"Never heed, alanah! you will come wid

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All else was mist and confusion. The widow supported her to her own dwelling and there laid her on a bed tenderly as she might have laid her own child.

"Oh, poor thing! poor thing! sure you worked for your own ruin any way!" she inurmired as she chafed the girl's hands, and drew the wavy hair from her beautiful forehead. "Oh, sure meself thought things 'id come to this pass !"

Nelly heard the words, and understood their signification but too well. She fixed her dark eyes dreamily on the widow's face, but could not utter a word. Pride choked her utterance.-The widow continued to murmur forth sundry other thoughts that were passing through her mind, all of which left the miserable girl without a doubt that she regarded her as a lost and erring creature. Bet knew that human nature was frail; and even when she bent low over Nelly, and asked in a whisper if she was married to Fogarty, and received a decided answer in the negative, she only shook her head more pityingly than ever, again murmuring, "poor thing! poor

thing!" Unable to bear this any longer, the girl now started up in an excited manner, and with a crimson glow suffusing her face, exclaimed in wild accents-

"Bet Fagan, what do you take me for? Do you or any one else dare think I was mane enough to go away with Pety Fogarty?" "Whist, alanah !" said Bet, soothingly; " sure

you needn't care for what any one says. "Why wouldn't I care ?" exclaimed Nelly .-"Is it nothing to me that my father turns me from the house like a mad dog? But ye're all mistaken. I never went away willin'. He tuk me away - God sees he did; and I never laid ly robbed, the religions banished, the cathedrals

tempted him to do the like,"

Bet once more orged the poor girl to calm herself. As she could excuse frailty of one sort so she could that of another; and it did not surprise her that Nelly should, as she thought, try she did not press her to give a particular account of her late adventures, so firmly was she convinced that a dark blot, which nothing could remove rested on her character. Appearances were all against her. No story that she might frame, however plausible, could, in Mrs. Fagan's estimation, and to use her own phrase, " desave people out of their seven senses;" and when the girl took her by the arm, and solemnly recounted the daring act Fogarty had been guilty of, in carrying her forcible from the Cappanick Hills, and the after events, which the reader already knows, the widow listened incredulously, though kindly, thinking, at the same time, that it would | England! be far better, and more likely to awaken the compassion of the neighborhood, if Nelly stuck to the truth, and confessed her fault repentantly. As the young girl went on with her narration, she only nodded her head at appropriate periods, or ejaculated, now and then, "dear, dear !" "Is it possible!" and so forth. But it was only when she slyly observed, "Wasn't it the poor story you met Fogarty at all that day?" that Nelly suddenly became aware that her words were doubted. Starting up, she exclaimed-

"You don't believe me, Bet Fagan-you

know you don't!"

Bet, taken very much awack, made as cunning a reply as possible, which might offend her poor

Without crediting anything whatever of the story, Mrs. Fagan, nevertheless remembered every word of it, from beginning to end; and believe that this total silence of England is a matter being much of a gossip, as well as kind-hearted, lost no time in telling it over again to some of the defiance of a superior power. her particular friends, among them to Kitty To a certain extent London is now putting on the Dillon, Nelly's sister, who earnestly wished it might be true, though she could hardly dare to hope it was.

There's only one bein' can clear Nelly," said Mrs. Fagan, as she spoke upon the subject to Dan Phelan, a neighbor to whom she generally applied for advice in times of perplexity; for being, as she often observed, "a lone woman," she frequently fancied berself in want of assistance. This was considered a delusion on her part by the neighbors, who were of opinion that she was preity able to manage the affairs of the whole country without belp from any one, man or woman. There wasn't such a "stirrin' woman" for miles around as Bet Fagan; she was the best dancer and swiftest walker in the neighborhood; she could sit up with the sick night after night, without once snatching a wink of the exclusion of England from Zurich is an evidence sleep; she was the merriest joker at a wake, and the most skilful layer out of a corpse-an accomplishment much prized in Ireland; in short, in all times of need, Bet's presence was very much in demand; not a christening, funeral or wedding, could be complete without her; and her large, good-natured face was often the most cheering sight that met the gaze of many a dying eye. So she said to Dan Phelan, "There is only one bein' can clear Nelly, and that's Fogarty himself. You see he's in jail at Clonmel, an' maybe if you'd ride over there, Dan, you'd get him to tel! the truth to you."

"I'm willing to do it," replied Dan Phelan, scratching his head, doubtfully; "but I much misthrust. Bet, it'll be of no use."

"Go, say way, whin I tell you," urged the widow; and Dan was obliged to say he would. (To be continued)

REV. DR. CAHILL,

ON THE CONFERENCE AT ZURICH-LOMBARDY-THE

(From the Dublin Catholic Telegraph.)

The fact of England being excluded from all interference in the settlement of the Italian question is one of the most signal conquests ever achieved in our times over the intrigues of the British Cabinet. The England press would feign persuade Europe that the absence of a representative from England at the Conference is the long-argued result of the prudential decision of the British Cabinet! stating at the same time that as England refused to join any

will not interfere on either side in the discussion of their ulterior political adjustment. Every well-informed writer, of every shade of Italian, French, and Austrian policy, knows that the late war was proclaimed on one side and accepted on the other without any reference to England; that the fight was mutually carried on without taking the least notice of the power of England; that peace was again mutually agreed on, as if the kingdom of England had no existence; and that the empire of Austria was curtailed, Lombardy transferred to other hands, and the whole of the South of Europe modelled and refounded without consulting England, directly or indirectly, on the plan or the issue of their delibera-tions. The total ignoring, therefore, of the name and the power of England in the sanguinary war-fare, the weighty policy, and the national settlements just referred to, is, perhaps, the most stinging slight, the most oppressive contempt, that could be evinced towards her; and hence her Parliament, her Cabinet, and her Press are endeavoring to cover this palpable definace from France, this fallen prestige of England, by parading every day before mankind the distinguished wisdom of the British Senate in avoiding all interference in the present deliberations at Zurich! When the politician of the nineteenth century recollects that a ship could not be built, a regiment embodied, a rock fortified in Europe, without the consent of England, the world cannot fail to put the proper interpretation on the present wisdom of our Cabinot in sending no plenipotentiary to Zurich. This veil is too thin to deceive the public scrutiny: and men will set down this shabby effort to escape from the shame of fallen political influence in its proper value, namely, the fear of forfeiting the public confidence at home; and the ill-concealed cowardice of acknowledging the rising fortunes and the predominant power of the Emperor of the French. Who can forget that it was England which, in

1834, changed the succession to the throne in Spain, confiscated the revenues of the convents, banished the religious from their cells, and exterminated by expulsion, hunger, and broken hearts tens of thousands of the friars and the nuns of that country !-With Don Carlos was expelled all his party lay and clerical: and a wound inflicted on the country in faith, in morals, and in material prosperity from which, perhaps, it will not recover for generations to come. Who can forget that the same scenes were enacted in Portugal where the convents were equaleyes on him since the evening he carried me to converted into theatres, Don Miguel treacherously betrayed, and banished: and the daughter of his rethe mountains. The lord only knows what bel brother, Don Pedro, placed upon the throne by the avowed intrigue, the armed assistance, and the pecuniary support of Eugland? Surely every scholar in modern history must know that the recently formed kingdoms of Sweden and Belgium owe their present thrones and monarchs to English interference and power: and it must be in the remembrance of to excuse her shame by falsehood. Therefore all reading men that the King of Greece ascended the throne and held his crown almost as the sworn vassal of England! Yes, decidedly. Nor could the two young Queens of Spain and Portugal attempt to take husbands, to contract a matrimonial alliance without the advice and consent of England! And when the sister of the Queen of Spain married Montpensier, the son of Louis Phillippe, against the wishes of the English Cabinet, it produced an ill feeling which lasted to the very death of the exiled French King. The fact is, that during the last half century (since the battle of Waterloo) no weak forcign cubinel dare execute any public political act without the concurrence of England! The Americans heretofore dare not fish, the Ionian Greeks dare not speak, the Spanish and Portuguese Queens dare not marry; nor the people dare not pray without the permission of

> With these antecedents, therefore, will any one believe that her long-practised, uniform character of aggressive interference has been voluntarily laid aside; that the ingrained policy of fifty years has been spontaneously abandoned: that a whole Kingdom of Lombardy is transferred to a new owner that a new family of Kingdoms has been planned: new policy introduced: new dynasties projected: new councils ordered : new conferences held : and the whole face of Southern Europe changed; and that England has volunturily absented herself from all connexion with the arrangement of these gigantic National events! Will any one believe that Great Britain which would not permit a salmon to be caught in Newfoundland, a snipe to be shot at Copenhagen, or a red button to be worn at Corfu, will now secord remain quiet at home, and her lips while Kingdoms are given away or modelled, while whole Duchies are about to be made presents of to strangers, like Christmas gifts; and while the neighboring armies and fleets cover the ancient classic hemisphere of the old Roman Empire! who will of choice; and not rather of stunning terror before

world no longer frequent her palaces; the road is now to Paris and the Tuilleries i One Grand Duke waits upon the Emperor of the French to-day; another Duke visits him to-morrow. Kings stand in his Imperial hall waiting for admission: he is thanked in humble submission if he condescends to give a smile to one, an assuring word to another, leave to remain in the city to a third! Deputations from several Kingdoms appear at the gates of his Capital begging an interview of the supreme conqueror the undisputed arbiter of Nations, and the fate of their thrones hangs on his word, and the liberties of millions of human creatures tremble on his lips !-The road to London is now forgotten; the grass is beginning to grow in the Downing street, and the crowds that once frequented the thoroughfares of the Queen of the West now turn their faces towards the city of Charlemagne! England is certainly on the wane : and as the tide of empire can ebb as well as flow, it requires little observation to see clearly that of French defiance, as well as a palpable sign of her singularly fallen prestige. During the last three hundred years she has not received such a heavy blow in her diplomatic character; and it at once puts an end to the bright visions which she has been entertaining during the last half century of Catholic discomfiture, and of Protestant ascendancy throughout the entire Italian Peninsula. This happy consummation has been often foretold, while the political prophets never funcied that the realization of their vaticinations was so near at hand.

Admitting the fact which is now establishednamely, the exclusion of England from all religious and political influence in Italy, Lombardy must soon become one of the most peaceful and indeed the most prosperious province of the Peninsula. Dreading to return to the domination of her old mistress Austria and afraid to encourage any revolutionary scheme hostile to ber present allegiance, the entire circumstances of her case tend to settle down Lombardy into permanent peace, which is the sure preliminary of commercial enterprise, and national progress and prosperity. And these premises being once granted, it would be impossible for the wit of man to devise a more successful form of lasting good government than the Confederation sketched by the French Emperor. Petty states have ever in all human history been the slaves of their powerful neighbours; weakness always allies itself itself with strength; and hence in the most perfect form of individual legislation, it is morally impossible that the Italian Duchies should not under favorable circumstances always gravitate towards the ponderous kingdoms of France Austria, Russia, or England. Argument is unavailing in this case against the experience of past ages, and the invariable results of modern intrigue. As well night it be said that a canoe can ride securely under the bows of a man-o'-war in full sail, as that petty principalities can act with independence while

form, as the voice of Bet Fagan murmured in of the contending parties in the late war, so she empire. It is utterly impossible, therefore, that the ing out, The Lord bids me tell you to change your Italian Duchies could exist in continuous self-legisla- life, you are a hypocrite; and something of this sort tion without foreign protection. And if this protect has been occurring day after day in almost every tion be Austrian, or French, or Russian, or English, parish in Ulster. I take at random the following tion be Austrian, or French, or Russian, or English, or Neapolitan, the result will invariably be the same -namely, jealousy of the high powers amongst each other, then division, bribery, revolution in the little state; and again, a struggle for pre-eminence, for possession of the weak territory; and ultimately annexation and total extinction. This is the short history of little states with scarcely one exception in

the whole history of the world. Now, considering the supreme power which Austria has long exercised in these Duchies : again seeing the growing jealousy of France towards (what she conceived) this unwarrantable aggression: and lastly calculating the agonizing intrigues which England has long introduced into the whole Peninsula, the wisdom of mortal man could not have devised a more successful or brilliant plan than the projected Confederation, in order, firstly, to remove all the contending parties from devouring their prostrate victims secondly, in order to teach them united combination, self-legislation, self-reliance: and above all to enforce the fact that the union of the members of seven dynasties of twenty-seven millions of souls would form one of the strongest powers of Europe while the united feeling of nationality would almost immediately develope a national commerce and a national prosperity which, since the beginning of civilization, has never been nor could ever be attainable under the government, the protection, or the guardianship of a stranger. Under all the circumstances, therefore, of this Italian case, and in the presence of premises which have divided that fine race these many must years, the wise men of Greece could not devise a more eligible plan for the Peninsula than this plan of confederation. We are not now arguing what men can do, but what men will do. We are not discussing men as they ought to be, but men as they are: and in view of the past and the present social records of the Peninsula, the confederation stands beyond all comparison, far and away the most prudent, just, permanent, expedient plan of legislation as yet sketched for the government of the whole kingdoms of Upper, and Central, and Lower

From a correspondence, on which, so far, much confidence can be placed, the people of the Duchies are giving much pain and annoyance to the French Emperor. However he may encourage a change, an amelioration in the laws, in order to meet the popular wishes, he is fiercely opposed to the change in the reigning Princes. On this statement let the readers of the Telegraph judge my accuracy hereafter, Napoleon will assist any reasonable alteration in the laws of the Duchies; but at present he does not wish to disturb the reigning crowned heads from one jot of their inheritance and sovereignity. Improvement in the laws, so far from injuring their royalty, will rather tend to consolidate it: and hence he considers that he is their firm friend, in place of being their bitter enemy, in promoting any measure of such reform as will continue their sovereign power, remoddled to the just and reasonable demands of people. Napoleon wishes to make friends and not enemies of crowned heads; and there can be no doubt that he attaches much more importance to the exclusion of England than to the expulsion of Austria from all official interference in the affairs of Italy. Nor has Napoleon the most remote intention of taking from the Pope one inch of his territorial patrimony; or of lessening his temporal administrative jurisdiction by the smallest aggression. I am sure, however, that he will probe to the bottom the popular ill-will of the discontended Romish firebrands; and will try to heal the wounds of the Roman Government. He has been heard to utter the following words, which from his silent lips are very ominous:—"I believe," said he, "that nothing could at present satisfy the demands of these Roman Leaders." The Pope will be, therefore, unmolested :though, perhaps, some time may elapse before this case shall be finally adjusted. All the parties engaged in the disturbances or the divisions of the Roman States and the Duchies will be permitted to ar-

gue their case in perfect freedom. But it may be assumed as certain that the Emperor will send agents amongst them to notify his will; and that the result will be precisely as he has already decided it in his own mind. He will cheerfully assist in any reasonable change of law; but if the people persevere in resisting the return of the Dukes, &c., he will, beyond doubt, in that remote case gratify them with a new monarch; but that monarch will be a Bonaparte, his own cousin and the son-in-law of Victor Emmanuel. In this case he ble in thousands, and mix all our prayers together defended her conduct, in changing sovereigns in Spain, in Portugal, in Sweden, and in Belginm. And if opposition he made to this his decided will, under the circumstances referred to, he will appeal at once to arms : and defend his policy by his triple fleets at Brest, Toulon, and Cherbourg; and by his five armies from their five appointed camps, prepared and ready at this moment for immediate warfare. All these arguments I introduce not by way of praising Napoleon, but as a mere public writer: a chronicler of events, and rather indifferent to some of the results which I publish.

England seems already to apprehend some approaching catastrophe: and that, too, trom France, since she is reported to make fresh alliances with Prussia, to promote the fortification of Antwerp, to increase her fleet, and to carry on at the camp at Aldershot mock fights against supposed invasion from France! This insanity may yet meet the end of all mad freaks in complete humiliation. What would be said if Napoleon ordered out his fleet from Cherbourg and put his army at Chalons in marching order, to resist the mock English invasion!!-The Frenchman has too much prudence to commit such folly as the blundering leaders of the English army; but should the hour ever unfortunately arrive when such a dismal fatality should be realised, the Aldershot heroes may believe that the French advance will not be a sham fight. Such their great generals have published on the far-famed battle-field of the English militia at Aldershot! Time will tell the wisdom of ordering sham-battles against the French invasion!

D. W. C. Draperstown, Co. Derry, Aug. 25.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE REVIVAL .- " A Traveller," writing from Londonderry to the Guardian, under date of August 18, sends the following account of the revival in Ireland:—"The great peculiarity of this movement is to be found in the 'physical manifestations,' to which its ardent supporters assign a miraculous character. As far as I can judge, they certainly partake of the nature of hysteria, catalepsy, and similar nervous diseases. Those affected-or convicted, as the correct phrase is-fall down screaming loudly, calling upon God in the most awful manner to save them, &c. The fit lasts some hours, during which their ministers and friends pray and sing over them, till they announce that their prayers are answered, that 'Christ has come to them and forgiven them, and they are at peace; a celm and happiness succeeds as extraordinary as their previous state of disquiet. But very frequently the persons 'struck' fall into a sort of trance, in which they seem unconscious of all that passes round them, unless another ' convert' happens to approach, when they rise and embrace him with the utmost warmth; often they will say that they are falling into a trance from which they will recover at a certain time, and their ' prophecy always comes true; the first words they utter are, 'The Lord pormits me to speak; sometimes. 'The Lord has given me a message to——' and this is, in general, anything but complimentary; e.g., a woman cent for the Prosbyterian minister whose exposed to the overwhelming influence of a powerful preaching she attended, and horrified him by shout-

from a Londonderry paper :- 'At Gortin,' a small village in Tyrone, there have been 400 cases accompanied by physical manifestations.' The great majority occur at the meetings, at one of which there will be twenty or more 'cases;' e.g., 'at Kilmacrennan on Sabbath week after the devotional exercises were concluded, all at once from various parts of the congregation the most piercing cries were heard, and bodily prostrations appeared in every part of the house. The parties affected were removed to the schoolhouse and various parts of the green, where the friends of each assembled around them to sing and pray.' The Rev .- Scott, of Banagher, preaching in Derry Cathedral on July 12, is reported to have described a meeting he held for prayer, at which twenty-five persons were present, of whom 'nine were struck down, six strong men and three women. Nor is it only at the meetings or during ordinary services at church that these 'prostrations' occur; people have been and still are 'struck' when at work in the fields (I have heard of a man found lying beside his plough, the horse quietly standing by) or when walking in the streets. Last week's paper contained an account of a country woman at the Belfast butter-market who 'fell down' there 'crying for mercy;' a minister was found who 'prayed with her,' and after a short time 'she burst forth in a strain of rejoicing, and left for home by the train professing to have realised forgiveness of sin.' "Such stories I could multiply to any amount; but I do not wish to supply matter for ridicule, or to make the absurdities of the revival a prominent point in this letter; but I do not like to conclude without mentioning some of the evil effects only too apparent and against which the clergy should be on their guard. " 1, converts' (as they are called) often exhibit distuclination (perhaps sometimes it is really inability) to There is a boy at this time in prison at Derry for refusing to work; such firm measures will doubtless do much to counteract a very serious evil. They are ready to study their Bibles, sing hymns, and 'pray without ceasing.' but too often encourage one another to forget their duty to their neighbor. " 2. These convictions' have in several cases produced extreme mental weakness, and in others violent mudness. A Presbyterian teacher was one of the first so affected. There are four maniacs in the county asylum at Londonderry whose affliction is the result of the influence of the revival on themselves. "3. Another evil is the too common effect on the souls of those affected-the injudicious treatment of the preachers produces (and who can be surprised) a sad amount of spiritual pride among the 'converts.' They are taken from place to place for exhibition, at meeting after meeting they are put up to 'relate their experience' while ministers sit by and listen; or they are even encouraged to hold meetings of their own, and propagate unhealthy excitement in new villages. More shocking still, when, as is often the case, these converts are mere children. Thus 'a prayer-meeting at Glendermott was addressed by a boy thirteen years old, who, adds the Presbyterian account, 'is really a wonder of divine grace. Perhaps the most astonishing exhibition of all took place at Belfast, on Tuesday, the 16th when a monster prayer-meeting was held in the Botanic Gardens, 'the estimated attendance at which was from 15,000 to 20,00-excursion trains bringing in many from the country.' A Presbyterian minister presided, and on the platform with him were ministers of different denominations, the Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Primitive Seceding Presbyterian, Wesleyan Methodist, Methodist New Connexion, Primitive Wesleyan Methodist, Baptist, Evangelical Union, &c., Churches.' These 'ministers' delivered addresses alternately with the 'lay converts,' yet among them were three clergymen, one of whom, the Rev. Duncan Long, is (if I am not mistaken, and I devoutly hope I am) the new rector of Bermondsey. Would it be believed that the account of the proceedings concludes as follows ?- 'In many instances, young lads of twelve and fourteen years age, with a number of little girls of the same age, hold meetings beneath the trees in various parts of the gardens, and the earnest, fervent prayers of these boys were very remarkable." (To the Editor of the Dublin Telegraph.)

Sin-We are very much improved in the North by the revivals and union of prayer. Oh, happy Belfast! I might say as the old lady who was revived said, "Glory be to praise for all his mercies, as we all now believe in nothing particular." We assemwill defend himself before Europe, as England has that is the only way for the heavenly blessings without number to fall so gently on our heads, so that we are not tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine-as we need no doctrine at all-as faith is all bosh-for when we gather together and pray, something is sure to attract particular attention, such as -what squeeling is that mingled with the little busy bee? It's only a little girl, seven years old, calling on the mountains and rocks to save her from the pit of salvation and supplement of mercy, and break her flinty heart with the hammer of justice. So you see all that are blessed with this heavenly inspiration has a fluency of language nobody understands; so, as it's nobody's business to enquire, we listen with rapture, and feel refreshed, like giants drunk with wine. Then the ministers pray for that spiritual awakening to descend on all their hearers; then the sleeping begins, and what is called the revival and union of prayer; then the preacher calls out, "bro-thers and sisters, do ye feel peace in your souls;" then they all look down to their gutta perchas, and cry, "we do! we do!" then we finish with some spiritual song, such as "Tis dogs delight to bark and bite;" then everybody outs his own tune to the song, which makes into a heavenly shout. Trembie, ye Romans, when yo hear that shout, as its enough to awaken the Seven Champions of Christendom.

I send you the second spiritual song, called " The Union of Prayer," to be set to music next week by

EDWIN LITTLEWIT, Esq.

What a blessing on earth is the union of prayer, Where pious dissensions are hushed for a little, All mingle their holy petitions whilst there, As Faith, Hope, and Charity's not worth a spittle. Compared with the union of prayer.

The rauter can seriously drawl out his hymn. With a heavenly sniftle to Canaan be'll go, While the slow breathing Methodist strains every

To be washed in the Jordan till whiter than snow, At revivals and union of prayer.

The Mormon is welcome to join the glad song, And his wives raise the chorus in heavenly love. The Jumper and Dipper may mix in the throng, As it's prayer and not faith that rewards them above.

So they join in the union of prayer. In this joint stock unlimited prayers are combined, The High Church, the Low Church, and no Church

When gathered together each thinks in his mind He's elected and chosen a second St. Paul, For revivals and union of prayer.

Their bewildering cant in the ears of the young, Till the brain reels with dread, and the tongue mutters o'er The lies they beard preached and the trash they heard

This habel of self-missioned preachers will roar

SHING At revivals and union of prayer.

In pious confusion these ravers then take To the hodges and ditches that echo shrill cries. May startle the wandering gapers, and make A holler dread by repeating their lies

At revivals and union of prayer before the flood."

In these dog-days of worship, so startling and new, What sect will be strongest when novelty fails? Like the Kilkenny cats, when their humbug's seen through,

They'll worry each other all up but the tails, At revivals and union of prayer.

Oh I had we the censor of Dathan and Core Nailed up round this northern Athens, to show What happened such holy pretenders before, When they all got revived in the regions below, For revival and union of prayer,

Olkeep them from India; ye rulers beware, When the soul seems forsaken and judgment gone They would seek for salvation 'neath Juggernaut's

And die in the horrors the preacher brings on, At revivals and union of prayer.

When the blind leads the blind what a sorrowful story For the reverend knaves and the dupes they betray-

When they think that convulsions will take them to glory, For the psalms they have sung and the prayers they have prayed

At revivals and union of prayer.

In this midsummer dream these Pucks of the pulpit With spells of devotion the gullites enchain.
When that nondescript spirit they raise, how they skulk it.

And smile at the hearers when roaring with pain, By revivals and union of prayer.

Then they sleep, then they rave, then they're haunted with visions,

Till delirium tremens bring sorrow around. Then the throat is protected to keep off incisions, And the rivers well guarded, for fear they'd he drowned-

The fruits of the union of prayer.

OFFICIAL INSOLENCE .- We copy the following summary of the latest poor law returns from the Freeman. We specially commend to the notice of our readers the gross offensiveness of language with which Catholic priests and the Catholic religion are spoken of by these insolent English officials-if the version of the report given by our contemporary be the correct and literal one:—" The Irish Poor Law System .- The 12th annual report of the Irish Poor Law Commissioners states that on the 28th of August, 1858, the number of workhouse inmates reached its minimum-viz. 36,190, since which time the number gradually increased to the muximum of the present year-viz. 46,592 on the 12th of February, 1859. In the last year's series a fluctuation was observable at this season through the sudden return of inclement weather, but in the present, as in other years previous to 1858, the gradual decrease of numbers, commencing in February, continued up to the date of the report (June 3, 1859), the number according to the last return being 42,922. The number of paupers receiving out door relief during the fifty-two weeks was inconsiderable. In the year ended September 29, 1858, 134,913 paupers were admitted into the workhouse, against 137,711 in the year 1857 The poor law expenditure last year amounted to £457,635, against £498,889 in 1857, this being of course equivalent to a decrease of £41,254 or 8.27 per cent. The decrease in the number of persons relieved was 4.1 per cent., and in the amount of rates collected, 10.5 per cent. £92,725 was applied for the expenses of medical relief. The commissioners regret to report that there are at present some Roman Catholic chaplaincies of workhouses vacant, the Romish clergy of the parishes in question not having thought proper to undertake the duty of ministering to the sick and the helpless in poorhouses, because they hold the wages of remuneration to be insufficient. The commissioners, however, had fixed the amount of salary as generally adequate to the duties to be performed. The places thus stigmatised are Bailieborough, Castlecomer, Youghal and Michelstown A Romish Chaplain named Daley was removed from the workhouse of the Galway union for (as alleged) illegally baptising a foundling child, and entering its name on the register as a pa-pist, whereas the child should have been baptised in the (Protestant) religion of the state. It is considered desirable that some further legislation should take place on this matter-that is to say, the religious registration of foundling children in the workhouses, as although the highest legal power is to eftect that such children ought to be brought up in the religion of the state, and described as Protestants many of the guardians faceliously refuse to alow the law to take effect until compelled to do so by a writ of mandamus from a superior court of common law." We had thought this offensive mode of referring to the religion of the Irish people was confined to the low-class Orange newspapers. How long have government officials adopted this insolent

The statue of William III. in College Green Dublin, so long an eyesore and bone of contention to opposing parties in the Irish capital, is at length to he turned to some useful purpose. Preparations are being made for the insertion of a drinking fountain into the western side of the pedestal.

The baif yearly meetings of the Irish railway companies have been the most satisfactory which have taken place for some time, there being a general improvement in rallway prospects. This improvement has also continued since the close of the half year, all the receipts showing a large increase. The Great Southern and Western shows an increase of over £509 per week, the Midland of £300 per week, the Dublin and Wicklow £300 per week, and all others without exception, a similar result in a greater or lessidegree .- The Directors of the Great Southern and Western company have issued their report for the balf year ended the 30th of June.-The net surplus revenue for the balf year is stated to be £90,865 3s. 7d., out of which they recommend that a dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, be paid to the proprietors of the consolidated stock of the company which will leave a balance of £11,884 1s. 9d. to be carried to the credit of the next half year's account.

The Armagh Guardian says-" After being ergaged for some fifteen years, and making various experiments, a man named Marshall and his son have succeeded in constructing a gan capable of being loaded at the breech or muzzle, and out of which 30 shots per minute can be fired. Recently the son took one of the weapons to London for exhibition be fore the Commander-in-Chief, and there fired 30 shots in a minute. The inventors live within a few miles of this city, and are of an exceedingly mechanical turn of mind. They intend protecting their weapon by a patent."

The once famous fair of Donnybrook, now a thing of the past, was sought to be revived on Monday in the neighborhood of the celebrated "Green."-During the early part of the day the attendance was remarkably thin, and principally consisted of a number of idle boys and girls, and a number of drunken women. Even the professional blackguards of the city seemed to have deserted it. Well organised plans were adopted by the police to prevent rioting and disturbance, but they had easy work on hands, as there was no disturbance beyond the bawling of an occasional drunken individual who would have been drunk elsewhere, if he had not been at "the Brook." Up to eight o'clock there was not a single prisoner in custody at the a jacent police station.— Towards nightfall a relay of would-be rowdy individuals arrived on cars, but soon took their departure, finding that there was nothing of what is termed "sport" to be had. The public-houses were cleared out at eleven o'clock, when the whole locality assumed its ordinary aspect. It may, in truth, be said the "glories" of the Brook are "with the days