

while securing the interests of the institution which it governs, has, with a liberality for which we are grateful, granted a lease of the University Church for a term of 999 years. Besides the fine mansion purchased some years ago by the bishops, their lordships have within the last few months secured in perpetuity the splendid residence of the late Right Hon. Justice Ball and the ground on which some other adjoining houses are built, making in all over two hundred and fifty feet of frontage, in the best situation in the metropolis. The site thus secured will be amply sufficient for the great schools, library, and museums of the University, as well as for the church, which, being already completed, has, through the generosity of the Very Rev. Dr. Newman, passed into the bishop's hands at much less than the original cost. It is hoped that within the next few months we shall be able to commence extensive buildings, rendered necessary by the gradual development of the institution; and the position now occupied, being more central, will in some respects be found more convenient than the site at Cloniffe, where, three years ago, we intended to erect our University College, and which the proposed Grand Trunk Connection Railway has since rendered useless for our purpose. And here we beg to thank our friends in California for the valuable aid they have afforded us. Besides remittances from America, which we have acknowledged on other occasions, we have received within the last few weeks £1,000, through the Rev. William Hickie of the diocese of Cloyne, by whose untiring exertions that sum was collected. While informing you, reverend dear Sir, and your people, of the progress of that institution, I take the liberty to recall once more the great interests at stake in the maintenance and development of the Catholic University. During last autumn I was honored with letters from several of the most distinguished bishops of France. I quote some extracts, which clearly show the importance, or rather the necessity, of this University, in the opinion of those great prelates, for the maintenance of the faith in Ireland. The venerable Cardinal Donnet, Archbishop of Bordeaux, says: "That institution (the University) is not only useful but valuable. The necessities of the faith in Catholic Ireland render it absolutely necessary. Our applause, then is due to the generous efforts which have given birth to that great work, and to the first success with which it has been crowned. They are a presage of the most valuable results for the time to come, especially when your University will have overcome the unjust opposition of Protestantism and of a hostile Government. . . . I pray and hope for the prosperity of a work which is for Ireland a source of consolation and of new glory."

And the eloquent Bishop of Orleans, Monseigneur Dupanloup, writes:—"I would fain believe that the public conscience of England will at least recognise the monstrous injustice done to the Catholic youth of Ireland, to whom is offered a rich Protestant University, while all equality of right is refused to the Catholic University, and this in a country which does not reckon ten Protestants in a hundred inhabitants. Until justice is done, it is the duty of every Catholic to aid his Irish brethren in their efforts to develop learning, while saving their faith. . . . If any recommendation of mine can help you to get some pecuniary aid for the Catholic University of Dublin, I shall thank God for having given me once more an opportunity of proving to Ireland how deeply I sympathise with her."

But it is not French Catholic bishops only who express these sentiments. They are also the views of English Protestant statesmen. I alluded last year to one of the most distinguished members of the great political party which now holds the reins of government: I quote again his remarkable words:—"If there was one thing for which the hierarchy of another religious persuasion was entitled to credit it was for the strenuous manner in which from the beginning they had stepped forward and denounced the system of mixed or godless education as fatal to faith and to morals. . . . He rejoiced that after the experience of twenty years they were now taking another step towards carrying out the principle, that the people, whether in England or in Ireland, would not be satisfied with education which was not based upon religion. The admission which had been made on behalf of her Majesty's Government was thoroughly in favor of denominational education as opposed to mixed education, which meant, in fact, education without religion. . . . It was every man's natural wish that his children should be brought up in the religion that he believed to be right, and not that they should acquire mere learning, unsupported by those religious principles which would render their education useful to themselves and to their fellow-creatures."

But our contest with mixed education is for the existence not only of the Catholic religion but of all religion in Ireland. This seems a hard saying; but unfortunately, experience confirms it. And it is not necessary to go back far to find the experience to which I allude. I need not remind you of the scene which was acted a few years ago in one of the mixed colleges, when the representatives of her most gracious Majesty and the Protestant bishop of the diocese were treated with public contumely and almost with violence. We need not go back so far. It is only a few years since the graduates of all these mixed colleges assembled in convocation. All the children of the colleges, which had educated them without religious principles outside the walls as best they might, were united to give expression for the first time to the sentiments they had been taught by their Alma Mater, or imbibed while under her care. And does not this unhappy scene remind us of another meeting of students, held just one year ago in another Catholic country—Belgium—which, like Ireland, has been cursed by a system of godless education, and where the system has had longer time to develop itself?—I mean the congress of students at Liege in October, 1865, where the following sentiments, with others equally irreligious and anarchical, were publicly proclaimed to the world:—"As socialists we desire in the religious order the annihilation of every religion and of every church;

and we seek to arrive at the denial of God and the freedom of private judgment." "And again:—"I propose a resolution, to the effect that the Catholic religion must be allowed no part in education, and demand the complete extinction of every individual who represents the idea of religion." "And again:—"I recognise no authority in the state, since I do not recognize the only real authority that of God. . . . I refrain from pursuing the parallel any further. Here are the bitter fruits of godless education in Catholic Belgium. It is true, the unmasked impiety and contempt of all authority uttered in Liege, were not spoken in Dublin, thanks be to God, laws against sedition and blasphemy still exist in this country; but, if ever the ancient warning might be addressed to a nation, it may, I think, be addressed to Catholic Ireland:—"Prius est obsequium dei medicina paratur, Quam morbi per longas invaluerit moras." "Provide betimes, lest physic come too late." On the principle embodied in these lines, to save our country from the spread of irreligion, and to maintain the principles of faith, I appeal on your reverend dear Sir, to you and to your people to uphold Catholic education and the Catholic University of Ireland.—I have the honor to remain, reverend dear Sir, your faithful servant in Christ, P. WOODLOCK.

BELFAST RIOTS.

An exciting prelude to the forthcoming election in Belfast, appeared in the journals of the Ulster capital yesterday. The report in the Northern Whig is headed, "Riotous and disgraceful proceedings; savage assaults and robberies." It is introduced by the humiliating confession that—"A series of the most scandalous proceedings which ever occurred in Belfast took place in the Music Hall. All who are connected with the outrage, and have any manhood in their nature, must hide their heads in shame. In all our experience of meetings in Belfast, even in election times, there has been no approach to the scenes of last night, when the Music Hall for upwards of an hour was a perfect saturnalia of riot, and ferocious assaults committed on men who had been guilty of no other offence than that, during the excitement of a contested election, they preferred one candidate to another. We have lately had lectures in one portion of the press about the disgraceful scenes at the last Tipperary election; but we will venture to say that the whole election scenes of that county for many years past could not exhibit anything like half the brutality which we were witnesses of last evening in one hour."

What could be the cause of such tremendous commotion? It was not an Ultramontane Roman Catholic, nor even a Presbyterian Radical that had ventured to trouble the peace of Sandy-row. It was a Belfast Conservative, Mr. William McMechan, a distinguished barrister, who offered himself as a candidate in opposition to Mr. Laugan, and was rash enough to invite a meeting of his supporters by the following advertisement:—"I invite my friends and supporters to meet me on Tuesday night next, 13th November inst., at 8 o'clock in the Music Hall, Bay Street, to hear my statement of reasons for coming forward as a candidate to represent Belfast in Parliament, and to bring with them their friends who have not as yet finally pronounced to vote for me. All those who come to conduct themselves with propriety shall be welcome; but if any disturbers of the meeting shall appear, they shall be required to withdraw, and, if necessary, shall be removed.—WILLIAM M' MECHEAN, God Save the Queen, and bless her people!" This provoked a counter-advertisement, couched in the following terms:—"Belfast Election.—I am certain of success, because the Roman Catholics and the Orangemen will give me their united support.—Wm. McMechan. A grand promenade and fancy concert will be given in the Music Hall on Tuesday evening, the 13th inst., at 7 o'clock, in honor of Don Quixote McMechan and the new alliance! By special request, Sancho Panza Trimble will sing the words of the popular song 'Slap Bang' to the tune of the 'Jolly Cobblers.'—Quicquid id est, timeo danos et dona ferentes.—Virgil!" The latter performance was, however, countermanded. Before the hour for Mr. McMechan's meeting arrived the hall was packed with Mr. Laugan's supporters. The more prominent of the Orange leaders at election work arrived and took up their appointed positions, and when the gallery and the body of the hall were full the play began, and a well-known Orangeman with stentorian lungs, and known in more places than a court of election, opened with 'Give us the Protestant Boys.' A person in the gallery played the tune on a flute, the listeners keeping time with their hands and feet. This was followed by 'No Surrender,' 'The Boyne Water,' 'Slap Bang,' 'When Johnny comes Marching Home,' &c. When the learned gentleman appeared on the platform and attempted to speak he was assailed with all sorts of clamor, abuse, groans, Kentish fire, &c. After some wild tumult in connexion with the appointment of a chairman, Mr. McMechan came to the front, and requested to be allowed to speak, when a sweep fresh from the purlieus of Smithfield climbed on Mr. McMechan's back, and, putting his arms around his shoulder, dragged him backwards until his head came in contact with a gas burner. Mr. McMechan pushed the fellow off the platform, and continued, amid terrific noise, to address the reporters in his immediate vicinity as 'Independent electors of Belfast.' A terrific row then ensued in the body of the hall. The whole people there was one waving mass, shouting and yelling at several obnoxious persons on the platform, Mr. Trimble being especially singled out for the scandalous epithets. Mr. McMechan, still thinking he could have an audience, continued—"Gentlemen, electors of Belfast—I have one word to say. What Englishman!—this finished Mr. McMechan's political utterances in the upper room, for the scene now became such as no language could describe. The lower order of the chiefs of a most dangerous conspiracy took possession of the room in full force, placing themselves conspicuously in prominent places, and at the nodding of their heads or their hats the ignorant fanatics they led took their instructions until the whole scene was one of the most painful and shameful. The yelling, whistling, tramping of feet, 'Kentish fire,' and breaking of forms continued without interruption for many minutes. In several parts of the hall men who were supposed to be in favor of Mr. McMechan were attacked and beaten. They sought every opportunity to lay hands on those whom they considered as opponents. Among those who suffered most was Mr. Trimble, who was attacked by no fewer than five or six, and beaten and kicked. It must be said for this gentleman that they met with a courageous antagonist. He left three of his antagonists sprawling on the floor. His watch and chain were stolen from him, and the injuries he sustained were so severe that he was taken away by several of his friends at this period of the meeting as chairman (Mr. Greer) was forced violently out of the hall, and was glad to escape by the back way, out of which he found egress to the lower room, with some of Mr. McMechan's friends. The tables upon the platform, including the two which had been previously in possession of the reporters, were thrown on to the floor and smashed to pieces; and everything at this time being in the possession of a mob of furious madmen, a scene was presented utterly appalling in a civilized town. Mr. McMechan retreated to a room downstairs, where he got some of his friends about him, and, having summoned the reporters, he proceeded with his speech. But the Langanites, who were amusing themselves with songs and jokes overhead, no sooner heard his voice than they rushed downstairs like a torrent

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

PASTORAL OF THE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP.—The Cardinal, in his Pastoral on the Feast of St. Laurence O'Toole, Patron of the Diocese (Nov. 14), makes the following allusion to the Cholera, and the Catholic University:—"It is our duty, reverend brethren, to take lessons from the virtues of St. Laurence O'Toole, to walk in his footsteps, and to imitate the bright example of perfection which he has given us. Especially at the present time, whilst disease rages amongst us, we should, like him, have recourse to fervent prayer and to penitential deeds to avert the anger of God and to implore the Divine mercy upon our people. I avail myself of this occasion to thank you all, reverend brethren, for the zeal and holy emulation which each one of you displayed in assisting the patients stricken with this disease, though only one of you received the privilege of becoming a martyr of charity in that sacred cause. We have reason, too, to be grateful to God for the spirit of benevolence and charity which the citizens of Dublin, Protestant and Catholic, have hitherto given proof in providing means for the relief of those who have suffered from the ravages of the cholera. . . . I refrain from rendering a tribute of eulogy to the devotedness and religious heroism displayed by the Sisters of Mercy of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, and also, in Arklow and elsewhere, in watching over the cholera patients and providing for all their wants; and I wish also to commemorate, and specially commend those medical students of the Catholic University who, during the past months, were night and day, in attendance on the sick poor, and exposed themselves to every danger, in order to al-

THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS.

In the speech of the Bishop of Liverpool, which I send you, will see how well his lordship upholds the rights of the Catholic body to have their children educated in their faith; whilst attending the public schools in Ireland. There can be no doubt entertained, but that the denominational education which is possessed in the schools subsidised in this country by public grants will be extended to Ireland, if the people show their determination to have such. Although we here in this country possess the system in all its fullness, yet the fact is patent, that the scholars, turned out by the certificated teachers sent forth from the schools of the Christian Brothers. So wide in fact known and appreciated, that the Catholic Ombudsman appointed a committee, to devise the means for founding a home in Liverpool, if the devoted men who have set themselves apart for the religious and literary instruction of the rising Catholic generation. At one of the meetings, I believe, the Very Rev. Canon J. Reilly stated, that although he had procured in mechant, &c. situations for boys from his schools (conducted by the Christian Brothers,) in numerous cases not one of the boys turned out undeserving of his favor, and so strongly were his schoolboys appreciated that he had more applications for them than he could attend to from his own schools.' He added that in too many instances where boys who had been educated in Catholic schools, not taught by the Christian Brothers, sad disappointment followed upon their introduction into employments procured for them. If all the youths of Ireland were educated by the Christian Brothers, what a blessed change would we witness in the conduct of the young men who came to reside in this country from Ireland.—Correspondent of the Drogheda Argus.

LETTER FROM FATHER THOMAS O'SHEA, P.P.

We are indeed rejoiced to have an opportunity of publishing a letter from Father Tom O'Shea, especially such a letter as this, which brings back to the olden time, recalls the victory achieved fifteen years ago, and is full of the genuine tone and spirit of one who stands in the foremost rank of the popular priests of Ireland. There is not a county in Ireland where the writer is not well known and loved by the people, and we can assure him that in the county of Wexford we are especially proud of the fact that this is not the first time he has been actually associated with our warmest interests and best fought battles:— Granagh Castle, Montrath, Nov. 7, 1866. My Dear Pope Hennessy—Nothing could afford me greater pleasure than your triumphant return for the County Wexford. It would show that after twenty years' bitter experience of Whig rule, we were not hopelessly delirious over that base and brutal faction, on whose souls rests the blood of millions of Irishmen, and who are beyond sea or sea, mainly answerable for the sacrilege perpetrated in Italy, including the spoliation and pillage of our Holy Father. I do not know whether Father Tom is still remembered by the intelligent and gallant men and comely women, whom I had the honor of addressing in Banisicourt and New Ross, in the summer of '62, on behalf of Patrick McMahon and Charles Gavan Duffy. If our cause, the cause of Tenant-right—the cause of the honest, hard-working farmer was temporarily defeated, it was not the fault of Duffy and Mr. McMahon. Oh! no—if talent and patriotism could avail against profligate Whig bribery, they and the noble band allied with them, would have achieved the emancipation and independence of the tenantry of Ireland—no, the fact lay not with the M.P.'s of the Tenant League, but with the representatives returned by another public body in the interest of the Whigs—those Whigs who then, as ever, were ready to purchase the veal and corrupt, and who manage to maintain themselves in power, not by redressing the wrongs of the people, but by driving a ruinous and unwholesome traffic in their representatives. My dear Hennessy, I would be cowardly as to my convictions of what is necessary at this crisis, I would be wanting in fidelity to my country and to our Holy Father, whose cause you have advocated with a rare ability and true devotion in the British Senate, if I hesitated to recommend you as worthy before all others to support, by the independent electors of Wexford, I Wexford, gallant Wexford, her many glories, memories, of none need she be prouder, and I am relying on you as her spokesman, advocate, and champion in the Imperial Parliament. Of one thing, my friends may be sure of—you will not betray their interests, and will not falsify your pledges. Wishing you success, I am, dear Pope Hennessy, yours ever truly, THOMAS O'SHEA, P.P. —Wexford People.

MILITARY AND POLICE PRECAUTIONS.

If we may judge by certain precautions now being taken by the military and police authorities, it would seem that they do not totally disregard the assertion of the famous 'Head Centre' that there will be fighting this year. The ordnance officers are busily putting Beggar's Bush Barracks in a state of defence. The walls surrounding it are being strengthened in many places, and flanking projections, with numerous loopholes commanding the various points from which an attack might be made, are being constructed. Similar preparations for defence are in progress in several military stations throughout the province, there being a large number of men now engaged strengthening the old fortifications of Athlone Castle. With respect to the preparations on the part of the metropolitan police they principally consist in a diligent training of its various members in the use of the revolver, all those not on duty being drilled every day to the exercise of it and the cutlass, which they are to carry during this winter as in the past. The country constabulary have also got orders to perfect their drill, and at the same time to redouble their exertions to trace out and apprehend all strangers and suspicious characters whose movements are doubtful. From these facts it would appear that the name of James Stephens is still sufficiently powerful to create alarm and disturbance in the minds of the Government authorities.—Freeman.

DESTRUCTION OF THE LIMERICK FLAX COMPANY'S MILLS BY FIRE.

An alarm of fire, announced through the city of Limerick between six and seven o'clock on Friday evening by the engines of the different insurance companies driving in quick haste through the streets, attracted numbers in their wake, as it was soon ascertained that the Southcity Mills, of the Limerick Flax Company, in Garryrow, near to the Catholic Cathedral of St. John's, and only a short distance from the Protestant Church of the parish, were a dense mass of flame, without any water available to enable the engines to operate. The inflammable nature of the contents of the concerns powerfully conducted to the spread of the fire, and it was evident owing to the rapidity with which it spread, that in the absence of any new invention to subdue its progress, all hopes of success was im-

THE REV. WILLIAM CHICHESTER O'NEILL.

The Rev. William Chichester O'Neill, the owner of Shane's Castle, and of the princely estates of the now extinct Lords O'Neill, in the county of Antrim and other parts of Ulster, and whom Lord Derby, it is said, has recommended for a revival of the title of Lord O'Neill, is the eldest son of the late Rev. Ed. Chichester, rector of Kilmore, in the diocese of Armagh, by Catharine, daughter of Robert Young, Esq., of Outfall House, county Donegal. He is the nearest representative of the ancient O'Neills in the female line, and he took by royal licence the additional names and arms of O'Neill in 1855 on succeeding to the estates of his kinsman, the last Viscount O'Neill. He was born in 1813, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated in 1835. He was formerly Prebendary of St. Michael's, Dublin, but resigned that preferment some years since. He has been twice married; first to a daughter of the late Judge Torrens, and secondly to a daughter of the late Ven. Archbishop Torrens, who is a relative of his first wife. His eldest son, Mr. Edward Chichester O'Neill, has sat as M.P. for county Antrim in the Conservative interest since 1863.—Guardian.

A LIBERAL CANDIDATE HAS APPEARED FOR THE SEAT VACANT BY THE RETIREMENT OF THE EARL OF TYRONE.

A Liberal candidate has appeared for the seat vacated by the retirement of the Earl of Tyrone, now Marquis of Waterford. Mr. Edmund de la Poer, D.L., of Gorteen, has issued an address to the electors of the county of Waterford. It is stated by the Dublin Evening Post that he will be supported by the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Stuart de Decies, Lord Oremount, Sir Richard Musgrave, Mr. Galway, and all the Liberal element of the county. The Liberals, it is said, of the county of Waterford owe a deep debt of gratitude to Lord Stuart de Decies who, true to the spirit which animated him in 1826, has again unfurled that banner under which priests and people united wrested this county from the grasp of the Beresfords. The Roman Catholic bishop and clergy will give Mr. de la Poer their strenuous support. This gentleman is the son and heir of the late Mr. John Power whose family is a branch of the old stock of de la Poer, one of the companions in arms of Strongbow, and claims descent from Richard de la Poer, nephew of the first Earl of Tyrone. The present proprietor of Gorteen, who now stands for his native county, has assumed by Royal licence, dated 1863, the original surname of de la Poer. The Conservative candidate is the Hon. Walter Cecil Talbot, B.N. second son of the Earl of Shrewsbury, who is also Earl of Waterford in the peerage of Ireland, and hereditary Great Seneschal of Ireland.

THE OPPONENTS OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER GRANTED BY THE LATE GOVERNMENT TO THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND.

The opponents of the Supplemental Charter granted by the late Government to the Queen's University in Ireland were, it seems, quite serious when they announced their determination to test in a Court of Justice its legal validity. Proceedings for an injunction prohibiting the Senate from using the powers conferred upon them by the Supplemental Charter, have been commenced before the Irish Master of the Rolls, and the question is to be argued on Monday next by Mr. Lawson, the late Attorney-General, on behalf of the Senate.—Weekly Register.

THE DERBY, CABINET AND TENANT RIGHT.

The following remarks, which we copy from the Irish Times of Thursday, be correct, the Derby Government are resolved to settle the important question of tenant right.— "The Government has determined to introduce, early next session, a Bill for the settlement of the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland.—The details of the measure have not yet been settled for the subject is both a difficult and a delicate one. Some of the features of the Bill of 1859, introduced by Lord Derby's Government, deserve credit for promptitude and courage in determining to grapple with a subject surrounded by so many difficulties. Yet Lord Derby, above all men, is likely to carry a good Bill relative to land tenancies, and one which would satisfy the tenant without despoiling the landlord."