

families attending my poor flock, there are still more galling hardships to me, created by those ranting, rancorous reptiles, called proselytisers, who are availing themselves of every subterfuge and low means to seduce souls. They established schools throughout this parish, invited, as they were, by the poor appearance of the land and wretched appearance of the people; thinking that their miseries had rendered them susceptible to receive the bribes that were held out to them if they forsook their faith, and became soupers. In this they were deceived; they have not three Catholic children attending their schools. Hence, in order to keep up appearances, and support their hypocrisy, they are standing on the public roads and striving to seduce, by bribery, even the vagrant beggars; they are so straitened for pupils, some of the inmates of the poorhouse were allured to desert it and remain with them. The ranting proselytiser of this town's congregation, at present consists of his lady and four others. Surely it is most ridiculous to see a zealous Minister of the Gospel confining himself to a locality where he has nothing to do. Now, my dear Sir, that the enemies of religion are exerting themselves to lead into error those committed to my care, and also, that the misery existing in this parish surpasses that of any other district I could instance in Ireland, I call on all in whose bosom real charity exists to turn their eyes of pity on Foxford parish, and their offerings will be laid on the altar of pure charity, and will verily draw down upon them the blessings of a merciful Redeemer, who is duly honored by those who assist the distressed.—*Qui dat pauperibus Deo Veneratur*.—Yours, &c.,

P. S. O'CONNOR, P. P., Foxford.

#### UNITED STATES.

##### PROSELYTISM IN ILLINOIS.

(To the Editor of the Boston Pilot.)

Peoria, August 29, 1850.

Sir—A gross case of proselytism has occurred in this city, in the beginning of this week, which I consider it my duty, as a Catholic, to expose. A man by the name of Dempsey, with his wife and family, located here about three months ago;—they were wretchedly poor, and intemperate. The locality in which they lived, is not much inhabited by Irish or Catholics,—on the contrary, you might suppose from the visages of the occupants of those houses, that the ghosts of the Puritan Fathers had arisen from their tombs. As a matter of course, Dempsey and his wife became objects of interest and compassion to those people, from the fact that, although they were Irish and Catholics, they did not attend the Catholic Church. On the contrary, Mrs. Dempsey told a lawyer (a pseudo Presbyterian) that she was going to leave the Catholics, as they were not so good to her as the Protestants,—in other words, that they did not satiate her begging propensities as much as the latter,—and this being whispered about by the said "limb," it excited the sympathy of Miller and Smith, boarding house keepers, and some of the *ecclat* in the Congregationalist church, of which Spencer is preacher; they became admirers of Dempsey and his family. Early last week their youngest child was taken with cholera, and died. The parent was then taken sick, and then was the full phial of their wrath poured forth against Catholics; the Pope was denounced as the man of sin, the seven headed monster spoken of in the Apocalypse, and perdition awaiting all who died within the communion of the Romish Church; but the poor man seeing the danger of his situation became penitent, and called for a confessor, that he might seek pardon from that good God whom he had so justly offended. As soon as they heard this, they became furious; but a Catholic named Seymour being in the house, he went for Father Ronaldi who gave to him the consolations of the religion of Jesus Christ. He died very soon afterwards, and was buried on Sunday morning; and about ten o'clock on Sunday, Mrs. Dempsey was taken sick, and the priest was sent for to attend her. When he entered the room where the sick woman lay, he requested all would leave the room; but this they refused doing, and the clergyman had to call on some Catholics passing before the friends of civil and religious liberty in Peoria would allow a Catholic Priest to hear the confession of a dying woman; however, the appearance of an Irishman induced the doctor to leave, and the Priest having administered the Sacraments, the woman died very soon afterwards. We made arrangements next day to have the orphans taken care of, and brought up as Catholics; but what was our surprise when we went to take them away? We were prevented by Spencer, Ballance, and Miller. We then went to the judge of Probate Court, (Bryant), and demanded the guardianship of the children, but were again refused; and they were handed over to the merciless fangs of Spencer & Co. Yet this is Illinois, a portion of the United States, where all are allowed to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience.

When my mind reverts to those facts, I suppose myself again in the midst of Irish Orangemen, or that the ghost of defunct Nativism has come out West to pursue again its bloody orgies.

Can we as Catholics bear this much longer, or rather, will we in united action, as with one mind and soul, tell these bigots that they can no longer oppress us; that we will willingly obey the laws of our adopted country and aid in fighting her battles, but never will we bear the taunts and insults of a portion of citizens with whom we differ on religious grounds. No, never! For more than three centuries our forefathers with their blood defended this very religion which we now profess, and shall we, their sons, tamely submit to the insulting sneers of bigots which neither the government nor well-disposed sanction. If we do, better that we never knew liberty, for even the feudal vassalage of English misrule would be preferable.—*LAURENCE H. MATTHEWS.*

**NEW CHURCH.**—We are pleased to learn that a handsome frame church, capable of accommodating 250 persons, has been erected lately in Mount Holly, N. J.—*Catholic Herald.*

**TAKING THE VEIL.**—On Thursday, August the 15th, Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, Miss Margaret McCreehy, (Sister Mary Ignatia), and Miss J. Quinn, (Sister Mary Alphonsa), made their solemn profession, and received the Black Veil of the Order from the hands of the Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor, in the chapel of the Sisters of Mercy.—*Pittsburgh Catholic.*

#### IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

##### PROSPECTS AND OPERATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1850.

(From the Nation.)

Potatoes are rotting fast in most, if not in all places, and where they appear to be tolerably safe, and in tolerably fair proportions as to quantity, they at once teach a practical lesson as to their future culture.

Wheat is a general failure all over the Island, with very few, if any exceptions, real or pretended, on the part of those who would delude the people through motives of a selfish or vain character. The general opinion amongst those most to be relied upon is, that the average produce in the wheat-growing districts, will not exceed, if it comes up to, six barrels of 20 stone to the Irish or plantation acre, or little more than 1½ quarters of English measure, per statute acre. Like the potato disease, there is much in the failure of the wheat crop beyond the farmer's control.

Oats, the poor man's crop, are, taking them on an average, a pretty fair crop as far as bulk is concerned, yet the quality of the grain, taking the entire of the island into consideration, will be by no means equal to what we have witnessed it in more favorable seasons and under better circumstances.

Barley of the finer kinds will be scarce, for several reasons more than once already alluded to, and for this additional reason that the harvest weather up to the present time has been rather unfavorable to it.

Rye is a good crop of its kind, and so far pretty well harvested. Would that this crop were generally cultivated with the view of affording additional food and employment to our starving people on our fine but sadly neglected bogs.

Rape is an excellent and profitable crop wherever well cultivated and well harvested, and it is gratifying to witness so many instances of improvement both in its culture and harvesting.

Beans are pretty fair in quality, though in many cases blighted, and by far too limited in the space under cultivation. They will be found exceedingly useful, indeed so much so as to lead one to hope that next season their culture will be more generally adopted.

Peas are a fair crop, although from the sudden changes from dry to wet, and from sunshine to cold, the attacks of the worm have injured them a good deal, nevertheless the fact of their so far succeeding, and in localities where their cultivation has been hitherto not more than heard of, must tend much to their more extended culture.

Turnips are, wherever fairly treated, in a most promising condition, and bid fair to be in such cases abundant in supply.

Mangolds too, like turnips, are generally speaking very good.

Pairings are very fine, and carrots are still better, in the majority of cases where done justice to.

Vetches, wherever sown, either for soiling, seed, or winter provender, have been very good, although the showery weather of late is rather against their being well harvested. Yet the fact of their general existence proves how much alive the people are becoming to their value whether as a general or as a stolen crop.

Farm stock throughout the country are in unusually good condition, but that is by no means a proof of the country's prosperity.

Harvest work still progresses.

**THE CROPS.**—Mr. Gerrard, practical instructor in the Caherciveen Union, states that the potato disease has "steadily and rapidly progressed over the whole Union."

The potato crop, in the Miltown Malbay Union, is decaying fast, and the poor farmers are grievously discouraged. They complain also of the corn crops, which, they state, are far from being productive. Every farmer in the country, who can afford the expense, is sending out members of his family to America. More than 40 young men and girls left Miltown during the last week, all of whom were respectable persons.—*Limerick Examiner.*

The *Leinster Express* gives rather a favorable account of the potato crop, but says—"We regret to add that our accounts of the wheat crops throughout the Midland district are not improving. It has suffered severely from blight or insects; and in Kilkenny it is said to be hardly worth cutting."

**BALLYSHANNON,** Aug. 30.—Since our last publication we have had almost constant rain, yet we learn from farmers that the crops have not suffered; and the potatoes are, if undergoing any change, improving. The markets continue well supplied with tolerably good potatoes, and excellent new barley, oats, and meal, at moderate prices.—*Herald.*

The disease amongst the potatoes has, we regret to say, rather increased during the past week in some parts of this neighborhood. It is to be hoped, however, that the return of the fine weather will be the means of arresting its further destructive progress. The reaping of the wheat, oats, &c., is being extensively carried on. Unfavorable reports have reached us of the wheat, which, on the whole, is but a very indifferent crop this year. On some lands in the neighborhood of Headford the crop is scarcely worth cutting. We learn that the turnip and other green crops are going on favorably.—*Tuam Herald.*

**THE FLAX CROP IN ULSTER.**—On the estate of a landed proprietor, in an adjoining county, the tenantry were induced to sow flax to the extent of, we believe, from fifty to one hundred acres. The landlord, with a view to assist the tenantry, sent round his steward lately to buy up the flax on the ground, and thus save them the trouble of the after operations, offering from 8s. to 12s. per acre for the crop on foot. We are told that, out of the whole number

of tenants, only three accepted the offer—a fact which speaks well for the value of the flax crop this season.—*Belfast News-Letter.*

**MARYBOROUGH,** Aug. 31.—Throughout the midland districts there has been a large production of potatoes already, and in most market towns sound ones are selling at from 2½d. to 4d. per stone. Much uncertainty, however, still prevails as to the prospects concerning those planted here. There is no doubt of the fact, that the wheat crop will be a bad one. Some new wheat has, within the last week, been brought into the markets of the Queen's County, but in very scarce supplies; from 22s. to 25s. per barrel was realised. Oats, barley, bere, and green crops are still looking well.

**WEXFORD.**—The bean crop will be remarkably inferior in quality—half of the produce being quite shrivelled. Wheat is far deficient in quality and quantity; barley, the same; and the tawney oats, the only crop which can be spoken of as unexceptionable. Of the potato there is much, in our opinion, to fear, yet there appears no good reason for an alarm of a total failure.—*Wexford Independent.*

**GALWAY.**—Although we have had some very heavy rains in the early part of the present week, still the state of the crop is, we are assured from various quarters, most cheering—a few weeks more, and all the cereals will be haggarded securely. We have heard scarcely a whisper about anything like a "general failure" of the potato crop since our last notice.—*Galway Mercury.*

**OMAGH,** Aug. 30.—Reaping has now become general in every part of this district, and wheat, barley, and oats are all yielding well. The flax crop, too, is in most instances also turning out well. We wish we could say as much of the potatoes, but it cannot be denied that it is far otherwise. Many of the early varieties are almost totally gone—the cups are seriously damaged, but the pinks are still comparatively uninjured. From the very considerable breadth planted, it is yet the general expectation that a large amount of human food will be saved; still, notwithstanding, the loss by the fated blight will be seriously felt. Turnips and mangold will be average crops, but the quantity in the ground this season is not great.—*Tyrone Constitution.*

At a meeting of the Bree Tenant Association the tenant farmers assembled, speaking in reference to the state and produce of the growing and harvesting crops, gave it as their decisive and unanimous opinion, that cereal crops suffered very generally, and in some cases, severely, from the late high winds and heavy rain—that wheat has not been sown to the same extent as in former years; of that sown, some rotted in the ground, from excessive wet during winter, and what did grow, being subsequently attacked by red-rust, or wheat-midge, will not produce half an average crop—that barley, which has never been sown to any great extent in this district, has been partially injured by red-rust, and although not so severely as either wheat or oats, still does not amount to a full average crop—that the dun or winter oats have proved a heavy and productive crop, whilst spring oats, which have been more extensively sown, have been very defective, and cannot be considered as half an average crop—that beans are but partially sown in this district, and have been greatly injured by blight. Potatoes are all but a total failure.—*Wexford Guardian.*

The Wexford Union Agricultural Society's Cattle Show took place on Saturday last, in the large yard fronting Slaney House, in this town, and was unanimously attended by members and other friends of agricultural improvement. The collection of roots showed a marked improvement in this department of our country's resources, including mangels, turnips, parsnips, carrots, &c.; and in the article of butter, we are happy to add, this section of our country has not been unmindful of the principle of progress.—*Wexford Independent.*

**IRISH FISHERIES.**—The salmon season terminated on Saturday, and a more disastrous one to all concerned cannot be recollected; in fact the species is all but extinct, as indicated by the appearances which the peal or grilse present—appearances familiar to every experienced salmon-fisher, and which denote that, in all human foresight, the salmon fisheries will continue rapidly to decline, unless attention be seriously turned to the subject.

**ERRIS FISHING SETTLEMENT.**—We have been favored by a correspondent with a very cheering account of the establishment of a fishery settlement in the vicinity of Bingham Castle, in the barony of Erris, through the instrumentality of W. T. Campbell, Esq.—*Mayo Constitution.*

The Galway fishermen have been favored with several abundant takes of herrings of late. On Saturday morning the boats returned so laden with fish after the night, that the herrings were sold for five shillings a thousand.

**MORE EVICTIONS.**—Yesterday (Thursday), nine families were ejected at Ballyneety from their holdings on the property of Miss Briscoe. The number of individuals unhoused on the occasion reached over forty, and it is said the majority had last September rents paid in full.

**EVICTIIONS IN MAYO.**—A few days since the inhabitants of the village of Carras, county Mayo, numbering, we understand, upwards of thirty families, were dispossessed, and their houses razed to the ground. The property is that of the Nolans, minors; and we believe the proceedings were instituted by order of the Court of Chancery.—*Tuam Herald.*

**LANDLORD RAPACITY.**—We have been informed that the only resident landlord living not quite a hundred miles from Tulse, has had transplanted to his own garden the few hundreds of cabbages which grew in the garden of his defaulting tenant. Such an act as this needs no comment.—*Roscommon Messenger.*

**EMIGRATION.**—On Friday morning upwards of fifty persons from the county Fermanagh, consisting of farmers and their families, all Protestants, with scarcely an exception, proceeded from this city by the early train to Belfast, on their way to "the land of the West."—*Armagh Guardian.*—Three ships, laden with passengers for America, are now in this port waiting for a fair wind—The Industry, Linden, and Dromahair. There can be no doubt but that next spring everybody who can go will. All hope in this country is gone—the state of the public mind is frightful.—*Sligo Journal.*

**TENANT RIGHT MEETING IN MEATH.**—We have just been favored by an interview with the Very Rev. Dr. McEvoy, P.P., Kells; Rev. Mr. O'Reilly, Du-leek; Rev. Mr. O'Farrell, Navan; Rev. Mr. Lynch, Navan; and after seeing the address of the Council of the League, these excellent and patriotic ecclesiastics have undertaken that there shall not be an hour's delay in calling together a meeting of the county of Meath to establish the League in it, and carry out in the fullest detail, and with the utmost vigor and perseverance, the operations suggested, and described, in the address of the Council. The Council will lend its best aid and personal assistance—as far as possible—to this, and all other efforts of the kind. We are glad to be able to announce at one and the same time, the great meeting at Ballinrobe, and the preparations for, we doubt not, as great a meeting at Navan. The day is not definitively fixed.—*Tablet.*

At a recent meeting of the Cork Board of Guardians a memorial was read, and not complied with, from the widow of Edward Walsh, the poet whose death we recorded in the last *Nation*, praying for funds to take herself and three children to America.

At a meeting of the Privy Council last week, a proclamation was issued, under the 12th and 13th Vict., for the abolition of the gaol of Newgate. All persons, except those under rule of transportation, to be removed to Richmond Bridewell. A second proclamation was issued, constituting Belfast the assize town of the county Antrim, in place of Carrickfergus.

The *Drogheda Conservative* states that the wages of laborers in that district average 1s. 6d. a day, and that harvest operations have produced their effect on the pauper population, which is vastly decreased in the union workhouses. Out and in-door relief is not one-half of what it was this time twelvemonth.

**REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY CLARE.**—We are informed that John D. Fitzgerald, Esq., Q. C., is canvassing the electors of the county of Clare, as candidate for the representation in the event of the resignation of the venerable Major McNamara.—*Limerick and Clare Examiner.*

In reply to an article in the *Standard*, denying the sincerity of the Catholic priests, and particularly Rev. Mr. Redmond, in uniting with the Presbyterian clergymen, that gentleman observes, in a letter—"Sir, what do you know of me that you should take on yourself to judge of my intentions, and to accuse me of hypocritical pretences? If you had taken the trouble of inquiring into my life and conduct, you would have found that I am not only capable of feeling the truest and deepest sympathy with the distressed, but that I have demonstrated my sincerity by the heartiest and most laborious co-operation with Protestant gentlemen, lay and clerical, for years in succession, in their most Christian efforts to rescue thousands in this neighborhood from destitution. You would have found that in such benefactions as my limited means have enabled me to perform, I have never inquired into the religion of the needy applicant; and, if a Protestant and Catholic came before me, I have invariably relieved the Protestant first, not only to prevent him from thinking that I was influenced by sectarian and unworthy motives, but especially to remove one of the main curses of this afflicted land—un-Christian bigotry."

An ancient mill has been within the last few days discovered on the townland of Shannacashel, parish of Kilmichael, about five miles north-east of Dunmanway. The massive framework of solid oak is in good preservation. It bears the marks of having been destroyed by fire. The remains of the upper and lower millstones are to be seen, one not much injured, the other greatly fractured by the action of the fire. A curious spade or shovel was found, composed entirely of wood, but it was destroyed by an ignorant countryman. The old men in the neighborhood state that from eight to ten feet of turf have been cut over its present position.

The *Galway Vindicator* says—"We have great pleasure in announcing that the enterprising Mr. Joy has gone over to London for the purpose of completing an engagement with the celebrated Irish vocalist, Miss Catherine Hayes. He purposes giving a series of concerts in the principal cities of Ireland, and has decided upon coming to Galway early in November."

**CONCILIATION HALL.**—The usual weekly meeting was held on Monday. Mr. J. Bagnall, T. C., in the chair. Mr. John O'Connell addressed the meeting. He again said they were in danger of being ejected from the Hall. They had got only a month to give security for the rent to the gentlemen of the Corn Exchange, and he continued: "If we find that it is the intention of the country to trust to the 'new light' of the Tenant League, and to desert the old, the tried, the true, never-yet-defeated principles by which our people gained all they have ever wrung from the grasp of England; if, I say, we find them disposed to abandon this association and its principles, though the association will not cease to exist, and though it will, I am confident, triumph in the end, yet it cannot be expected that I, in common justice to my family, should place myself under liabilities which I cannot have any disposable means of meeting (hear, hear). I will not, I cannot, be blamed, if, under such circumstances, I refuse to implicate myself, unless our people—the friends of Ireland, and Repeal—accord me their support" (cheers). The Rent for the week was £8 0s 3d.