

SMITH O'BRIEN.

Mr. O'Brien having complied with the earnest request of his friends and admirers, by accepting a "ticket of leave" for six months—the necessary steps were taken for removal from the penal settlement of Port Arthur, and at six o'clock, p.m., on Monday last he arrived per government steamer at Hobart Town Wharf. From the moment it became publicly known that he would be conveyed to Hobart Town, the greatest anxiety prevailed among all classes to receive him by a popular demonstration on an extensive scale.

Some of Mr. O'Brien's more immediate friends conceived it would not be pleasing to him, nor gratifying to his feelings that any such public manifestation should take place. They did not conceive the occasion as one of joy or exultation, but merely as the removal of a gentleman from one compartment of his prison to another; from a solitary cell to a spacious corridor, where ventilation was freer and the sounds of human voices more frequent. Accordingly every exertion was made to suppress popular display. Two or three enthusiastic and respectable citizens of Hobart Town called upon us and proposed to retain every carriage and other vehicle in town for the purpose of a grand procession; the efficient band of St. Joseph's Temperance Hall was offered to accompany it, and three thousand equestrians and pedestrians would have joined. This was very tempting, but still as Mr. O'Brien's feelings were to be consulted, it was thought more advisable to discontinue those intentions however kind and generous.

Notwithstanding every precaution, several hundreds assembled in the wharves, and in the neighborhood of the docks, and when the steamer neared the Jetty, the most thrilling anxiety prevailed the entire multitude to get a glimpse of the object of their admiration. At length Mr. O'Brien was recognised walking on deck, and a simultaneous cheer ascended from every breast.

When the steamer came alongside, Mr. Reeves, as chairman of the meeting which adopted the address to Mr. O'Brien, Mr. J. Moore, as secretary, the Rev. Father Therry, and Mr. O'Donoghue, stepped on board to receive Mr. O'Brien, who looked exceedingly well and in the most cheerful spirits, after all his sufferings and privations. In a few moments he landed amidst warm and enthusiastic acclamations, waving of hats, handkerchiefs, &c. He walked through the assembled meeting uncovered, shaking hands with several who pressed round him as he passed along. On reaching the carriage in waiting for him, he walked into it and was driven at a rapid pace to the Freeman's Hotel, where he was entertained by Mr. Reeves.

Mr. O'Brien spent Tuesday in walking through the public streets, and receiving the gratulations of his numerous friends. Several of the most respectable inhabitants waited upon him in the course of the day. At half-past five o'clock in the evening, he left for New Norfolk, where he has fixed his residence for the present. He was conveyed out of town in Mr. Carter's private carriage.—*O'Donoghue's Irish Exile.*

TENANT-RIGHT IN TIPPERARY.—On the 3rd instant the monthly meeting of the Tipperary Tenant Protection Society was held at their rooms, Henry-street. A number of clergymen and farmers attended, and some town collectors of the tenant funds. Arrangements were made for holding parish meetings after Easter in different parts of the Tipperary district. Mention was made of the kind treatment of Stafford O'Brien, through his agent, Mr. Barry, to a number of tenants on lands that came lately into his possession, having reduced their rent fully one-third. After some routine business, the meeting separated.—*Tipperary Free Press.*

REPRESENTATION OF GALWAY.—On dit that Captain French, whose return to this country was recently announced will stand as a candidate for the representation of this town at the next election. He has filled several public employments in India with credit, but we are not aware of the political principles which he professes.—*Galway Mercury.*

Mr. Sergeant Murphy will be returned for the city of Cork in place of Mr. Fagan, M.P., who has resigned to the seeming satisfaction of all parties.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

John C. Garvey, Esq., Murrisk Abbey, has been appointed deputy lieutenant of county Mayo, vice James Cuffe, Esq., deceased.

The Lord Chancellor has been pleased, on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Westmeath, to appoint William Pidgeon, Esq., of Athlone, a magistrate for said county.

The late Sir William Dillon, Bart., of Lismullen, Meath, is succeeded in the title and estates by his only son, now Sir Arthur H. Dillon, Esq., 74th High-lancers.

REMITTANCES FROM AMERICA.—The total amount of money issued through the banks of the city of Limerick during the year 1850 on drafts from America, in favor of relatives of emigrants from that part of the country, was the immense sum of £4,000. Laborers who only went out in the last Spring have, in many instances, remitted £10 and £12.

EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.—No less than fifty persons left this neighborhood on Thursday morning last, by coach to Belfast, on their way to America.—*Downpatrick Recorder.*

EMIGRATION.—The emigration from this district at present is proceeding upon an almost unprecedented scale. There have already sailed from this port sixty persons belonging to the small island of Rathlin.—*Londonderry Journal.*

On Friday 160 paupers belonging to Kenmare union embarked at Cork on board the John Francis, for Boston, United States.

THE LIMERICK UNION—AWFUL STATE OF AFFAIRS.—We understand that at a meeting of the finance committee of Limerick union held this day the ascertained debts amount to £29,400!!! Balance of last rate uncollected, £3,000 present rate £26,000 total £29,000 not enough to pay liabilities up to 25th March!!! What is to become of this horrible state of these things? Estimate for the support of the house to 25th March, 1852, £36,000; for which a rate will have to be struck in addition to the £26,000 now in course of collection. Where can it be obtained? Echo answers where!!—*Limerick Reporter.*

POTATOES.—A large tract of land has been prepared, and no small portion already planted. Considerable efforts have been made to procure sound seed, and a small cargo of cups, between 30 and 40 tons, which arrived on Saturday from Inverness, was all disposed at 7d. a stone by Wednesday. The size was good, and the quality unexceptionable for the table, yet, perhaps, one half was bought up by farmers chiefly for seed.—*Wexford Guardian.*

We regret to be informed of the failure of seed potatoes this week in a field of two acres in the North Liberty barony. The "shillanes" appear to have entirely decayed from the constant rains of the early part of this season.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

RUSSIAN INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL IN IRELAND.—His Excellency Baron de Schopping, the Charge d'Affaires for Russia at Lisbon, has transmitted to Ireland ninety thousand pounds, to be laid out in the purchase of incumbered estates. The Baron is great grandson of Field Marshal Count George Browne, Governor General of Livonia, Riga; and has appointed his cousin, William Browne, his solicitor and law agent, to approve of and investigate title.

LORD BROUGHAM.—In reference to the new penal measure, the correspondent of the *Wexford Independent* says:—"I am told that if ever it reach the Upper House Brougham has resolved to make a fierce onslaught upon the measure, and will once again come forth in all the majesty of that intellect which shone with surpassing lustre in the great days of Catholic emancipation, when he thundered in the Commons against the rampant, narrow-minded intolerance of a majority, compelled in the end to bow in passive submission before the voice of the Irish people, which in the Clare election spoke in accents not to be misunderstood.

A FEW PLAIN FACTS.—On the 27th December last, a meeting of magistrates, convened by Colonel Canfield, the Governor of the County Armagh, was held at Ballybot, Newry, for the purpose of taking into consideration the state of the Ballybot district, including the baronies of Upper Fews and Upper Orier. At that meeting a resolution was come to, calling upon Government to send down an extra number of Police. An extra force was soon after sent, and thereby an extra burthen of 1,500l. a year was placed on these two baronies, which are by far the poorest in the county. On the 26th instant, the Quarter Sessions of Ballybot were held. There were only four cases on the calendar, in one of which the bill was ignored by the Grand Jury. The three cases for trial were—1st. A boy for stealing a woman's shift. 2dly.—An old woman for stealing a duck. 3dly.—Three men for cutting an ash sapling.—*Newry Examiner.*

The Lieutenant-General commanding the forces in Ireland has been pleased to approve of the county of Mayo, in the Dublin district, being added to the Limerick district.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NUNNERIES VISITATION BILL.

PETITION OF CATHOLIC LADIES TO THE QUEEN.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty—We, the undersigned Catholic ladies resident in England, and your Majesty's most loyal subjects, who have either received our own education in Conventual establishments, or have relatives, members of such establishments, approach your Majesty's throne with feelings of pain and sorrow, but, at the same time, with sincere and firm confidence in your Majesty's sympathy and gracious consideration.

We have heard that a measure is contemplated, having for its object the prevention of forcible detention in religious houses, the provisions of which, if allowed to be carried out, would be most harsh, galling, and unjust towards a most loyal, inoffensive, and useful body of your Majesty's subjects.

Being intimately acquainted with the Conventual system, from education or otherwise, we most solemnly assure your Majesty that not only is there no danger of compulsory entrance or detention in it, but that no attempt is made to influence any one to embrace the religious state, and every precaution is used to prevent admission without full assurance of a voluntary choice, a conscientious feeling of vocation to it.

And further, such of us as have relations in this state, assure your Majesty that there is no bar to our seeing them, and freely conversing with them, and that it would be impossible for them to be there detained against their will.

But further, with deep distress of mind, and with no small humiliation, we beg to remind your Majesty, that a great part of our Religious are gentlewomen of good rank and well known families, and that it is an imputation upon their relatives and friends to suppose that they would concur in their forcible detention. And, with deeper shame, we appeal to every good sentiment of your Majesty's heart, as a woman, as a mother, and as a Queen, whether honorable women, against whom no charge has been proved, are to be alone, of all your Majesty's subjects, excepted from the protection of innocence—are to be visited, without notice, at any hour, by men, who may pry into every part of their house—may call them to be interrogated at pleasure, some being still young, and some aged and infirm, but all having renounced intercourse with the world—or even, without any inquiry, may call them away from their chosen home, and consign them to the matrix of a workhouse. It is the dearest privilege of every subject of your Majesty that his house is sacred, and cannot be thus violated without a charge and express warrant. The system proposed is here the more intolerable, because its objects are ladies living alone, and, from natural delicacy, more sensitive to such insulting intrusion.

We respectfully bring also before your Majesty's gracious consideration, that religious communities in this country are only voluntary associations of ladies, having no recognition or privilege from the state; and these have never renounced their rights and privileges as Englishwomen, one of which is exemption from domiciliary visits, except under a well-grounded and special warrant. And these ladies are, for the most part, so associated for the purpose of instructing the poor—educating in piety the future mothers of families—taking care of orphans—training the young, and often the frail, to virtue—and visiting the sick and afflicted. For the charitable and unrequited discharge of these self-imposed duties, we might, indeed, have expected some measure of gratitude, or at least approval, instead of one of insult and annoyance.

To your Majesty, as best able to understand and appreciate the feelings of a woman's heart, as your Majesty can best value woman's virtues, we appeal with all the confidence which your Majesty's exalted domestic as well as royal qualities must inspire. Your Majesty's own thoughts will suggest, better than our words, what course we entreat should be pursued for preventing such a proposal becoming the law of the land. We only beg, that at least it be not while England has the happiness of being ruled by a Queen, that any legislation be permitted that wounds the sensibilities, and sullies the honor, of the most devoted and exemplary of her female subjects.

[Here follows the signatures.]

MR. NEWDEGATE AND CONVENTS.—To the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*.—Sir—On reading over the debate of the 20th of last month, as reported in the *Morning Chronicle* of the 21st, I found stated, as a fact, in the speech of Mr. Newdegate, that an inmate of a convent in his neighborhood having escaped from her retreat, was brought back after a lapse of a fortnight; and that afterwards a great quantity of iron stanchions were taken to the said convent (of course I can suppose for nothing else) to bar up the windows, to prevent further escape. On Monday, the 24th, I wrote to Mr. Newdegate to ask him if he would be so kind as to inform me of the name of the convent he alluded to, and the time the asserted fact took place, but I received no answer. Accordingly I wrote again, on Thursday last, saying that, as I had received no reply to my former note, I must infer that his statement was without foundation; and to this I have as yet had no reply. A great deal, Sir, has been said of the cruelty of detaining females in convents against their will. All I shall say is, that if that infamous and insulting bill (I mean the Religious Houses Bill) should ever pass into a law, the magisterial visitors will find to their great surprise that it is as easy for a Nun, if she thinks proper, to walk out of her convent as it will be for them to come in; and Protestants who are in the habit of coming on business into the convent to which I am attached will bear me out in my assertion.—I am your humble servant, Daniel O'Keefe, Chaplain at the Benedictine Convent, Hammesmith.—April 7, 1851.

It appears that the Anglican Bishops, who in the first burst of the anti-Papal fury published addresses in which we and our sacred convictions are stigmatised as anti-Christian, blasphemous, unclean, apostate, arrogant, profane, pestilent, sorcerers, satanic, degraded, dishonest, false, tyrannical, offensive, selfish, contemptible, artful, wilfully blind, shameless, scandalous, disgusting, ignorant, cunning, audacious, ungrateful, defiled, domineering, gross, cursed, insidious, revolting, pagan, malignant, infatuated, corrupt in doctrine and idolatrous in practice—that these right-abusive persons by no means repent of their railing and slander, but, on the contrary, are ready to take summary vengeance on any of their wretched underlings who may dare to protest against this offensive ebullition of putrescent bigotry. It appears that a few Anglican Ministers, shocked as gentlemen and as religious persons at the manner in which our religion and its Priests were being abused, got up an address to the Cardinal Archbishop, in which they regret the manner in which he was received in England, address him as "your Eminence," express respect for his person and office as "a Bishop of the Church of God," and state that the "clamor of the many" in his case "is not to be regarded as the unequivocal voice of religion and of the Church of England." This address was signed, among others, by the Reverend Mr. Blew, Minister of the Proprietary Chapel of St. John, Gravesend. He has succeeded in bringing a large congregation to his church, has formed a school, choristers, &c.; but no amount of work done compensates for his refusing to join the Billingsgate Bishops in their un-Christian foul speaking. He has been suspended for six months by the Bishop of Rochester, at the request of Lord Ashley. It is to be hoped that he will follow the example of the Clergy of St. Saviour's, and, moreover, bring his church, which is his own property, with him.—*London Correspondent of the Tablet.*

ST. CHARLES' CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION, HULL.—We are gratified to learn that Catholic associations are springing into existence in most of the leading towns in England—associations for the defence and protection of Catholic rights.—*Correspondent of the Tablet.*

COBRIDGE STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday evening, the 24th ult., a meeting took place at the school-rooms attached to the Catholic chapel at Cobridge, for the purpose of expressing an opinion adverse to any legislation against the recent erection of a Catholic Hierarchy. Between three hundred and four hundred persons were present, a large number considering that no handbills had been issued, and that the meeting was only announced in the chapel on the Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Abbott, the Catholic Priest of Cobridge, was in the chair. Resolutions and a petition were agreed upon in accordance with the objects of the meeting, which passed off in the most satisfactory manner.

OATH OF ABJURATION (JEWS) BILL.—The following is a copy of the Bill brought in by Lord John Russell to regulate the mode of administering the oath of abjuration to persons professing the Jewish religion—"Whereas her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion are by law capable of being elected to serve as Members of the House of Commons, and of holding divers offices in respect of which they are, or may be, required to take the oath of abjuration; and it is expedient to direct in what manner that oath should in all cases be administered to persons professing the said religion; be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that whenever any of her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion shall present himself to take the said oath of abjuration the words 'Upon the true faith of a Christian' shall be omitted out of the said oath in administering the same to such person; and taking of the said oath by such persons professing the Jewish religion, without the words aforesaid, in like manner as Jews are admitted to be sworn to give evidence in courts of justice, shall be deemed to be a sufficient taking of the oath of abjuration."

Mr. Fox's motion, for national education in free schools, for secular instruction, supported by local rates and managed by local authority, is postponed to an early day after Easter.

Mr. Bethell, Q.C., and Mr. Ferrand, are contesting Aylesbury. The Liberals have induced Mr. Houghton (who had presented himself as a candidate) to retire, rather than give Mr. Ferrand a chance of being returned by a division in their camp. Mr. Bethell comes forward strong on the No-Popery side, and moderate on that of protection.

Mr. Geach, of Birmingham, was on Tuesday returned member for the city of Coventry, by a majority of 436 votes over Mr. Strutt, the late M.P. for Derby.

The case of Metairie v. Wiseman is fixed to be brought before the Lord Chancellor at Westminster Hall on the first day of next November Term.

DEATH OF THE MARCHIONESS OF LANDSDOWNE.—We regret to announce the demise of the above noble lady, which took place on Thursday, at Bowood Park, Wilts. The deceased lady was fifth daughter of the Earl of Leicester, and married the present Marquis of Landsdowne in 1809.—*Morning Herald.*

There are now, it is said, nearly two hundred thousand Catholics in and near London, and one-third of the population of Liverpool and Manchester are Catholics. There are upwards of six hundred Catholic churches in England and there are more than one hundred in Scotland. There are eight hundred Catholic priests in England. New Catholic churches are rapidly rising in and around this metropolis; and in the large provincial towns, and in many villages.—*London Cor. of Boston Pilot.*

EXPERIMENT WITH THE COPYING ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—A trial was made on Wednesday, between London and Brighton, of Mr. Bakewell's copying telegraph, to test whether distance would interfere with its power of transmitting copies of writing. An instrument at the central office of the Electric Telegraph Company, in London, was placed in connexion with a corresponding instrument at the York Hotel Brighton, and a communication in writing was opened between those stations. Several messages, the fac-similes of the writing applied to the instrument in Brighton, were received in Lohbury, in the presence of gentlemen connected with the telegraph company. The writing formed by electro-chemical decomposition could be distinctly read, and the signatures could be recognised. The rapidity with which the transmission was effected was about 150 letters per minute, and a much greater speed is said to be attainable when the instruments are in regular work. The messages were written in full, with capitals and points, but abbreviations and even short-hand symbols might, it is stated, be used. In addition to the authentication of communications by the signatures of correspondents, and the avoidance of errors by the transmission of fac-similes of the original messages, this telegraph is regarded as possessing peculiar means of maintaining secrecy. Some of the communications from Brighton to London yesterday, were impressed invisibly on the paper, so that no trace of writing could be seen until the messages were washed over with a chemical solution, when they became visible.—*English paper.*

A zealous teetotaler speaking at Newcastle last week, compared the plan of renouncing strong drink by degrees to that of the tender-hearted foe to cruelty to animals, "who cut his dog's tail off, at the rate of an inch per day!" The comparison may create a laugh, but it is nevertheless, a fact that a sudden change from excess to abstinence would, in many cases, be injurious.

The Rev. Mr. Karr, vicar of Berkeley, was prosecuted at Gloucester assizes on Saturday, for adultery with the wife of Mr. Gaisford, attorney, and agent to the defendant. The jury were locked up several hours and discharged without a verdict.

POISONING IN SUFFOLK.—A coroner's inquest upon the body of a man named Cage, who died recently from the effects of the administration of arsenic, was brought to a conclusion on Monday last at the village of Stonham Aspal. In this parish the deceased and his wife have for some years lived on very bad terms, the woman having more than once left her home with other men, and last July she went off with a man named Tricker, with whom she cohabited at Ipswich, and in a village near that town, for about two months, till her husband meeting her in the street, gave her a severe beating, for which he was apprehended by the police, and committed for two months by a magistrate for the assault. On the 7th of March Cage was taken unwell whilst at work. A few days after he took to his bed, and on the 10th or 11th his wife applied to Mr. Lock, surgeon, of Debenham, who, however, did not see him until the 12th. On Sunday, the 23d, he expired. The funeral was to have taken place last week; the body had been brought out, and the procession was just being formed, when the rector having heard that the wife of the deceased had lately procured some arsenic, stopped the ceremony until the return of a messenger whom he had despatched to Debenham. The information which the messenger brought back was such as to induce him to send for the coroner, before whom an inquest was held on Friday, Saturday, and Monday last. The medical evidence proved beyond all doubt that deceased's death was occasioned by arsenic, and a considerable number of witnesses were examined, whose testimony tended to establish a case of strong suspicion against the accused. The jury returned a verdict "That James Cage died from poison administered to him by his wife."—The coroner then committed her to take her trial for wilful murder.—*Weekly Chronicle.*

A WOMAN KILLED BY HER HUSBAND.—On Saturday last, a woman, named Esther Curtis, was killed near Gloucester, by her husband, under circumstances of great brutality. The poor woman called upon the fellow at a public-house, where he was carousing, when he attacked her with such force that she died in half an hour from the injuries which he inflicted. He is now in custody awaiting the result of a coroner's inquest.

UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Some of the Georgian adventurers in the Cuban enterprise arrived here yesterday on their way to the North. It is said the expedition was on foot and would not be easily frustrated.

The Mail steamship *Ohio*, Lieutenant Schenck, Commander, arrived yesterday morning from New Orleans and Havana. The *Ohio* crossed the Bar (at the Balize) at 4 1/2 P. M., on the 16th of April, and arrived at Havana at 4 P. M., on the 18th, making the passage in 47 1/2 hours. The steamer *Falcon* sailed for New Orleans on the 18th, and the *Georgia* for Chagres on the 19th. The most intense excitement prevails at Havana, with regard to another invasion, and so confidently it is expected, that for the past week the troops have been ordered to sleep on their arms, and be ready for marching at a moment's warning. The vessels of war in port have been ordered to be ready for action.

SECESSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—A short time since we sent a special correspondent from this office to South Carolina, and the Southern States generally, for the purpose of canvassing public opinion in those parts of the confederacy and reporting the progress of the great secession movement in that region, which was originally set in motion by the abolition fanatics of the North, and which, according to present appearances, is rapidly approaching a crisis. The first of our correspondent's despatches has already been given, and the last two will be found in our columns to-day. It communicates the important fact that the first movement in favour of secession, or revolution, in the Southern States, will be made in the city of Charleston, by a convocation, or convention, of all the States' Rights associations of South Carolina, which is to be held early in the month of May next, for the great question of secession.—*N. Y. Herald.*