THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY, STH JANUARY, 1879.

New Year's Day

2

1.

Another leaf old heavy Time hath turned Of the mysterious book o'er which he porcs, Whose prologue and strange epilogue are urned In the unfathomed depths of unknown shores. Solemn he bends—an awful shade !--above The checkered page of human woe and mirth; Casting light dusi on all that hearts most love, And writing "finis" to the hopes of earth.

11.

Here is a page all consecrate with tears Which stole the life from youthful heart and

which sole the fracery of human fears eyes;
While there the tracery of human fears Cowers in the shade of lowering destinies !
Here is the lowing pratic that grew still, And hid belind a little marble face
Which, like mid-winter's silent, frozen rill, No lowing ray could warm to living grace.

111.

Anon, a widow crying in the night For him, her beautiful, her only one, Who took her soul in her mysterious flight-Who kissed her with grey lip, and then was

who kissed her with grey inj, and then was gone!
 Or, mayhap, some young ivy from whose oak The fleshless fingers of cold Death entwined.
 Blasting the sturdy tree with lightning stroke Lone, shattered, standing looking and behind.

15.

And here a widow weeping for the son, The one bright ray of hope that cheered her life,

Whose strong heart, when the prize was nearly woo. WOG. Broke 'neath the burden of the cruel strife, He's ever lying there before her eyes, Cold as the memory of imppier days; And oh! the Lord is intinitely wise,

But who shall fathom Ills mysterious ways ? ٧.

On this page mad ambition, self frustrate, Seeks the unknown, unsummoned, unpre-pared; Too late, alas! he weeps the awful fate Which one dread moment's desperation dared!

dared ! Happy, if alth had cast her magic light Into the darkness of the dread beyond ; Ah ! easier borne Fate's cold, extremest spite Than the black burden of heil's endless bond

vi.

And here poor Innocence doth hesitate Upon the brink of depths of wee unknown; Another step and volces shrick "Too late !"— Hope filts away and leaves the lost alone ! A few months' madness, lit, by Passion's flame

Then 'neath the midnight lamp to cover and shiver; The heartless court—a remnant of lost shame— A frantic moment, then—the silent river!

V11.

And your page, brother, and mine own he reads; 'Tis yet unfinished; when "finis" shall be writ.

writ. Shall the long record of our life and deeds, By heavenly light or by hell's fire be lit? The future page is blank; if thou livest ill, Correct thy life, and write with contrile tears, The noble epic of our iron will, Resolved to mint for Heav'n the golden years?

V11f.

Happy New Year! an! happy, if the chains That bind thy soul to earth be broken all! In value thy blitter tears, in value thy pains If He who watches the poor sparrow's fall Guard not the citadel of good intent And lead thy steps to virtuous release, Where thou canst weep the weary years ill-spent.

spent. And hold with joy the pleasant paths of peace

1X. Thus, when Old Father Time shall drop the

vell Which hangs between Hercafter and Life's Go burdened forth with virtues true and leal Whose spring-time comes beneath a happier

There shalt thou find, in fields of asphodel, The loved who cost thee many a bitter tear, There shalt thou hear, 'mid harmony's soft swell,

The welcome to a happier New Year! FR. GRAHAM.

LLOYD PENNANT. A TALE OF THE WEST.

By RALPH NEVILLE, Esq.

those same moneys, which he had paid under his former client's written directions. The third snit-for Clipper took a separate action for the costs and balance due him as law and land agent-had a similar result. The defendant was again defeated; and in his address to the jury the plaintiff's counsel expersons who, after benefitting by the profes-sional exertions of their solicitors, then His temper became soured; he made some sharp remarks upon the unfortunate consequences that had resulted from following the having been employed on his recommendahim, and hear what he had to say in self-justification; but Mr. Pepper had not as yet arrived in the neighborhood. The solicitor of those days had generally "a place" in the

county, and being in most instances a sort of emphibious animal, half land, half law shark, accommodated his employers so long as they could give security. When "polished off," be was always ready to afford them personal satisfaction if they felt discontented with any item in his bill of costs, or any portion of his professional conduct. Danger was now at the door, and Colonel

not until fairly roused by the dread of proceedings which would publicly disgrace him that he made any exertion to waid off the "Have you heard anything, cousin?" de-threatened blow. He wrote to Pepper, re-questing him at once to ascertain Mr. Clip-heart), as she dried away her tears. per's intentions and apprise him of the result, as it was possible that the latter might now

refuse to take security or grant the accommodation which he had originally offered.

After some days of suspense, he was inormed that Clipper was more tractable than could have been anticipated. He admitted his proposal to accept a mortgage on the Dunseverick estates for the suins advanced to relieve the Bingham property, and he was still willing to abide by that effer : but with respect to the other accounts, namely, the debt due to him as agent by colonel Blake, and the costs incurred as solicitor in protecting the interests of his own and his nephew's estates; he had made no promise, and could enter into no arrangement. Those claims must be discharged in hard cash and without any further delay.

Mr. Pepper congratulated the Colonel on this favorable termination of the affair, and attributed the good terms he was enabled to obtain to his own determined deportment at the interview, which, no doubt, had its due chect, as Clipper was well aware that the period for which he had been bound to keep the peace was just expired. "The heavy debts," he said, "might now be considered as

readiness to execute the proposed mortgage

on Johnson's in liquidation of the second

wait during the time which must elapse be-

time the particulars of the security he was

pressed that gentleman's willingness to ac-

All danger might now, therefore, be looked

upon as over, and the whole affair considered

was enclosed to Pepper, with directions to

have the transfer executed with all possible

despatch, and the Colonel and Master Mike

dismissed all further care on that score from

It was a great relief. Until placed in it

Colonel Blake could not have realized the misery of the situation from which he had

just escaped. He had been dragged to the

edge of the precipice, and narrowly escaped being cast over. The excitement had roused

him from his former state of apathy, and, to

the deed of mortgage was prepared, and would

motives of delicacy for not attending himself,

but Mr. Sharp, the sub-sheriff, had kindly

undertaken to see it executed, and proposed

It was only when the mysteriously-worded

unhappy gentleman, about to pledge his

their minds.

pose.

commodate him on the terms proposed.

himself should be first liquidated."

and the reminiscence of the fatal act is generally accompanied by a sense of independence being in his power never once entered their lost and of ruin in perspective.

As the Colonel strolled through his grounds after Sharp's painful visit, he dared scarcely look upon the trees, of whose antiquity and giant size he was so justly vain; and when he nication received from one of his people. patiated most feelingly on " the ingratitude of | reached a seat placed beneath an enormous oak, on which he usually rested, he hesitated off at once, as he understood an attack was to avail himself of the shelter of a time-honturned on their preservers, and sought to ored friend whom he had but just before evade the payment of the paltry remunera- handed over to the tender mercies of a rapation which the law allowed them." Each of cious attorney. The same feeling haunted those decisions added heavily to the original him as he re-entered his noble hall. The claim, and Colonel Blake found that he should proud consciousness of exclusive ownership have saved largely had he in the first instance | was fled. "Trees and castle, they are no quictly submitted to the original imposition. | longer really mine," he mentally exclaimed, for another may now legally claim them." The pressing affairs of business being concluded and the necessary preparations for advice of Mr. Pepper, which Mike took their journey completed, post-horses were greatly to heart. The unsuccessful attorney ordered, to the great satisfaction of Tim, who was fond of travelling, and of the lady's maid, tion, he determined to seek an interview with who longed to see "foreign parts" and foreign beaux.

Mike declined to join the party. He had no wish to visit the haunts of fashion, and, besides, his presence would be required at the

Castle during its master's absence. On the eve of their departure, Kate Bingham often laid claim to the standing of a county sat alone in the drawing-room. It was the high spirits at the inn door on the look-out. gentleman, irrespective of the dignity con- dusk of a still, calm evening in July, and the As the Danseverick equipage dashed down ferred upon him by act of parliament. He did pervading loneliness seemed to have deeply things, too, in a more dashing style and in a affected her spirits. She took her harp, and the servants, when to his astonishment, the more agreeable manner than his pettifogging | sang, but paused frequently while struggling and degenerate successors of the present day, who too often retain all the bad without pos-by her thoughts that Mike entered the room sessing one of the good qualities of their pro- unperceived, and stood behind her for some totypes. The profession was then in a state | minutes in silence. She commenced a favorof transition. Pepper being the representative | ite air of Pennant's ; ber first notes were firm of the past and Pincher of the rising race of and perfect as when he hung upon them with practitioners. The former destroyed their delight; but soon her voice wavered: she clients, it is true, as effectually as the latter, paused, stopped, and burst into tears. Mike sant position alternated with indignation at but after a different fashion. During the could stand it no longer; he had heretofore the conduct of the scoundred by whose neglect progress of their ruin, Pepper entertained and studiously avoided inquiring as to what ex-accommodated his employers so long as they tent matters had been carried between Pen- of his enemies. When he saw the Colonel nant and herself. He had noticed her ill-dis- his rage grew boundless. He vowed all sorts guised anxiety, and had often endeavored to of vengeance against Pepper, and cursed the [the cause of quarrel], as he drew forth a small comfort her by indirect allusions, although he | ingratitude of the cowards who had tamely had never ventured to speak openly on the allowed their master to be carried off. painful subject. Now, however, he abandoned all reserve; placing his hands upon the Blake was compelled to look it boldly in the weeping girl's head, he besought her to cheer face. He had never contemplated the possi- up, in his own unsophisticated way seeking bility of being placed in such a position as to comfort her. "All will be well, and soon, that in which he now found himself. The my dear child. So don't fret. From my lassitude produced by his mental sufferings heart I pity you, and there's nothing on this had rendered him of late, in a manner, indif- earth I won't do to assist you. We shall have ferent to all going on around him : and it was good news before long, depend upon it ; and arm, and rallied the prisoner on his dejection. maybe I won't dance a hearty jig' at your

wedding." "No, my dear, nothing; but I never lost

courage or hope. "He may be dead : I can conceive no other

cause for his absence." "No, no; no fear of that. There are other causes, which I can't as yet disclose." "Do tell me," said the excited girl, seizing

his hand, "do tell me, cousin Mike. You for it to-day." know not how I have suffered, and what a relief it would be to my mind to know he were living and well, even though I should never see him more-although" (she added in a subdued tone) "that, indeed, would embitter my life."

"I can't break confidence," replied Mike, but I promise you that I shall leave no stone unturned to discover him."

"Thank you, dear cousin, for that and all your other kindnesses. And you will write to me, won't you, and tell me all that hap-pens? And you'll lot me hear from you wishes, he would let them know next mornoften, for you know how impatient I shall

bo ?" "You may depend on me," said Hike. "But now retire to rest, sleep well, and be a good girl. I go before you in the morning to Ureck Town to receive some money. I shall have luncheon prepared for you, and when arrived, but the possibility of their master heads. When the fact of his arrest transpired, "boys" were sent off in every direction to rouse the neighbors, and effect a rescue. Mr. Sharp, who seemed flurried by a commubluntly told the prisoner that they must be about to be made upon the bailiffs. The thought of a rescue recalled the scene he had witnessed at Squire Ulick's execution to the Colonel's mind.

He immediately recovered his self-possession, and after offering some consolation to the ladies, he followed the sheriff, and entered his carriage. But the post-boys positively refused to stir, and proceeded to unyoke their cattle. Horns were heard sounding on all sides, and men were descending from the hills in every direction. There was no time to be lost. It was only by the earnest entreaties of the Colonel, who assured them that he had but to drive to Creek Town to have the matter settled, that the lads were induced to move. Once under weigh, they dashed on as rapidly as their horses could travel, and soon got clear of the gathering multitude.

Mike had succeeded in accomplishing his business, luncheon was ready, and he stood in the street, he entered the house to summon carriage swept quickly past, and after halting for a moment while Tim descended from the rumble, then followed the road leading to the gaol.

It would be difficult to say what feeling predominated in Mike's mind as, after having learned the truth, he strode forward in pursuit. Compassion for his relative's unplea-

But relief was at hand. A neighboring much as to say, "You see I'm never taken gentleman who happened to be in town, and unprepared; it's bone dry." whose solvency could not be doubted, at once proceeded to offer his security for the in concert. prompt payment of the debt. Mike now besame as elated as he had before been depressed. He shook "the friend in need" by the hand until he had nearly dislocated his

" Don't fret, Maurice, at what has happened myself, being always propared and ready for such an emergency, which you were not, never having anticipated it. Now that you're out I may say, you can go on to town, and I'll per managed to neglect matters after such a fashion. As to the execution against the fur- have something for my trouble." niture, I think nothing about that. Look at praise be to Heavens! I'm not a bit the worse

Mike and his friend immediately followed ate in accepting the proposed secutity were breath, and placed his hand on his "fob." he acting for himself, but he was only the sub-"Bad luck to you, Mike, you devil, yo

ordinate of another. He intended dining at matter to him during the evening. If the Is it much hurt you are yourself?" wishes, he would let them know next morn-

Mike could not endure such a delay. Every hour the Colonel passed in prison was one of intolerable anguish to him. He, therefore, determined at once to ride to Castlemore, only a few miles distant, and have an interview with Pincher Martin himself. He was satisfactorily settled; and he advised that you drive up let me see you hearty and cheer- soon in the saddle, and had the gratification with an emphasis. "Well, then, Mike, from beguiled the tediousness of the journey by funds should be immediately procured to dis- ful; and, above all things, be sure you don't to learn on his arrival that the person he the bottom of my heart I forgive you. I only her gaiety, and made the Colonel at times for-

the throat he dragged him across the desk which stood between them. "What the devil are you at, sir?" cried the attorney during his transit. "If you want a meeting, sir, you have done enongh; let us not disgrace ourselves by boxing."

His assailant at once let go his hold.

"You are right, sir. I do want a meeting, and I'll not furnish you with an excuse for avoiding it; neither limb nor eye shall be damaged."

"Then," exclaimed the attorney with impetuosity, " consider a message delivered, and name time and place this moment; the sooner and nearer the better, as I have a great deal to do this evening, and don't wish to neglect my

clients." "At once, sir," replied Mike; "the Lots, in half an hour ; it's a dirty spot, but quite good enough to shoot an attorney in; a rascal of your sort doesn't deserve a green sod, and if you did, I have neither time nor patience to go to 'the fifteen acres.'"

The arrangement made, Mike jumped into the chaise had drove off in search of a friend.

Mr. Pepper put aside the briefs so essential to his client's success, and taking a small ma-hogany box from his desk, he thrust it into a black bag, and directed a shabby-looking boy, half-clerk, half-servant, to go on before him to the place of meeting. He next de-sired a person from the back office to run to Mr. Racket, the barrister, and request that he wouldn't wait dinner for him after half-past six, and also to beg that he would apply, at the sitting of the court next morning, to have

the motion postponed in case the briefs should not reach him before ten that night. Then, buttoning his surfout to his throat, and seizing his cane, he briskly proceeded towards the appointed rendezvous, taking the house of a brother-chip who usually acted as his "ndus Arhates" on the way.

Both parties were punctual to the moment. "Any use in trying to settle?" demanded Mike's friend (who was altogether ignorant of paper of powder from his waistcoat pocket and gave his principal a knowing wink, as

"Not the least!" shouled both belligerents

"In that case," added Pepper's man of business, "we may as well toss for choice of place and signal, and proceed to work at once.

All parties being "au fult" as to the respective duties, but little time was lost in prethe best of fellows. I managed to avoid it paration. Pistols were handed to the principals when placed, the seconds retired, the word was given, bang together, but no hit. " Bad luck to you, Teddy !" cried Pepper to the boy who carried the bag, as he waited for go with you; for I just want to see how Pep-per managed to neglect matters after such a ought she wouldn't have hung fire, and I'd

Bang again-both hits-Mike's pistol spun me! I have been sold out seven times, and, into the air, he staggered back, and his right arm fell powerless by his side. Pepper sprang upwards, and landed on the ground in a sitting position. While the surgeon was Sharp to his office, and to silence all object being called from his place of concealment tions, the latter proposed to pass his bond, close by, the combatants continued glaring payable in one week, for the amount of the fiercely at each other, Mike's arm bleeding, writ. Sharp assured them, with extreme civ-ility, that he should not for a moment hesit-bellows. At length he seemed to recover

" Bad luck to you, Mike, you devil, you ve made stirabout of my bran-new watch. You the High Sheriff's, and would mention the might have spared me that expense anyhow.

" No," replied Mike, grimly.

"I'm glad of that, for I must be off. I ap-pointed to be at Clipper's at five o'clock to take the assignment of the mortgage.

"I suppose you are aware that he has the Colonel in gaol and an execution in the Castle?"

"The Colonel in gaol and an execution in the Castle!" repeated Mr. Pepper slowly and charge the small one (only some thousands), mention the conversation we have had either as the consequence of leaving himself in his to Mrs. Bolingbroke or your uncle."

forwarded by that night's post to the country. They now returned to Clipper's, only to learn "that office hours were over, and that the clerk had left."

"Well," muttered Mike, with clenched teeth, "when we do meet him." "Aye, when we do meet him," re-echoed

Pepper. The servant informed them that the clerk would be in attendance at ten next morning and the two gentlemen were on the door steps as the clock struck the hour.

"Not much sign of business here yet," said Pepper, as he pointed to the closed shutters "Not up yet; tired, I suppose, after the night," as he again applied himself to the knocker. The square resounded with the force of his blows-still no one stirred. After a few minutes a woman appeared in the area and asked what they wanted. In reply to their inquiries, she told them that the family had left town, and she didn't know when they'd return. The promise of a shilling brought her to the door, and, on entering, they discovered that the house had been stripped of every article of furniture.

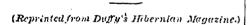
" Done brown," was the attorney's first ala servation; "done brown, sir. He's of, and most likely has made use of Johnson's montgage for his own purposes."

And so it turned out. To support his extravagant style of living, Clipper had perpetrated many frauds and forgeries, which if discovered, would have brought him to the scaffold. The threatened calling in of Miss Bingham's money compelled him to fly tin kingdom.

He had used the ten thousand pounds thin self, and fabricated a fictitious decil to satisfy her guardian. This fact was soon ascertained on application to the solicitor of the supposed borrower. Here was another heavy and unexpected loss to the unfortunate Colonel. On being informed of the fact, Mr. Dockett declared that he had made the advance without reference to this particular security, and expressed himself quite willing to await his eld riend's convenience for repayment.

Colonel Blake had remained five days in prison before his release. During this dismal time he declined all visits and confined himself to an apartment let him by the gaul r at an exorbitant price. It so happened that his lodging overlooked the courtyard where the prisoners took their exercise, and his attention was attracted by the extraordinary liberty which Johnson, the sailor committed for the murder of his messmate, seemed to enjoy, More than once he saw him in familiar deal versation with the High Sheriff, and the man's whole demeanor betokened but little of that apprehension which a person about to undergo the ordeal of a trial for his life, with small chance of escape, would naturally be supposed to feel. In the twilight of the evening before he left, as the Colonel was sitting within his raised window, the entrance-gate just below him opened, and the High Sheriff. followed by the gaoler, crossed the yard. After a short delay the former returned, followed by the sailor. At the conclusion of a conversation carried on in a low but earnest tone of voice Johnson said, as they were about to part " I'll be as true as steel, and the devil himself shan't get a word out of me that would horm you." Astonished at what he overheard, the Colonel determined to watch the proceedings of the next Assizes closely ; and, in order to prevent the possibility of collusion between the crown prosecutors and the culprit, he resolved on employing counsel for the next of kin at his own expense. When he found himself at liberty and ascertained that the Castle had been purged of its unwelcome visitors, he summoned the ladies and they pro-

ceeded on their projected pleasure trip. Kate was delighted to rejoin her uncle Since her conversation with Mike her spirits had recovered much of their former elasticity, and all thoughts of what had occurred were banished by the pleasure of the reunion. She



CHAPTER VII .-- CONTINUED.

The new candidate's presumption raised a shout of mockery and contempt. An opposition was at once determined on; but little time was left for preparation, as the writ had use of this money, as he had already executed already reached the sheriff, who named the his will in favor of Miss Bingham, and its apalready reached the sheriff, who named the earliest possible day for holding the election. A gentleman of family and personal influence was selected as the champion of the aristocracy, but on prosecuting his canvass he was surprised to find the sudden apathy which had seized upon his hitherto most ardent supporters; and to the astonishment of all and the bitter disappointment of many, he himself published a letter on the very eve of the election, thanking those who had promised him their votes, but stating that circumstances of a private nature compelled him to withdraw from the contest. Colonel Blake, and Mike as his agent, had exerted every nerve to stir up the opposition ; the former consented, much against his will, to propose the popular candidate, and it was only on his arrival in the county town that he had the mortification to learn the sudden change in the state of affairs. Mike went about soliciting every person who had any pretensions to fight the battle of independence, without success. He suggested insulting roung Blatherwell in such a manner as would render it impossible for him to appear before calling out his assailant ; he even offered to bell the cat himself, and when the proposition was considered useless, he pathetically lamented the times gone by, and declared that as definitely wound up, The banker's letter "it was a burning shame to see an election lost which might possibly be saved by a

thimbleful of powder." At the appointed hour the proceedings commenced, and there being no opposition, Theo-bald Frederick was declared knight of the shire for one of the largest and most aristocratic counties in Ireland. When the current of good luck sets in, it is said to flow strongly. Few men had more pleasing evidence of the truth of this adage than the elder Blatherwell. It was astonishing how quickly, after the son had taken his seat, the hitherto latent merits Kate's great delight, he proposed that they should all take a trip to one of the fashionof his father were discovered by the ministry, able English watering-places. In due time Mr. Clipper announced that and how promptly and liberally they seemed disposed to requite past political service. A puisnejudge died most opportunely, and the appointment (admitted to be unequal to his deserts) was placed at the disposal of the distinguished K. C. The wary lawyer did not hesitate for a moment. The position was far below what he ultimately expected to calling at Dunseverick Castle for that purobtain, but it formed a step in the ladder which he determined to mount; it was something to sit upon the bench, and always well to have a good place to resign when soliciting a bet-

Time wore on, and there were no tidings of of the proceeding. When he read the coven-ants and saw the witnesses, he would, were it Lloyd Pennant. As regarded him, things remained in statu quo; but the law suits in which possible, have recoiled from the act. A moment's consideration, however, convinced Colonel Blake was involved proceeded, without abatement, steadily towards their concluhim that it was then unavoidable and the free sion. First, the equity suit went against Miss and easy manner of Mr. Sharp so disgusted Bingham, and her brother's estate passed to him, that to bring their interview to a speedy his next male heir, unencumbered by the conclusion he hurriedly seized the pen and money which had been advanced to pay off affixed his signature. the mortgages. Then came a verdict ob-tained by Olipper against Colonel Blake for event seldom obliterated from the memory,

Mike kissed her forehead, and prayed a adversary's power might be unpleasant." It so happened that Colonel Blake, as the trustee of his niece, had invested ten thousand blessing on her. As they parted, his heart felt the lighter for having in some degree conpounds (her fortune) on a mortgage recomsoled the desponding girl, while Kate's hopes mended as first-rate security by Mr. Clipper, revived from having learned (although ignorand the thought struck him that the transfer ant of the particulars) that Pennant's absence of this sum would meet the exigencies of the could be accounted for otherwise than by imoccasion. He felt no hesitation in making puting it to infidelity. She had also found a confidant possessed of her secret to whom she might freely unburden her mind, and in whose unfailing devotion she could repose the propriation would save what ultimately must be hers from further legal destruction. He most unbounded trust. therefore wrote to Clipper, expressing his

Colonel Blake was the first of the family about in the morning, his impatience to be off on his own estate and to assign the one he had increasing since he had signed the deeds, and by ten o'clock all was ready for the start. claim on receiving back the surplus. But, to Tim ordered the carriage round with an air of his astonishment, Clipper declined the offer. . " He could not afford," he said, " to pay the the most dignified importance. The Colonel delayed, arranging some papers in the library ; difference, as all his ready cash had been dis-Mrs. Bolingbroke sat ready in the drawingposed of in accommodating his clients: room ; Kate was adjusting her clock and benneither would his nesessities enable him to net; the imperial and boxes had been regularly arranged, and the post boys were fore Johnson's debt could be made available; mounted, after having tied up their broken and further, he refused to deliver up the deeds, which would enable Colonel Blake to call in harness, and borrowed all the bits of spare strings to be found amongst the bystanders in Miss Bingham's fortune, until the sum due to anticipation of future ruptures; the steps were down, the lady's maid already in the In this emergency the Colonel applied to rumble, and Tim proceeded to announce that his banker in Dublin (an old friend) for a all was ready, when Mr. Sharp, attended by loan of the requisite sum, stating at the same two other men on horseback, rode hurriedly All three dismounted and entered the up. prepared to offer. An immediate reply exhall. Mr. Sharp asked to see the Colonel. A servant, who took the message, returned with his master's compliments to say he had not then time to receive the gentleman, but, as he presumed his visit was connected with business, he begged to refer him to Mr. Michael Blake, who would be at home next day.

Mr. Sharp, while awaiting the answer, had, uninvited, entered the parlor, and when he received it, roughly replied, "That won't do ; I must see him." Then whispering something to his companions, one noiselessly followed the footman, who, astonished at such rudeness, went back to his master, while the other mounted the stairs, and rushed towards a room in which he heard persons talking. The ruffian unhesitatingly burst open the door, and presented himself to the astonished Kate with a printed paper in one hand and a cocked pistol in the other.

"Spare us, spare my uncle, for mercy's sake !" cried the affrighted girl, as she fell upon her be sent down in a few days. He pleaded knees and grasped his coat-skirts. "You shall have all our money, but spare our lives." "I want neither your lives nor your money," said the brutal bailin, as he disingaged himself from her hold. "You needn't make such a hubbub; it's only a writ and an execution," whiskey and cash judiciously administered to he continued, as he peered under the bed and the post-boys, me made a rapid progress; opened the wardrobe. "You may as well tell and after having sustained some half dozen purchments were spread before him that the where the gentteman is at once; it'll save patrimony, fully appreciated the importance trouble; he can't escape, as the house is surrounded."

The Colonel, meantime, had been arrested claims, while his goods and chattels were entered and threw herself into his arms.

There was boisterous mirth in the parlor as stantly.

"Mr. Pincher Martin could not then see well."

"But," said Mike, "tell him I did not come to pay a visit, but to speak with him on business connected with his office."

After a very brief delay, the man swaggered back, with a smirking and impertinent air, to say, "that the High Sheriff, who never interfered in the business of the office, referred him to Mr. Sharp."

"litt-," remonstrated Mike. "There's no use in your talking," inter-rupted the footman. "I won't go in again. I tell you, I darn't do it."

He turned to joke with a housemaid pass-ing through the hall, and when he had his laugh, deliberately opened the door, and rejust coming out.

A day before and Mike would have punished the fellow on the spot, and afterwards administered personal chastisement to his more insolent master; but the dread of injur-ing the Colonel, or delaying his release, re-strained him now. He walked from the house, where in his beyhood he had passed many a happy hour, with the blush of shame upon his brow. As he mounted his horse, Le saw the windows filled with ladies, gratifying their curiosity at his expense, and he recognized the satanic leer of Pincher as he glared on him over the shoulders of his wife.

As he cantered back, he decided on his future proceedings. If the sub-sheriff rejected the arrangement proposed, now that the matter was left entirely at his discretion, he determined to start himself for Dublin. Posthorses had already been ordered along the road. By travelling night and day, he should make more speed than the coach, and be enabled to release the prisoner with his money by far the most desirable method of winding up the affair.

His clerk could not say where Mr. Sharp had gone to, and when Mike intercepted that gentleman endeavouring to make his escape by a back way, he hemmed and hawed so, and talked so much of this responsibility and of his dread of committing his principal, that Mike turned abruptly from him, communicated the result of his interview and the resolution which he had taken to the Colonel, wrote a consolatory note to Kate, and rattled afternoon of the following day. He proceeded

direct to Mr. Pepper's office. stant, my good fellow. I'm terribly busy just an hour ago."

the poker. But it's not my fault. This will recently subjected. Mike received the party saying he wished to see the High Sheriff. be at least the tenth time I have been at the on their arrival at the hotel in Dublin, and fellow's house, without being able to see him. the man entered. He returned almost in- He's been out of town. But he's to have a party to-day, so I'm sure to find him now, and by all that's gracious, 1'll welt his back for Mr. Blake, as he was going to ride after such suprofessional conduct, unless he fights almost certain loss of Kate's fortune. The luncheon with his uncle, Justice Blather- me, if I were to be bound to keep the peace Colonel recovered the shock more quickly

to the last hour of my existence." "Teddy" (addressing the boy), "you just run home, sponge the tools, and be sure you dry them and some powder too."

Pepper's ball had struck the stock of Mike's pistol, and wounded his arm at the elbow. "They were neat shots anyhow," observed the attorney, "but I came of second best in the business. Murther" (looking at the battered watch), .. if there happened to be a sorer spot in my body it's there you'd hit me, Mike.

" It's a feelish thing to wear so valuable an article on such an occasion," replied his late adversary, as he stuffed his wounded arm into the half-buttoned breast of his coat. "But quested Mike to go on, as "the quality" were come along. Let's lose no time. I'll go with you to Clipper's."

All was bustle at Mr. Clipper's mansion when they reached it-two footmen in glaring liveries stood in the hall, and everything seemed prepared for the reception of company.

"Where is Mr. Clipper?" demanded Pepper, addressing himself to the office clerk, who was busily employed putting aside papers and divesting the apartment (about to be converted into a cloak room) of its professional baracter.

"He's not come home yet."

"Hell and the devil, sir!" roared Pepper; didn't you tell me I was sure to see him today ?"

"1 did, sir; but Lord Kilmore won't allow him to leave till after the Tuam steeplechase, so he can't return until to-morrow. You see he's obliged to disappoint his own friends."

"Are you aware, sir, that while he has been humbugging me by these repeated delays, he has arrested my client and seized his goods under execution ?"

"So I understand," replied the man, calmly; " but the fact is, he raised money on the securities and was obliged to give the person who made the advances a letter, authorizing him to proceed in his name. If you call at Spinks' office you can pay the amount of the writ and execution; and, on bringing me a letter to the effect that the transaction is concluded, the Johnson mortgage will be handed over to you."

the banker's solicitor that the parties interested should call at the bank, where he would upsets, arrived sately at the metropolis on the | be in attendance to receive the transfer and pay the money. Thither Mike and his companion now proceeded to explain the cause of the feelings of wounded pride and crushed The Colonel, meantime, had been arrested "Wait a moment," cried that worthy per-their inability to produce the promised independence which the free promised independence which the free promised independence which the sonage, waving his hand as Mike entered, but sonage, while his model produce the promised independence which the reader of his sonage, waving his hand as Mike entered, but document. Mr. Docket, who had always public exposure and altered circumstances while his model produce the promised independence which the reader of his sonage. While his model has been arrested of his sonage, waving his hand as Mike entered, but document. Mr. Docket, who had always public exposure and altered circumstances while his model of his sonage. "Sit down an inshocked at the imprisonment of his old friend, seized under an execution, issued against now preparing briefs for a most important and directed his protessional man to discharge him by the same person, for another. He motion to be on to-morrow morning, which the debt without any further delay. They sat pale as death in his arm-chair when Kate entirely escaped my recollection until about found Spinks in his office, received receipts, which had been drawn and left by Clipper,

when the ladies retired to arrange their toilethe seized the opportunity to communicate the unpleasant news of Clipper's flight, now become public, of his many forgeries, and of the Colonel recovered the shock more quickly than could have been anticipated-disappointments and misfortunes were now become familiar to him. He recommended strict silence on the subject before his nicce, and after securing their berths in the patket about to sail that evening for Holyhead, took Mike with him to the bank, where he passed security for the money so kindly advanced by Mr. Docket. Kate was the belle of the assemblies at Tunbridge Wells-admired as a beauty and sought a ter as a fortune, but her affections could not be shaken by any of the glittering throng who ambitioned the conquest-and her heart remained true and firmly attached to the man who had first taught it to love. Change of seene had done much for her uncle's health, and it was with great reluctance that he set out on his return to Ireland. Had it not been for the duty imposed upon him, it is probable that he would never again have revisited Dunseverick, as the last rude shock he received there had quite disgusted him and the state of his affairs imposed the necessity of retrenchment, which could never be effectually carried out at home. From the time he reached the borders of the county his journey resembled a triumphal progress. Wherever the carriage stopped to chauge horses it was surrounded and the travellers were cheered by the crowd assembled to greet them. When he neared his own more immediate vicinity the enthusiasm of the people became irresistible. They shook his extended hands, prayed "long life to himself and bad luck to his enemies," and finally, unharnessing the horses, drew him in triumph to the Castle.

It is one of the many peculiarities of the Irish character [arising, no doubt, from the hereditary recollections of their own cruel and unjust persecutions, under the most brutal code ever compiled by human ingenuity] that the victims of the law are always certain to secure the sympathies of the multitude. In this instance public feeling was still further stimulated by the fact that the object of its admiration was "one of the real ould aristocracy of the county." Many a bonfire blazed on the mountain sides the night of their return, and many a barrel of stout home-brewed ale was broached for the thousands who thronged the lawn and kept up Not apticipating any disappointment on the the merry dance until daylight warned them grand dinner-day, Pepper had arranged with to retire. The Colonel was deeply affected by the spontaneous and hearty reception which he received from his neighbors, and the gratification derived from such a manifestation of their good-will tended to mitigate continually excited in his mind. Mike, now recovered from his wound, which he attri-buted to an accident, shook hands, danced, laughed, and sometimes cried, in the excess of his excitement. He pronounced it to be "a glorious demonstration," which was the There were many of the personnery and re- "Pill not wait a second, you infernal ras- together with a letter to the sheriff authoriz- more agreeable as the culogies on his sus-tainers about the place when the sub-sheriff cal!" roared Mike, as seizing Pepper by the ing the discharge of his prisoner, which Mike man were cher a nicel by a curso