

In the year 1844 the society contemplated the union of one hundred "voluntaries," as being a number competent to carry their measure; they have succeeded beyond their expectations; they now command over one hundred and nineteen "voluntaries," and they hope that after the next general election they will present the overwhelming voice of one hundred and fifty members to secure this most holy triumph. It is refreshing to read their report; they have fifty men of all classes in the executive committee—viz., clergymen, merchants, private gentlemen, and members of Parliament; they have four hundred delegates spread through all the towns and counties in England; they have an income of nearly three thousand a-year at present; and they have efficient, active men watching the registry, and securing the return of men favorable to this one engrossing point of legislation. Their body was at first principally composed of Dissenters, but now all shades of religious opinions unite to annihilate this gigantic national grievance, and declare that England shall no longer be degraded in worshipping an overgrown life.

Not the least useful part of their project is to strip the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge of their monopoly, to strike off the chains and fetters which they have riveted for ages on the mind of the nation—and to open the doors of these old Catholic seminaries, where the Dissenter and the Catholic can take their place beside old, ignorant, rotten Protestantism, stand under the motto of "Impartial education," and surround their free, noble brows with the laurels of victorious rivalry. This society will soon contain the same valued and formidable power as the former Corn Law League; and will command the same success in the Legislature. Ireland hails the progress of this society with welcome and with pleasure: and although the Catholics may suffer something from the success of the contemplated measure, they will gain one hundred fold in the peace and prosperity of the country, in the union of landlord and tenant, and in the extinction of religious fraud, hypocrisy, and perjury, which has hitherto depopulated Ireland, converted our private society into exclusiveness and open insult, and turned our public institutions into hells of blasphemous persecution.

I believe it is the general impression in England, my Lord, that it was the mismanagement of the late war which has accelerated the downfall of the Church Establishment. The notorious neglect, the palpable blunders, and the wholesale destruction of our army, have placed the incompetency of Aristocratic officials in a position of such national disgust and hatred, as to decide Englishmen no longer to endure overgrown abuses in either Church or State: and, therefore, the future of England's legislation is likely to exhibit a record more free, than at any former period, from family influence, aristocratic patronage, and the reckless insolence of Church spoliation.

As long as the missionaries and agents of the Soupers terrified honest Englishmen with the "errors, the terrors, the idolatries" of Popery, the Protestant Church enjoyed its spoliation in security; but the intercourse of the last few years between Englishmen and Irishmen has removed the delusion, and has exhibited at once the maligned creed of the Catholics, and the official slander of our enemies. The next generation of Englishmen will be surprised how their fathers had so long borne the Church Establishment imposture: the history of the Protestant creed during the last twenty years is without a parallel from the conflicting opinions of its professors. In fact, it has no defined creed: it reads the New Testament backwards and forwards with different meanings: it expunges, interprets at pleasure: the Church of 1855 is very different from the Church of 1856: it has no authority: no supreme council to decide: no code of government. It has no congregation: no fixed principle. And if these positions be all true, my Lord, surely it has no pretension to be the work of a God, or even of an honorable set of men. And then, if you add to this incongruity the enormous annual revenue of eight and a half millions sterling: and subjoin to this infliction, the persecution, the tyranny, the lies of its agents: and if your Excellency will take into consideration the professional ignorance of its ministers, I think it will be admitted that the history of the whole world contains no social or religious phenomenon, which can at all stand in comparison with the unaccountable delusion of a nation claiming pre-eminence in learning and philosophy; and yet, enduring for one year a system of such absurd inconsistency, such grinding exaction, and such flagrant imposture. Who could believe that England, so renowned for her commercial talent, could pay millions of money to men who are mock preachers, who have a mock faith, who are attended by mock congregations, whose churches are empty, who have infidelized England, depopulated Ireland; and who, if not checked, will surround the throne at some future time with the followers of Cromwell, and with the regicides of Charles First.

My Lord, it requires no great depth of historical knowledge to foresee that our Senate is about to undergo a thorough revolution. The Dissenters outnumber the Protestants in all the towns and cities, and their members are aided in all the counties by the honest Protestants, who are disgusted with aristocratic official incompetency, and with clerical creedless arrogance. The Reformers in the House of Commons will abolish both these nuisances very soon: the House of Lords will naturally resist this levelling society, and a conflict between the two houses is not improbable. An insult offered to a Lucretia, a Watt Tyler, a Washington, have been sparks to involve nations in a conflagration: where the magazine is within reach of an incendiary, no one can tell the disastrous result; and humble as I am, your Excellency can take a hint from me, which is, that the Catholics of Ireland may very soon be called on to protect the peace of England, and the very existence of the throne. The whole aspect of

European policy encourages this idea, and hence the sooner your present Parliament fixes them on the soil, enlarges their liberties, and earns their gratitude, the better for the future interests of England. Stop emigration, give them a home, make no further sacrifices for the rotten Church Establishment: so far from aiding you, it cannot protect itself: cultivate our bogs, encourage our commerce: put swords in our hands: and we will have the hearts and the arms to do the duty to which we are bound by our honor, and which we are commanded by our creed.

I conclude this letter by calling your attention to the disgusting, vile Soupers of Ireland: to convince foreign nations of their interminable lies, and to show their traffic of perjury amongst the starving Irish poor. The recantation of the following poor creatures is one of daily occurrence: and the event of a plentiful harvest, cheap provisions, and demand for labor, would leave the soup kitchens of these hypocrites without one Irish beggar.

Ribbonism will receive a decided check, outrage would be diminished, and the foul crime of murder would be lessened in our country. Read, my Lord, the following recantations, and judge the Soupers and their ragged schools:—

WEBB STREET CATHOLIC CHAPEL, SOUTHWARE.
The following declarations have been made and attested by those whose names are subscribed:—

"We, the undersigned inhabitants of Bermondsey, are desirous of making this public declaration of our sincere repentance for having, under the influence of extreme poverty, and through the temptation of worldly gain, been induced for a time to abandon the profession of the Catholic and Roman faith. We humbly ask pardon of Almighty God, the Blessed Virgin, and saints, and this congregation, for the injury and scandal we may have caused by this our act of shameful apostasy. And we declare, in the presence of God and of the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed, that we were induced to commit this sin by the temptation of money and other worldly advantages, and that our apostasy was merely outward and formal, our hearts never having swerved from the faith of the holy Roman Church.

Signed the 5th and 6th, and also the 12th and 13th days of June, in the year of Grace, 1853.

Witnesses:—
Daniel Riley, 11 Webb street, Bermondsey. Dan. X Coveney's mark, Cow Yard.
Samuel Giles, 8 Nicholas lane. Mary X Coveney's mark, do.
Patrick A. Hogan, 6 New Western street, Bermondsey. Ellen X Toomy's mark.Jeremiah Frs. Denny, 3 Palmer's rents, Snow's Fields.

J. Holland, 6 Marble court. Timothy X Connor's mark, 9 Stannage, Staple street, King street, Bermondsey.
Patrick A. Hogan, 6 New Western street. Cornelius Sheehan.
Catherine X Sheehan's mark, Stannage, Staple street, Long lane, Bermondsey.

Her two children, named Ring, by a former husband.

June 8.
Wm. Crowley, 10 Western court. William Dunlea, 5 Long lane, Bermondsey.
Patrick A. Hogan, 6 New Western street. Daniel X McCarthy's mark, 2 Palmer's rents, Snow's Fields.
John X Regan's mark, 7 Tattle court.
Eliza X Regan's mark, and her two children.
Timothy X Hearn's mark, 9 Stannage, Staple street. June 12th.

Patrick A. Hogan, 81 New Western street. Edw. X Murray's mark, 9 Staple street, Stannage, Long lane. June 14th.R. J. Quin, 21 Nelson street.

P. A. Hogan, 81 New Western street. John Enright, 5 Winter's court, Long lane.John McCarthy, 5 Albion court.

We, the undersigned, declare that, in our hearing, on the 4th day of June 1852, a messenger from the Rev. Mr. Armstrong (the Protestant incumbent of Bermondsey), required that the clothes which had been given to Mrs. Coveney for herself and baby since she became a Protestant should be returned, because she refused to submit to the ministrations of the above-named Rev. Mr. Armstrong, and sent for the Rev. Mr. Donovan, the Catholic priest, to administer the sacraments of the Church to her husband, who was dangerously ill. We also declare that, in our presence, the mother was obliged to strip naked both herself and infant child (four weeks old) in order to give back the said clothes.

MARGT. LYONS, 21 College st., Tooley st.
CATHERINE SULLIVAN, 19 Cow Yard, Barmy.
(Supplement.)

While in attendance on Daniel Coveney, the person referred to in the above declaration, I witnessed the scene as described by the foregoing witnesses, with this exception—that the mother had not undressed in my presence. I must also add that Protestant as I am, I felt so disgusted with such conduct that I could not find language to express to the Rev. Mr. Donovan my horror and indignation at such a system.

(Signed)
E. D. ROWLAND, Guy's Hospital, August 22nd, 1852.

I, Patrick Sullivan, son of the late Michael Sullivan, of Oughterard, do solemnly declare, that I abandoned the Roman Catholic faith from no conscientious motive, but being induced thereto by motives of self-interest—being paid five shillings a month as a Bible reader. I do also declare, in the presence of witnesses, that I am sorry for this apostasy, and I voluntarily make this reparation for the scandal I have given to the Roman Catholic Church—the only reparation I can make—on the eve of my departure for America. I declare, also, that I am not moved to make this declaration by any motive of interest—I make it freely from my heart.

PATRICK SULLIVAN,
Bible reader, aged nineteen years.
(Witnesses) {MICHAEL JOYCE, } Householders.
{PATR. FITZPATRICK, }

Oughterard, Sept. 15, 1852.
I solemnly declare, in the presence of my God and Judge, that I (being an inmate of the workhouse), from my own free will, sent for the Rev. Mr. Cavanagh to receive me back into the Roman Catholic Church, believing that I was dying, and that I could not be saved without being reconciled to that true Church; which I had abandoned from motives of gain and self-interest. I now thank God that he has restored me to health, and in gratitude to Him, declare that I will never again abandon the holy Roman Catholic Church, and that I hope to live and die in its communion. I also declare that it was I who in-

duced my children (against their will), to become perverts, being promised land and other bribes for their advantage.
MARGARET MARTIN, or KELLY,
Her mark.
JAMES CONNOR, P.L.G.

[Witness]
Oughterard, August, 1852.

I hereby declare and confess, that I left the Roman Catholic Church against the solemn convictions of my own conscience; and I moreover declare, that I would not have continued a pervert, but for the constant temptations of temporal relief or the promises of future advancement, which were held out to me, and I am solemnly convinced that others (whom I know), are kept in error, from similar inducements.

JOHN M'GRATH,
Late Bible reader and Teacher, Coolnamuck.
(Witness) MICHAEL CONNOR.

The above declaration has been signed by several others whose names are too numerous for publication.

The day is fast approaching when Ireland will be rid of the shameful iniquity revealed in the foregoing declarations: and that day will be the dawn of a new era of national peace and prosperity. The celebrated Mr. Curran, in reviewing the persecutions inflicted on Ireland for her invincible fidelity to her ancient creed, used to exclaim that "Without the advice of the priesthood it would be impossible for a Catholic and an Irishman to be loyal to the English throne." It is quite true, we have been always too faithful: and we have ever been paid back by insult, exclusion, and banishment, and death.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,
Your Excellency's obedient servant,
D. W. CAHILL, D.D.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM.—His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. MacHale commenced his confirmation visits on the 24th of May, when the remote districts of the Diocese, Spiddal, Killeen, and the Islands of Arran, were subjected to ecclesiastical scrutiny, and gladdened by the presence of their beloved Bishop. He reached Spiddal on Saturday, the 24th, accompanied by the Rev. P. MacHale, P.P., Belmullet, and the Rev. P. Conry, R.C.A., of Tuam, where he was received by the pious and hospitable P.P., the Rev. Mr. Lyons, and many of the Clergy of the adjoining parishes. The presence of His Grace was acknowledged in the evening by the hearty rejoicings of the people: bonfires blazed in every direction, and demonstrations of respect and affection met him at every turn. After he had dispensed the sacrament of Confirmation to upwards of 350 children, he proceeded next to Killeen, and was received in a similar spirit of hearty hospitality by the Rev. Mr. Moore, the able and talented Administrator of the parish. Previous to his departure he minutely inspected its ecclesiastical affairs, and expressed himself in strong terms of approbation on the state of education amongst the people, and the admirable condition of the chapels of both parishes of Spiddal and Killeen. All traces of jansenism had vanished, and piety and plenty have taken the place of that disorganising supererism which had once fastened itself on the poverty and wants of the poor. But though the unhalloved calling is at a dead stand, and the voice of the charmer falls only upon the unimpressible breeze; still is there a staff kept up under the specious pretext of a possible proselytism. As long as there are funds to be had, so long will the game of hypocrisy be kept alive, and rich old women of England continue to be mulcted by the lying missionaries of an infamous propaganda.—Galway Vindicator.

The people of Darver have collected £120 to erect a belfry in connection with the Catholic church of the parish. Stones were being quarried at Killeencole for the work, when a certain land agent stopped the men, as the quarry, he stated, belonged to the landlord. The people of Darver, not to be frustrated, succeeded in getting stones of Mr. Byrne's estate at Cargans, and they are being carted at present to Darver.—Dundalk Democrat.

THE TENANT RIGHT BILL.—Wednesday had been fixed for a Committee of the whole House on the League Bill; but the Petition of an Indian Prince, who has been swindled by the Company, stood first upon the paper; and the discussion occupied the House for hours. The House only sits from twelve to six upon Wednesday. The chance which distributes the Parliamentary business of Independent Members without reference to its relative importance, had placed the question of Tenant Right below half a dozen other local and indifferent topics. The clock struck before its turn came; and Mr. Moore was obliged to postpone the Third Reading to the 9th of July. This renders it physically impossible to pass the Bill this year—but we started without the expectation of our carrying it so far as we have done in the Commons. And the interval may be well employed. More petitions, manifestations of opinion such as those of Corporations and Boards of Guardians, steady pressure upon Parliament, and such a Bill may be carried to the Third Reading, such an expression of opinion elicited from the Commons as may ensure legislation next year. This is all the League asked, and the Members attempted to do in the present Session, and for so far, they have succeeded wonderfully. One of the reasons we regret the delay of the debate is, that Mr. Horsman has escaped the strictures which his conduct on last Wednesday week challenged; but such has been the universal sense of the very villainously bad taste, and reckless incapacity which he betrayed, that it has been rumoured all the week he had resigned his office; and if he has not it is to be hoped that he must.—Nation.

IRISH SYMPATHY FOR FRANCE.—The Dublin Evening Mail says:—"Our readers need not be informed that there are at this moment hundreds of thousands of their fellow-creatures suffering grievously from the sad havoc caused by the unusually heavy rains in the south of France. There is a bond of generous sentiment and kindly feeling between the French and our own people, which renders it impossible that the misfortunes of the one can be a matter of indifference to the other; and it is seldom, happily, that such an occasion of lamentable appropriateness as the present occurs for an active exercise of practical sympathy on the part of either. When our people were afflicted with famine and pestilence, the French were amongst the most active of their sympathisers, and the most cheerful givers of all those who contributed to their relief. Let Irishmen now testify their sense of former timely aid."

THE DISEMPOWERMENT MOTION AND DEBATE.—Twelve years—six years—three years ago, what Voluntary would have ventured to predict that in 1856 the House of Commons would spend more than five hours in discussing an initiative proposition for separating Church and State in Ireland? Or, if a sanguine imagination had conceived the likelihood of such an event, who would have anticipated that no fewer than one hundred and twenty-one members of the House of Commons would sanction the proposal by their deliberate vote? Yet, after months of anticipation, not unmingled with misgivings, that is the proud position now occupied by the Voluntaries, as the result of Mr. Miall's motion, on the 27th of May. The scarcely veiled intentions of politicians, on both sides of the House, to shirk the discussion, if practicable, have been frustrated, and the vis inertia of Parliament has been so far overcome, that as many as 312 members have committed themselves to an expression of opinion on this the first occasion that the question has been put from the Speaker's chair. At a single bound, therefore, that question has obtained a Parliamentary position, which places it in the category of subjects to be reckoned in the calculations of Ministers and Oppositions, to be dealt with by the press, and to be pressed on candidates at the hustings. Perhaps the most striking circumstance which marked the debate was the readiness and seriousness with which—the subject once fairly before it—the House of Commons entered on the consideration of facts, principles, and proposals, which have been wont to be regarded as matters of speculative interest, rather than of any practical importance to the political class. There was no expression of impatience or contempt on the one hand, and but little manifestation of alarm and indignation on the other. We have, let it be remembered, but just set our hands to this particular work, which from the nature of things, cannot be brought to an immediate conclusion. Members of Parliament who are at present either hostile or indifferent, candidates for the next general election, and leaders of public opinion everywhere, have to be dealt with judiciously and perseveringly, that there may, year by year, be decisive progress beyond the point happily reached on the 27th of May.—Liberator for June.

CRIME IN IRELAND.—There is not as yet a single case for trial at the approaching Louth Assizes, and according to the present reports from the various districts, it is probable that there have never been so many light calendars at an assizes in Ireland as will come before the judges on this occasion.

A renewal of the Crime and Outrage Act passed the Commons on Thursday, (June 5,) rendered ungracious by the notorious fact, that there is now less crime in Ireland than in any other part of these kingdoms. Sir George Grey took it on his own responsibility, and showed that it afforded facilities for the detection of crime when it did take place. No doubt. But the exact question is, whether Ireland required an exceptional law. Powers beyond those given by the ordinary law either are or are not necessary to the detection of crime. If they are, why are they not extended to the whole empire? if not, why given in Ireland when crime is less prevalent in Ireland than in England?—Weekly Register.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—A misunderstanding of rather a serious character has taken place between the highest official of this institution and one of the professors, which has resulted in an appeal to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, complaining of serious infraction of College discipline. It is believed that the dissension will become matter of investigation before the visitants, when it is expected the whole conduct of the college will be inquired into.

Her Majesty's Administration are not often lectured from the seats of justice. The Master of the Rolls in Dublin has, however, taken occasion to condemn the conduct of the Irish Government for not prosecuting those parties connected with the Tipperary Bank who were guilty of "the most extraordinary fraud." The Castle authorities are also, he thinks, guilty of a "very great dereliction of duty to the public."

ELECTRIC COMMUNICATION WITH AMERICA.—Accounts from Cork state that the screw steamer Proponis, Captain Goodwin, is now at Queenstown, where she is coaling, having on board the sub-marine electric cable, to be laid down between Cape Ray, Newfoundland, and Cape North, Cape Breton Island. The length of this cable is 95 miles, and its weight 170 tons. She has also on board the cable to be laid down between Cape Traverse, Prince Edward's Island, and Cape Formantino, New Brunswick; length 13 miles, and weight 30 tons. The cables are manufactured and are to be laid down by W. Kuper and Co., of London; under the direction of Mr. Ganning, who, with his assistants, is on board. The former failure in laying down the cable arose from the fact that it was on board of a vessel towed by a steamer; now it is on board the steamship itself, and there is no doubt it will be effectually laid down.

COLLISION WITH THE MILITIA: THREE MEN STABBED.—On Monday night, Robert Millar, Patrick Gaffey, and Jas. Scanlon, were stabbed at the Barrack gate, in North Queen Street, by some of the men belonging to the Deery Militia. It appears that the picket, on returning to the barracks, had been accosted in offensive terms by some persons who were standing at the entrance—whether or not by those mentioned above we have not been able to discover. The militiamen, excited by the epithets addressed to them, turned suddenly round, and with their bayonets, made an indiscriminate attack upon the bystanders. Serious wounds were inflicted upon Millar, Gaffey, and Scanlon, in different parts of the head and body. They were admitted into the hospital shortly after the occurrence, where their wounds were dressed.—Although they are badly hurt, it is believed that the injuries are not mortal.—Belfast News Letter.

CELTIC REMAINS FOUND IN DEEPENING THE SEWERS IN WERRBURGH STREET.—Several curious relics have been recently found within the town walls of ancient Dublin, such as singularly ornamented combs, bronze and iron fibulae, and implements used in the manufacture of those curiously constructed wooden houses, erected in that ancient locality at a very remote era. Amongst the articles enumerated is an antique shaped signet seal, supposed by a distinguished heraldic authority to have belonged to the Lord Deputy Essex, time of Elizabeth. Several of these relics have been collected by Mr. James Underwood, well known for his former indefatigable exertions in amassing antiquarian stores.
There is no clue whatever to the murderers of Mrs. Kelly. All those who were in custody have been discharged.