

"This discovery immediately exposed all parts of the coasts of these islands, which a vessel could approach at all, to be approached, at all times of tide and in all seasons, by vessels so propelled, from all quarters. We are in fact assailable, and, at least liable to insult, and to have contributions levied upon us on all parts of our coast—that is, the coast of these, including the Channel Islands, which to this time, from the period of the Norman contest, have never been successfully invaded.

"I have in vain endeavored to awaken the attention of different administrations to this state of things, as well known to our neighbors (rivals in power at least—former adversaries and enemies) as it is to ourselves.

"I hope that your paper may be attended with more success than my representations have been.

"I have above, in few words, represented our danger. We have no defence, or hope of defence, excepting in our fleet.

"

"The nearest part of the coast to the metropolis is undoubtedly the coast of Sussex from the east and west side of Beachy Head, and to Selsey Bay. There are not less than twelve great roads leading from Brighton upon London, and the French army must be much altered, indeed, since the time at which I was better acquainted with it, if there are not now belonging to it forty *chefs d'état*, majors-general, capable of sitting down and ordering the march to the coast of 40,000 men, their *embarkation*, with their horse and artillery, at the several French ports on the coast, their *disembarkation* at named points on the English coast, that of the artillery and cavalry in named ports or mouths of rivers, and the assembly at named points of the several columns; and the march of each of these from stage to stage to London."

It is clear, therefore, from decided and most authentic documents, that the feeling of France towards England under the monarchical régime, has been open, avowed, and universal, and hence you may be convinced, that the same undying hatred still burns in the breast of every Frenchman, and will continue to burst forth into a flame, when the circumstances are favorable to its national development. If France were left to meet England *single-handed*, there can be no doubt of the success of France, from the overwhelming majority of her land forces, and the increased strength of her wonderful steam navy. Their success would ruin our country; between the contending parties Ireland would be still more wounded, and hence it is our duty to warn England not to excite the Irish into commotion, lest our discontent might encourage the stranger in his designs of conquest, and thus hasten the ruin of the entire empire. Nothing could prevent France from standing in haughty defiance of England, except our allies, who, hating France for her former cruelties to their countries, are all prepared to act in concert against a nation which, since 1789 to 1815, inflicted such national disaster on Europe. But Europe dreads England now perhaps even more than they hate France; and hence at this moment England is exposed to the hostile feeling of almost every state on the Continent. My case, therefore, is this:—Depend upon it, that each European nation which the recent intrigues of England have shaken to their very foundations, will, on recovering from their panic, view England as the great disturber of the public peace—the arch rebel of Europe; and that, consequently, she will want not only the whole strength of her own dominion on the other side of the Channel, but the entire power, and will, and heart of Ireland in addition, in order to meet the *new case* of distrust in which she is universally held. Therefore, if ever there was a time when the people of Ireland should stand together, the present is most assuredly that moment. She threatens us with every species of political and religious degradation in order to deprive us of taking the attitude of manly defence; and by thus annihilating our independence to remove from the eye of Europe the imposing combination of all our strength, which our standing and unbroken ranks would otherwise exhibit to the world. Let us, therefore, begin again to be firm and united as one man. Let us—in the language of the illustrious departed spirit of Ireland—let us *stand upon the constitution*, and *violate no law*, but resist, by every constitutional means, the threatened tyranny and the national insult which have been devised against our religion and our liberties. There never was a period in Ireland when such a constitutional union was more necessary and more desired, and more *practicable*. The favorite son of O'Connell has resigned his hereditary post, and, therefore, the leader's chair is *vacant*; and I, for one, feel that I shall speak, without contradiction, when I proclaim that an honest man will never fill that chair, a truer heart will never love the land of our fathers, and a more unpurchasable lip will never defend the interests of Ireland. With the old successful general fallen, his associates scattered, his ranks thinned by famine, extermination, and death, John O'Connell still cling to the fallen fortunes of his country with a fidelity which no enemy ever dared to impeach, which no friend will deny—he has stood close to his colors, which were *never captured*, and all the world admits, that if the breach in the enemy's camp were to be carried by courage and blood, John O'Connell would be the foremost man to stand forward and present his heart to the steel in the deadly struggle for his country's freedom. And when, I ask, had Ireland such a faithful, intrepid, and steady band of representatives as brightened the page of our country's cause during the present parliamentary campaign? Like the glorious band of Thermopylae, they stood like brothers all, against the unnumbered host of their opponents; and all pledged their faith, heart to heart, that they would die in the conflict or redeem their country; all Ireland owes

them, one and all, a debt which we never can repay; we stand bound to them by a national obligation which can never be effaced from the national remembrance. I am not competent to describe their parliamentary merits—it should be spoken by the national voice, as it is felt in the national heart. I am too humble an individual to presume to call them together during the Easter recess to devise some new plan of political action for the future and central expression of Ireland's woes; but from the profession to which I belong, I am sure they will overlook my want of personal influence in the dignity and the sacredness of the Church of the people; and, perhaps, they would condescend to make me the pivot on which their own ranks will move, with the discipline, the order, and the power of a nation. I shall remain in Dublin for some days, during which time I shall be happy to receive their suggestions, and obey their commands.

Believe me to be, beloved fellow-countrymen, your faithful and devoted Irish Priest,

D. W. CAHILL, D. D.

P. S.—My next letter cannot appear till Friday, the 25th April.

PENAL DAYS FOR IRELAND. (From the Nation.)

Flesh and blood burn at the obscene and outrageous intolerance which has disgraced the English Parliament. Shame upon you, Senators of England, before all Christendom—that a filthy fanatic should dare to stand in your presence, and defecate his slimy ribaldry upon Her name whom all Christians honor as the Mother of their Redeemer, and upon those pure, angelic women, whom Catholics revere as the ministry of her peculiar mission on this earth! Foul words have been spoken and foul deeds done by England within a few days, which shall be *forgotten* and *forgiven* when the last altar is levelled and the last Catholic exterminated in Ireland. Oh, we are getting bitter experiences of the true value and extent of our liberties! Sleep, feed, and grovel within the bounds of thy chain; but strain not at the tether, or the lash is on thy back and the muzzle on thy mouth, Ireland! Is the old wolf-hound, "fierce when provoked," come to this at last?

Woe upon us! Had it happened in the hot strength of '48 the banner of a new Catholic Confederation would have floated on Tara, and this reeking scandal have been washed out in blood. We are weak and worn, and the strength of old is not in us. And Ireland bears the most damnable dishonor that has been put upon her since the Union, muttering and whining in impotent rage.

They are passing a law, which, even in its most modified form, cuts like a poisoned sword at the freedom and life of the Catholic Church of Ireland. They are passing it avowedly as the preamble only of a new Penal Code. Despite of the warnings of the few able Statesmen in the Senate—despite their shrinking to unsheathe its specific edge and force, and to tell how they purpose wielding it—despite the alternative that it may hang obsolete on the Statute Book, or else become the signal of a long religious animosity, or of a deadly civil war, they pass it by shouting, swamping majorities of five to one. Not with the intent to remedy it in any of its stages—not to make it less insolent, less insidious, less penal in the patching process of Committee; but with their majorities ready to shut up any avenue of escape from it, to strengthen and sharpen its clauses, and make it more deliberate and mortal in its means and its objects.

Is this to be borne? God knows, we would spill our hearts' blood sooner than do aught, word or act, that should tend to stir a strife of sects in Ireland. That blessed union which last August clasped the hands of Ulster Presbyterian and Munster Catholic together in this, the metropolis of our common country, is not to be lightly perilled. And we give glory and thanks to the North, and to the Irish Protestants of all the provinces, for the noble spirit and temper which they have shown all through this diabolical agitation. But we appeal frankly and boldly to them now in its crisis. We ask them—if they will not help us—for God's sake, and for Ireland's sake, at least, to stand neutral, while we resist a most tyrannical interference with our religious liberties. We might well ask more from them. As sure as there is the one God to whom we all pray, if the British Minister had dared to touch one right, title, or privilege of an Ulster Presbyterian Minister, as he has dared most seriously to meddle with those of Catholic Priests, the same voice of wrath that has risen in defence of our own altars, would have echoed around theirs.

No Church knows better than theirs what persecution is. Their proudest memories are of the days when, out on Lomond hill sides—

"The lyart veteran heard the word of God,
By Cameron thundered, or by Renwick poured."

When the ban was on their Church and the blood-money on their Elders; when the watchers stood on their hill-tops, and the faithful knelt to pray with fire-lock in hand, and bandoliers in belt; when the silver bullets were molten for Clavers, and Dalziel's drummers drowned the death-groans of his victims, tortured by crushing boot and wrenching Thumbikins—it was then the sturdy spirit was nurtured, which yet burns in the bosom of the Kirk. Then they learned, for the sake of God and their father's faith, to dare and to defy to the death unjust rulers and unrighteous laws. True to the heir-looms of her history, Ulster will lift no hand but in our help in this struggle. But we ask her help. We ask her to turn this law which the Minister hoped should be a fire-brand of dissension among us, into a signal light of union from end to end of the island.

Is it to be borne? The day when mitred Bishops of the Catholic Church may be hauled to the dock,

like felons, for doing their duties under God, will be one to try Ireland, in an ordeal of fire. We have borne the famine-pang and fever-pain, the law's stab, and the landlord's gripe; we have seen the land narrowed upon us, and our people flying from it as from a besieged city; we have seen the lives and the liberties of the purest and noblest men among us bought and sold, and sworn away—but it will be a sorer day for Ireland than any that has yet befallen her, when the detective stands in the sanctuary, and the crozier is levelled by the baton. They know not what they do. While the law still spared the Priest to the people, they bore contumely, injustice, beggary, exile, death, without repining. But cast one soil upon his alb, dim one sparkle of his vestment, lay profane hands upon the chalice of the Lord's anointed, and this impious statute shall be steeped in blood!

We hope in God's mercy to us that it may never be law in this land. We hope in the Protestants of Ireland, whose land this is, as well as ours, and who wish to live at peace and good will with us, to raise their voices now against this iniquitous law. There is still time to defeat it. And it can be defeated if united Ireland speak boldly and at once. Simultaneous meetings were once before found of use in the Catholic agitation.

Some of the Irish Members have acted as became honest men in this business. But they can prevent the Bill from passing into law, if they persist in throwing obstacles in its way. They will do so the more readily, if they are found making a gallant and determined opposition to it when the Catholics of all Europe are in London at the Great Exhibition. They have time to organise their tactics, and they should have an amendment ready on every syllable of it. Let them not dare to show their faces in Ireland; they will be spat on in the streets and hooted from the hustings, if they do not use every means the constitution gives them to defeat this abominable attack upon the faith and liberties of their country.

We would suggest simultaneous meetings in every parish of Ireland upon Easter Sunday, in which the Irish Protestants and Presbyterians should be respectfully requested to join. There is ample time to make a great national demonstration upon the subject, in which all Ireland, we fondly believe, will join.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

We are enabled to announce that the receipts towards the Irish Catholic University Fund, during the past three days, have amounted to considerably over four hundred pounds.—*Freeman*.

CONFIRMATION AT DEWSBURY BY THE BISHOP OF BEVERLY.—On Sunday last a confirmation was held at Dewsbury, by the Bishop of Beverly. The number of persons confirmed was one hundred and sixty-two, among whom were eight converts.—*Cor. of the Tablet*.

CATHOLIC AFFAIRS IN DUNDEE—SCOTLAND.—The Catholic population of Dundee is now estimated at near seventeen thousand. A new church is in course of erection, in the Gothic style of Ecclesiastical architecture, without galleries, and to contain two thousand sittings. This is in addition to the very spacious edifice open for some years past in the Nethergate, under the care of the Rev. Stephen Keenan, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Macdonald and the Rev. Mr. Browne. There are two large school-houses connected with the church; one a day and evening school for boys, and the other a day and evening school for girls. There are also two other day and evening schools situated in different parts of the town. The average attendance at these schools is about five hundred, and there are, besides, two Sunday schools, at which about 700 young persons attend.—*Glasgow Free Press*.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCH.—The Pontifical government has just published a general statistical statement of the Roman Catholic Clergy, from which it appears that of seventy Cardinals' chairs which compose the Sacred College there are three vacant, all of the Order of Deacons, which now consist of only eleven, instead of fourteen. The Order of Bishops and that of Priests is complete, the first having fifty and the last six. The Dean of the Cardinal Priests is the Archbishop of Bologna, Opizoni; the youngest is the Prince Archbishop of Breslau de Diepenbrok. Eleven Cardinals have not yet received the hat, and are consequently still untitled. The number of Archbishops in Europe is 104—of whom sixteen in Italy, fifteen in France, thirteen in Germany, eight in Spain, four in Hungary and Dalmatia, four in Ireland, four in Turkey, three in Portugal, three in Russia, one in Greece, one in Belgium, one in England, and one in the Ionian Islands. These 104 Archbishops have 609 Suffragan Bishops—viz., 407 in Europe and 202 on the coast of Africa, in the French colonies, and various Spanish and Portuguese islands. Besides there are seventy-eight others immediately subordinate to the Holy See—viz., sixty-five in Italy, four in Germany, four in Switzerland, two in Spain, (those of Leon and Oviedo) one in Volhinia, (Russia) one in Malta, and one in Bulgaria, (Turkey). The Vicars-Apostolic and the Prefects-Apostolic, who are mostly under the direction of the Congregations of the Propaganda are forty-seven, of whom thirty-eight are in countries not professing Christianity. In America there are nineteen Archbishops with ninety Suffragans. In Oceania two Archbishops, eleven Bishops, and nine Vicars-Apostolic. There are twenty-three Patriarchs, of whom only two are in Europe, those of Lisbon and Venice. The total number of Bishops is 889. As to the Archbishops and Bishops *in partibus*, their number is 461, so that in the whole there are 1,360 titled Episcopal Catholics.—*Daily News*.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

CATHOLIC DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

A numerous and respectable meeting of the promoters of this association was held on Monday evening, at No. 10, Essex-bridge, Dublin. At eight o'clock the chair was taken by the Rev. Dr. Cahill.

The Rev. Chairman said, that since their last meeting he had received a letter from one of the most eloquent and patriotic of the Irish members of parliament, expressing his sincere pleasure at finding an association originated for the purpose of defending the Catholic church against the attacks of its bitter and unrelenting enemies. The letter declared the distinguished writer's anxiety to join their body, and the happiness he would feel in being permitted to attend on whatever day might be selected for its public inauguration (hear, hear). The writer thought that there was wanted the means of a proper expression of public Catholic opinion in Ireland, and therefore it was that he anticipated so much pleasure in being present at so essential a demonstration of Catholic opinion (hear, hear). He (Dr. Cahill) had replied to the excellent writer of the letter, informing him that he was laboring under a mistake in supposing their society to be a political one; that it was simply a religious defensive body, and that they would be most happy to have his co-operation in their projected movement (hear, hear). He (Dr. Cahill) hoped that at this time his fellow-countrymen would lay aside their animosities which had so long, unhappily, divided them, and that the faithful band of Irish representatives, who, now, more than perhaps at any other period, had been so devoted to their country, would be found ready to aid them (hear, hear).

Mr. E. W. O'Mahony hoped that the spirit of inquiry respecting their society which had been aroused in the instance of the member of parliament just adverted to, would soon extend itself not only to all the Irish members, but also to all the lay Catholics of the kingdom (hear, hear). At the present time it was utterly impossible that they could any longer remain in a supine state while their enemies were assuming the formidable attitude evinced by their conduct of late (hear, hear).

The Very Rev. Dr. Spratt, who, on rising, was greeted in the warmest manner, briefly expressed the sincere gratification he experienced at witnessing the many respectable and devoted Catholics assembled together in order to devise the best means in which they could defend their holy religion. That gratification was much enhanced in seeing the eloquent and indefatigable Dr. Cahill presiding over their praiseworthy proceedings (hear, hear). At the request of several gentlemen present, Dr. Cahill consented to prepare, by Easter Thursday, an address to the Catholics of the empire, calling on them to unite with the association in the furtherance of their great objects. The reverend gentleman's was warmly applauded.

After the transaction of some routine business, the association adjourned to Easter Tuesday night, by which time arrangements are to be made to secure a large and effective demonstration.

DEATHS IN THE KILRUSH AND ENNISTYMON WORKHOUSE.

The Kilrush guardians have been endeavoring to vindicate to themselves by drawing a comparison between their own union and that of Ennistymon; and truly the condition of Ennistymon union is lamentable enough. Since the 1st of January to the 22d of March the deaths have reached the appalling number of 681, or nearly sixty per week, on an average population of less than 4,000, while in the same period the deaths in Kilrush were less by 110 on an average population of about 4,800. Let us give the tables of weekly mortality in the two unions, as published by the *Clare Journal*.—What a frightful record in this year of "reviving prosperity," on the testimony of Sir Charles Wood and Lord Clarendon!—

	KILRUSH.		ENNISTYMON.	
	Inmates.	Deaths.	Inmates.	Deaths.
January 4	4,569	14	3,392	38
.. 11	4,997	17	3,865	39
.. 18	4,956	25	3,905	46
.. 25	4,869	35	3,974	45
February 1	4,981	51	3,811	46
.. 8	5,001	50	3,872	45
.. 15	4,904	53	4,059	73
.. 22	5,143	41	3,991	58
March 1	5,185	51	4,054	48
.. 8	5,005	86	3,938	86
.. 15	4,980	68	3,895	77
.. 22	4,868	79	3,805	80

"Can such slaughters be perpetrated under the sanction of the government of a Christian country? Let us hope that, by fixing attention on the facts, as borne, has succeeded in securing the overthrow of the system before which so many human victims have fallen! It is not long since the official theory was, that Ireland was over-populated, and that, until the excess was gotten rid of by emigration or natural decay, or—no improvement could take place in the condition of the country. The doctrine was openly promulgated by the agents of the government in books, and pamphlets, and paragraphs. Now, it being acted on, theory has given place to practice, and in Ennistymon, and in Kilrush, and in Castlebar, and in one hundred other places, the process of decimation is being carried on to such a brutal extent that the *Times* compares the *ex-officio* slaughter of the Celtic paupers to the butcheries of the Spanish invaders of America, and demands that the British Legislature shall devise some means of promptly vindicating its own character and the interests of Christian civilisation.

THE "PAPAL AGGRESSION" PETITION FROM CLONMEL.—AN EXPOSE.—On Wednesday, at the Mayor's Court, Clonmel, a person named Arnold was summoned for having induced a man named Conery, a Catholic, to sign a petition against the so-called "Papal aggression," by representing to him that the petition was to get money from the Queen to clothe the poor Protestant orphans. The charge was fully proved, and it appeared that several signatures to the Clonmel petition had been obtained by similar discreditable means. The defendant did not appear to answer the charge preferred against him. The Mayor denounced the conduct of the defendant as being scandalous in the extreme, and said, if the case were pressed the Bench would have been compelled to inflict punishment on him. Mr. Smith, J. P.; As a Protestant, I repudiate this vile conduct, and I must say, I concur in every word expressed by his worship. Dr. Phelan and Mr. Luther, the other magistrates, made the same announcement.