

without very serious consideration, to strong assertions of doctrine, and he would feel Mr. Denison's present position to be not only unpleasant, but unfair. He might naturally be reluctant to recant, as he could hope to defend himself. But then what is he to do? His chance of success rests on an appeal; and before he can appeal from the sentence it must be passed. If passed, however, he will be deprived, and, by the Act of Parliament, even a recantation after sentence will not save him. It is, therefore, impossible to try the result of an appeal, with all those "forensic" chances on which Mr. Keeble so unhappily reckoned as not unlikely to prevent any decision, and which English law affords in such abundance, without taking his chance of being finally and irrevocably deprived if the appeal should be unsuccessful. For his own sake, we sincerely trust that Mr. Denison is too deeply sensible of the importance of the subject to save himself by a recantation, if nothing else were left for him; but to a man otherwise minded the position would be a perplexing one.

THE UNIVERSE ANSWERS THE TIMES. (From the New York Citizen.)

An article in the London *Times* in reply to the *Verona Gazette* which told the thunder to turn his attention to Ireland and not to mind Naples, has called out an answer from Jules Gondon of the *Paris Univers*, from which we make some extracts, as follows:—

"Have the Neapolitan States ever known the misery, poverty, and agony of Ireland? Without going back to past ages—without recalling the fearful condition of the people after the Conquest, or the religious persecutions, has our generation not been a witness of periodical famines, which exhibited to Europe the horrible picture of the Irish population literally dying of famine? England, it is true, imposed on itself a few sacrifices to soften the rigours of the plague; but Ireland nevertheless saw its sons perish by hundreds of thousands. The unfortunate creatures who died of hunger were found on the high roads, the by ways, the towns and their suburbs.

Is there in Italy—is there in the kingdom of Naples—any portion of territory whose inhabitants have been seen thus to fly their mother country, to roam beyond the ocean in quest of a hospitable soil? The Irish emigrate to America to escape the oppression which still to this day, and at the very time we are writing, weighs heavily upon their countrymen. For a considerable portion of the Irish people the concessions made to the ideas of liberty have had no other result than that of letting them die on their native soil, or of constraining them to expatriate themselves. Yes; the *Times* is right in saying that the King of Naples has not followed towards his subjects the policy of which the sovereigns of England have furnished an example.

The *Times* acknowledges that the Catholics of Ireland have been persecuted! Its readers ought to have been astonished at this avowal; and yet ought they not to feel still more surprised that this journal should cite the discontinuance of persecution as a proof of generosity. What concessions, forsooth, to the ideas of liberty! Who will dare to doubt the liberal sentiments of the British Government? For the last three centuries a religious persecution the most sanguinary and barbarous has raged in Ireland; and all that can be said is, that during the last 25 years England no longer acts the cut-throat towards Catholics, their priests are no longer banished, and their children are permitted to receive the education from which they were previously excluded. The cry is no longer heard in England that it is absolutely necessary to exterminate the Irish to a man, rather than permit Catholicism to exist there; and yet in all this, no one will admire British generosity!

England no longer sheds Catholic blood in Ireland, but persecution has not ceased. Is the baneful existence of a Protestant Church in a Catholic country not an act of permanent persecution? Does not the Anglican Establishment in Ireland retain possession of the property of the Catholic? Are not six millions of Irish Catholics obliged to provide by various taxes for the support of the Protestant clergy? After having thus borne the burden which the State Church has imposed on it are not Catholics obliged to provide for the wants of their own Church? Have they not to support their bishops, their priests, their religious houses? Have they not to educate their children, and maintain their poor, whilst the State liberally supplies all these wants for a bare million of Protestants, scattered over the country? Active persecution may have been transmuted into legal oppression; but the Catholic finds himself exposed to that persecution face to face in the principal circumstances of life. Whilst a child, if he frequents a public school, he is hindered from making the sign of the cross, and continual attempts are made to substitute the reading of the Protestant Bible in lieu of his Church's prayers.

Of a share in the national representation, it is true, the Neapolitan is deprived, and he appears contented that public affairs should be carried on without his having to take part in their cares. But what are in reality the great advantages which Ireland derives from the honour of sitting in Parliament, since she cannot contrive to shake off the oppression which overwhelms her? It is then to be apprehended that if she had not a voice in the councils of the nation she would, thanks to the liberal and generous spirit of England, be much worse treated than she is? In this point of view she really gained something in 1829. But does she not voluntarily give her seats in Parliament on the condition of seeing an end put to her religious oppressions, and of entering into the full enjoyment of all the liberties which England reserves for itself exclusively?

Is there then in the condition of Ireland, taken altogether, such as we have described it, anything to excite the envy of the Neapolitan? Is it not rather Ireland that envies the condition of the latter? The arrogance of the *Times* has raised even in Ireland itself a general indignation, and the people would be delighted to consider as serious the ironical invitation addressed to the King of Naples, requesting him to convey through his

Ambassador in London councils favourable to Ireland.

A ROLAND FOR AN OLIVER IN REPLY TO THE "TIMES."

The argument based on the condition of Ireland in answer to the councils of amelioration given to the Italian Governments is, therefore, just and correct. England has felt all its force and application, and it is on this account the *Times* is so wrathful. It is because the contrast shown between the condition of the Italian States and that of Ireland has produced in Europe an echo which galls England; that her journals have sought to give a different turn to public opinion by directing it to another point, by raising other questions, and by indulging in new criminations. It is for the purpose of stifling that echo of opinion that the *Times* is all at once seized with so lively a sympathy for the State exiles of Cayenne, and that it is so deeply affected at their position and the discipline to which they have been subjected. It is to make us forget Ireland that the *Times* entertains us with

"The atrocities which are committed at Spielberg, in the dungeons of Montean, Verona, Pesth, and the several other fortresses in which cruelties are daily practised at which human nature revolts."

It is to turn our eyes from the oppression of the Irish who, according to the *Examiner* are the negroes of England, that the *Times* pretends to assert that—

"Lombardy is in chains, that Hungary is depopulated, and Bohemia tortured by the most revolting religious persecutions."

And, in fine, that England has not, according to the *Times*,

"In the middle age of its history, pages so dark as that their horror has not been surpassed by the Austrian Government for some years past."

The tactics of the *Times* will not, however, gain their object. In spite of its abusive declamation we bring it back to the point at which we set out. That journal would make a better use of its talents, if it seriously called the attention of the English Government to the anomalies and inequities which shock the observer who studies with impartiality the condition of India and Ireland.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CONSECRATION OF ST. MEL'S CATHEDRAL LONGFORD.—The splendid Cathedral of St. Mel, the patron saint of the diocese of Ardagh, erected at Longford, was consecrated and opened for its holy purposes on Wednesday the 24th ult., with a degree of solemnity and grandeur rarely witnessed in this country. It was, in truth, an ecclesiastical event full of deep interest, and was attended by circumstances remarkable for their significance, even in this Catholic land; for no less than sixteen prelates, two of them archbishops, about 200 other dignitaries and clergy, comprising representatives from six dioceses, and nearly 18,000 persons of all ranks and conditions assisted at the ceremony. A more signal manifestation of the religious zeal and fervid piety of a people—no matter in what respect the proceedings are considered—could scarcely be afforded. The temple consecrated to the worship of the Almighty on this occasion is one of the largest and most imposing of modern ecclesiastical structures in Ireland, and is possessed of very considerable architectural beauty, especially in the interior. The enormous sum already expended upon it, £30,000, has been cheerfully contributed by a Catholic population, whose zeal and glory of God seems no expense, however large, sufficient for the decoration of His house; and when the day arrived on which the impressive ceremony of blessing and consecrating this noble pile should take place, the people who had so long labored for this result, and had so fondly looked forward to its realization, congregated in vast multitudes from the most distant parts of the diocese, to join with their bishops and priests in praying the Lord to accept this habitation, to dwell therein, and sanctify it by his presence.

RATING OF CONVENTS FOR COUNTY CESS.—At the petty sessions of Parsonstown, pursuant to orders from the grand jury, Mr. David Davis, collector of the county cess for the barony of Ballybritt, summoned Mrs. Susan Egan, the Superioress of the Convent of Mercy, Parsonstown, for neglecting and refusing to pay £1 9s. 11d. county cess, assessed upon the convent, land, and premises, according to Griffith's last revised valuation. Mr. Mitchell appeared for the grand jury and their collector. Mr. Cooke for the defendant. The valuation and appointment books were produced, from which it appeared that the only portion of the premises assessed were those occupied as a residence by the nuns, and the land attached thereto, and that the parts of it appropriated to religious and charitable education were amongst the exceptions. Mr. Mitchell contended that the only exemptions were buildings solely appropriated to religion and education, and that this could not be predicated of the private residence of the nuns, or of the land attached to the residence, and used as a garden or farm. In reply, Mr. Cooke at much length spoke of the Sisters of Mercy as having devoted their whole lives to dispensing charity, and giving education to the poor, and that the mere apartments occupied by them while so engaged were not liable to be rated, and cited several English authorities in support of this view. Mr. Mitchell in reply, submitted that the rating could not be altered by the court—the right of appeal having passed against the valuation. The magistrates said that they were of opinion that they ought not alter the rating, and pronounced a decree for the amount of cess sought to be recovered in respect to the convent premises, with two shillings and sixpence costs. Mr. Cooke intimated his intention of appealing to the quarter sessions against this decision. This question is of much importance since increase of conventional buildings in Ireland, and has been the subject of frequent discussion at the meetings of bodies possessing powers for local taxation, such as Grand Juries, Poor-law Boards, and Towns' Commissioners.

MISSION OF THE JESUIT FATHERS AT KILLALOE.—This great mission is working wondrous good results. The Missionaries are the Very Rev. Father Healy, the Rev. Father Porteus, the Rev. Father Kyan, the Rev. Father Roman. They are assisted by about twenty priests from the immediate parish and the neighbouring districts. The mission was opened by the Very Rev. Dr. Healy. The Lord Bishop of the diocese (the Right Rev. Dr. Vaughan) the Pastor, the Very Rev. Dr. Power, the Rev. Mr. Connellan, O.C., the Rev. Mr. Hayes, O.C., were in attendance. There was Grand High Mass, most effective sermon, and Benediction by the Bishop. Mass is celebrated at six o'clock each morning; confessions commence at seven o'clock; the Community Mass at eight o'clock, and sermon by Dr. Healy. Confessions again are heard till half-past twelve o'clock, when a sermon is preached by Father Roman, and confessions are resumed till half-past four o'clock p.m. Rosary is said at seven o'clock p.m., and a sermon by Father Porteus. At eight o'clock p.m. there is Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. On Sunday last, the Feast of the Seven Dolours, there was a magnificent procession, which was attended by all the children of the parish beautifully dressed in white. Immense

crowds attend every day, not only from the ancient town and parish, but from the country around. On Sunday next there is to be a grand procession also. The mission is to continue until next Sunday week. —*Limerick Reporter.*

DEATH OF THE DOWAGER LADY O'BRIEN.—We have to announce the death on Saturday last of this estimable lady, at the seat of her son, Lord Inchiquin, Dromoland Castle, County Clare. She was also mother of William Smith O'Brien, Esq., to whom the death of his honored and venerated parent at a very advanced age, reverts an increase to his income from the family estate of about £3,000 per annum, she having enjoyed a life interest in the Cahernoy estate of something over that amount, and which was strictly settled on him and his heirs after her demise. The deceased lady met with an accident, by a fall, about ten days since, from which she received a severe hurt in the head, from the effects of which she never rallied, though retaining her senses to the last. —*Limerick Observer.*

GEORGE H. MOORE, ESQ., M.P.—We are given to understand that a requisition is in progress inviting George Henry Moore, Esq., M.P., for this county, to a public dinner at Castlebar, during the course of next month, as an humble acknowledgment for his undaunted valor in defence of the people and their rights in the House of Commons. It is but just that while Limerick is hailing with cheerfulness the return from exile of her faithful son, William Smith O'Brien—Carlisle listening to the twaddle of her representative, Sir J. Graham, and Liverpool inviting the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, and her *quondam* representative, the Hon. W. E. Gladstone—that Mayo—Independent, patriotic Mayo—though in the opinion of the Earl of Huntingdon, a "den of savages"—should evince her gratitude to her truly patriotic and noble member—to one who has stood firm amid the desertion of friends, on the right and the left; to the cause of Ireland—to one who, like a watchful pilot, has warned the vessel which he is steering of the breakers ahead. We, indeed, feel an inexpressible delight in being the first to announce to our readers the anticipated welcome to George Henry Moore, Esq., the truly patriotic and Independent M.P. for the county of Mayo. —*Mayo Telegraph.*

THE DEFENCES.—Active preparations have been for some time in progress for the extension, on a large scale, of the barracks in Ship street, in close proximity to the Castle of Dublin. At present these buildings barely afford accommodation to the headquarters of a regiment of infantry, and are hemmed in on two sides by the old houses in Stephen street, and by the more modern ones in South Great George's street. Those in the former locality are already in process of demolition, and it is said that the Government are in treaty for the purchase of the latter, but as there are several large mercantile establishments to be dealt with (including the monster house of the Messrs. Pim), a long time may elapse before the whole of the contemplated arrangements can be carried into effect. It is believed that the barracks, when ever completed, will be occupied by the greater portion of the Artillery force, forming part of the garrison of Dublin. The Duke of Cambridge, while in Ireland, is reported to have been the originator of this project, which, if carried out according to His Royal Highness's conception, would not only be a vast improvement to the city in an architectural point of view, but would calm the apprehensions of such as may look with alarmed eyes upon the present undoubtedly defenceless state of Her Majesty's Castle of Dublin, and the seat of the Irish Government.

IRISH TALENT.—We have much pleasure in stating that at the general examinations held at the Pontifical College, Rome, on the 4th of September, Mr. George Conroy, son of Nicholas Conroy, Esq., Droiskin, in this county, obtained four first premiums for proficiency in Theology and Sacred Scripture, and a gold medal, a distinction reserved for superior merit only. The Irish scholars of the present day fully sustain the high literary reputation which their countrymen enjoyed in the schools of Europe upwards of a thousand years ago. —*Newry Examiner.*

Another large nugget of gold has been found in Wicklow by the same parties who were fortunate enough to make a similar discovery a few weeks since. The present one is said to weigh 2lb. of pure, clean gold, and was found in the claystone rock. The names of the lucky finders, according to a letter in the *Freeman's Journal*, are John Regan, Garret Kelly, and Michael Byrne.

THE IRISH POOR LAW.—In the Fermoy Union, in the worst period of the famine, the numbers relieved in the workhouse, or rather workhouses, of Fermoy amounted to upwards of 5,000, while the guardians, on outdoor relief, supported 13,000 paupers, making a total of 18,000 human beings dependant on the poor-rates for their existence. The number at present receiving relief in the Fermoy Union amounts to 261, and of those a large proportion are hospital patients. We cannot tell precisely what the population of the Fermoy Union was at the time of the famine, but in 1851 it amounted to 44,951, and, though, no doubt, the people suffered during those years, though not nearly in the same degree as in other unions, still it is evident that a mass of pauperism, scattered over the union, and numbering 18,000 individuals, bore an overwhelming proportion to the ratepayers of the union. In the town itself, where 5,000 destitute found a refuge, each ratepayer outside the house, and resident in the town, was represented by a pauper inside. A contrast more striking could scarcely be afforded than the report read at the board of guardians of Fermoy on Wednesday, when the number in the house amounted to 261, and the guardians had a balance of £1,468 5s. 11d. to their credit in the bank, exclusive of a loan of £500, to the commissioners. —*Cork Examiner.*

A CRIMINAL SOLDIER.—There passed through this city, on Monday, on his way to Bunkill, a man named Denis Homan, who bore on his body the visible marks of war. Some eleven years ago he worked in this office as a compositor, and was a steady well-behaved lad; but not having a taste for the business he vowed "a soldiering he would go." Since then he was chiefly on foreign service with his regiment, the 34th, and embarked with it to the Crimea, where he was engaged at Inkermann and at the unfortunate attack on Sebastopol on the 18th of June. It was in this latter he fell, having received four gun shot wounds in the limbs which have totally disabled him for life. As to their eagerness for the fray he informs us that while firing in close quarters they could discharge three shots for our one never drawing the ramrod, but merely knocking the butts of their muskets to the ground after putting in the cartridge. While he was lying on the field, being faint with the loss of blood, he inquired of a comrade lying near, who had lost both arms by a round shot, if he had any water, and replying that he had, Homan was trying to crawl over to get at the canteen, but the Russians observing the movement sent a rifle shot at him which lodged in his comrade's head and settled him for ever. Homan has got a pension of 1s 4d a day, and seems contented with his lot. —*Armagh Guardian.*

We learn from a correspondent, says a Dublin journal, that on the corner of the jury, who brought in a verdict of "manslaughter" only against the Orangeman who murdered the young Catholic near Lurgan, was one man, at the hands of whose father several years ago, the grandfather of the deceased Catholic met his death in a similar manner.

COST OF ASSIZE PROSECUTION.—On Monday it was stated at the police office that the prosecution of Conroy, in the case of the Blarney murder, had cost the country £3,000; and a post-office case, where the value of the property stolen was about a penny, cost £200. —*Cork Constitution.*

The decrease of crime in Ireland during the last year may be inferred from the official return now published (and which extends to every County) exhibiting a falling of no less than 2,776 persons as compared with 1854.

THE POTATO ALWAYS UNCERTAIN.—The potato was introduced into Ireland and was becoming comparatively well known about the middle of the seventeenth century. It was in more recent times, however, that it was universally adopted, especially in Ulster, the province so largely peopled by the Scotch. It was within the memory of people still living that an intelligent Scotch labourer learnt the plan of growing potatoes and of cooking them so that they should be palatable; and he made a little fortune, upon which he passed the remainder of his days, by fees paid to him for imparting the instruction. Before his day the Scotch rejected the vegetable, as a nasty, wet, unpalatable, and useless article of food. The uncertainty of the crop has been known almost as long as the potato itself. So early as 1629-30, when there was a dearth in England, according to a writer in the *Philosophical Transactions*, the potatoes were a relief to Ireland probably in their last famine; they yielded meat and drink. But by whatever alias we call the root—whether, as in Virginia, "openawk," or in Anglo-Irish jargon, "solamun, tuberosum," or in Anglo-Irish of various periods, "potatoe," "potado," "patatee," "pratie," "patata," or "phottie," the root has invariably been very precarious. In Scotland the adoption belongs almost to our own day. It may have baulked the soldiers of Cromwell, because it was buried underground, and they could not extirpate it so readily as they could have cut and carried growing corn. But if the potato was clever at deceiving the "proud invader," it has been quite as clever a traitor in deceiving the Irish themselves. So early as 1730-40, we hear of a great destruction of the potato by severe and long continued frost, after a wet summer and autumn. In 1741, the people were cautioned against eating potatoes, as they were believed to be diseased, and they produced disease in men. There were failures again in 1765, when potatoes were scarce and small, as they were in 1826; in 1770, when there was the "curl," a disease in the leaves; and in 1775, when Arthur Young found the people sprinkling their land with lime, to prevent the "black rot." There is, indeed, reason to believe that the black rot was the same that we have witnessed in our own day. As time advances, the failure becomes more frequent. In 1784 the potato was called "spuggaun," from its diseased softness. There were failures again through excessive wet or excessive drought in 1795 and 1800 (the curl); in 1802, freezing of "the sets" in the ground; 1807, frost; 1809, the curl; 1811, excessive wet, 1812, failure of the plants; 1816, "the black rot"; 1817, scarcity; 1820, inundations; 1821, rot and "souring" in some places; 1825, scarcity and high price; 1829, excessive wet; 1833, potato failure, with famine and pestilence; 1832, epidemic in the potato; 1833, the curl; and probably the "rot"; 1834, a partial failure; 1835-6, a scarcity; 1838, general remarks on "inherent constitutional weakness" and deterioration 1839, "black rot." In 1839-42 there were failures also in the Island of Arran and Scottish Highlands; a "dry gangrene" of the potato in Germany. After these dates, we have, between 1841 and '21, more or less of unfavorable seasons every year, with partial or local failures in the three subsequent years. The total failure and famine of '46 is in the memory of everybody. This mere recital of dates is sufficient to show how impossible it is to depend upon the potato as the staple of food for a nation. We are not, indeed, to suppose that the Irishman will instantly relinquish a root which is, in many respects, so immediately convenient; but a complete knowledge of its untrustworthy character will assist in removing it from the false position of being the staple upon which the whole body of the people is to rely, and will restore it to its proper place as an auxiliary amongst other vegetables for the table.

A number of the admirers of the honest and independent journalism in Belfast have resolved to mark their repudiation of the temporising and West British servility of many pseudo National Journals, as well as their approval of consistency and patriotism by presenting a testimonial to Mr. Holland, editor of the *Ulsterman*, a paper which, we do not hesitate to say, has ever been a faithful guardian of popular rights in the northern provinces. This is equally creditable to those who give and him who receives. The duties of an Irish journalist are arduous; if he have the courage to be honest there are many discouragements, and, save the approval of his conscience, few incentives to rectitude. —*Nation.*

Considerable sensation has been created in Dublin by an announcement that the Baron de Roebeck, son-in-law of the late Lord Cloncurry, had been missing since the previous evening from his residence, near the village of Leixlip, about eight or nine miles from Dublin, and that there was every reason to believe that the unfortunate gentleman had been drowned in the river Liffey, which runs almost close to the door of his residence. Nothing positive could be ascertained up to an advanced hour on Thursday; although every endeavor was made to discover the body, the river having been dragged the whole way from Leixlip to the quays of Dublin, but without any result. For some time past the Baron has exhibited symptoms of insanity.

A FASHIONABLE IMPORTER.—Our readers may remember that some time ago a female named Catherine McCarthy, who appeared to have been respectably brought up, and possessed many accomplishments, was tried and convicted before the recorder of having obtained goods under false pretences, by forging the names of several respectable parties to contracts with traders of the city. Shortly after, a fashionably-dressed lady, of good deportment and perfect address, called on the recorder, expressed a great interest in the convicted female, expressed a desire to take her under her protection, at the same time plausibly commenting on the weakness of human nature, as an excuse for her pretended protegee, and calling his worship's attention to the fact that all the children of God fell at some time or another. She gave her name as Miss Beresford, and her appearance and conversation were those of a well-educated lady; but his worship cautiously abstained from taking any immediate steps in the case, and referred her to Mr. McCarthy, the crown prosecutor. To that gentleman she went, repeated her story, and besought him to remember David, Solomon, and other celebrated Scriptural characters had fallen, but the functionality of the law interrupted her by the very professional reminder that there were no Crown prosecutors in those days. The lady then commenced to speak of Lady Bantry and other aristocratic acquaintances, and promised that if Catherine McCarthy were allowed out she would send her to Australia; and, after some further remarks to the same effect, she left, stating that she would call again. Mr. McCarthy, however, deemed it prudent to make inquiries, the result of which was that the pretended Miss Beresford appeared to be no other than the sister of the convicted female, and doubtless had shared in the fruits of her frauds. He however, heard no more of the matter until Thursday last, when, as he was attending to some proceedings in the police court, he was informed that a lady wished to see him in the magistrate's room, and on going in he found his former visitor there. Having obtained the presence of a magistrate, and induced the lady to repeat her statement, which she did with many biblical embellishments, the crown prosecutor then informed her that the entire tissue of falsehoods which she had attempted to pass on the authorities had been thoroughly sifted, and the confounded and astonished lady importer was then placed under the surveillance of Head-Constable Crowley. —*Cork Reporter.*

MURDER AT SPIKE ISLAND.—A turnkey, named John Reddy, employed in the convict depot of Spike Island, was savagely murdered in one of the cells, on Friday evening, the 26th. He had incurred the enmity of one of the convicts named Power, a native of Waterford, who had been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude for cow stealing; and when visiting the cell in which, Power and two other convicts were confined in question, he was set upon, and killed on the spot. It appears that Power struck him on the head with a piece of iron taken from the bed, and one of the other convicts also beat him after he fell.

Those who believe that the concord between the Government and the Emperor, and that of her Britannic Majesty's vessel, dispatched under nature, were not far from every week disclosing something calculated to make a breach between ourselves and our august ally. The exploits of O'Donnell in Spain are encouraged by Napoleon, they are not approved by England. The British Minister appears anxious to dispatch a fleet to the Bay of Naples, to intimidate the King, and perhaps excite revolution among his subjects. Napoleon hesitates to commit himself to so decisive a step. English fanaticism is anxious to interfere in Italy, that a pretext may somehow or other occur for disturbing the Pope's authority. England believes the King of Naples is a weak prince, a fact not quite certain as he has a tolerably large fleet, and she thinks he can be bullied with impunity. Of course it is all a demonstration in favour of "constitutional freedom." British rule in India and in Ireland has been so exquisitely just and merciful, that there is no reason why its managers should not have their hands in King Ferdinand's dish! It may be that the King of Naples treats his people badly—though on this point we cannot accept the statement of English correspondents—but those who take on themselves to arrange between them ought to have good characters as arbitrators. When Smith O'Brien called on Lamartine in 1848, to assist him in his efforts to rescue Ireland from the hands of a power under which 2,000,000 of people perished, great was the indignation of the English authorities at the bare idea of the French Government interfering in such a case, and when Lamartine's reply appeared, it was posted up at every Police Barrack in Ireland to damp the ardour of Young Ireland. Whether at present such an agreement exists, time will tell. In addition to the matters we have mentioned, there is the question of the Isle of Serpents, of which Russia claims possession, and while England and Turkey stoutly demand, France we are told "will pursue a more reserved policy." The language of a Paris paper the *Constitutionnel*, is a little remarkable. "It is erroneous," it says, "to regard the English alliance as popular in France; it was the Emperor much more than France who first wished for it." And the Emperor, be assured of it, had his own ends in view, and will see them out, if he live. —*Wexford People.*

THE LATE STORM.—A severe storm arose last week on Friday evening, 26th ult., and lasted until the morning of Monday. Much damage has been done to the shipping around the coast, and probably we have more to learn. On Monday the bodies of several seamen were washed ashore near Skerries. They are supposed to be those of the crew of a schooner wrecked on Sunday near that point. At Bangor, on the coast of Down, the schooner Martin, of Larne, was wrecked on Saturday. The master and a passenger were drowned. The mate came on shore on a barrel, and the other two men, comprising the crew, were saved by the people on shore, when the sea had fallen a little. Great floods also accumulated at some places inland. The Mattock, a tributary to the Boyne, swelled to a great extent: one farmer lost seven acres of wheat which had been stocked in the fields; and two acres of oats belonging to another party were swept away. Eventually the accumulation of water bore down upon the bridge which spans the Mattock at its discharge into the Boyne, and broke down the structure, rendering the way impassable for vehicles. In the neighborhood of Newry the same kind of havoc has been made where corn was left in the fields.

APPALLING TRAGEDY.—DEATH OF TWO CHILDREN, AND SUICIDE OF THE MOTHER.—Rumors of a most appalling catastrophe have reached us this morning, involving the death of three individuals—a mother and two children, at a place situated between Ballinrobe and Hollymount. From the statements we have heard it appears that the wife of a farmer named Magrath had been preparing to make butter, and had some boiling water in readiness for the purpose of scalding the churn. Two children were in the house at the time, an infant and a child a few years older, whom, having occasion for a short absence, she left playing together. While playing round the churn, as it is supposed, owing to some unfortunate casualty, the elder child forced the younger into the churn. The poor mother shortly afterwards returned, and unconscious of what had occurred, poured the boiling water into the churn, thereby scalding the wretched infant, whose stifling screams only announced its horrible death. Urged to desperation and agony on beholding the effects of her act, the frantic mother seized some implement of destruction—a footstool according to one account—and hurled it at the other child, caused its death also, who had been the innocent cause of the shocking casualty, and then rushing to a stream close at hand, she flung herself into the water and met the fate she rashly invited. The dreadful occurrence has caused great excitement in that part of the country, and many versions are given of the affair, but we relate the circumstances as they have been communicated to us, on respectable authority, of a fearful domestic tragedy, which so seldom horrifies the public in Ireland. —*Galway Vindicator.*

Before proceeding to review in detail the laboured and voluminous report of the Irish Census Commissioners (a work which does the highest credit to the industry and zeal of its authors), we may say a few words on the manner in which that report has been received, and the unchristian—nay, inhuman—comments which it has elicited in some not unimportant quarters. Here is a mitigated specimen from an article in the *Morning Post*, a journal which is said to receive its inspiration from the highest quarter in Downing-street:—"The green island of the west seems now to have come to her sober senses. A terrible period of trial she had to undergo, but it has gently—no!—been thrown away upon her. The decade between 1841 and 1851 has presented the most singular, eventful, and with the most contradictory results. Plague, pestilence, and famine ravaged the land, which was never so prosperous as after these fearful visitations. Emigration carried off the bone and sinew of the country; and there never was so much work done at home in the year as at the close of the great exhaustion. The population, which, proceeding at the rate of increase which had hitherto prevailed, ought to have amounted to nine millions in 1851, was reduced to a little more than six, and the land under cultivation is ten per cent. greater in area in 1851 than in 1841. The Incumbered Estates Act involved great numbers of families in utter ruin, yet the voice of complaint is unheard. An enormous quantity of land was thus thrown into the market, yet the reclamations of land proceeding more rapidly than ever. Even the sea was compelled to yield some of its area to the increase of the soil, for large portions of Lough Foyle and Lough Swilly have been embanked and brought under cultivation. The number of houses has diminished to an enormous extent, but the house accommodation for the people has increased both in quantity and quality. For years we heard professional agitators 'patriots' of the greenest hue howling about what they could do when England was once more engaged in a foreign war, and England's trouble was to be Ireland's opportunity. England's opportunity came, and was passed carelessly by. The agitators might as well have attempted to move the Hill of Howth across the Channel. They knew that, and held their tongues accordingly. There were many obstructions, amounting almost to prohibitions, to Ireland's prosperity; and for this evil, in itself fatal, nothing but a remedy of the sharpest character would avail." The meaning of this language, which is decent and tolerable in comparison with what has appeared in some other journals on this subject, is, that the British journalist finds a subject of congratulation in the terrible calamity which has befallen the Irish nation, because the result of that calamity (that is, the partial depopulation of the country), promises to leave Ireland for a long time to come weaker and less able to resist oppression and injustice; or to enforce the redress of her grievances. It is, in fact, a shout of triumph (slightly muffled through a little regard to the merest decency) over the supposed decay of the