

sake of betraying them into a temporary and hypocritical abandonment of their faith." To all these calumnies as preposterous as they are false, the Noble Lord most triumphantly replies—not only by proving the absurdity and impossibility of such a proceeding on his part, but also by the affidavit of several respectable witnesses, directly contradicting these slanderous falsehoods. We will let his Lordship plead for himself:—

"Can any man suppose the possibility of such an offer? Were I so wicked, so lost to all sense of duty as a man, and as a christian, as to use the illicit and unhallowed means of conversion here imputed to me, could I be so *absurd* as to imagine my fortune or the fortune of any man adequate thus to purchase the Popish population of Ireland? Mr. O'Connel has stated that every convert costs Lord Farnham forty pounds! Now there are already four hundred and fifty-nine converts in this county, which according to the rule of simple multiplication must have stood his Lordship in the sum of from eighteen to twenty thousand pounds! But anxious as his Lordship may be for the Reformation, I trust I may venture to acquaint him of such egregious folly. To be serious, I think my character is sufficiently known to guarantee me from the imputation of such *childish infatuation* as is implied in this supposition, that I should purchase, *to the ruin of my own fortune and that of my successors, a hollow conformity*, which, from its very nature, must vanish with the means that first produced it. I shall not however rely upon the *prima facie absurdity* of the allegation. The affidavits of &c. &c. fully rebut the calumnious imputation."

We feel assured that our readers will not complain of these copious extracts from this interesting and convincing speech. We anticipate that every reflecting unprejudiced Protestant will open his eyes to gaze on the cheering prospect, and become satisfied of the soundness, and wisdom, and justness of the concluding remarks of this pious and eloquent nobleman.

"There is no thinking man who does not perceive in the preponderance of the Roman Catholic religion of this country the fruitful source of most of the calamities and agitations with which it is afflicted. The remedies proposed for these evils have hitherto been confined to palliatives. No attempt has been made to effect a radical cure by striking at the root of the disease. This has probably arisen from the supposed impossibility of breaking up the connexion between the Romish priests and the Irish people. But the facts we have recently witnessed clearly prove that no invincible obstacle exists, were there sufficient courage, decision, and perseverance employed to overcome the difficulties. . . . I am certain that every man who looks at the state of things in Ireland, must be convinced that there is no other alternative which can produce peace in this land. We must either abandon the establishments which have given us civil and religious liberty to that insolent and overbearing faction, which, through the Roman Catholic Association, is preying on the miseries of the country; or we must, with the divine blessing, infuse the principles of genuine Christianity into the moral constitution of our population: and the experiment, which has now been made, proves that it is not impossible. The united efforts of the British empire, applied to the conversion of the Roman Catholic people, would, in a few years, make such an impression as to alter materially the relative proportion of Romanists and Protestants. If something be not effected in