

hour of trial for the preservation of public order. But, blessed be God, our reward is from above.

Beloved brethren, "may the Lord direct your hearts in the charity of God, and the patience of Christ."—2 Thess., 3, 5.

Mountjoy-square.  
20th February, 1851.

† D. MURRAY.

**DIocese of Northampton.—WEDDON BARACKS.**—On Sunday last the Lord Bishop of Northampton administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a large body of the flock at the above place.

**MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC LAITY OF BRISTOL AND CLIFTON.**—On Monday week a meeting of the Catholic laity of Bristol and Clifton was held in the schoolroom underneath the chapel, in Meridian-place, for the purpose of adopting a petition to the Legislature, and an address to their fellow-citizens, in relation to the Ministerial measure against the establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in this kingdom. The meeting was fully attended.—*Bristol Gazette.*

**GREAT CATHOLIC MEETING AT MANCHESTER IN OPPOSITION TO THE PENAL BILL.**—On Thursday so might a magnificent meeting of the Catholic laity of Manchester and Salford was held in the Free Trade Hall, for the purpose of giving expression to their feelings touching the establishment of the Hierarchy in England, and to declare their determined hostility to any Minister that may attempt to encroach on religious liberty. The meeting presented the most animated and spirit-stirring appearance that can well be conceived. The house is one of the largest, perhaps, in the kingdom; but its area being wholly insufficient to contain one-half the number that claimed admittance, thousands remained outside. Under these circumstances, we need not say that every available spot of the immense building had its occupant, notwithstanding that the tickets for admission ranged, in price, from 1s. to 3d. Daniel Lee, Esq., J. P., one of the leading merchants of the town, occupied the chair.—*Manchester and Liverpool Irish Vindicator.*

A correspondent of the *Tablet* furnishes the following interesting remarks on the meeting:—

I have ascertained from the person who has the management of the Hall, and who is in the habit of taking account of the numbers assembled at the various meetings held therein, that on this evening it contained not less than nine thousand persons; and a further number of at least two thousand more outside the building, unable to obtain admission, who resolved themselves into a meeting, and procuring copies of the resolutions from the committee, passed each resolution simultaneously with the meeting within. Looking down upon this immense assembly, one could not help being impressed with the stern, quiet determination that seemed to rest upon every face. I do not think there would be two hundred under the age of eighteen, and perhaps about one hundred ladies, principally of our first Catholic families, for whom special provision had been made; and, with these exceptions, the meeting was composed of men of mature age, capable of acting and thinking for themselves. I have stood before many large public assemblies, but never before one so purpose-like, with its energies so concentrated on one object, and with an expression of resolution to achieve that object so visibly stamped upon it. Of course, it consisted of persons of every class; and, equally of course, by far the larger portion (as must needs be in any assembly of the children of the Holy Church) were of the poorer classes; but whether they had put on their best for the occasion or not, I cannot tell, but I never saw in so large a meeting so little of the squallor of poverty; nor do I believe there was a man in the meeting ever so slightly under the influence of liquor. During the proceedings, the attention was intense, so much so, that two or three persons fainting with the great pressure were removed with promptness, but with every kindness, and so quietly as in no one instance to interrupt the speakers at the time addressing the meeting. The amount of intelligence in the meeting for approbation, and expressions of assent to particular opinions or declarations; and certainly where these did occur, never was heard such a peal. They reminded one of what I have somewhere read of the assemblies of the early Christians, of whom it was said, "Their responses were like the rolling waves, and their Amens like a clap of thunder." Whilst, on the other hand, one of the speakers, in his zeal, being betrayed into some harsh and uncharitable expressions, was at once called to order by a murmur of dissent running through the whole meeting; even the very laughter that greeted some points made by the speakers had no uproarious tone in it, but was rather a laugh of scorn at the temerity of the assailants of Holy Church. The dissolution of the meeting was almost as remarkable in its manner as its assembling and conduct. There was no shouting—no noise—no running about—or, to use a slang phrase, no larking; men walking away in groups, in earnest converse; you would have thought in the breaking up of some solemn convocation; and in half an hour the streets were empty and silent as if no such mighty concourse had ever filled them. I will say that I never felt so proud of my dear brother-Catholics; and with the amount of moral, intellectual, and physical strength exhibited by them, I felt that it would be a dangerous experiment to trifle with our religious freedom. It is well to note, that this meeting is purely a meeting of the laity—it originated with, and was carried out, by them, and was not directed or influenced by the Clergy in any way; they attended none of the preliminary meetings, and when asked to do so said, "No; they approved of the movement, but wished it to be purely laical;" and some half-dozen who, out of natural curiosity, observed the proceedings from a quiet corner, had carefully divested themselves of the distinctive mark—the Romish collar—for the evening.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLIC MEETING AT THE ROTUNDO.

A most important meeting of the Catholic inhabitants of the united parishes of St. Mary, St. Thomas, and St. George, was held on Thursday, at the Rotundo "for the purpose of petitioning Parliament against the Prime Minister's Bill respecting Ecclesiastical titles, and against any measure interfering with religious liberty."

The meeting was very numerous and highly respectable, embracing the most respectable of the inhabitants of the three wards included in the metropolitan parish, among whom were the Catholic Town Councilors of the wards, the Very Rev. Archdeacon Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Cooper, Rev. Mr. McGrath, and other Clergymen; and amongst those on the platform we observed Lord Miltown and Mr. H. Grattan, M. P.

The chair was taken, shortly after two o'clock, by R. Kelly, Esq., Q. C., who was received with enthusiasm.

The Earl of Miltown briefly addressed the meeting, and said that, though neither a parishioner nor a Catholic, he could not help availing himself of that opportunity to make a public declaration of his hostility, as an Irishman and a Christian, to the unjust, unwise, and uncalculated-for measure introduced by Lord J. Russell.

The Very Rev. Archdeacon Hamilton said, as this was essentially a lay meeting, he and his fellow-Clergymen present would not take any part in it; but he assured them that the objects which they had in view had the sanction and the blessing of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin and stated that his Grace was at that moment preparing a Pastoral denouncing the penal measure introduced by the Government, and directing his Clergy to preach against it from the Altar.

Resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting were then proposed, and carried, it is needless to say, with unanimity and enthusiasm.

Amongst the speakers were J. A. Curran, Mr. Gorman, and Mr. J. M. Cantwell. The latter gentleman delivered a long, eloquent, and powerful speech, which was most enthusiastically applauded throughout. From the lateness of the hour, we are unable to give any report of the proceedings in our present publication.—*Evening Freeman.*

PENAL LAWS—PUBLIC MEETING IN DUNDALK.

On Sunday, the 16th Feb., a crowded meeting of the inhabitants of Dundalk was held in St. Patrick's Church, for the purpose of expressing their opinion on the penal measures now before the Legislature, and to petition both Houses of Parliament against their enactment. The meeting was numerously attended by the most respectable inhabitants of the town.

At two o'clock, the Very Rev. Dr. Kieran, Vicar-General of the Diocese, was called to the chair.

Mr. P. J. Byrne, solicitor, proposed the first resolution, in reference to the maintenance of the principles of civil and religious liberty; he said, "If we only be united we can achieve much. We wrung emancipation from the Duke of Wellington, and we ought to be able to restrain Lord John Russell, who is pandering to the worst passions of the English people."

Mr. Joseph Cartan seconded the resolution. He confessed that he believed much of the blame of the threatened measure lay with the Catholics themselves. So many of them had gone over body and soul to the Government—so many of them had gone on their knees to beg for place and alms—so many of them had become the pliant tools of the British Minister—his men of all work—that he entertains the notion that he can do what he pleases with Irish Catholics and the Hierarchy. The speaker, after adverting to the condemnation of the Queen's Colleges and the contemplated Catholic University, which, he said, annoyed the Ministry more than the "Papal aggression," he called on the people to rally round their Hierarchy and defend them from the assaults of a treacherous Whig Ministry.

Mr. James Carroll proposed the second resolution. He called on all Irishmen to use their utmost exertions for the defeat of the measure proposed by the Government, and he hoped that by an united effort they would be able to win another victory for their country.

Mr. Peter Russell seconded the resolution. A petition to Parliament, founded on the resolutions, was then agreed to, and the people requested to sign it as soon as possible.

Mr. P. J. Carroll moved that the petition be entrusted to Mr. McCullagh for presentation in the House of Commons.

Mr. M. Kelly seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Nicholas Martin was then called to the chair, and, on the motion of Mr. J. Carroll, the warmest thanks of the meeting were voted to the Very Rev. Dr. Kieran.

The meeting then separated.—*Dundalk Democrat.*

**THE NEW PENAL LAW.**—Ferry, February 6th, 1851.—On this day the Catholics of this influential town and its vicinity have put upon record their solemn and indignant protest against the spiteful aggression of Lord John Russell, on the liberties and independence of our poor and long-persecuted Church. Without pretending to the gift of prophecy, I venture to predict that the Premier counts without his host—for the spirit of the country, though broken, yet, thank God, is not altogether extinct; as here every individual, of whatever grade, belonging to our body, calmly and deliberately affixed his signature to our parish petition. Never, indeed, have I witnessed such enthusiasm, such emulous earnestness to sign any public document. This evening it shall be forwarded to one of our county members for early presentation in the House of Commons. May we hope that the timely good example thus set, through the enlightened zeal and energy of our venerated Bishop, will be universally and promptly followed up by the excellent Clergy and faithful laity of his respectable diocese.—*Correspondent of the Cork Examiner.*

A meeting was held last Sunday at Randalstown, and a petition adopted and signed by 544 persons, relative to the new penal Bill, and forwarded by the Very Rev. Dr. Curoe to Wm. S. Crawford, M. P., for presentation to the House of Commons.—*Belfast Vindicator.*

**CLONMEL.**—A meeting of the Liberal Club was held on Friday evening at the Club House, Clonmel, the Mayor in the chair. A petition to Parliament was resolved upon, to be adopted at a public meeting to be held on to-morrow (Sunday), after last Mass, at the

Church of SS. Peter and Paul. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting, and to take such steps as would secure a complete list of signatures to the petition. Some routine business being transacted, the Very Rev. Dr. Burke was called to the chair, and a vote of thanks passed to the Mayor.—*Free Press.*

A numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Upper Creggan was held on Sunday, after last Mass. A petition was unanimously adopted, to which thousands of signatures were in a short time attached. It has been already forwarded for presentation in the House of Commons to John Reynolds, Esq.; M. P. for Dublin, with a request that all the liberal members of Parliament who hate persecution and prize religious freedom will support it. One feeling pervaded all present, that of ineffable indignation at the base, brutal, and bloody measures their pseudo friends (the Whigs) seem so intent on carrying. What a remedy for the multiplied miseries and grievances of Ireland are fresh penal enactments! What consolation for its patient, afflicted, and loyal Catholic people! England's haughty Minister would do well to pause in his wicked and insane career of persecution, and reflect on what has been truly said, "that those marked out by the Almighty for destruction often first run mad."—*Correspondent of the Newry Examiner.*

A meeting of the Catholic inhabitants of the parish of Ballinascreen, diocese of Derry, was held on Sunday, the 16th Feb., after Divine service, in the chapel-yard, and a petition to Parliament adopted, and unanimously signed, against Lord Mummery's very insidious and insolent parliamentary measure, particularly so as regards the Catholic Prelates of Ireland. In less than two hours the petition obtained more than 1,200 signatures of the male population.—*Correspondent of the Tablet.*

The Rev. Dr. Hally, on Sunday last, declared from the altar of Dungarvan Chapel—"That if a follower of the present government, which had dared to introduce a persecution bill against Catholics, offered himself a candidate for the borough, he would himself propose, and aid in every means, the election of Mr. Maguire, who would trample on any such measure they had the hardihood to introduce."

**WITHDRAWAL OF THE MILITARY FROM A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.**—On Sunday last, in the Catholic chapel of Loughrea, as is customary after the celebration of Divine service, the Right Rev. Dr. Derry exhorted his congregation, among whom were the Catholic portion of the company of the 17th Regiment, now on detachment in that town; and in his discourse he alluded to the measure before Parliament, for the abolition of all Catholic titles and dignities in the Church. After a few observations the officer in command of the party, Lieutenant Armstrong, beckoned from the gallery opposite to where his men were located, thus telegraphing them to depart; but the men, not understanding what was meant by his gesticulations, remained stationary. He then descended to the body of the chapel, slamming the doors after him as he went along, and causing much disturbance, which the Right Rev. Doctor Derry having observed, and guessing the motive, he addressed the men, and recommended them to withdraw, which they immediately, although reluctantly, did.—*Galway Vindicator.*

**JOHNSTOWN AND GALMOY.**—An interesting letter was received from the Rev. Daniel Kavanagh. He says that he had recently a conversation with the three priests of Johnstown and Galmoey; that their account of the parish was awful; that half the population was exterminated. He further adds, that at the meeting of the Whitegate Committee, held the 5th instant, it was stated that eighteen houses were levelled, and eighty human beings turned out in the townland of Ballycuddilly, the property of the Earl of Courtown. "I went (says the rev. writer), to see if it was the case, and I have found it to be the fact—a blind man would smell the tumbling of the houses in Galmoey—the old thatch and soot spread a most disagreeable odour fearful to inhale; it denotes the departure of old friends."

Lord Massarene and Mr. Sharman Crawford, M. P. concur in the principle of holding an annual session of the Imperial Parliament in Dublin, to transact Irish fiscal and other business, as the antidote to the growing policy of Centralization.

**DUNGANNON ELECTION.**—On Friday, the 14th inst., the Hon. Stuart Knox was returned, in the room of Lord Northland.

**DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.**—The University authorities have received an intimation from the Government that the Commission for inquiry into the state of the University is to consist of the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of Cork, the Earl of Ross, the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, Mr. Commissioner Longfield, and Mr. Cooper, of Markree.

**EXTRAORDINARY BIRTH.**—On Sunday morning the wife of William Kidney, mason, Pilsion's lane, Cork, was safely delivered of three female children, all of whom are likely to live.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Callan Tenant Protection Society, the following letter and harrowing statistics of depopulation on the property of Mr. Pratt, of Castlemorris, parish of Hugginstown, were read:—

"Donemaggin, Jan. 31, 1851.  
"Sir—On yesterday I took a ride to those districts, where I made out the inclosed list. Any person having the least scintilla of human feelings, could not look on the wide-spread desolation without dropping tears of pity and distress. The district presents nothing but dismantled villages and heaps of ruins: from every direction you hear the clank of the demoralizing crowbar, and nothing like the former merry song or whistle of the sturdy ploughman. The heart-rending tales some of these poor people, who still lurk about the place, tell, would melt the most obdurate heart to pity. It was late when I came into Hugginstown, which rendered it impossible for me to get a correct account of the evictions there. I thought it better to reserve it for another publication. This village and its neighborhood present nothing but a bleak waste. Some of these people got a few shillings for the possession of their hearths; and some of the farmers who were allowed a few pounds, lost an equivalent in their dung, and iron gates, and other matters of value.  
"The following is a list of the families who were evicted:—

	No. Ejected.	Houses Levelled.
Painstown,	62	3
Danganbeg,	22	3
Crownhill,	44	3
Barnadown,	91	10
Ridgap,	77	12
Brownstown,	13	1
	309!!!	32!!!

**THE VICEROYALTY.**—An extraordinary meeting of the Guardians of the South Dublin Union was held at the Workhouse, on Saturday, for the purpose of petitioning her most gracious Majesty, and both Houses of Parliament, against the projected measure for the abolition of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting were passed, and petitions agreed to for both Houses of Parliament.

Orders have been sent to Cork for gingham of various patterns, for the South American market, through Mr. Augustus McSwiney. They are of simple patterns, and of a light texture, such as best suit a warm climate.

The *Cork Reporter* says, amongst the articles of local make to be exhibited at the Crystal Palace, we are much gratified to state, will be specimens of Cork gingham, manufactured for Mr. John Connell, South Main-street.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* says—"It is stated that the Government has determined upon the appointment of competent persons to make inquiry respecting the various processes for the steeping and preparation of flax, with the view of affording accurate information on this branch of husbandry in this country."

**EARLY PLANTING.**—Notwithstanding the discouragement of past years, our farmers, or such of them as can afford to run the risk, are determined to venture at the potato this year again, and are preparing for it vigorously. In the immediate vicinity of this town we find Mr. John Pitt, our spirited and enterprising townsman has already planted largely, as also have Mr. M. Cahill, J. Browne, and several others.—*Wexford Guardian.*

**DARING ATTEMPT OF A DESERTER TO ESCAPE.**—On Sunday evening, a corporal and private of the 9th Foot were escorting a deserter from Mullingar to Dublin by the Midland Great Western Railway. When within about seven miles of the Dublin, and near Clonsilla station, the prisoner managed to relieve himself of the handcuffs, and having cautiously opened the carriage door he jumped out. The corporal in charge, on missing the prisoner, at once made a spring out after him, although at the imminent risk of his life, the train going at the rate of fully 25 miles an hour at the time. On the arrival of the train in Dublin the matter was reported to the superintendent, who returned on an engine to where the accident occurred, under the impression that both parties must have been either killed or so disabled as to remain where they jumped out. On reaching the place he found both the corporal and prisoner quite safe, and proceeding on their march to Dublin.

**DESTRUCTION OF SHEEP.**—A few nights ago Arthur Sampson, Esq., J. P., Drummond House, Ballykelly, agent to the Company of Fishmongers, had no fewer than 75 sheep worried to death in one night! He has 100 worried altogether, 90 of whom have died. Mr. Sampson has succeeded in poisoning a number of the savage dogs who killed the sheep. These ferocious animals seem satisfied with tearing the throats of their defenceless victims, and drinking their blood.—*Coleraine Chronicle.*

**PROTESTANT SYSTEM OF FEEDING THE POOR.**—"Mr. Fleming exhibited to the Board a number of damaged saucepans, connected by a string, which he caused to be gathered in the precincts of the Workhouse. He said it cost the Guardians a large sum for these articles. "The Matron said there were 1500 saucepans in the house without a dinge."

"Mr. Fleming suggested that they ought to try the system adopted in Mullingar, which was a mess trough, at which six could dine, and which could not be broken or done away with."

"The Board agreed to buy no more saucepans, but to substitute the Mullingar plan as soon as practicable."—*Proceedings at Athlone Board of Guardians.*

"Mess-troughs!" "Six at a time!" What sort of operation is dining out of a mess-trough? Are the animals permitted to plunge, snout-deep, into the delicious, savoury comestibles, or may they only lap them up with their tongues? Do they indulge in cestatic grunts over the repast, and exchange an occasional jealous bite as they explore the recondite amalgamation of husks of swine? Do they cleanse their snouts when they have emptied the trough? We purpose, as soon as the system is in full operation, to pay a visit of inspection to Athlone union, and see Fleming fattening his porkers. Then we'll satisfy public curiosity on these points.

This is bitter jeering, a mockery of mirth. God knows, while we write thus our blood is a-fire with rage at the thought of this damnable indignity put upon our poor brothers who are in the custody of this monster and his fellows.

Our poor brothers. Yea, our dear brothers of God's name. Our brothers in eternal destiny. Our brothers of this land of sorrows. Whose only crime is poverty. Whom unjust, cruel, murderous, starving foreign laws have degraded, and imprisoned, and flung to be the victims of every upstart's haughtiness, and contempt, and inhumanity.

Oh, if there were strength and purpose in the land this day to fight the battle of the Poor, never since the sun first shone, at the miracle-working word of the Creator, had a nation such just and holy cause for war to the death against tyranny and wrong, as this Ireland of ours, where men die, like withered grass, from want; or live like brutes, huddled together like unclean vermin, fed like swine of the sty.—*Nation.*

The election for the Falkirk Burghs, Scotland, appears to have been characterized by extraordinary scenes of drunken riotousness. The Glasgow correspondent of the *Times* says—"The majority of the public-houses in the town were opened; the officers and miners flocked into the town and got drunk by the hundred. Drunken men and women were lying about the streets in all directions in a state of insensibility; and so many intoxicated wretches staggered along or lay on the road between Airdrie and Coatbridge for a distance of two miles, that carriages could not pass along without the greatest care and difficulty. The brawls and pitched battles were innumerable. The Police did not attempt to interfere with these so long as only black eyes and broken noses resulted, but shortly after the close of the poll the embroglio became general and serious; and after several set combats with the Police, the mob fairly got the town completely in their possession for two or three hours. The Police, however, had regained the mastery by about nine o'clock in the evening; when a body of military marched in from Glasgow, under the guidance of Sheriff Alison, and established the victory of order. Next morning the town was quiet, and the military departed. Some dozen policemen and some forty colliers were badly wounded."