

summer-house in the park. "Love-like, you see—a rendezvous, a mysterious interview! But come, Count Lipandorf, lose no time; a double tie shall bind me to your sovereign. We will sign, at once, and the same time, my marriage contract, and his. On that condition alone will I grant him my sister's hand; otherwise I treat, this very evening, with the envoy from Sax-Tolpelhausen."

A quarter of an hour after Prince Maximilian had made this overture, Balthazar and Delia were closeted with the Grand Duke.

What was to be done? The Prince of Hanau was noted for his obstinacy. He would have excellent reasons to oppose to all objections.—To confess the deception that had been practised upon him was equivalent to a total and eternal rupture. But, upon the other hand, to leave him in his error—to suffer him to marry an actress!—it was a serious matter. If ever he discovered the truth, it would be enough to raise the entire German Confederation against the Grand Duke of Niesenstein.

"What is my prime minister's opinion?" asked the Grand Duke.

"A prompt retreat. Delia must instantly quit the town; we devise an explanation for her sudden departure."

"Yes; and this evening Prince Maximilian will sign his sister's marriage contract with the Elector of Sax-Tolpelhausen. My opinion is that we have advanced too far to retreat. If the Prince ever discovers the truth, he will be the person most interested to conceal it. Besides, Miss Delia is an orphan—she has neither parents nor family. I adopt her—I acknowledge her as my sister."

"Your Highness's goodness and condescension—" lisped the pretty prima donna.

"You agree with me, do you not, Miss Delia?" continued the Grand Duke. "You are resolved to seize the good fortune thus offered, and to risk the consequences?"

"Yes, your Highness."

The ladies will make allowance for Delia's faithlessness to Florival. How few female heads would not be turned by the prospect of wearing a crown! The heart's voice is sometimes mute in presence of such brilliant temptations. Besides, was not Florival faithless? Who could say whether he might be led in the course of the tender scenes he acted with the Baroness Pippinistr? Prince Maximilian was neither young nor handsome, but he offered a throne. Not only an actress, but many a high-born dame, might possibly, in such circumstances, forget her love, and think only of her ambition.

To her credit be it said, Delia did not yield without some reluctance to the Grand Duke's arguments, which Balthazar backed with all his eloquence; but she ended by agreeing to the interview with Prince Maximilian.

"I accept," she resolutely exclaimed; "I shall be Sovereign Princess of Hanau."

"And I," cried the Grand Duke, "shall marry Princess Wilhelmina; and this very evening poor Pippinistr, disconcerted and defeated, will go back to Sax-Tolpelhausen."

"He would have done that in any case," said Balthazar; "for, this evening, Florival was to have run away with his wife."

"That is carrying things rather far," Delia remarked.

"Such a scandal is unnecessary," added the Grand Duke.

Whilst awaiting the hour of her rendezvous with the Prince, Delia, peevish and agitated was walking in the park, when she came suddenly upon Florival, who seemed as much discomposed as herself. He spelt of her newly-born ideas of grandeur, she felt a pain at her heart. With a forced smile, and in a tone of reproachful irony, she greeted her former lover.

"A pleasant journey to you, Colonel Florival," she said.

"I may wish you the same," replied Florival; "for doubtless you will soon set out for the principality of Hanau!"

"Before long, no doubt."

"You admit it, then?"

"Where is the harm? The wife must follow her husband—a princess must reign in her dominions."

"Princess! What do you mean? Wife!—In what ridiculous promises have they induced you to confide?"

Florival's offensive doubts were dissipated by the formal explanation which Delia took malicious pleasure in giving. A touching scene ensued; the lovers, who had both gone astray for a moment, felt their former flame burn all the more ardently for its partial and temporary extinction. Pardon was mutually asked and granted, and ambitious dreams fled before the burst of affection.

"You shall see whether I love you or not," said Florival to Delia. "Yonder comes Baron Pippinistr; I will take him into the summer house; a closet is there, where you can hide yourself to hear what passes, and then you shall decide my fate."

Delia went into the summer-house, and hid herself in the closet. There she overheard the following conversation—

"What have you to say to me, Colonel?" asked the Baron.

"I wish to speak to your Excellency of an affair that deeply concerns you."

"I am all attention, but I beg you to be brief—I am expected elsewhere."

"So am I."

"I must go to the prime minister, to return him this draught of a commercial treaty, which I cannot accept."

"And I must go to the rendezvous given me in this letter."

"The Baroness's writing?"

"Yes, Baron. Your wife has done me the honor to write to me. We set out together to-night; the Baroness is waiting for me in a post-chaise."

"And it is to me you dare acknowledge this abominable project?"

"I am less generous than you think. You cannot but be aware that, owing to an irregularity in your marriage contract, nothing would be easier than to get it annulled. This we will have done; we then obtain a divorce, and I marry the Baroness. You will, of course, have to hand me over her dowry—a million of florins—composing, if I do not mistake, your entire fortune."

The Baron, more dead than alive, sank into an arm chair. He was struck speechless.

"We might, perhaps, make some arrangement," Baron, continued Florival. "I am not particularly bent upon becoming your wife's second husband."

"Ah, sir," cried the ambassador, "you restore me to life!"

"Yes, but I will not restore the Baroness, except on certain conditions."

"Speak! What do you demand?"

"First, that treaty of commerce, which you must sign just as Count Lipandorf has drawn it up."

"I consent to do so."

"That is not all; you shall take my place at the rendezvous, get into the post-chaise, and run away with your wife; but first you must sit down at this table, and write a letter, in due diplomatic form, to Prince Maximilian, informing him that, finding it impossible to accept his stipulations, you are compelled to decline, in your sovereign's name, the honor of his august alliance."

"But, Colonel, remember that my instructions—"

"Very well, fulfil them exactly; be a dutiful ambassador and a miserable husband, ruined, without wife and without dowry. You will never have such another chance, Baron! A pretty wife and a million of florins do not fall to a man's lot twice in his life. But I must take my leave of you. I am keeping the Baroness waiting."

"I will go to her. . . . Give me paper, a pen, and be so good as to dictate. I am so agitated—"

The Baron really was in a dreadful flutter. The letter written, and the treaty signed, Florival told his Excellency where he would find the post-chaise.

"One thing more you must promise me," said the young man, "and that is that you will behave like a gentleman to your wife, and not scold her over much. Remember the flaw in the contract. She may find somebody else in whose favor to cancel the document. Suitors will not be wanting."

"What need of a promise?" replied the poor Baron. "You know very well that my wife does what she likes with me? I shall have to explain my conduct and ask her pardon."

Pippinistr departed. Delia left her hiding-place and held out her hand to Florival.

"You have behaved well," she said.

"That is more than the Baroness will say?"

"She deserves the lesson. It is your turn to go into the closet and listen; the Prince will be here directly."

"I hear his footsteps." And Florival was quickly concealed.

"Charming Countess?" said the prince on entering. "I come to know my fate."

"What does your Highness mean?" said Delia, pretending not to understand him.

"How can you ask? Has not the Grand Duke spoken to you?"

"No, your Highness."

"Nor the prime minister?"

"Not a word. When I received your letter I was on the point of asking you for a private interview. I have a favor—a service—to implore of your Highness."

"It is granted before it is asked. I place my whole influence and power at your feet, charming Countess."

"A thousand thanks, illustrious prince. You have already shown me so much kindness, that I venture to ask you to make a communication to my brother, the Grand Duke, which I dare not make myself. I want you to inform him that I have been for three months privately married to Count Beinsberg."

"Good heavens!" cried Maximilian, falling into the arm-chair in which Pippinistr had recently reclined. On recovering from the shock, the prince rose again to his feet.

"This well, madam," he said, in a faint voice. "This well!"

And he left the summer-house.

After reading Baron Pippinistr's letter, Prince Maximilian fell a-thinking. It was not the Grand Duke's fault; it was the Countess of Rosenthal that did not ascend the throne of Hanau. There was an insurmountable obstacle. Then the precipitate departure of the ambassador of Sax-Tolpelhausen was an affront which demanded instant vengeance. And the Grand Duke Leopold was a most estimable sovereign, skilful, energetic, and blessed with wise councillors; the Princess Wilhelmina liked him, and thought nothing could compare for pleasantness, with his lively court, where all the men were amiable, and all the women charming. These various motives duly weighed, the Prince made up his mind, and the next day was signed the marriage contract of the Grand Duke of Niesenstein and the Princess Wilhelmina of Hanau.

Three days later the marriage itself was celebrated.

The play was played out.

The actors had performed their part with wit, intelligence, and a noble disinterestedness. They took their leave of the Grand Duke, leaving him with a rich and pretty wife, a powerful brother-in-law, a serviceable alliance, and a commercial treaty which could not fail to replenish his treasury.

Embassies, special missions, banishment, were alleged to the Grand Duke as the causes of their departure. Then an amnesty was published on the occasion of the marriage; the stages of the fortress of Zwingenberg opened, and the former courtiers resumed their respective posts.

The reviving fortunes of the Grand Duke were a sure guaranty of their fidelity.

REV. DR. CAHILL

ON THE PETITION OF THE PROTESTANTS OF KILKENNY TO THE RIGHT REV. DR. O'BRIEN, TO HAVE THE SOUPERS REMOVED FROM THE CITY.

(From the Dublin Catholic Telegraph.)

The readers of the *Catholic Telegraph* are already aware of the scenes of unceasing conflict which have been enacted by the Soupers of Kilkenny from the moment they commenced their incongruous and disgraceful street-preaching in that city. The amount of misrepresentation and insult which belongs to the official duty of these vile creatures, and for which they have been expelled from several other towns of Ireland, has been doubled and trebled in Kilkenny; and neither history of Achill, nor Dingle, nor Connemara, nor Kells, nor our own Liberties, can at all stand in ignominious comparison with the wretched Soupers and the apostate Bible readers of Kilkenny. The attack on Kilkenny, though well organized, was still an ill-derived scheme on the part of its supporters. Kilkenny is too well educated to endure the vulgarity of Street Preachers; too Catholic to listen without fierce resentment to the very scum of society, profaning the Word of God in the angry Market-place; and too patriotic not to feel burning indignation at seeing the refuse of the public streets of London hired to insult the citizens in the public streets; and hired, too, by the descendants of the men who defied our churches, seized our lands, plundered our poor, nropted our altars, martyred our fathers, enslaved our nation, and during centuries of woe have buried the iron of unappeasable persecution in the hearts of our name and race, the living and the dead. Kilkenny was, therefore, the very last place in Ireland where such an opprobrious experiment could have succeeded; and as a strict moral corollary, it was again the most favorable town in the kingdom

where Souperism was destined to meet its most complete defeat. St. Patrick himself, baptised Kilkenny, nursed it in his arms, and with his own hands rocked the cradle of the young Christian city; and as the men and the women of "the faire city" know well their ancient apostolic extraction and their Christian genealogy, how could they bear to hear their Christianity mimicked by "Denny the Dicer," taught by holy weavers from Macclesfield, enforced by sanctified cabmen from London, and preached in the lanes and highways by a paid band of apostates already gibbeted before their countrymen on the pillory of public scorn. What apt instruments, what suitable apostles for the second reformation in Kilkenny!

And Kilkenny has not during upwards of thirteen centuries lost her Catholic faith or her Catholic feeling; and in that city at this moment can be found souls as zealous and hearts as invincible as when Patrick first blew his breath on her face, anointed her breast with the chrism, and put the sign of the Cross on her infant forehead: perhaps on the very spot where the venerable Saint Canice now lifts his aged and drooping head, and above its plundered tabernacle, uprooted altar, and shattered tribunal. Neither Ormonde, nor Leinster, nor even Howard, held a title to their property as ancient as Kilkenny claims the unbroken lineage of her faith; and hence when the Protestant Bishop with his ecumenical staff of street apostles conceived the idea of changing the creed of Kilkenny, his lordship sadly miscalculated the character and the temper of the people and the power of his own resources. The inhabitants of Kilkenny at this day are not surpassed by any other city in Ireland for their steady practical faith, and for purity are an edification of morals; and their spiritual education and Christian ordinances are conducted by a clergy whose learning and piety are an ornament to the altar where they worship: their lives a permanent silent eloquence more powerful than words; and without any aid from newspaper comment or public controversy a sufficient guarantee that their congregations are quite safe in their hands from the new hired spawn of the reformation.

To the credit of the Protestants of Kilkenny, they have long felt indignation at the system encouraged and sustained amongst them; and after much endurance they have decided on a public move to have the Soupers forthwith removed. Their petition to the Bishop will be read with public thanks from the people of Kilkenny. The Bishop himself explains the origin, the aim and the funds of the society: and the people of Kilkenny can describe their labors in the city. Their irritating placards on the walls and gates: their sticking those printed lies on brewers' carts and beer barrels in the streets: their pinning them on the front of their hats, and walking with insulting triumph through the thoroughfares: their having two policemen marching behind them as governmental protection: their quarrels with the men, the women and children: their summoning the people to the Court-house: the faces, the banishments: the malignity, the anger, the public ill-will they awakened, wherever they went: the party feeling they engendered on the very bench, in the grand jury box, in the agent's office, in the shop, in commerce, in private society: all those rancorous results have been the painful fruits of the visit of these creatures to Kilkenny, have dislocated all former associations, and have made, during the past years, the city a very focus of the very worst feelings of religious animosity, and, indeed, private revenge. The following extract from the letter of Dr. O'Brien will explain the resources of the Soupers, and the cooperation with them:—

A Society has been already formed in England professing to aid the Church in Ireland in the discharge of this part of its duties. This Society offered to defray the expenses attendant upon controversial sermons and public meetings, and to aid, if desired, in supplying suitable persons for both; and also to provide the agents, clerical and lay, by whom the ordinary work of the Mission was to be conducted; and it offered to do all this; and to conduct all its operations, in accordance with Church order, and with due respect to Church authorities, both diocesan and parochial. It was not to enter any diocese without the sanction of the diocesan, or any parish without the full consent of the incumbent; and finally, it formed the rules by which its agents were to be governed, with the most commendable anxiety to secure as far as possible, that their duties should be discharged with the utmost consideration for the feelings and the prejudices of those among whom they were to labour.

The operations of this Society were at first, and for a good while, confined to the West of Ireland, and the extraordinary success that attended it there is attested to the full as strongly by the admission of its enemies, as by the representations of its friends. It then offered to extend its aid to other parts of Ireland. When the offer was made to me I felt it right to accept it.

According to the printed reports of this Society, the monthly expenses, sent from England were upwards of three thousand three hundred pounds sterling; or something above thirty-nine thousand pounds sterling a year! The public are already aware this mission (as they call the abuse, the lies, and the fighting in the streets of Kilkenny) has failed in every place in Ireland where it has been introduced. Without doubt, within the last ten years, hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling have been expended in this work of Biblical acerbity, religious rancor, sectarian malignity, party hatred, and social disorder. These have been the plain results of "the mission," consequences in part similar to the results which occurred some years ago, after every fair of Donnybrook; that is, public abuse, quarrelling in the street, a fight with sticks, cat heads, arrest by the police, summons to the magistrate's court, oaths, perhaps perjuries, fines and imprisonment. And on the next preaching day of the mission the same battle takes place over again—the same cat heads, fines and imprisonment: or as a musical man might describe it—viz., the mission, preaching, a fight, summonses, trials, oaths, imprisonment: *de capo*. Now, let us hear the Protestants of Kilkenny, for some years eye-witnesses of the mission, while they explain to their bishop their lay notion of the apostolic work, after years of experiment. These Protestants are entitled to a public mark of respect from the people of Kilkenny for their candor in statement,

and for their moral courage in calling on Dr. O'Brien for his assistance in removing this public nuisance of "the mission." The following is their petition:—

THE IRISH CHURCH MISSIONS SOCIETY IN KILKENNY—MEMORANDUM TO THE BISHOP OF OSSORY.

[CAPTAIN HELSHAM TO THE BISHOP OF OSSORY.] Captain Hesham presents his compliments to the Bishop of Ossory and Ferns, requests to know on what day and at what hour on the ensuing week his Lordship would be at leisure to receive a communication from the Protestants of Kilkenny and its environs.

December 15, 1857.

[THE BISHOP TO CAPTAIN HELSHAM.]

The Bishop of Ossory and Ferns presents his compliments to Captain Hesham's note:—"On what day and what hour in the ensuing week he will be at leisure to receive a communication from the Protestants of Kilkenny and its environs." The Bishop begs to say that he will be ready to receive the communication referred to, on Monday next, at eleven o'clock.

Friday, Dec. 18, 1857.

TO THE BISHOP OF OSSORY AND FERNS, &c., &c., &c. Kilkenny, 21st December, 1857.

My Lord,—We, the undersigned, Protestants of Kilkenny, beg leave to lay before your Lordship the following remonstrance against the further continuance of the "Irish Church Missions" in Kilkenny, and respectfully solicit your assistance in their removal, on the following grounds:—

We have long anxiously watched the progress of the mission; and your opinion we therefore offer cannot be deemed immature or precipitate.

We believe the good results we would all desire to see realized have not attended on its labors, while much unchristian feeling and ill-will have undoubtedly arisen from them.

We believe the class of men employed as "Scripture-readers" in this city are not possessed of such tact, judgment, and forbearance as would be requisite in a locality constituted as Kilkenny is. This conclusion is founded on facts known to many of us by personal observation, and we would implore of your Lordship to use the same means in forming your estimate of this matter. It is to this we would refer in a great measure the inadequate success of the Mission in Kilkenny. Angry passions and exasperated feelings are not favorable to cool judgment or calm conviction; and it appears to many of us a matter of regret that duties so well worthy of the educated and ordained ministers should have been delegated to parties not so well fitted for them by education, social position, or controversial aptitude.

Whether this conclusion be just or not, it is certain that offence has been taken by our Roman Catholic brethren at what they consider to be insults offered to their creed and religious prejudices; and while this state of feeling exists it is our belief that no good can result from the operation of the present Mission in Kilkenny.

So long as the attempt to expel them by rabble violence prevailed, we withheld all interference and patiently awaited the vindication of order, and religious liberty. But now, that mob law has been discredited, personal liberty established, and the principles of our free Constitution fully sustained, we believe the withdrawal of this mission for Kilkenny very desirable to allay much unchristian asperity and dissension.

We say this not from fear of any sacrifice which the present state of public feeling might entail on us.—That we are ready to suffer for our sacred cause has been proved by the interval suffered to elapse before we formed a judgment or pronounced it, though many of us had to deplore all the privations arising from estranged friendships and popular antipathies. It is now our deliberate conviction that no good is likely to arise from the maintenance of this Mission in Kilkenny, but contrariwise further ill-will and unchristian feeling, and accordingly we hope that your Lordship will use all your influence to have the local branch Mission removed from our city.

Eagerly desiring your acquiescence and co-operation, we are your Lordship's faithful well-wishers, &c.

[Here follow the signatures.]

We have no means in this country to meet the annoyance inflicted on us by the domination of the Protestant Church except the public opinion, which we concentrate on their insults, their mis-statements, and the public injuries resulting from their baneful power. And in the case before us, we appeal to Europe, to the whole world, to mark the wicked falsehood by which they collect funds in England to note its opprobrious expenditure, and to listen to the Protestants of Kilkenny, like the Catholics of Belfast, while they publish to mankind the failure of a system of reckless imposition and fraud, which within the last ten years have squandered above a quarter of a million of money on merely one branch of the Bible organization and imposture in Ireland. No one can adequately calculate the evil results of this scheme of the Reformation, being one of the hundreds of past combinations, of lies and perfidy, by which they have attempted to rob the faithful Irish of the precious gift of their faith. The mere collection of this money by a society of Englishmen is the practical publication of the grossest falsehood on our national religious character—namely, our ignorance of the gospel! The application of this fund in Ireland, by the hirelings and the apostates of their society, fills the nation with anger and retaliation. The parliaments of the young and old bigots who encourage this mockery of Ireland's conversion, are banded together in infuriate persecution of the poor and abandoned Catholic; and thus while this unholy imposture, on one hand, arms the English mind against us as Christians, it forms in Ireland a confederacy amongst the landlords and the higher classes of Protestant society which has blasted our commerce, filled our poor-houses, laid our villages waste, exterminated the poor, banished our people, and has converted the soil of Ireland into turnip-fields and bullock-pastures, by the Biblical persecuting class of the dominant aristocracy. The revenues spent in malice by this society, and spent, too, in vain, for the objects desired, would make Ireland happy, if devoted to works of charity, public industry, or national benefit: and so it has been from the commencement of the baneful period of what is called the "Reformation;" and so it will continue to the end: producing in every age and every country where it has taken root its legitimate consequences, namely, a cruel persecution in the State, and an avowed infidelity in what is called the Church. In my next letter I shall notice some statements of Ecclesiastical history and some arguments in Theology introduced by Dr. O'Brien in his reply to the Protestants of Kilkenny.

January 7, 1858. D. W. C.

Ladies generally shop in couples. When a lady has any money to spend, she dearly loves taking a friend with her to see her spend it.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE

We understand that, in pursuance of canonical authorisation from the Holy See, a Dean and Chapter will be constituted in the diocese of Cork; and that the necessary arrangements and nominations will be made at the conference of the Clergy of the diocese to be held in this city on Tuesday next. We have heard the names of the several Dignitaries about to be installed in the Chapter, but at present it would be premature to publish them. The Bulls for the consecration of the Rev. Dr. O'Hea as Bishop of Ross have not yet been received, though they are immediately expected.—*Cork Reporter*.

We understand that a general movement is about being made in this city to get up a testimonial to Sarsfield, and a subscription list is to be opened for the purpose, to which men of all creeds and parties should subscribe as a purely national object.—*Munster News*.

We regret to announce the demise of James Macdonnell, Esq., which took place on the 3rd inst., at Mara, in the county of Kildare, the residence of his son-in-law, Nicholas J. Gaunon, Esq., J.P. Mr. Macdonnell occupied, for a considerable period, a conspicuous part in Irish politics, and was for many years the agent of the Irish Catholic body in England during the struggle for Emancipation. His death will be sincerely regretted by those who were associated with him in early life, among whom he had many friends.—*Freeman*.

THE IRISH BRANCH.—It is said there is much more than a probability of a third seat on the Irish bench being shortly placed at the disposal of the government. Declining health and family sorrows (the loss of one of his sons, Major Perrin, in India) have, it is said, rendered certain the immediate retirement from his judicial labors of Mr. Justice Perrin, third judge of the Court of Queen's Bench. Statements have been circulated that this able judge had already virtually retired, as he did not mean to take his seat at the opening of the Hilary Term on Monday week.—*Morning Star*.

The new Mayor of Cork, Mr. Dan Donegan, has inaugurated his year of office by an act of generosity as graceful as it was benevolent. All the pauper debtors confined in the jail were released from their confinement through his instrumentality, he having paid the debts for which they were detained. The Mayor has also taken steps for the preservation of the good order of the city by night, which have already been attended with considerable success; and we hope soon to be able to record even still more useful results from the measures he has adopted.—*Cork Examiner*.

THE TENANT QUESTION AND THE REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY OF CORK.—The following letter appears in the *Cork Examiner*.—Sir,—It has been suggested by some few persons, with whom I have lately had conversation, and by others from whom I have had written communications, and in whose views I fully concur, that it would be very desirable for a few of those gentlemen, lay and clerical, who feel a concern for the interests of the farmer, to meet, without any unnecessary delay, to take counsel together, and to consider calmly and deliberately the means best calculated to secure, for the 'Tenant question' in the approaching parliament, the favorable consideration of the legislature.

In the absence of Mr. George H. Moore, who does not now hold a seat in parliament, the introduction of the 'Landlord and Tenant Bill' has been confided to the members for Dungarvan and Tipperary. Whilst the O'Donoghue is considered to be a young man of considerable promise, Ireland has already had ample proofs of the great ability and of the untiring zeal of Mr. Maguire for the advancement of Irish interests. But the advocacy, however able or eloquent, of any measure connected with Ireland, will receive little, if any, attention from the legislature, unless such advocacy be enforced by public opinion outside—unless, in fact, the people, whom such measure is said to affect, show, in some way, that they feel a sincere and real interest therein. The proposed conference would consider how they could best aid the advocates of the Landlord and Tenant Bill in the House of Commons; whether by public meetings, or by petition to parliament, or by both.

It is now deemed very probable, that a vacancy will soon be created in the representation of our county, by the elevation to the Judicial Bench, or by the appointment to some high Government office, of one of our representatives. The Catholics of Ireland complain—not, I admit, without sufficient reason—that the farmer has no protection for his capital, no encouragement for his labor or industry; they are dissatisfied that whilst they add to the numbers and strength of the British army and navy, and spill their blood in torrents for the support of British power, their children are exposed to be robbed of that faith which they prize so brightly, and that, at the hour of death, they are not themselves afforded the consolations of their holy religion. Irish Catholics complain also of the insult offered to their religion and their hierarchy by an Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and of the injustice inflicted on them by a Church Establishment, which compels them to support the ministers of a religion which they believe to be false. Their dissatisfaction is still increased by the fact that Lord Palmerston not only refuses to remove the insult and redress wrong, but that in the insolence of his power, he treats with indifference, if not with contempt, their humble and respectful remonstrances. But, knowing that Lord Palmerston is the avowed enemy of Catholicity throughout the world, and in Ireland in particular, the Catholics of Ireland who confide in and give their unqualified support to him and to his ministry cannot acquit themselves of a criminal participation in his guilt. Why complain of the insults offered to the Catholic religion, its rulers, its ministers, and its members by Lord Palmerston and his organs at the press, when the Catholics of Ireland send to parliament as their representatives men who are ready to hunt down, at the bidding of the minister, the best friend of the people, or who, to advance their own personal interests, willingly become his tools and his slaves. It is a truth which scarcely requires demonstration that it is not by mean and crouching remonstrances, but by honest and independent votes in parliament, the Catholics of Ireland can extort from Lord Palmerston, or from any man who may succeed him, a sound Catholic education for the Catholic youth—an adequate provision for the spiritual wants of the soldier or the sailor, who is ready to risk his life in defence of his country—reasonable security or compensation for the farmer who expends his labor and his capital in the improvements of the land—or, in a word, justice to Ireland. The proposed meeting would consider the course best to be pursued by the independent electors of the county, in case a vacancy should occur in the representation.

The most convenient place to hold this meeting, which of course is to be only a preliminary one, seems to be Cork. The spirited and obliging proprietor of the Victoria Hotel, Patrick street, will readily afford the use of one of his rooms. Let the day and hour be Tuesday, January 12, at one o'clock precisely.

Being fully satisfied that the suggestions now offered would receive more attention if endorsed by some one of higher name and position, I have held back this communication for some days. Finding that no person has yet come forward with any similar suggestion, and apprehending inconvenience from further delay, I have ventured to affix to them my own humble name, even at the risk of being considered to have assumed a position which does not properly belong to me.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

JOHN FITZPATRICK, P.P.
Midleton, January 5th, 1858.