; accustomed to the Siberian severities of Northern Russia, they deem a country which grows the grape genial and benign as the Hesperides.

In occasional battles Russians have often been defeated; in war they have always been victorious. If even the genius of Napoleon I. directed the valor and enlightened the councils of Great Britain, Napoleon, like Cyrus, like Alexander, would succumb to these new Scythians. Unfortunately, instead of the genius of Napoleon, we have had the imbecility of Aberdeen, and the result is seen in the recent news from the army. If 125 patients expire in Scutari, four die of their wounds; the remainder, 121, being slain by the late Ministry.

The calamities of the army equal the intolerance and irreligion of Britain. Her disasters do not, they cannot surpass it. The sorrows of the gentle Nuns are avenged by the rude horrors and the icy winds of a Tartarian winter.

As usual, when the hand of God interposes—when it is Heaven itself which acts—men seek and mistake human for Divine causes. Lord John Russell admits the calamity, but does not account for it. He says it is "horrible and heartrending." A twelvemonth ago he would have scoffed at the prophet who should predict such calamities. Still more must he have doubted them when he penned his Durham epistle. Is there no connection between these things? What if Lord John Russell, and the howl of fiendish bigotry he aroused, were the cause of these disasters! What of that? The statesmen are puzzling themselves for a reason, and as a reason Mr. Sidney Herbert denounces the army "from brigadiers to privates as ignorant of its profession!" But was it not this ignorant army which conquered repeatedly on the battle-fields of Asia? Is it so ignorant that, if it fail to triumph, it cannot even live? Mr. Bernal Osborne denounces the constitution of the staff, and declares reform must commence with the Horse Guards. "Sir George Grey adopts the apology of inexperience," though the generals were selected expressly for age and experience, which, according to other parties, is the source of their blunders. These are not the causes. The disaster is really judicial, and it is in vain that Sidney Herbert blames the medical department or any other department. The cause is higher. "Everything is wrong" in spite of the experience of Asiatic warfare. The Times says:—

"Never was there so unvaried a story of failure. The picture of the camp, the trenches, the road, the harbor, the transports, the hospitals, and even the arrangements at home, is still the same. Yes, at the very last date within this fortnight all the evils are increased. All this time our gallant allies were only suffering misery and death such as are unavoidable in every campaign. Such a uniformity of calamity on one hand, such darkness all round, and such light round the tents of the French, could not be accidental." The Times deems our disasters "inexplicable."

We can explain them. The anger of God is visiting the sins of Protestant Britain. She is threatened with the punishment—would that she copied the penitence of Nineveh.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF THE REV. JOSEPH SHEAHAN, P.P. OF KILMACABEA, DIOCESE OF ROSS.—The Rev. Joseph Sheahan, P.P., Kilmacabea, diocese of Ross, has died. He breathed his last on the 7th, and was buried on the 10th inst. With fondness, and with sorrow will this sad announcement be received by all who had known this good, and dear, and devoted Priest.

DEATH OF THE REV. PATRICK O'ROURKE, P.P., CELBRIDGE.—We deeply regret to announce the death of this amiable and respected Clergyman, which took place on the 12th inst., at Celbridge, in the 72nd year of his age, of a malignant fever caught in the discharge of his sacred duties. The Rev. Mr. O'Rourke had officiated in Celbridge upwards of 26 years, during 18 of which he was Parish Priest, and throughout that lengthened period he had endeared himself to his parishioners by his devotion to the duties of his Divine calling, and by these amiable and benevolent qualities which peculiarly distinguished him. But this feeling of regard for the reverend gentleman was not confined to the members of his own flock. He was universally respected by persons of all religious persuasions, and on the day of his funeral the shops of Celbridge were closed, and his remains were attended to their last resting place by many of the gentry of the neighborhood and others who professed a different creed.—We understand that the good Priest has left all the money which he was possessed for the purpose of building a temple for the worship of Almighty God.—*Freeman.*

EXCLUSION OF CATHOLICS FROM THE POOR LAW COMMISSION.—The Irish Catholics have received their answer from the Government. They demand protection for their religion, by adequate safeguards in the administration of the Poor Law; the result of their appeal to the justice and wisdom of the Executive is, the removal of all the Catholic Poor Law Inspectors, with one solitary exception. It has been deemed expedient to remove five of the sixteen Inspectors, and it so happens that every one of the five marked out is a Catholic. There are eleven Protestant Inspectors, including several Englishmen; but not one of them has been placed upon the rejected list. All the officers of this class who have been served with notice to quit have the misfortune to be Irishmen, and, so far as the good things of this world are concerned, the unfavorable repute of being Catholics. When those five gentlemen shall be weeded out, there will be but one Inspector of that denomination—namely, Mr. W. P. O'Brien, which will just serve as the single exception to prove the rule of general intolerance in the exercise of Government control over the Poor Law System in Ireland. The religious grievances connected with the administration of the Poor Law have been accumulating, and the cases of complaint are rapidly increasing. Every newspaper exhibits the rampant pretensions of proselytism. But there are many cases of sore oppression against conscience that never came before the public. We are acquainted with the facts of one case, in a northern union, which strikingly exhibits the want of protection or sympathy for Catholics at the Irish Poor Law Board. A pauper child whose father was a Catholic, was registered as belonging to that religion by her mother, who, although a Protestant, carried out the wishes of the deceased father. After three years had elapsed from the registry of the books of the workhouse, the religion of the child was changed, on the ground that the mother had been a Protestant. A remonstrance was made to the guardians, but without effect; then the Commissioners were appealed to, but they gave no redress; and now it is in contemplation to bring the question before the Court of Queen's Bench. And it is when the entire Catholic community are in a state of excitement at the manner in which those charitable institutions, supported by a heavy poor law tax, are abused for sectarian objects that every Catholic but one, employed in a post of influence and responsibility in the administration of the law, is to be removed. From at least one of the union workhouses, in a western and Catholic district, the Sisters of Charity have been ignominiously expelled, without any allegation of a fault, or of a breach of any rule of the institution.—Such is the manner in which the poor law has been administered in Ireland.—*Evening Post.*

Monday last the Corporation of Clonmel presented a congratulatory address to Captain Kellet, C.B., the successful Arctic voyager, in the Court-house of that town. The illustrious discover of the North-west Passage, Captain McClure, and Captain Kellet, who so opportunely came to the relief of himself and his starving crew, are both Wexford men.

Pauperism is decreasing rapidly in Ireland. On comparing the number of workhouse inmates for the year ending 22nd of April, 1854, with the previous corresponding interval, we find the diminution to be nearly 40,000 in each week throughout the series.—The returns for last year give nearly 400,000 indoor and more than 13,000 out-of-door paupers; and these unfortunates were fed at the low average rate 1s 4d per head weekly.

It is a remarkable fact in the history of Ireland, to hear serious complaints coming from the province of Connaught, in the month of January, of the great scarcity of labor; yet so it is. The farmers can with difficulty procure hands, and then only at such wages as have never before been paid in the middle of winter. If such be the case now, what will they do when spring requires a vast augmentation in the number of laborers? And worse still, when the next harvest requires to be reaped?

We regret to learn that great destitution exists in Arklow, in consequence of the high price of provisions on the one hand, and of the utter failure of the autumn and winter fishing on the other. The preceding summer and winter the fishing was very irregular and insufficient, and the result of all is, that upwards of two thousand persons are reduced to the greatest destitution.

CHOLERA IN COLERAINE.—According to the last weekly return, there had been, during the week, 77 new cases of cholera and 113 of diarrhoea—the deaths from the former being 20, and from the latter none.—There remained 42 cholera and 84 diarrhoea cases under treatment. The last week was the most severe, there having been 20 cases of cholera and 27 of diarrhoea altogether since the commencement.

The Limerick Chronicle states that the cholera is raging in Mullingar, and has proved most fatal.

In all parts of Ireland the mildness of the season up to the middle of January, has had a most beneficial effect, whilst the present high price of agricultural produce has stimulated the greatest exertion in preparing for an early crop.

DRIVERS FOR THE CRIMEA.—Several smart young fellows from this neighborhood have joined this useful corps, and have left for Dublin, en route to the seat of war.—*Sligo Journal.*

THE IRISH MILITIA.—The embodiment of the militia proceeds throughout Ireland with tardy success. The staffs of the various corps are easily formed, but the men are not in every case forthcoming. The officers, are, however, exerting themselves perseveringly to raise their regiments, and place them in a state of efficiency.

The Donegal Militia has received orders for immediate embodiment, and are to be stationed at Ballyshannon.

The Tyrone Militia was to proceed to Omagh on Monday, there to be stationed.

MILITARY STRIKE.—On Wednesday morning last, in this city (Armagh), the militia—who have not been paid their bounty—turned out to a man, and refused to obey orders until they were paid. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment had them drawn up in the Barrack Square, and after a long remonstrance, in which he assured them that as soon as he should receive an order from the Horse Guards, he should supply them with their bounty, the men fell in order in their respective divisions.—*Ulster Gazette.*

IRISH SOLDIERS.—The gallant 61st Regiment, which left Dublin some months ago for the Crimea, enlisted a great number of men in this city. These brave poor fellows, notwithstanding their hardships, have not forgotten those left behind—their parents, wives, and sisters. For the last few days, great numbers of persons have been to the Head Police office to get their papers from Sebastopol verified. They are all remittances from soldiers who had been recruited in Dublin. In one case, a son remits to his aged father £2; in another, a husband sends to his wife £3 (in this case £3 had been previously received); in another a sister gets £1 5s; another £1 10s; and, in very many instances wives get orders for £1.

It is a significant fact, showing the manner in which the staple trades of Ulster have been injuriously affected by the war, that one hundred thousand spindles have ceased working, and that no new yarn spinning mills were erected during 1854.

Thomas Tobin, Esq., has been appointed a deputy lieutenant for the county of Cork.

NO IRISH NOR CATHOLICS WANTED.—Extract from a letter dated New York, Dec. 27, 1854, and furnished to the *Waterford News*:—"If you can influence any poor man or woman intending to come here, it would be a charity to dissuade them. Catholics are proscribed, and servants now have no chance of employment, if Irish and Catholic. The Know-Nothing are in reality the great majority of the Protestants of America—every day establishes that fact. Thousands of servant women would go anywhere at present for diet and lodging, but, if Catholics, even that won't be given. The Jews in Egypt were not more despised than is an 'Irish Papis' in the United States.

SOVEREIGNISM.—The Rev. Mr. Ward, P. P. of Partree, writes to the *Telegraph*, that many of the "Soupers, who received from £2, to £3 10s, per month for their apostasy, have returned again, craving forgiveness from the Catholic Church. The following is the public recantation of one of those unhappy creatures:—

PUBLIC RECANTATION.—*Clifden, Jan. 12, 1855.*—I, Phillip Gorham, of Dalynhill, in the parish of Ballindoon, and county of Galway, do positively state that in the month of May, 1849, and for some time previous I was in actual state of starvation, having a wife and one child to support, without any means to sustain them, and no employment being in this country, I had reluctantly, and contrary to my conscience, accepted the Jumper's bribe, which they held out to all persons and characters at that time (starvation). From the first moment that I enlisted under the banner of the Devil, I do most solemnly declare that my conscience was perpetually assailed, gnawing and accusing me of selling and bartering my soul for meal, more particularly when at sleep, and nothing troubling me but the salvation of my eternal soul. In about one year after the time above mentioned, I was employed as Scripture reader, in the above-named parish, for three years, at £1 10s per month, and during that time I do conscientiously declare, from experience and knowledge of the various persons and characters who had the misfortune to join the demon band, they had the same causes, and the same causes only, which led me to endanger my salvation.

After spending some time in my native parish, I got my route as a Scripture reader and preacher, to Partree, in the County Mayo, where I spent a long time, at £2 per month; and from my experience there, I do solemnly declare that I never knew a single person to become a Jumper, nor even say one word in favor of Jumperism or its teachers until I should first hold out some inducement, such as food to the old, and food and rayment to the young.

In the month of January, 1854, I got my instructions to proceed to Galway, with an additional increase of 10s a month; I had then £2 10s. I remained in Galway until the 3d September, 1854, when, struck with the fear of God, and the interest of the salvation of my eternal soul, I proceeded to the house of the Rev. Mr. —, and told him that my conscience was perpetually accusing me of changing my holy religion for the unholy things of this temporary world, and that therefore I would resign, which I did at once, telling him that I was only a false member of his false Church since first I joined. He, however, reasoned, and advised me to the contrary; but I at once denied him and his Church.

Speaking generally of Jumperism, I do most solemnly declare before my God, that the persons employed in teaching and promoting it, are most immoral, the greatest blackguards, and, in fact, are qualified for every grade of society, save, and except, the moral and the virtuous.

After leaving the Jumpers, I got my children baptised by the Rev. Lawrence Leonard of Galway; and as satisfaction to God for my ingratitude, I came to Clifden, to the Rev. Patrick McManus, to Ballindoon, to the Rev. Edward Gibbons, and proceeded to Partree, to the Rev. Peter Ward, and in the presence of these holy priests; and the different congregations assembled to hear Mass on Sundays, I made an open declaration of the above mentioned facts. I only visited such parishes as I had been employed in by the Jumpers.

PHILIP GORHAM, Dalynhill.

GREAT BRITAIN.

His eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, arrived in town at the end of January. I mentioned in a recent letter that the Cardinal Archbishop's Pastoral Letter in 'Behalf of the Patriotic Fund' had realised nearly £400. The exact total is 391 15s 2d.—*Correspondent of Tablet.*

We hear on good authority that Lord Auckland, the "Bishop" of Bath and Wells, whose signature, it seems, is by law necessary to the further progress of the suit against Archdeacon Denison, has refused to give it. The party prosecuting the Archdeacon is of course enraged, and the Rev. Mr. Ditcher threatens to apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for a mandamus to compel his own "Bishop" to take a step in a matter purely doctrinal, contrary to his judgment and will. This case may yet go through as many stages as that of Mr. Corham.—*Catholic Standard.*

PORTSMOUTH.—An order from the Lords of the Admiralty has been received at this, and we believe also at all the other dockyard, for the whole of the ships now under repair or refit which formed part of the Baltic fleet of 1854 to be expedited in their refinement, so they are required to be ready for service by the end of February, and to assemble in the Downs by the first week in March, where there it is deemed probable the fleet will be inspected by the Emperor and Empress of the French, en route from France to England to visit Queen Victoria.

REAR-ADMIRAL MARTIN, Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard, is publicly reported the intended Commander-in-Chief of the fleet, and Rear-Admiral Michl. Seymour second in command.

It would tax the best-red historical student to produce a more complete case of political collapse than that which it is England's ill fate, sore cost, and we had almost said foul dishonor, to witness this day. The vast prestige of that naval and military organization which we have been nursing so sedulously for these forty years, at the cost of £15,000,000 a year, has gone with a touch at the moment of trial.—*Times.*

A Successful inventor has offered the War Office an electric rifle, which greatly surpasses any weapon in use, flinging a ball from 1,000 to 2,000 feet, at the rate of sixty shots per minute.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 1851.—An account of the net income and expenditure of the country for the year ended the 5th of January, 1855, &c.—was issued on Saturday. It hence appears that the gross total income amounted to £56,737,132, and the expenditures to £59,946,192, thus exhibiting an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £3,209,059.

According to returns made up to the 31st December, her Majesty has 142 vessels of war propelled by steam-power afloat and in commission, and 104 sailing ships—total, 246.

The *Morning Herald* of Monday says:—"It is true that Lord John Russell, formerly described as 'the boy who chalked No Popery on the wall, and then ran away,' now figures in the columns of the *Times* as having 'turned King's evidence against his accomplices, and has acted in so doing in strict conformity with the antecedents of his long and equivocal public career. As long as there was a possibility of the Coalition holding office, Lord John clung to them and to place with tenacity of a limpet to the copper of a ship; but as soon as he found that the ship was dragging her anchors he loosed his hold and, we are happy to say, has sunk in the mud,—at least for the present.

MANCHESTER PEACE-GOODS.—(Disrespectfully dedicated to Mr. Bright.)—Never mind about the kicks as long as you get the half-pence. Britons, strike home; but mind, the strike mustn't come near a cotton mill. Better to lick the dust than like the enemy. There is but one Manchester, and the whole world is its profit. An Englishman's home is his castle, but when it should be a castle, not for fighting but for feasting, like the Castle of Richmond, where there are no charges but hotel charges, and the only dead men are empty bottles. The best bail for keeping the peace is your bale of Manchester goods. Every gun fired makes a hole in our profits. The mill to grind old England young is, it must be confessed, a cotton mill. Sooner than Manchester lose its peace, sacrifice the whole of England. The real pillars of Great Britain are the chimneys of cottonopolis. No securities like Government securities.

A ranting preacher at Bolton-le-Moors addressed his auditors in this highly figurative strain:—"I dare say you'd all pay to see a boxing match between Randall and Martin, yet you don't like to pay to see a boxing match between me and Beelzebub. Oh! my friends many a hard knock have I given the black bruiser for your sake! Pull off these gay garments of Mammon; strike the Devil a straight blow, and darken his spiritual daylight, At him manfully, and send him at once into Chancery! I'll be your bottle-holder; I ask nothing but the money, which I hope you will not forget before you go!"—*Stockport Advertiser.*

LIFE IN LUDLOW.—A boy named John Williams, about 13 years of age, was charged with robbing his father, John Williams, a resident of Ludlow, of the sum of £6 6s 4d. The lad's excuse was that his mother had told him to steal the money and to take it to her at Kidderminster. The accused also stated that his father made him eat horseflesh, and that there was some in the house then. After hearing this statement the constable, accompanied by Superintendent Jones, searched old William's dwelling, and found the two hind legs of an ass, salted and hung up to dry; they were smoked similar to hams of bacon. The officers took possession of the donkey meat, conveyed it to the gaol, and when the prisoner was asked what it was, he replied, "It's part of our old donkey father killed and pickled; 'thab's' what we eat; father pickled horse-tongues in a bucket, and boils horses' livers for us." The prisoner added, "He bought that 'hoss' the shaft run; through, and was killed on the road leading to the sheet, about four months ago; he pickled that, and made me eat it." There was also found in William's bed-room four sides of carion, having the appearance of pig's flesh smoked, but unfit for human food. The bread in the house was found to consist of bean-meal and potatoes. The affair having become known, a crowd of persons congregated round the old man's dwelling, and had it not been for the interference of the police, they would soon have demolished the premises. The prisoner was remanded.—*News of the World.*