

man with them preparing for the ministry, and expect another to join them this fall. The bell that rung the hours for daily service eight or nine years ago at Nantux, is suspended upon a similar oak contiguous to their rustic dwelling, and is again employed for the same holy purpose.—From the Rev. E. G. Guer's letter to the Editor of the Gospel Messenger.

I R E L A N D.

DR. MCHALE AT ACHILL.

On that ominous day, the twelfth of this month, Dr. M'Hale, the pretended Archbishop of Tuam, entered this Island. Great exertion had been previously made by the Priests to get up a demonstration of popular feeling in his behalf as the representative of Popery.—But notwithstanding all the efforts of the Priests they could not muster anything like an assemblage numerically respectable. We did think that they might have collected some five or six hundred persons, but we overrated their power. Fifty-four persons crossed Achill Sound with Dr. M'Hale, and about one hundred more joined the procession when they entered the Island. We have heard the assemblage aptly compared to the gathering at a pauper's funeral. A large proportion of this miserable gathering consisted of women, and we believe that the presence of many of the men may be attributed to their influence. A person on whose testimony we can place the fullest reliance, informs us that he saw a man with a wand in his hand actually forced out of his cabin by two women to join the procession, and that the poor fellow went forward as to the performance of a task of which he was thoroughly ashamed, and several more apologised to the Rector of this Parish for having joined the procession, stating that they did so in compliance with the solicitation of others rather than their own inclination. Dr. M'Hale crossed the sound at low water in an open carriage, and as he surveyed the pitiful gathering which accompanied him, he must have painfully realized the truth, that his influence had fearfully waned since the time of his former visit, when the whole Island turned out to greet him; or, as a convert from Popery expressed it to the writer, he must have felt "the most of his roots were dug up out of the Island." Those who saw him can testify that his countenance indicated his inward chagrin and mortification.

In another part of our paper will be found two letters addressed to Dr. M'Hale on the occasion of his visit to the Island, one by our esteemed Rector, and the other by the writer, as the superintendent of Achill Mission. These letters were printed and circulated among the people, and also posted up at the principal places of concourse.

We have already stated that the assemblage of Dr. M'Hale's admirers was not even numerically respectable, but we have now to relate an occurrence which will show that morally considered it was still more deficient. As the procession was moving on from Achill Sound to the village of Casbel, where the Parish Priest resides, and where Dr. M'Hale was to spend the night, it was overtaken by three young men, one of them a resident in this Settlement, and the other two visitors. When they got among the people who followed Dr. M'Hale's carriage, they closed around them, slapping the aprons and shawls which they carried as banners on the end of poles in their horses' face; others struck their horses with sticks or brandished them before their faces, accompanying these threatening gestures with savage yells. One of these young men being mounted on a fleet and spirited poney succeeded in extricating himself from these ruffians, and when he got in front he was immediately pursued by one of them who was mounted. In his flight he was met by another of M'Hale's partisans, who ran at him and aimed a blow with a stick at his head, which he received on his arm, which he raised to ward off the blow. The other two, not being so well mounted, were unable to escape, and feeling that their lives were in imminent peril, and not choosing to use fire-arms which they carried about them, they called out to Dr. M'Hale, who was a passive observer of all that was going on, to use his influence in restraining the fury of his followers, but to this appeal the Doctor did not pay the slightest attention, and there can be no doubt that the consequence would have been most serious had not a Priest, more humane than his superior, interposed. This Priest is the Rev. Peter O'Malley. We mention his name, that he may see that there is no backwardness on our part to commend where we think commendation is merited. Will our magistrates take any steps to discover the persons concerned in this outrage? We shall see. But this we know, that if three Roman Catholic gentlemen in the North of Ireland were molested and assaulted by a party of Orangemen, with the passive consent of an influential person connected with that society, in the same manner that these three Protestant gentlemen were molested and assaulted on the Queen's highway by a popish mob, in the presence of Dr. M'Hale, on the 12th of July, the government would spare no pains to discover and bring to punishment the parties concerned in the outrage.

On Saturday, 13th, Dr. M'Hale and his Priests were engaged in celebrating masses and hearing confessions in the Chapel near this Settlement. The writer passed by at the time that the congregation was dispersing, and he is confident that he rather overstates their number in saying that there was not more than from two hundred to two hundred and fifty persons present. The attraction of an Archbishop some years ago would have drawn together a concourse of as many thousands.

On Sunday, the 14th, Dr. M'Hale held a Confirmation; 196 persons were confirmed, and of this number 30 only were under the age of 20. It is a very encouraging proof of the blessing which has attended our efforts for the enlightenment of the youth of this Island, and one which we are sure the friends of Protestantism will duly appreciate—that of the 2,000 children attending our schools only two individuals could be seen among the candidates for confirmation. This must be doubly annoying to Dr. M'Hale, as the avowed object of his visit was to supply the deficiency in the rite of Confirmation as administered by the Protestant Bishop of Tuam, the invalidity of which Father Gallagher has publicly asserted from the altar. The congregation might have numbered 500, and with only one exception manifested the greatest kindness and courtesy towards a few Protestants who went there to witness Dr. M'Hale's proceedings. After the celebration of mass the congregation was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Hardman, parish priest of Kilmena, a district adjoining the town of Westport, from 1 Peter, &c. "The devil goeth about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." After an application of the text to our Protestant Settlement, his discourse consisted of an effusion of angry invectives against the people for the facility with which they allowed themselves to be seduced (as he considered) from the Mother Church.

He brought forward the story of the seven sons of Maccabees, in order that it might serve as an incentive to their steadfastness to Romanism; and after contrasting the devotion of the former to the church of their fathers, with the pliability and lukewarmness of those whom he addressed, he exhorted them to emulate their zeal for the creed of their ancestors. He then proceeded to speak of the education given to our scholars, in the tone of low ribaldry so characteristic of the Romish priests in this country, and an instance of its inefficiency and emptiness related a conversation which took place between himself and one of our little boys. In answer to some doctrinal question, the boy referred to a passage of Scripture as establishing the truth of what he had asserted; the reception this corroboration met with from Mr. Hardman, he himself did not hesitate to declare to the people in his sermon. It was disgusting to hear the tone of ironical contempt in which he spoke of the poor child's reference to the Sacred Volume. "Oh, if you ask them any thing, the answer is—it is written in Romans, Corinthians, or some such place." These words were pronounced with the drawing cadence which is peculiar to the lower orders of the Irish when they wish to signify utter contempt. Our readers will take notice that Mr. Hardman neither gave his own question, or the boy's answer, and in this he showed no small degree of policy, as in all probability the answer was such as should have put him to the blush (if indeed a priest can blush) before his audience. Does Mr. Hardman forget that Jesus Christ repelled the attack of Satan with—"it is written?"

Mr. Hardman next tried to dissuade his hearers from sending their children to our schools, comparing those persons who permitted them to be educated in Protestant tenets to the ancient worshippers of Baal, who willingly plunged their offspring into the devouring flames, witnessed their agonies with indifference, and turned a deaf ear to their harrowing shrieks. He supplied them with one solitary argument, wherewith they were to defend the faith delivered to the saints, and to resist all the encroachments of proselytism: When any should seek to shew them the evil of the Church of Rome, he advised them, in all cases, to "ask, with one of the old Fathers—From what cloud did you fall, or from what sky did you come?"

The letters addressed to Dr. M'Hale, he briefly adverted to, designating them as unworthy "to dirty their eyes with," and expressing a hope that his audience would treat them with their merited contempt. In conclusion, he lamented that those majestic hills and lovely dales which gave them birth should be tainted with the foul breath of Protestantism—that heresy should exert its baneful influence for the overthrow of that religion which should be as firm as the mountain at whose base they were congregated.

When the candidates for confirmation were arranged in proper order, Dr. M'Hale, arrayed in his episcopal robes, advanced from the sanctuary, and surveyed the audience with an austere gravity which was evidently assumed to produce the greater effect. The sterner dignity of his features certainly furnished a strong contrast with the servile grovelling of some of the hearers. It was really sickening to witness the feeling of stupid awe with which some benighted individuals, particularly the female portion of the congregation, gazed upon this deluded and deluding mortal. He then proceeded to address them on the nature of the obligations which they were about to incur by the rite of confirmation. He called "heaven and earth, the sun, sea, and mountains by which they were surrounded, and God Himself, whom they were about to receive in that sacrament, to witness the declaration which they were about to make," which was—An unconditional abjuration of Protestantism; to resist all efforts to seduce them from the faith of their forefathers, and to withdraw their children from the schools; at the same time he exhorted any that had not come there with the determination of adhering to the declaration which they were about to make, to leave the capital, that he or his colleagues would not detain them. After discharging for some time upon the beauty and stability of the Church of Rome, he resorted to his favourite topic—the Protestant schools. He drew a nice line of distinction between them and the National schools, comparing the latter to a polluted stream, of which a man could not drink without incurring contamination; while he compared the former to a stagnant, noxious pool, a contact with which was certain death. He explained his conviction of the power and tendency of Protestant principles by the following appropriate illustration. That "if a woman were to throw garlic or poison into her churn, though she should afterwards wash and scour it, still the churn would retain for a long period the offensive smell of the one and the destructive properties of the other; in the same manner, if those young minds be now imbued with Protestant doctrines, though they should hereafter be received into the mother church, the poison of heresy will still cling to them, and may ultimately hinder their eternal salvation." He concluded by exhorting them to live in peace and amity with all men; and promising them schools, where, as from a pure fountain, their children might drink in draughts of true knowledge, unmingled with heretical doctrine. He also intimated his intention of visiting this Island every year, as "there exists a great necessity that he should take care of the flock for which (quoting Ezekiel xxxiii. 7.) he considered himself responsible to God.

We cannot conclude this paragraph without remarking that the recent visit of Dr. M'Hale has considerably strengthened our conviction that Popery has received its death-blow in this district. There must be a shaking in its rotten foundations, or the blasphemously entitled "Lion of the fold of Judah" would never have assumed the defensive.

On Monday morning, at a very early hour, when scarcely any one was stirring in the island, Dr. M'Hale recrossed Achill Sound, evidently anxious to quit a locality which supplied so many painful reminiscences of the waning of that power which he has too long been permitted to usurp over our deluded countrymen.—*Achill Missionary Herald.*

Dr. M'Hale has been declared the purchaser of the townland of Bunachurry in this Island. The design of such a purchase is sufficiently manifest.—*ib.*

Just as we were going to press we received the *Tablet* of the 20th instant, in which it is gravely stated that we attempted to hinder Dr. M'Hale from entering the Island, "by force of arms;" that "our attitude was so warlike, and our force so overpowering, that the Archbishop in Christian prudence forbore to force a passage." We need hardly say that this is a pure unmitigated falsehood, without the shadow of a fact to rest upon. But how does Dr. M'Hale intend to meet the armed force which disputes his passage into Achill. Is it by applying to Lord Clarendon for an additional body of police; No, but he is going to build a monas-

tery on the land which he has purchased in Achill, in which he will place a number of Christian Brethren.—Franciscan Monks, and Sisters of Charity. The writer in the *Tablet* announces such to be his intention, trusting in "God and his Holy Mother" for success. Well, we shall encounter the Monks with the only weapon of our warfare, the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"—and our motto shall be as ever before—"The Lord of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge, therefore will we not fear."—*ib.*

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP "AMERICA."

New York, August 28.

The *America* arrived at Halifax yesterday evening with Liverpool dates to the 17th.

The British Parliament has been prorogued by the Queen.

Jenny Lind was singing to crowded houses at Liverpool, and was to have sailed for New York in the *Atlantic* on the 21st inst.

The *Asia* arrived at Liverpool at 7½ o'clock on Saturday, A.M., the 17th, after a very quick passage, one of the shortest on record.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY, AUGUST 15.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

This was the last day of the session which commenced on Thursday, the 31st of January.

The doors of the House of Lords were opened at twelve o'clock to the fortunate possessors of the privilege of *entree*. Even previously to that hour a long line of carriages extended from the Peers' door far up Parliament street, and a number of peeresses and other ladies were waiting in the passage which skirts the south western corner of the building.

The House rapidly filled with ladies who occupied the whole of the body of the apartment, excepting only the two front rows of seats, and the places reserved for the ambassadors. The strangers' gallery and the galleries which run from end to end were also entirely occupied by ladies. The two excepted rows were appropriated to the peers.

As the hour advanced, the aspect of the magnificent chamber became most imposing. Its own splendour of gold, carving, and colours, its array of statues, and paintings, and stained glass, seemed at once to assume an appropriateness, when surrounding that brilliant assemblage which the eye, at least, fails to recognise during the ordinary scanty attendance of plainly dressed noblemen met for purposes of business. For the stately formality of this day the House of Lords seemed expressly designed. In poured the female aristocracy of the land, in the choicest attire that fancy and fashion could prescribe. An interesting group came next; the Duke of Wellington, in the uniform of his high rank, entered between his two daughters-in-law, whom he conducted with careful courtesy. Then, one by one, came the various envoys of foreign courts.—The whole world was represented upon the seats to the right of the throne. There glittered the various military dresses of the nations of Christendom; and there literally blazed the ambassadors of the east.—Lastly, the peers themselves in scarlet and ermine, lined the assemblage, and a few officers completed the picture, with shining cuirasses, white plumes, and rich epaulets.

Shortly a procession entered at the door to the right of the throne—red beefeaters and gold maces; and then the Sword of State, borne by the Duke of Wellington, and the Crown of England, and other emblems. Then came the Queen wearing a tiara, and a magnificent robe, supported by pages. Prince Albert, in his field-marshal's uniform, took his station on her Majesty's left as the Queen seated herself upon the throne.

The Peers having seated themselves, at the command of her Majesty, and the Commons having been summoned, a noise was heard, with cries of "Order," "order," without, and the sound of a crowd hurrying along a passage. Instantly, the faithful Commons, headed by the Speaker, advanced to the bar—their hurry and heat and struggle contrasting with the calm and orderly scene into which they had rushed.

The Speaker then addressed her Most Gracious Majesty, stating that her Commons had been labouring, in accordance with the direction of her gracious speech on opening the session. They had passed an Australian Colonies Bill, which was to invest those colonies with the power, subject to her Majesty's approval, of providing themselves with a representative Government adopted to their wants, and he expressed a hope that such measure would promote the development of the vast resources of Australia. They had passed a Mercantile Marine Bill, and a Parliamentary Franchise for Ireland Bill, and they had, among other measures, with a reference to which he would not trouble her Majesty, contrived to reduce taxation while providing adequate supplies for the exigencies of the nation. He then prayed her Majesty's assent to the Consolidated Fund Bill, and to other measures.

The officer of the House signified the royal assent to the measures in question, and the old Norman French was heard in accents to which the audience were little accustomed. The Chancellor then presented her Majesty with the royal speech; and the Queen, with a precision of articulation which permitted every word to be heard to the remotest corner of the building, delivered the speech as follows:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I have the satisfaction of being able to release you from the duties of a laborious session. The assiduity and care with which you have applied yourselves to the business which required your attention merit my cordial approbation.

"The act for the better government of my Australian colonies will, I trust, improve the condition of those rising communities. It will always be gratifying to me to be able to extend the advantages of representative institutions, which form the glory and happiness of my people, to colonies inhabited by men who are capable of exercising, with benefit to themselves, the privileges of freedom.

"It has afforded me great satisfaction to give my assent to the act which you have passed for the improvement of the merchant naval service of this country. It is, I trust, calculated to promote the welfare of every class connected with this essential branch of the national interest.

"The Act for the gradual Discontinuance of Interments within the Limits of the Metropolis is in conformity with those enlightened views which have for their object the improvement of the public health. I shall watch with interest the progress of measures relating to this important subject.

"I have given my cordial assent to the Act for the Extension of the Elective Franchise in Ireland. I look to the most beneficial consequences from a measure which has been framed with a view to give my

people in Ireland a fair participation in the benefits of our representative system.

"I have observed, with the greatest interest and satisfaction, the measures which have been adopted with a view to the improvement of the administration of justice in various departments, and I confidently anticipate they will be productive of much public convenience and advantage.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"The improvement of the revenue, and the large reductions which have been made in various branches of expenditure, have tended to give to our financial condition stability and security. I am happy to find that you have been enabled to relieve my subjects from some of the burdens of taxation, without impairing the sufficiency of our resources to meet the charges imposed upon them.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I am encouraged to hope that the treaty between Germany and Denmark, which has been concluded at Berlin under my meditation, may lead, at no distant period, to the restoration of peace in the North of Europe. No endeavour shall be wanting on my part to secure the attainment of this great blessing.

"I continue to maintain the most friendly relations with foreign powers, and I trust, that nothing may occur to disturb the general peace.

"I have reason to be thankful for the loyalty and attachment of my people; and while I am studious to preserve and improve our institutions, I rely upon the goodness of Almighty God to favor my efforts, and to guide the destinies of this nation."

The Chancellor then received back the Speech, and with it an intimation from her Majesty, in accordance with which he announced that Parliament was prorogued until the 15th October.

Her Majesty then retired, and in a few minutes the thunder of the guns announced to London that the session of 1850 was over.

By a report of her Majesty's Commissioners of Railways for 1849, we learn that accidents decrease, even absolutely and without reference to the increase of passengers carried; those dependent on causes beyond the control of the passengers were one-third less in 1749 than in 1848, though the passengers conveyed—63,841,539—were ten per cent. more than in 1848.

The *Chronicle* of the 7th Aug., announces that the Pope has conferred by diploma the degree of Doctor in Divinity on the Rev. J. H. Newman.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.—The Assembly was prorogued on the 10th inst., and ministers have now all things their own way. Most of the members have left Paris, and altogether though more peaceful, Paris is less gay than it was some months ago. Previously to separating, the Mountain presented the public with their promised report on the parliamentary proceedings of the session. This document has become the great topic of the day. It is drawn up in a style remarkably free from the common defects of inflation and violence. It is signed by sixty-eight members. In some respects the President has not been so fortunate in his present as in his late tour. At Lyons the people were worse than apathetic: there was no address—no public rejoicings—the town council refused the supplies for his suit. Under date of Paris, Thursday, it is stated that since the President left Lyons his progress has been satisfactory, and impartial reports declare that public feeling generally is decidedly in his favour. A telegraphic despatch from Paris on Friday, contains similar advices.

Accounts from the provinces state that the weather is exceedingly wet, and unfavourable for harvesting, in consequence of which there had been an advance of 2s. 6d the sack.

The commerce of Paris still continues to progress favourably. The manufacturers have sufficient orders to occupy all their hands, while some branches find a difficulty in procuring operatives to supply the demand.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.—One account from head-quarters represents that a slight engagement had taken place on the 8th. It was a mere affair of outposts, though at first it was supposed the whole Danish line was in motion. The attack on the part of the Danes was precipitated on account of an explosion of the laboratory of the artillery of General Willisen, by which there was a great loss of life and property—91 persons, killed by the explosion, have been buried, and 35 wounded, some severely, and 11 put down as missing. Many bodies were so mangled that they could not be identified. Twenty-two cadets of the artillery school are among the killed. Scarcely a house in the town has escaped from the concussion. The effect of the catastrophe on the public mind has been very depressing. About noon on Thursday, the day on which the explosion took place, the Danish General advanced large bodies of men to the very verge of the right-wing of the Schleswig-Holstein position. The latter retreated to the main body, behind the bridge, and a sharp struggle ensued, which gradually extended itself along the right wing, to the eastward, as far as Davenstedt. It lasted for some hours. The Danes out numbered the Schleswig-Holsteiners, but the latter advanced upon the Danes with fixed bayonets, and, with loud hurrahs, drove them from their shelter.—The Danes fled in such a hurry that they left behind their killed and wounded, which is, with them, a most unusual circumstance.

From Copenhagen it is stated that the King of Denmark, amid all the broil and trouble, has been pursuing his usual amours and dissipations, and that a *denouement* has been made of his clandestine marriage with a lively and fascinating young dress-maker of that city.

GERMANY.—Dates from Hamburg of the 13th, state that it has been determined to remove the Department of War from Kiel to Rendsburg. Intelligence from the seat of war, is to the effect that a cessation of hostilities has taken place between the belligerent parties, and that negotiations were on foot at Schleswig between the English and French and Russian envoys, in order to end the effusion of blood.

RUSSIA.—From St. Petersburg and Cracow we learn that the population of those places were actively engaged in repairing their respective cities from the effects of the late conflagration. The damage done has been found to be greater than at first reported.

AUSTRIA.—The news from Austria presents but little of interest. The court of Vienna appears to be struggling how to gain a preponderance in German affairs, but without success.

The butcher Haynau had retired from the Austrian dominions, to join the traitor Csergey in his exile.

ROMAN STATES.—It is said the whole of the great powers recommend the Pope to grant a constitution to the States of the Church, on the model of one Austria has recently granted the Lombard Venetian Kingdom.

Nothing of interest from Spain, Portugal, or the rest of the Continent.