THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. MARCH 6, 1863.

on her mountain tops. And it will continue to the teaching of the Apostolic Ministry, and this shine-mark my words-when the darkness of night has settled down for ever on haughty England, her oppressor !' Them were the words he said, Cauth, for I kept saying them over and over to myself, by night and by day, ever since till I've got them by heart like a gossoon larning his task. There's ne'er a time I look up at the ould walls over my head, espaycially when the sun is shining, that I don't think of Dan O'Connell, and somebow or another his words keep ringing in my ears for all the world like one of Columbkill's prophecies. But the best of it all was what he said to myself at his off-going-"Brvan,' savs he, "Bryan Cullenan, you have a great name--your namesake, King Cormac Cullenau, was a good king and a great bishop in his ful addition to a language written, as it is asserted, day-1'm proud to see that you take such care without vowels; but, he says, it is discovered by of these noble ruins. It is a good work, Bryan, investigation that certain letters of the ancient text and a picus work, too--and God will bless you had clear and independent tones, so that the first for it, and the Saints of Erin will shield you from all ill. Farewell, Bryan, if we never meet again on earth, put up a prayer now and then for Dan O'Connell, while you tell your beads here | taken from them, and they lost every note of their among the tombs of the holy dead.' With that voices. 'The marks called the vowel points were he slips a bright goold guinea into my hand, to buy my winter's turf, he said, in a whisper. The other gentlemen gave me half-a-crown a piece, so I made a good day's work of it in regard to money -- but 1 don't care for that half so much as I did for the honor of shewing Cashel to Counsellor O'Connell, and hearing all the fine beautiful words he said about the ould place that my heart is centred in. I forgot to tell you, Cauth, that he took another grand rise out of Mr. Steele as they were just leaving the Rock. I didn't know till then that he was a Prodestan, which, indeed, is a mighty odd thing to me, and him such a darling fine gentleman, and a great triend of the people.'

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' Tom,' says the Counsellor-it's the member for Clare, 1 hear, they call him now- 'Tom,' says he, pointing his finger down at the great new Church-the Bishop's Church-in the town below-'Tom, do you know how that came to be built?' 'No,' says Tom, 'I do not.'--"Well,' says the Counsellor, winking at the other gentleman - I never can remember what name he gave him-'it was built because the road up to the Rock here was too steep for the Protestant Archbishop Agar, to drive his carriage up, gular. and I suppose hunself was too fat to walk it, though it is only a few perches, as you may perceive. So he goes to work and puts up that grand building below there, or got the government to put it up for him. The roof was taken off this Cethedral on the Rock to make lead water-pipes out of, or something of the kind, and from that day to this it has been going to ruin. See what it is to be lat, Tom-Archbishop Agar's fat cost this nuble old building its roof." Mr. Steele got very red in the face at that, and, says he, 'If I had my will of that old chan do you know what I'd do with him ? I'd put him on bread and water the rest of his days, by way of penance, then be'd soon be able to walk up here, and little further, too, if need were-the old Vandal !' says he, mighty angry, and at that the others laughed till the tears came into their eres.'

Here Cauth started to her feet and looked wildly around, putting back her long gray hair from off her ears to listen. ' Ha ! ha !' she cried " I hear them now-that's John's voice-"

" What John ? who do you mean ?' said Bryan, · I hear nothing, barrin the wind screeching round the ould walls on the Rock above. Sit down, Cauth, sit down or maybe you ought to go to bed. I'm afeard youre not well."

"Don't tell me,' said Cauth with a vehement

analogy of Faith embraces all the dogmas of the Church All Catholics know the Church, by defin-ing revealed doctrines, sets bounds to the license of interpreting, and finds a certain rule of interpretation to which all testimonies are to be referred, so that nothing may be derived from them against the certain dogmas of Faith.

Catholics are not required to find interpretations of every Scripture passage to back up the doctrines of the Church, but they are required to accept no interpretation repugnant to the doctrines of the Church.

To give some account then of 'Dr. Prati's theory, it is as follows. He says, that the Hebrew language of the Holy Scriptures exists to-day in two forma, the Ancient Hebrew tongue, presented in the 'Un pointed Text; and the same text with the addition of the Masoretic or traditional vowel points. At first, he says, these vowel points appear a very useeffect of pointing was to render these letters toneless and quiescent

All the letters of the alphabet were made mere consonants, the powers of the vocal characters were then impressed with the powers of the notes taken from the vocal characters."

He asks, 'Why, since letters or vowels already existed in the language, was it necessary to point the text-can it be that the true tones or voices of these letters had been lost ?" ' How were the tones ascertained which were taken from the letters and given to the vowel points ?' He says that ! the vocal charactars of these letters seem to have been determined by the qualities of the sounds as expressed by the Greek of the Septuagent translation, for the Greek sound of the Hebrew proper names, and other denominational and untranslated words there given is taken as a guide, and offered as a confirmation of the sounds of the points even in the present day.

Morcover, he doubts if these so-called Greek sounds were the original sounds of the Greek tongue at the time the Septuagent version was written, and not a more modern rendering of them; and he also holds that when three centuries before our era, the Septuagent version was made, the Hebrew language, from which it was translated, had ceased to be a living language; and that when the Masoretic vowel points were introduced, seven conturies after our era, so far from preserving the original tone and inflection of the words they altered both, and thereby affected the sense, because in some instances nouns were turned into verbs, and verbs into nouns, the inflections of verbs were altered by sometimes changiug one mood into another, and the persons by sometimes making singular plural, and plural sin-

Then he says that by rejecting the pointed vowels as excrescential, and recognising the true character of the original vowels, he finds sundry difficulties in the Hebrew text removed, and in sundry passages an increased confirmation of the Christian doctrine.

Dr. Pratt gives various instances of emendations of the text proposed by him, by correcting the effect of the vowel points.

The standing still of the sun upon Gibeon, and of the moon in the valley of Ajalon, as narrated in the authorised Protestant version (Joshua, chapter x. 9-14) is as follows :- Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night. And the Lord discomfiled them (the Amorites) before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibcon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah and unto Makkedah.

And it came to pass as they fled from before Israel and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the Lord cust down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah and they died ; they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Isrnel slew with the sword.

Then spake Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun stand thou still upon Gibcon, and thou moon in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still and the moon staved until

the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher ? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. M. KELLY .- This distinguished servant of God, benefactor of his kind, and zealous friend of the poor, breathed his last on Sunday morning at the Carmelite Convent, Clarendon street, Dublin, after an illness of a fortnight's duration. In the course of his ministry, which extended over a period of thirteeu years, he displayed untiring energy in the promotion of the spiritual welfare of the people, and he was signalised for directing his untiring efforts to the advancement of religion and morality. He was distinguished as a scholar, and under a meek and unpretending exterior possessed deep knowledge and varied acquirements. But all the energy of his mind and body were devoted to. the service of God, and he has passed away at the early uge of 42 years, followed by the heartfelt regrets of all who had the privilege of his acquaintance and of the thousands who derived incalculable benefits from his teachings, and the efficacy of the example of his whole life, marked day by day by self-secrifice and patient working for the good of others. The very reverend deceased was a native of Ennis, county Clare, and was educated for the priesthood in Belgium. He was elected provincial of the order in August last. He preached on Sunday fortnight, and on the following day he was stricken with the illness which deprived religion of a faithful minister. the poor of a sincere friend and benefactor, and society of the example of an amiable and high-minded Obristian gentleman. The office and high mass for the repose of his soul will be solemnised to-morrow (22nd Feb.) in the church of St. Teresn. Clarendon street, where he so long and worthily ministered.--The remains of the good priest will be deposited in the vaults adjacent to the church - Dublin Irishman. DEATH OF THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON FITZGER-

ALD, V.G., P.P., RATHEBALE. - We deeply lament to announce the death of venerable, revored, highlygifted Archdeacon Fitzgerald, P.P., Rathkoale. are fallen upon the days, when from the national horizon dies away so constant and bright and true a light as this largely endowed, eminent dignitary. Since the death of O'Connell there has been no man whose loss was a deeper woe to the Irish people. More inflexibly even than the Liberator did he adhere to the cause of the tenant, for to that above all he was devoted; and to its espousal he bore the most abounding affection and the most untiring energy that could animate an Irishman loving his native land, and influence a Clergyman to whom the Catholic people were the pillars and corner stones of the old Church. Without them, he used to ask, where where would the Church be ; and sprung himself, as it was his pride to have been, from the respectable order of the agricultural people, and a Minister of their Church, as it was his glory to be, the two affections mingled and made him the ablest champion of the one that Ircland has produced for ages, the Liberator himself scarcely excepted -- and at least one of the most formidable defenders of the other that the foes of the old Faith could anywhere find.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR FITZSIMON .-- At Lismore, on Monday, the 9th ult., Professor A. Fitzsimon departed this life at the age of 71. He was born at Fethard, county Tipperary, and such was the talent he displayed from his carly youth that at nine years of age he could translate Livy and Homer. At sixteen he commenced teaching Classics and Mathematics, and at that early age his reputation as a scholar was so great that pupils much older than himself came for instruction to him, not alone from his native county, but from the several provinces, numbers of whom cherished in foreign climes a vivid remembrance of the profound knowledge and rare critical acumen of their gifted teacher .- Cork Examiner.

DEATH OF PATRICK MAHER, ESQ.-We regret to announce the death of Patrick Maher, Esq., of Kil-rush, County Kildare, which took place on Saturday, at five o'clock, pm. Mr. Maher was a man of unbounded charity, and most sincerely devoted to Ireland and to her ancient Faith. His generous contributions were the means of erecting many religious institutions and excellent Catholic schools in this country. The people of Athy owe him a deep debt of gratitude for the services rendered to them in the establishment of the Convent of Mercy and the schools of the Christian Brothers. Undoubtedly his virtues and editying life, and especially his deeds of charity towards the poor, have been rewarded with an imperishable crown. High Mass immediately after the Office for the Dead was offered for the repose of his soul, in Sancroft Chapel, at eleven o'clock on Tuesday.-Freeman's Journal. THE O'CONNELL MONUMENT IN ENNIS .- The last stone upon which the statue is to rest was raised to its place on Saturday in the presence of a large number of people who had assembled to witness the proceeding. The task was somewhat difficult to perform, seeing that the stone was of great weight, and that the height to which it had to be raised was so considerable. The top of the stone is 67 feet from the ground, and when the statue is placed the entire height of the monument will be 75 feet. In the evening when the work was done, Mr. Michael Conseding addressed the assembled people in a characteristic speech, in which he pointed to the monument as a proof of what the well directed labours of the people could accomplish. The time for the inauguration of the monument is not definitely fixed. THE QUEEN'S SPERCH AND INFLAND .- We placed the Queen's speech before our renders in our third edition of yesterday. We anticipated the topics referred to in that composition, and we have little to add to our comments. The first point which strikes a pative of this country is that Ireland is conspicuous by her absence. The Speech ignores the existence of Ireland altogether. No allusion is made to the patience of our people under privations; no promise is given of legislative enactments likely to beneft this country. Some there zre who will think this a compliment. Ireland forsooth, is so identified with England that it would be improper to separate the two countries in words. But the truth is that Ireland had none to speak either of her loyalty or her wants. No Irishman is permitted to possess a share in the Government of his native country, and the English officials who sojorn here as rulers for a tew weeks, on on their flight back to London deem it fashionable to eschew all knowledge to eschew all knowledge of the country which they profess to govern .- Irish Times. Again : it is unfortunate that, in dwelling upon the distress in Lancashire and the courage with which it has been borne. Her Majesty's advisers have forgotten the great distress which exists, and the equal forti ude which has been displayed, in Ireland. When nothing else can be given, there might, at least, be equity in the distribution of compassion and of praise. In this particular, justice to Ireland does not involve any drain on the Treasury, or any resolute grappling with questions embarrassing to ministerial indolence or incapacity. It is a mistake to leave unsettled claims which a few kind words will satisfy. Mr Kinglake narrates that one of the most important despatches sent out during the Russian war, was adopted by a Cabinet the majority of whom fell as leep while it was being read. The most charitable way of accounting for the omissions in the Queen's Speech is the supposition that it was adopted under similar circumstances. Lord Palmerston, who occasionally close his eyes in the Council-chamber .--Northern Whig. The speech read by the Lord Chancellor on Thursday is so far as England is concerned, a document which must raise Lord Palmerston in public estimation; but as regards Ireland, there is no indication on the part of Ministers that they have any intention of departing from the policy which has rendered the administration of Lord Palmerston so unpopular in this country. Whilst Ireland is com-pletely ignored, there is not a single subject in which Rugland is interested omitted. Her commerce, her foreign relations, the distress in Lancashire, the Le-

roic fortitude of the factory operatives, the approaching marriage of the Prince of Wales-everything interesting to the English people is touched upon by the language of sympathy and hope." Greece, France, Italy, Denmark, America, Belguim, even Japan-each are alluded to so far as the state of those countries has any bearing upon the progress of England's manufacturing industry or domestic policy ; but not one word in reference to Ireland. If Ireland was united no Prime MinBter would dare treat this portion of the empire with such indifference. Surely there was enough in the state of Ireland to warrant the Government in referring to the measures necessary for raising the country up from its fallen position. If there is want of employment in Lancashire and Cheshire, there is absolute destitution prevailing in Ireland All classes are affected by the vicissitudes of three defective harvests, trade is paralysed, our working classes in the large towns unemployed Relief Committees are in operation in the capital and in the provinces-the cry of Irish distress has reached the antipodes; and notwithstanding all this, Her Majesty is not made to express the least commiseration for her Irish subjects-there is not one ray of hope in the Royal Speech for the suffering population of this country, who have endured, and are enduring, privations which would disorganise society in England or any other country in Europe. In England private benevolence and the operation of the Poor Laws have been more than sufficient to cope with the difficulty. In Ireland, unless the Government come forward and inaugurate a system of public works and do something to give an impetus to trade, there must be a general break down of all interests in the country. There was, therefore, far more reason to refer to Irish distress than to the want of employment resulting from the stoppage of the Lancashire mills.

POLAND AND IRELAND, -- To every lover of human liberty throughout the world, the terrible insurrectionary war which is drenching the soil of Poland with the blood of its brave inhabitants, as well as of the murderous Cossack and the semi-burbarous Russian serf, possesses a painful and absorbing interest. What generous heart does not thrill with emotion at the mention of the words "insurrection in Poland 2" What glorious ideas, not unmixed with sadness, arise as the bloody picture of the land of Sobieski, of Kosciusko, and other names of renown, is brought again before the world; and the dark deeds of tyranny, the wholesale massacres, and fiendish cruelties of the the resolutions as we find them in ' Ryland's History conquerors, serve but to throw into brighter contrast the sublime and almost incredible heroism of the down-trodden and abaadoned people. There is one this day, wear and make use of the manufactures of nation in Europe which, from the similarity of its this country, and this country only, until such times condition to that of Poland, watches the present struggle with a sympathetic anxiety, deeply felt in the heart, though not loudly or noiselessly displayed -for such a display would be useless. Ireland has been called the Polard of the ocean and Poland may reciprocally be termed the Ireland of the Continent. They are both of them pressed down to the earth ; their energies cramped ; their traditions, their language, and national aspirations despised, and sought to be cradicated, under powerful, remorseless, and half-civilised enemies. Many a time have both uprisen to shake off the yoke, and as often have they fallen back exhausted ; many a time have they bled almost to the death under the swords of their fierce and vengeful oppressors ; but they still live, still cherish the faith that along preserves their lives -the unalterable belief that might cannot finally prevail against the right, and that when a brave people determine to break the chains that degrade them, they will ultimately succeed, and force a way, by their united strength, to the highway of freedom .--No wonder that Irishmen should witness with theobbing hearts the wild efforts of the Poles to right themselves once and for ever, and no wonder that they should earnestly pray for victory to bless the rude weapons of the patriotic Poles as they rush in the fury of their despair against the serviced masses of the Russian despot. At the outbreak of the revolution in Poland-for it is no longer a mere partial rebellion, but has assumed the proportions of a national revolt-few imagined the patriots could make head against their enemies for many weeks ; but the power of a people in arms, though these he of the most wretched description, was underrated; they have not only repelled the attacks of the disciplined troops, but have become the aggressors. They have won victories; their numbers are increasing; their hopes are rising higher every day, and they teach the lesson that a people held in bondage, outraged, trampled on, and goaded into desperation, are able to give a good account with their scythes and pikes of the numerous and highly disciplined troops of one of most powerful nations in Europe. they succeeded without discipline, generals, or the formidable appliances of modern warfare, that the Emperor of Russia has thought proper to relax a tittle of the cruelty which drove them into the revolt. These unfortunate men were driven to the verge of madness by the military conscription; they preferred death in battle on their native soil, and fighting against their tyrants, to the alternative of spending twenty years in the Russian army, away from family, friends, and kinsfolk ; associating with the ignorant and degraded serfs, and shedding their blood, perhaps, in distant Circassia, combatting against the brave mountains for their despotic ruler. They seized on whatever weapons they could get bold of, and giving and taking no quarter, they performed such prodigies of valor that the Emperor stands against, and fears his countless soldiers and his great resources may not be able to prevail against such terrible assailants. There is, besides, the fear that his serfs, with new-born ideas of freedom, suffering themselves great hardships from the conscription, may begin to share in the feelings of the men they are sent to slaughter. Thus, in several respects, the revolt has to some extent been a success, and the cause of the Poles begins to brighen. And what is a very important element to be taken into account, in estimating their probable chances of ultimate triamph, public opinion in France is already awakened in their favor. The Siecle of Paris speaks out boldly in support of insurgent Poles .- Waterford Cilizen Ireland sends yearly to an alien parliament one hundred and live members. The Scotch and English send to the same legislative assembly--heing congregated on their own island, under the influence of social intercourse - being their domestic parliament -five hundred and fifty-three members. In the British House of Lords Ireland can count only thirtyfour members sent from her shores. England, in the House of Lords, counts four hundred members as her representative peers, spiritual and temporal. Hence, on every question where there is a rivalry between English and Irish interests-whorever it is necessary to make !rish interests subservient to those of Britain or to sacrifice the mere Irish to the comincering Bri ions-five hundred and fifty-three British Members of Parliament vote against one hundred and five Irish representatives, and four hundred and nine British peers vote against thirty-four Irish Lords. - Mayo Telegraph. On Sunday, the Very Rev. D. J. O'Sullivan informed his hearers at last Mass, that Mrs. Fagan, who died a few days ago at Clifton, near Bristol, had bequeathed to the poor of Dingle the munificent sum of £700, the interest of which would be given in the mouth of April next. This benevolent and truly Catholic lady, subscribed last year for the erection of the New Church. She was the sister of Miss Clarissa Hussey of Woodbill Terrace, Cork, and a native of Dingle. Mr. McGill has forgiven each of his tenauts in Onherciveen the rent of 1861, though holding their farms at the Poor Law Valuation, and he has supplied them with large quantities of flour and meal. For instance, he has given to a poor man who only pays a rent of 10s per annum, three bags of meal and one of fleur. The tenantry are of opinion that this liberality is due to the exertions of the agent, Mr. M -Gillicuddy Eagar, Killorglin, who is known to be the rable year of '47, at present prevails in the county boor man's friend

Sir Robert Peel has introduced into the House of Commons's bill for the registration of births and deaths in Ireland, leaving out the registration of marriages. The bill will be useful as far as it goes, but the omission above noted should not exist. There are certain difficulties in the way of a registration of marriages, but they have been made by the law ; they are caused by legislation which is very kindred in spirit to the penal code, and it might fairly be expected that the law in this case should nudergo a a salutary reform. But our governors intend to lat it stand. Another subject of interest to Ireland which has been before the house is that of the salmon fisheries, concerning which Mr. M'Mahon has introduced his promised bill. A long discussion took place on the measure, which was ultimately read a second time, and ordered to be committed on next Wednesday week .- Nation.

FOUNDING OF A NEW SCHOOL FOR THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS IN DUBLIN. - On Sunday last a public meeting was held in the Church of St. Kevin, South Circular-road, for the purpose of collecting funds and making other necessary arrangements for the founding of new and commodious schools, to be placed under the charge of the Christian Brothers, on the plot of ground adjoining the Church. This is really a good and meritorious work. We know not what future may be in store for this country; but, of one thing we may be sure, it is that to take care of the education of the children and to keep it out of the bands of the the British Government is to do what is right and prudent and proper. The foundation of each additional school of this class may be safely regarded as a religious and a national henefit to the country.-1b.

WORTHY OF IMITATION .- In the year of our Lord, 1778, there was great distress in Ireland-something like what our people now suffer. The English Government refused, as now, to do anything for the country. The people could not get work; all the trades were badly off. Waterford, of course, as she does also now-a days, shared in the general distress. Her tradesmen were unemployed, and no work of importance could be carried on. No manufactures were protected by the laws of the land in Ireland. But how did the sheriff and grand jurors of Waterford act? They assembled together, and the following resolutions were proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, and with acclamation. Here are of Waterford,' pp. 97 and 98 :- 1st Resolved - " That we, our families, and all we can influence, shall, from as all partial restrictions on our trade, imposed by the illiberal and contracted policy of our sister kingdom, be removed ; but if, in consequence of this our resolution, the manufacturers (whose interest we have more immediately under our cousideration) abould act fraudulently, or combine to impose upon the public, we shall hold ourselves no longer bound to countenance or support them." 2nd. Resolved-" That we will not deal with any merchant or shopkeeper who shall at any time bereafter be detected in imposing any foreign manufacture as the manufacture of this country." What say we of to-day to these resolutions ? If we acted otherwise, our tailors, shoemakers, nailors, and, in fact, all our trades, would not be in their present low condition. The Trades' Guardian Association should attend to the above resolutions, to call a meeting to adopt them in the year of our Lord, 1863. If we dealt with our own manufacturers - wore shoes made by Waterford men, of leather and hemp manufactured in Waterford - smoked tobacco manufactured in Waterfordwore clothes made in Waterford, and used nails made by our Waterford honest and hard-working nailorsthen we might hope to see our poor people better off, and our city would in a short time by the first in Ireland, for no city in this isle possesses such great natural advantages for trade, commerce, and all kinds of manufactures, as our own dear native city .- Waterford Cilizen.

It is stated that there never existed such a desire to emigrate amongst the people of Kilrush and us neighborhood, as at present.

LIVING AND DEAD. - Much surprise is expressed at the usual military honours being withheld from the remains of the late Gen. Burke on Wednesday last, The reason why these honours were withheld arises from the opinion expressed (ex cathedra) by Person Vowell, namely :- ' That the burnal of a Roman Catholic by a Roman Catholic priest was illegal, This prevented the authorities from sending their military to sanction such a violation of Vewell's orities knowin the autho that General Burk was a Roman Catholic, and knowing he would be interred in a Protestant churchyard by a Roman Catholic priest. Thus, from the cradle to the grave, a malignant persecution of the religion of the Celt is manifested. Mr. Parson Vowell entirely forgets that the law of England commanded the bands of every military party to play before each party on its way to chapel or church, until a Kerry regiment refused to obey a law made and acted on by such braicless fanatics as the pompous parson. - Cork Ex. Cor.

gesture; 'if that isn't the Caoine, I never heard it. I say it's that and nothing else-and there is men's voices in it, too ! Oh Lord ! will I hear it for ever-for ever ?' She buried her lates as follows :-face in her hands, and was silent.

Accustomed as Bryan was to the solitude of death, and the grim presence of dread mortality, in its relics, there was nothing in Cauth's voice and manner that made tum shaver with an undefined sense of fear. He did not dare rouse her from her lethargy, of whatever kind it was, but as soon as she raised her head again, he renewed his request that she would go to bed, which she did very soon after, without any allusion to what had passed.

(To be continued.)

THE GENEALOGY OF OREATION. (From the London Tablet.)

At a time when the Right Rev. Dr. Colenso, a Protestant Bishop of the Church of England as by law established, is cruelly troubling the peace of mind of our Protestant countrymen, is provoking the censures of his episcopal brethren, and is receiving the applause of the newspapers for his endeavours to liberate the Clergy of the Establishment from the disagreeable necessity of professing to believe that things which many of them hold to be human inventions, or blunders, are truths revealed to man by Divine inspiration, we come across a book in which its author tells us, that the result of a careful, critical analysis of the Unpointed Hebrew Text of the Old Testament Scriptures, has been to convince him that the cosmogony of Moses is in complete harmony with the actual revelations of science, and that from the study of the whole of the Old Testament the great traths of Christianity may be brought out in so forcible a manner that none but the wilfully blind will be able to reject them.

We do not propose to examine the grounds of Dr. Pratt's conclusions, or to form any opinion upon the results at which he arrives ; first, because a philological inquiry into the Hebrew tongue and into the differences between the Unpointed and Pointed Hebrew Text would not suit our readers, and, secondly, because the probable result of the attempt would be the betrayal of our ignorance and of our incompetence for the task.

But when Dr. Colenso is driving worthy Protestants distraught by rehashing for the benefits of the Zuleos the old objections of French Encyclopediats and German Rationalists, it is interesting to notice that another private enquirer, pretending to no authority whatever, is engaged in establishing the au-thority of the Pentateuch as an exposition of theological and scientific truth.

The stir made among our Protestant neighbours by the Right Rev. Dr. Colenso leaves Catholics just where it found them: All Catholics know that all the Books of both Testaments were written by the inspiration of God, and that all the Books of both Testaments, with all their parts as they have been used to be read in the Catholic Church, are to be reserved as sacred and canonical. Moreover, as to the in expretation of the Scriptures is necessarily to be inud - ceerding to the analogy of Faith derived from I that blows fowl and chops about.

And there was no day like that before it or after it that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man ; for the Lord fought for Israel. Now Dr. Pratt, from the unpointed Hebrew, trans-

Then the Greator caused a panic to them before Israel, and smote them a great smiting at Gibeon, and pursued them the road up Bethboron, and smote them unto Azekah and unto Makkedah. And it came to pass, as they were fleeing from before Israel, as they were descending Bethhoron, then the Creator caused to fall upon them large stones from Heaven, and they died ; many were those which died through the hail stones, more than those whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

Then Joshua spake to the Creator (on the occasion of the Ureator giving the children of the Amorites before the children of Israel), and said, in the sight of Israel, Let the sun be silent on Gibeon and the moon in the valley of Ajalon. Then the sun was silent and the moon simultaneously, while the nation was avenged upon its enemies. (Is not this written upon trustworthy evidence?)

For the sun remained in the clouds of heaven, and shone not on arising as (on) an ordinary day. And there has not been such an event as this before it and since it, us to the hearkening of the Creator unto the voice of a man. For the Creator fought for Israel.

According to Dr. Pratt's rendering from the unpointed Hebrew therefore the transaction was as follows :-- The five Kings of the Amorites being encamped before Gibcon, the Gibconites sent for help to Joshua at Gilgal. Joshua and his warriors relying on the promise of God came upon the Amorites suddealy by a forced warch through the night from Gilgal.

But having murched all night from Gilgal in order to surprise the foe, and therefore not reaching Gibeon till daybreak, Dr. Pratt contends that what Joshua wanted was a prolongation of the darkness, wherefore he preyed to God for the sun to withhold its light. Then, he said, the attack was made on the Amorites under cover of the darkness. God discomfited them ; they were panic struck and fled, and the great storm which, by the intervention of the Almighty, had obscured the sun, broke upon the fugitives, and more were slaughtered by the hailstones

than by the swords of the Israelites. The miracle, according to Dr. Pratt, was the special intervention of the Almighty at the prayer of Joshua, by the withdrawal of the light of the sun. by God's actual fighting for Israel through the instrumentality of a terrific storm in which the Amorites were slaughtered.

Having already made profession of our own incompetency, by reason of our want of knowledge of the Hebrew tongue, we can only refer our more learned readers to Dr. Pratt's own book for his philological disquisitions, and for his justification, in each instance, of his renderings from the unpointed Hebrew. They are matters on which our opinion is worth noth-All that we have got to go by in such matters ing. is the teaching of the Church.

Why are umbrellas like pancakes?-Because they are seldom seen after Lent.

"What wind should a hungry sailor wish for ?- One

On Tuesday last, at Mullingar, there was held a public meeting in consequence of a requisition signed by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Cantwell, the Bishop of the Diocese, by the Catholic clergy of (we believe) every parish in the county of Westmeath, and by many hundreds of the men in Westmeath.

The first resolution, proposed by the Rev. R. Mullen, denounced the present system of land tenure in Ireland, and petitioned Parliament to take it into consideration and to adopt measures to save the people from further extermination. The second resolution, proposed by the Rev. P Kelly, declared that during the last fow years the general condition of Ireland exhibited unmistakeable symptoms of progressive and rapid decay. The third resolution was proposed by Mr. A. M. Sullivan (and was probably framed by him, for it is easier to repeat its terms than to state its meaning). " Resolved, that the official records of the depopulation in Ireland, exhibiting in this small sounty a loss of 51,000 souls (sic) in twenty years, compel us to ascribe to cur rulers that destructive policy so truly described by a late most eminent statesman as, the great mischief in Ireland, that it was taken for granted that near was a nuisance."

The meaning intended to be conveyed is, as we conceive, that the great decrease of the population in Westmeath during the last twenty years has been caused by the policy of the Government, and that the Government takes it for granted that in Ireland man is a nuisance.

The fourth resolution proposed by the Rev. Mr. Duncan, deprecated any interference with the rights of property, but called on the landlords to reduce their rents so as to enable the tenants at will to tide over the present period of distress, and the fifth resolution proposed by the Rev. Mr. Barton, appointed a County Committee, consisting of at least six Glergymen and six tenant farmers, to meet monthly, to carry out the objects of the meeting.

The Times says, "As usual, different estimates have been formed of the numbers in attendance. One estimate is 10,000, another 6,000, and a third makes it as low as 1,200." We find that the Times itself estimates the attendance at four or five thousand, the Freeman's Journal at ten or twelve thousand, and the Morning Nems at fifteen or twenty thousand. The Government had not only increased the constabulary force, but had dispatched troops to Mullingar, but no reason that we have seen has been assigned for the precaution, and the day passed over without any disturbance of the peace.

Several witnesses, at the last Oork assizes, were inadvertently sworn on Homer's Illiad instead of the Gospels. The judges accepted the oaths as valid.

Distress, such as has not occurred since the memo-Donegal.