

good friends; though we may not deny that occasionally the peaceful nature of their intercourse was marred by some little outbreak of temper on the part of the irascible Mr. Craig, who was not used to say...

"I speak rudely to Gilmour, it is his own fault; he never will see wrong where wrong exists; if the man would but agree with me, I should go to bed half so violent as I am."

"This was quite true. It is extremely likely, that Mr. Gilmour had blamed these unreasonable young ladies, who wanted to be happy in a fashion that was displeasing to papa, Mr. Craig would have cooled down, instead of taking matters with so high a hand; as it was it only made things worse. Thus, after a few minutes' chat with his friend, he suddenly rose from the table, and rung the bell violently, saying—

"Nothing like striking the iron while it's hot; eh, friend Gilmour? The punishment of my daughters shall begin to-night."

A servant out of livery answered his summons.

"Go to Mrs. Whiteside, immediately, John, and tell her I wish her to let the young ladies know that they are to leave home for Lytham by the nine o'clock train to-morrow morning, and to see that they have everything in readiness. Now, my dear girls, you will shed a few tears to-night," said the old gentlemen, chuckling with pleasure. "Lytham instead of London is the proper place for you. Go on, Gilmour. I thank you very much for your usual complement of hands at the mill could scarce get through their work."

"Yes, you severe old paterfamilias, I was saying so," said Gilmour, with a laugh; "but for the life of you, you could not bear me quietly out."

CHAPTER II.—THE TWO SISTERS AND HOW THEY BORE THEIR PUNISHMENT.

There was one room at the Laurels, in the fitting up of which Mr. Craig had spared no expense. This was the boudoir of his late wife, and it was now specially devoted to the use of Lillian and her sister. The hangings and curtains were of pale blue satin, looped and fringed with silver; the fauteuils and cushions were all covered with the same material; two French windows gave egress to a beautiful conservatory, fitted with the rarest exotics; tables of ivory, inlaid with silver, and bearing—but by no means inconspicuously crowded together to the exclusion of good taste—many a curious gem of art, purchased at various times, for the gratification of the wife whom he had idolised.

Lillian and her sister were intellectual. This their special apartment betrayed their taste for the fine arts, in the elegant little piano, the harp, whose chords Lillian loved to awaken, and the correct authors, whose works, gorgeously bound, lay scattered around the room.

Strange that these two sisters should be unhappy. All that wealth could give was theirs; they were devotedly attached to each other, and were dearly loved by an affectionate father; but other loves had sprung up, and discord had entered into their home; the shadow which had lately cast itself over their path now lengthened before them. For the first time in their lives, these girls were unhappy.

"Papa has seemed to be so partial to Herbert," said Lillian, "that I never thought he would be so angry when I asked for his consent to our union."

At this moment Mrs. Whiteside entered the room, and delivered Mr. Craig's message.

"Lytham!" exclaimed both young ladies in the same breath: "you must be making a mistake, Mrs. Whiteside; papa promised to take us to London the end of the week."

"I assure you I am making no mistake, Miss Craig," replied the housekeeper. "John says that your papa distinctly said that you were to leave home for Lytham by the nine o'clock train to-morrow morning. I am now going to tell Benson to get your things in readiness, Miss; and there is such a short time to make preparations. It is a great pity Mr. Craig did not tell us earlier in the day."

The housekeeper withdrew, and the young ladies exchanged glances expressive of both surprise and dissatisfaction.

Lillian, the most impetuous, was the first to speak.

"I shall go to my father, and tell him that it is impossible that we can leave at the time he has fixed. What can he be thinking of, to hurry us off to a humdrum watering-place, when he had promised we should go to London. No chance of seeing Herbert now," she added. "I will go to my father at once."

"You won't alter his resolution one bit, Lillian," said Marion, the bright tear-drops glistening in her eye. "I am persuaded he has changed his plans for the express purpose of distressing us. Nay, how can you be so silly, Lillian," she added; "you know what papa is when he is thoroughly out of temper. I am quite as disappointed as ever you can be; for I had promised myself a few happy days at Canley; but I am far too proud to let papa think he distresses me so much; for the fact is, Lillian, he punishes us as if we were children, by such freaks as these—forgetting we are women."

"O Marion, Marion, what would Sister Pauline say did she hear you talk like this? What a spirit of insubordination! You've not learned your first lesson in humility yet, that is quite certain."

Marion prevailed, as was always the case when the sisters did happen to differ—a circumstance, by the way, which did not often occur; indeed, it was a marvel how these two should ever have resolved on separation, so devotedly attached were they to each other; only, as we have before said, other loves had sprung up in their hearts.

All ready, I hope, girls; we start in less than an hour," he added, looking at his watch. "I flatter myself, I have given you both a pleasant surprise; satisfied that you will enjoy yourselves much more at the sea-side than in London; and confident that Marion especially will feel grateful for the chance I have afforded her for three months' quiet seclusion, so befitting for a preparation to the holy life she fancies herself called upon to enter—but how now, Lillian, what is the matter with you?" he exclaimed, seeing her face flush crimson with her ill-concealed effort to suppress her temper, and that then she burst into tears, unable to bear his badinage any longer.

"O papa!" she said, "you know well how I hate the country; I am no hypocrite. Why are you taking us to Lytham, when you had promised us a month in London?"

(To be continued.)

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Subjoined is the second of a series of papers on the condition of Ireland, which the National Association has undertaken to prepare and issue:—

KILKENNY.

"Kilkenny, as to extent of area, ranks third amongst the Leinster, and fifteenth amongst all the Irish counties. It comprises an area of 509,732 acres, of which 470,102, or 92 per cent., are arable. The annual valuation is £356,950; the value of live stock, at the low official estimate, assumed £919,263; and the property assessed to increase tax £16,411; the county ranks fourteenth as to extent of arable land; tenth as to the poor rates; twelfth, as to grand jury cess; twentieth, as to increase and property tax; and twenty-first, as to population. Few counties in Ireland, and none of equal fertility, have suffered so great, so lamentable decrease of population as Kilkenny, the decline extending from 202,420 in 1841 to 122,422 in 1864, or of 40 per cent. The population 124,515 in 1861, was thus distributed as to creed:—Catholics, 118,125, or upwards of 948 per 1,000; Established Church, 5,992, or less than 49 per 1,000; and Presbyterians, Methodists, and all others, 398, or three per 1,000. When we come, however, to analyse this distribution, as to locality, we find 31 of the 133 parishes, or parts of parishes in the county, with an exclusively Catholic population; three parishes with one Protestant each; four parishes with two each; two with three each; six with four each; six with five each; two with six each; two with seven each; one with eight; three with nine each; and two with ten; or 62, nearly half of the 133 parishes, or parts of parishes, in Kilkenny, 31 of which have no Protestant inhabitants of any form, and the other 31, one to ten. If, therefore, the 152 policemen, parsons, public officers, and their families, were removed from these 31 parishes, it would leave 62 parishes, comprising nearly half the county, exclusively Catholic, the city and suburbs of Kilkenny alone containing a tenth of the whole Protestant population of the county. The monstrous tyranny of a Protestant Established Church, or a population so completely Catholic, must be evident, from this simple statement, and the manly resistance to it by Kilkenny men, may be read in the anti-tithe campaign of 1830 to 1833. Notwithstanding, the revenue of the Protestant benefices of Osory, which embraces less than the whole extent of Kilkenny, exceeds £21,000 a year, including the bishopric, two of the livings being above £1,750; five others being from £550 to £711; and 22 from £268 to £492 each. Again, to force upon a people so Catholic a scheme of mixed education, there being scarcely any religious elements amongst the general population to mix, is another form of tyranny alike indefensible and oppressive. Before exposing the further injustice done to Catholics, in the distribution of the public offices of the county, it is an agreeable duty to state that in no part of Ireland have the Protestant landlords, as a whole, evinced a less sectarian or more liberal feeling, in their general actions with their Catholic tenants, a circumstance that but exhibits more strikingly the religious inequality still prevalent even in the least bigoted parts of Ireland. Withal, the lieutenant of the county is a Protestant; the high sheriff is a Protestant, and of 21 now living who had served as high sheriff, 18 are Protestants; and the sub-sheriff is a Protestant. Of the 18 deputy lieutenants, seventeen are Protestants. The Chairman of Quarter Sessions is a Protestant. There are 83 county magistrates, 66 of whom are Protestants. The Clerk of the Peace, as also the deputy Clerk, are Catholics. The Crown Solicitor is a Protestant, the Sessions Crown Prosecutor is a Catholic, the County Treasurer is a Catholic, the Secretary to the Grand Jury is a Protestant, the Law Agent to the Grand Jury is a Protestant, the County Surveyor is a Protestant, but his four assistants are Catholics. The sheriff's returning officer is a Protestant, and of the two coroners one is a Protestant. Of the eleven barony high constables five are Protestants. The County Inspector of Constabulary and five of the nine sub-inspectors are Protestants. The board of superintendence of the county and city jail consists of twelve members, eight of whom are Protestants, whilst the local inspector, the governor, and the surgeon are Protestants, but the apothecary a Catholic. The treasurer of the county infirmary is the Protestant Dean, and his senior surgeon a Protestant, the junior being also a Protestant. The board of guardians of the lunatic asylum has 26 members, 19 of whom are Protestants; the governor, Catholic, but the visiting physician and apothecary are Protestants. Of the five poor law unions in the county two of the chairmen and three of the vice-chairmen are Protestants; but all the clerks are Catholics.—The statement already made as to the 85 deputy lieutenants included magistrates, 67 of whom are Protestants and 18 Catholics, would appear to afford a presumption that the grand jury would be formed of somewhat similar elements. This, however, is a mistake. The £26,026 county cess levied on occupiers is appropriated by a panel rarely containing more than one or two Catholics. In the application of the £19,948 poor rates, however, Catholics occupy a somewhat better position. The number of Parliamentary electors is 5,121, which affords some indication of the number qualified to serve on juries. The last juror Sessions return the number of jurors for Kilkenny as 1,233, which is the highest with respect to population—one to every sixty persons—of any of the Irish counties or of towns in Ireland. But, with this relatively fair proportion of jurors to voters and to population, there still remains the important fact, that the panels selected by each sheriff are far from being in accordance with the religious elements in the population, whether as to the general mass of the people, the Parliamentary franchise, or the relative aggregate wealth of the religious denominations. The absence of sectarian feeling in this great Catholic county—a county which, for some years, had been the metropolis of Catholic Ireland—cannot be better illustrated than by the fact of its present Parliamentary representation—a Catholic of ancient lineage, and of extensive property, and two Protestants, one for the county and one for the city. Human nature should assume a form such as it has never yet ordinarily exhibited, if Catholics were not deeply dissatisfied and discontented with this state of things. Presbyterianism assumes its minimum in all Ireland, in Kilkenny only one in 556 of the population professing this un-*Irish* creed, whereas Catholics who form 95 per cent. are taxed for two theological colleges to teach their Presbyterian clergy; for a Queen's college (Belfast) to instruct their laity, and for upwards of £40,000 a year to support their

ministers, and even for an annual grant to pension their widows. The members of the Established Church, who form about one in twenty of the general population, enjoy an endowed and pampered Church establishment; an ancient cathedral erected by, and wrested from Catholics; extensive and rich Church lands, the property of Catholics, transferred to an extreme Protestant minority, and valuable livings, many of which do not command a dozen of Protestant worshippers. Founded in the absurd assumption that in the parochial schools of the country a mixed attendance might be formed; a scheme of education, wholly revolting to the feelings, habits, and condition of the people, has been imposed, restricting religious instruction, offensive to the people and their clergy, calculated to degrade the whole moral tone of society, and tending to subvert the Christian foundations of social order. All the higher, the vast majority of the middle, and most of even the inferior offices of the county are a monopoly in the hands of Protestants. The supreme administration of the law and its executive, the levying and the appropriation of the fiscal burdens of the county—grand jury cess and poor rates—every social phase, in fact, exhibits the inferiority, the degradation of the Catholic population.

(Signed),
PETER PAUL M'SWINEY, Chairman.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE

DUBLIN, MARCH 5.—An illustration of the necessity of written contracts between landlord and tenant in Ireland came before the Lord Chief Justice at the Meath Assizes last week. The plaintiff was the Earl of Mayo, father of Lord Nass, who was Chief Secretary for Ireland under Lord Derby, and exerted himself to settle the land question. Lord Mayo is so much esteemed that he is frequently invited to preside at religious and charitable meetings in Dublin and he is therefore a nobleman to whom one would think an appeal, on grounds of Christian equity, especially from an aged gentleman, would not be made in vain. In this case the appeal was made by the representative of his own agent—a lady who once had the care of his lordship's children, and lived under his roof. According to the statement of her case, her uncle, the late Mr. George M'Vittie, who had been agent for Lord Mayo, held two farms on the Mayo estate, as tenant at will. He found the farms in a state of great improvement. Miss Bentley, his niece, the present defendant, resided with her uncle for 23 years, and intrusted him with her savings, together with £200 left her by her mother, and this money was invested in the farms, especially the Harristown farm, about 30 acres, on which a mud cabin was transformed into a substantial and handsome cottage, a most desirable residence, in which Miss Bentley hoped to spend the remainder of her days. In 1861, Colonel Burke, son of Lord Mayo, returned from India and wished to engage in farming. At the request of the landlady Mr. M'Vittie resigned possession of the 'Upper Farm' to the Colonel without notice to quit, on an alleged express agreement, that, in consideration of this surrender and the permanent improvements he had made, he and his niece should enjoy the other farm during their joint lives or the life of the survivor. Mr. M'Vittie died in 1864, and Lord Mayo immediately demanded possession of the land.

Miss Bentley then addressed to his Lordship a most touching letter. She implored him, by the memory of his old and faithful agent, not to turn her out; she promised to pay the rent punctually; she said she probably would not have many years to live, and again said again in the most earnest manner and almost abject terms implored the landlord to have compassion and mercy upon her, and not drive her out from a spot which is so small in his large inheritance.

Lord Mayo answered this appeal in a manner which, I fear, is too common with Irish landlords. The following is his reply:—
"Miss Bentley, I regret extremely the loss of your poor uncle. He was everything that I could wish. I never expect to get so good a tenant. I am sorry that I cannot comply with your request, having other intentions about the farm. So as soon as convenient to you to move the better."

Yours truly,
MAYO.

The writ of ejectment went forth. Miss Bentley took out a defence; but she could produce no proof of the agreement. Lord Mayo, though summoned as a witness, failed to attend on the ground of illness, of which a medical certificate was produced. The Judge directed a verdict for the plaintiff, but respite execution till the 1st of May, that Miss Bentley may have an opportunity of moving for a trial, on the chance that Lord Mayo will then be in better health.—*Times Cor.*

The Freeman's Journal of Wednesday publishes a report of an interview between the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone, and a deputation of Irish constituencies, on Monday last. Mr. Maguire as spokesman of the deputation, said that after two days deliberation at a conference held in Dublin two months ago—and after several days consultation in London since the meeting of Parliament, a Bill on the Landlord and Tenant question had been agreed to, intended equally to protect the developed industry of the tenant and the legitimate rights of the Landlord. The main object of the Bill was to induce the tenant of Ireland to improve the land by their industry and capital. But to obtain this result every facility ought to be offered to the tenant who desired to improve, and the fruits of his industry and energy ought to be secured to him.—The only improvements contemplated by the Bill were such as were beneficial to the estate, suitable to the holding, and such as increased its letting value.

In order to establish a claim for compensation the Bill provided for an independent record of every substantial improvement within the meaning of the Bill 'through the machinery of the valuation of Ireland.' The officer of the Board of Works in Dublin had assured Mr. Dillon that there could be no practical difficulty in the way of perfecting the machinery for an accurate survey and a satisfactory record. But the Bill provided that any landlord might free himself from all liability for such improvements (except such as he was willing deliberately to incur) by giving a thirty-one years lease to his tenant. Mr. Maguire concluded by calling on Mr. Gladstone to undertake to carry the Bill through the House of Commons as a Government measure, promising that the Irish members present would give the Government an undivided support in so doing.

Mr. Gladstone said that the measure had been prepared in a spirit, and recommended from a point of view, which put it in the shape of a moderate proposition. When the Irish Secretary (Mr. Fortescue) came to town he would bring the matter under his notice, and then invite the attendance of the Irish members to consider the matter. The question demanded prompt attention, and he hoped they would be able to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion, so as to bring the question to a permanent settlement.

From this answer of Mr. Gladstone, and from what fell from Lord Russell, on Monday, in answer to Lord Lifford's motion, it seems likely that the Government will introduce a Bill upon the Landlord and Tenant question. But whether they will adopt, as the basis of their measure, Mr. Maguire's Bill, or the recommendation of the Committee, which reported on the question last year, we cannot tell.—*Tablet.*

Mr. Luke Joseph Shea, a magistrate of the county Cork, whose residence—the Rennies—was searched some time since in connection with the Fenian movement, has instituted an action against the stipendiary magistrate who officiated on the occasion. Damages are laid at £10,000.

The Protestant Archbishop of Dublin has appended to his primary charge a tabular digest of Irish Church statistics, compiled by the same Dr. Brady. Another production of a similar kind has just been published by Messrs. Hodges and Smith. It is compiled by the Venerable Thomas Hinks, Archbishop of Connor. This synoptical table shows the percentage of Church population in each diocese, and the proportion of revenue for each member of the Established Church, varying from 2s 3d a head in Down and Connor to 30s a head in Meath. There is also a table of the number of benefices, many of them containing two or three parishes, where the Church population is 25 or under, being at the rate of £11 15s 9d for each member. Of these benefices there are 114, and the whole of them contain only 1,589 members of the Established Church, giving an average of 14 for each benefice, while they yield a total net revenue of £18,735, which gives an average of £164 6s 10d for each. The advocates of the present system will find it hard to maintain their position in the face of this document. The total number of benefices in Ireland is 1,510; the total number of churches, 851; and the total number of clergy doing parochial duty 2,140. Since 1828 there has been a net increase of 112 benefices, 359 Churches, and 163 clergy. The average Church population to each benefice is 459, and of net revenue £258 14s.

It may be suggestive to give some Catholic statistics in connexion with these figures. According to the Irish Catholic Directory for 1866, there are in Ireland 31 archbishops and bishops, exclusive of five bishops with no local jurisdiction. There are 1,071 parishes, and the total number of secular priests, including bishops, chaplains, &c., is 3,120. The total number of regular clergy is 355. There are 73 houses of religious orders occupied by priests, 70 by men, and 190 by women. Each parish priest has on an average a flock of 4,500, which is upwards of 4,600 more than the Protestant population belonging to each benefice in the Established Church.

The Cork Farmers' Club has held an important meeting at the Victoria Hotel in reference to the impending cattle plague in Ireland. On the motion of Mr. Mackay, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, it was agreed to urge the Government to create the compensation fund from the combined operation of the income tax and poor rate.

Sergeant Armstrong has given notice that after the Easter recess he will introduce a bill to amend the law of mixed marriages in Ireland.

It appears that the Marquis Conyngham has come to the determination of selling out all his title, &c., in the village of Kilkree.—*Limerick Reporter.*

DUBLIN, Feb. 23.—The police had an encounter with a body of armed men last night, which reminds one of the scenes of 1798, and reveals the fact that the Fenians have corrupted the military to a greater extent than had been imagined. The conduct of the police deserves the highest praise. They acted at the imminent risk of their lives, and did their work well. From the report in the Daily Express this morning it appears that shortly before 8 o'clock last evening a party of the G division of police, with some constables of the A division, under Inspectors Doyle, Flowers, and Scally, proceeded to the public-house of Mr. Pilsworth, 133 James's street, where they had learnt a number of suspected men were assembled. The house, being a double one, had two entrances from the street. By one of these the detective police entered, while the constables in uniform, with Inspectors Doyle and Flowers, went in by the other. The two parties then proceeded to a large taproom in the back part of the shop into which they rushed simultaneously by opposite doors. The room was filled by men, partly soldiers and partly civilians, some of them being armed with loaded revolver pistols. There was some drink in the room but not much. Following the directions of Inspector Doyle, each policeman seized a man, and, though in some cases resistance was made, they arrested them all in almost as short a time as it takes to state the fact. One, a man named James Byrne, who is supposed to be a 'Centre,' actually presented a loaded and capped revolver at Acting-Sergeant Magee of the G division, who, however, boldly seized the pistol and succeeded in taking it from him without an explosion. The capture of the entire number, though a work of great danger and requiring courage and presence of mind, was effected without much difficulty. There were no sentries or men on the watch, and the promptitude of the police in making a simultaneous entrance from both sides into the room deprived them of all means of effecting a retreat or offering a stronger resistance. The arrests having been made, and a large crowd having assembled in the street, Inspector Doyle at once sent for a reinforcement of police from the A, B, and D divisions, and despatched a messenger to the Royal Barracks for a party of troops. The police, under Inspector Armstrong, and accompanied by Superintendent Ryan, soon arrived, and a detachment of the 8th Regiment was marched up from the Royal Barracks, and by their united efforts order was preserved. The prisoners were removed to Chancery-lane police-station.—*Times Cor.*

Soldiers, especially Irish soldiers, will freely take drinks from strangers; and the Fenians are always ready to stand treat. In nine cases out of ten the soldiers, for the sake of civility, conciliate these men and generous friends, and laugh in their sleeves at the dopes who ply them with strong drink, but the result is a firm Fenian faith that no Irish soldier in the ranks will fire on his co-religionists and countrymen. The delusion—if it be a delusion, as I think it must be to a great extent—is very serious; for nothing is so likely to provoke an actual insurrection as the hope of non-resistance from the soldiers themselves. At all events, I know on good authority that an actual rising in the streets of Dublin was projected and prepared, and would certainly have occurred in a few weeks had not the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act lodged in gaol the very men, Irish Yankee dare-devils, who would have shown the way.—*Correspondent of Daily Telegraph.*

The number of Fenians, or Fenian suspects, arrested during the week shows a falling off in the vigilance of the authorities, or a sensible decrease in the information they possess; or what is equally likely, a wholesale disappearance from Ireland of emissaries and tools of the movement. The game now being captured by the police-net is of remarkably small value when compared with the brilliant and weighty hauls which rewarded skill and activity ten or twelve days ago. The last general, the last captain, have been placed to all appearance under lock and key. It is probable that a good muster of the rank and file are still at large, and are capable, if so disposed, of working mischief. But it is hoped that with their leaders in confinement, and their sanguineness somewhat cooled by the precautions that have converted the island into one garrison, we shall be spared the spectacle of a general rising and execution. The time has gone by when the notion existed that an ineffective insurgent army could make head for twenty-four hours against the second best organised military system in Europe.—Granting that for as brief a time the insurgent flag triumphed, who can doubt that this country at any cost would play her last stake to recover her prestige and re-establish her authority? That polychromatic stimulant, made of good poetry, bad politics, and ancient animosities which has so long helped to urge Ireland into revolution as into something feasible, ought to lose all its force and reverence in the presence of the positive penalties that must make war fearful, and the disadvantages that must make success impossible in Ireland. There is but one side looking at this question; every investigation invariably ends in a common result.—*Tablet.*

A clerk named Murphy was arrested in the telegraph-office at Oahir, on Thursday, and was sent by rail to Clonmel.

The Fenians.—The search for Stephens has become very keen and determined. It was reported that the police were on his track last week, and that on Tuesday night he narrowly escaped. Some of the prisoners recently arrested are said to have given information which leaves no doubt that he is in Dublin, and they are now almost certain of his being speedily arrested. On Thursday night searches were made for him in various directions, but the pursuit was ineffectual. It is supposed that it is by continual changes of residence that he escapes.

A quantity of powder has been seized at Mallow, in transit for Tralee.

The court-martial at Cork on Sergeant Darrah, of the 2d (Queen's Royal) Regiment, has concluded, but the finding will not be promulgated until it has been approved by the military authorities. In his defence the prisoner said that if, with his 14 years' service, he had joined such a society as the Fenian Brotherhood, as falsely sworn he did, he would be more fitted for a lunatic asylum than a prison. He contended that the informer Warner had not been corroborated; and that he was an habitual perjurer whose statements could not be relied on. He analyzed the evidence given by Warner and two soldiers examined for the prosecution, for the purpose of showing that it was untrustworthy, and, in conclusion, appealed to his long service in Africa and in China, and to the high character he bore in his regiment, as proofs that he was loyal to his Sovereign, and could not be guilty of the charge brought against him.

At the Court-martial in Enniskillen, the prisoner Egan's case was finished on Saturday. Colonel Mason gave him a good character. Private Denis Buckley was then put forward. He pleaded 'not guilty'; and after the examination of two witnesses the court adjourned.—*Times Cor.*

The court-martial on Drum Major J. Butler was resumed at Cork on Saturday. Several witnesses, among the rest, the approver Warner, were examined in support of the charge of Fenianism. The evidence was nearly the same as that on the trial of Sergeant Darrah.

When O'Keefe's letter suggesting assassination as one of the ways and means for the establishment of the Fenian Republic in Ireland was made public, the captured leaders protested vehemently against their being held up as assassins, and we sympathized with them; but events have since occurred that exhibit Fenians as disciples of the attempted murder of a party of police at Oullin, and of a chief constable at Limerick, and the completed murder of Clarke in Dublin, furnish a dark commentary upon O'Keefe's letter.—*Weekly Register.*

It appears that the Fenian sympathizers in the South are giving up the country as lost. The Cork Herald says:—

"For the past week Queenstown has been in a state of unwonted bustle and excitement, owing to the immense number of emigrants that are daily flowing into the town, and last night it was calculated that no less than 3,000 souls, who are destined for the far West, were sheltered in the various lodginghouses in the town. Each steamer carries its living freight from here of over 300 souls."

The Irish constabulary continue their pursuits of the Fenians with unabated vigor, and the goals are being filled with the brotherhood's members and dupes. The fact of so many military men being tainted with the conspiracy is accounted for by the supposition that soldiers had not become Fenians, but that members of the fraternity had become soldiers, with the object of carrying out their designs more effectually. In an article on this subject, the Irish Times says that where a soldier has proved false to his loyalty and duty; where he has cast a stigma on his comrades in arms, and degraded the uniform he wore, there must be no commutation of punishment, no begging off, no maudlin sympathy, no half measures whatever. The slightest hesitation in visiting such men with the extreme of military punishment would have a most disastrous effect, not only upon the army, but on society. The only penalty at all meet for the guilt of men who entered the British army only to betray it, is death.

Arrests of suspected Fenians continue to be made in the provinces, but none of any importance. The goals in some places are almost full of prisoners of this class. A reported Head Centre, named Mackey, whose business is said to bring him in about £200 a year, has been arrested at Templemore.

FENIAN INFORMERS.—The murder of the man Clarke, which occurred in the Glasnevin district, strangely enough, appears after less than a fortnight to be almost forgotten. Though he made a dying declaration detailing the circumstances, and gave what might fairly be regarded as a clue to the discovery of three of the parties, there has been no capture, and very little comment. The first conjecture to which the public mind leaped was that the victim was a spy who had been murdered in revenge. The circumstances all tallied with this supposition. In fact, there was no other conceivable motive that could be assigned. But the police declared that the man was no Fenian at all, and never had given any information whatever. This at first made the affair still more mysterious, but people think they now begin to understand. Up to the present—excepting in one momentous matter—the police have been thoroughly informed. They know precisely where are nearly all the men they want. Their discoveries of arms are not made in the course of a general search, nor are they ever accidental. They proceed to the depository with as much certainty and precision as they would to the finding of their own accoutrements. To have a stoppage placed upon this very convenient mode of carrying on the war would, of course, be very objectionable to the police; and believing that the terror of assassination would have the effect of drying up the source of their knowledge, they have desired that it shall be thought, if possible, that the murder of Clarke was unconnected with Fenianism. The very energy of the protestations, however, has been regarded as suspicious, and the attempt to divert attention from the cause of Clarke's death has not been as successful as they wished. What is now fully believed is that Clarke was a Fenian, who had, through dread of being himself found out, given information relative to the whereabouts of arms, and that it was in consequence his companions inflicted their bloody vengeance upon him.

If, however, this wretched man has really perished at the hands of the Wexmerich, it seems strange that another informer, who has been far more conspicuous, should be able to display the most entire absence of apprehension. Warner, who figured largely as an approver in the Cork trials, has taken a contented residence at Howth, and dwells there contentedly without ever appearing to trouble himself with the thought of any protection being needful. This is the more extraordinary as he still bears the marks of the popular anger. Some time since one of his eyes was all but knocked out in a public-house row, when he had the ill-judgment to introduce a discourse upon Fenianism, accompanying his words with several denunciations.

There is a curious reason assigned for the absence of all molestation of Warner. As I have already told you, Stephens is regarded as being still the moving spirit of the organisation. It is asserted that he is altogether opposed to individual outrage of any kind, and that he has in an express manner forbidden any violence towards Warner, or indeed towards any of the informers. Apparently he has not been very well obeyed in one case; but in matters where passion is so apt to overrule the principle of obedience, the exception cannot be regarded as disproving the rule.—*Correspondent of Morning Star.*

A young man named Callaghan, in the employment of Messrs. Lyons & Co, Cork, was arrested on a charge of Fenianism on Feb. 27. It is alleged that he had attained the rank of 'B' in the conspiracy. Other arrests are hourly expected.

* This was correct last year; but not of the present.—Mr. Bracken is a Catholic.