

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

It is rumored that Queen Marie of Hanover and her three children have been converted to Catholicism.

The Religious Review, of Rodez, announces that the garrison officers there have offered their chaplain a salary of 2,000 francs, in order to retain his services.

EXTRADITION REFUSED.—A despatch from Rome says that Italy has refused Germany's demand for the extradition of Archbishop Ledochowski.

It is stated on good authority that the Archbishops of Ragusa and Santiago will be raised to the cardinalate at the next Consistory.

The Semaine Liturgique, of Marseilles, has opened a subscription list for the coming episcopal jubilee of our Holy Father. The amount collected by this excellent journal during one week is £160.

The Rev. John Conway, P. P., has been appointed from Cappa to Feenagh, in place of Rev. P. Lee, P. P., and Rev. Dennis McCarthy from the curacy of Patrick's Well to be Parish Priest of Cappa, diocese of Limerick.

The new Catholic Church at Laytown, County Meath, during the late stormy weather, from its exposed position suffered somewhat. The large window over the altar was blown in, and part of the protection wall in front thrown down.

In anticipation of the Pope's jubilee next May strenuous exertions are being made in France to honour it. At Paris special committees have been formed, with headquarters at Notre Dame des Victoires, to collect and take charge of any offerings, of whatever kind, the love of the faithful may induce them to send to their Sovereign Pontiff.

THE POPE AND THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL.—The Emperor of Brazil visited the Pope on Ash Wednesday. He expressed the hope that the Pope would in accord with the Brazilian Government, assist in removing all ecclesiastical difficulties in Brazil. The Pope replied that the Church was rather accustomed to smooth than to create obstacles. He hoped to be able to restore religious harmony, which had always been the glory of Brazil.

A schismatic priest of Collonge, canton of Geneva, has given up his heresy. Before leaving, he addressed a humble letter to the legitimate parish priest, asking pardon for the offence he had committed. Here is one sentence:—"Oh, holy Catholic Church, mother of all the people, masterpiece of the power and wisdom of God, the miraculous conservation of which is the grandest event of our times; I rejoice with great joy that I once more enter your fold."

A large meeting of Catholics was held the other week in Guessen, at which it was unanimously resolved to send an address of loyalty to Cardinal Ledochowski. Among others, the Assembly declared that the Cardinal diocesan has preserved firm and unaltered their fidelity and devotion to the Holy See, and that with God's help they will stand true to their rightful Chief Pastor and his priests.

The Right Rev. Dr. Conaty, Lord Bishop of Kilmore, on the Feast of the Purification, conferred the order of priesthood on the Rev. Hugh Brady, a student of St. Patrick's College, Cavan, who was also appointed by his lordship bursar and professor of philosophy in the college. The Rev. Terence Murray, P. P., Kildare, has been translated to be parish priest of Carigallen, vice Rev. Patrick Galligan, deceased; Rev. Dominick Breen, Adm., Castleknock, promoted to be parish priest of Kildallen.

THE NEW CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, N. Y.—This magnificent structure, built of solid marble, and extending from Fifth street to Fifty-first street, and running from Fifth to Madison Avenue in the rear, progresses well under the direction of Mr. Joyce, the architect, and when completed will be one of the grandest sacred edifices in the city of New York or elsewhere. It looks very well in the exterior, and when viewed in the interior will be truly magnificent and an ornament to the Catholic Church. The great altar, with the other furnishings, will be superb to behold, while the ornamental designs cannot be surpassed in the United States.

Mr. Gilbert, Bishop of Gap, who has been a Knight of the Legion of Honour since 1856, has just been appointed an officer of the same order. It is thought that this step has been taken by the Government to show approval of the letter, which his lordship published some months ago. It will be remembered that in those letters the bishop maintained that the Church could be equally prosperous under every kind of government. The Soir is very well pleased with this nomination, for it considers it to be an encouragement to a bishop who has shown how it is possible to be a Catholic without being an Ultramontane.

RECEPTION BY THE POPE OF FRENCH PILGRIMS.—The pilgrims from Besencon had an audience of the Holy Father on the 1st Feb. They presented themselves under the leadership of their beloved archbishop, who was prepared with a beautifully wrought purse containing 150,000 francs, and an address breathing the warm love and veneration for the august person of the Pontiff of the faithful children of the historic archdiocese. The banner of the Franche Comte, unstained by the three great evils of Jansenism, Gallicanism, and Liberalism, was a fitting accompaniment to the money gift, and emblematic of the sturdy fidelity of the Franche Comte people to country and God. The Pope was touched by the scene and the devotion manifested, and there was much of his characteristic vigour in his accents as he replied. He deplored the errors into which modern thought and modern political developments had precipitated many peoples mainly Catholic; and in the instance of Italy, he said that while the majority were well-intentioned, they had been seduced by a comparatively small sect of crafty men. After the reception the Archbishop (Monsignor Paulinier), accompanied by the bishops of Cahors, Nîmes, and St. Die, had special audience in the library.

TEMPERLEY NEW CHURCH.—This remarkably beautiful building, which is being erected is rapidly approaching completion, so that with the opening of summer it will be ready for consecration, when a mission will be commenced by the Redemptorist Fathers of Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick. It is 92 feet long from the apse to the end of the nave, and 72 feet wide at the transepts. The roof will be an open stained one. The style is the Early English and with a tower and belfry it will be one of the most beautiful parish churches in North Tipperary or in the diocese of Kilkalee. The Rev. Michael Gleeson, P. P., is making strenuous exertions in raising subscriptions to complete the edifice, while his curate, the Rev. Denis O'Brien, is on a collecting tour through the principal parts of Ireland and England, and it is hoped that he will meet with every success. Temperley is a parish that deserves much for its high national tone. It was here the gifted and patriotic Father John Kenyon died. It was in this parish he spent the chief part of his ministerial life, and in it he has left a memory, that will live in the hearts of the parishioners, of all that was praiseworthy in a priest of God, and noble in the aspirations of a patriot.

The Catholic Columbian speaks sharply of a certain class of Catholics who are possessed of more self-conceit than faith: "But just now the American Church has grown into enough importance to attract that class of men whose instincts make them deny all connection with her in former times. This brings counterfeited Irish Catholics around her, who, while waiting some chance to get temporal profit have leisure to form a party, to impede good enterprises, to insinuate suspicions, and foment discords. These are they who look upon what is given for God's sake as so much income, and strain their wits to lay hand upon a share of it; who, if they contract for a church building, expect a larger profit than for a secular job; if they solicit help for the orphans think it right to pay themselves for the trouble by a percentage of what they collect. These are they, who, speak of churches—and works of God—as if they were the fruits of taxation, and call the generous offerings of pious people something that Catholics are taxed for and debts fearlessly incurred with reliance on Almighty God, as burdens on lay people created against their will. Those people neither feel nor understand with the Church. Their views and sympathies are on the other side. They talk about danger of the Church's losing them. Why, they are lost already. To be out of the Church, they have not to change—but only to strip off the mask."

CARD. MANNING ON CHURCH MUSIC.—His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster has addressed to his clergy the following "Pastoral Letter on the Music to be used in Divine Worship":—

"REV. AND DEAR FATHER.—The state of our Church music has now for a long time occupied my serious attention, but I have been anxious to wait until some of the Bishops should have formed and expressed a judgment on this subject. The Bishop of Beverley has now done so, and has addressed to his clergy two Pastoral letters very carefully weighed and written. They so nearly express my own mind that I have directed the greatest part of them to be reprinted for your use.

"The first letter is on Church music in general, and I have prefixed it to a translation of the decree of the Fourth Provincial Council of Westminster, in order that all organists may be made thoroughly aware of its prescriptions.

"I request special attention to the following points:—

- "1. That no music taken or adapted from the theatre, the opera, concerts, or become familiar by secular usage, shall be introduced into the Holy Mass or the Rite of Benediction, or by way of voluntaries or interludes. The Church has its own music, and to this I request that all organists will strictly confine themselves.
- "2. That in Requiem Masses the organ shall not be used; and the music shall be strictly of the plain chant.
- "3. That in Lent and Advent the organ shall be silent excepting on Mid-Lent and Mid-Advent Sunday.

"The second letter about the Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament is of especial value and I request attention to the following points:—

- "1. That all solos shall cease.
- "2. That the Litanies shall be led by two cantors at least.
- "3. That the music of the Litanies be as congregational as possible.
- "4. That the Divine Praises be said coram Sanctissimo, by the officiant as soon as he returns to his place, before the deacon begins to replace the Holy Sacrament in the tabernacle.

"After this, and not before it the organ may commence the 'Adeamus in Eternum,' etc.

"May all blessings be with you in your zealous care for the glory of our Divine Master in the Sanctuary. I am, reverend and dear father, your affectionate servant in Christ. HENRY EDWARD, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Archbishop's House, Jan. 25th, 1877."

THE LATE FATHER McDONALD, OF DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND.—The Very Rev. Archibald McDonald died at the clergy house, Dumfries, on Friday, 26th January. The sad event occurred after a protracted illness of three months, during which the piety, patience, and resignation of the deceased edified all who approached him. Prayers for the dead were read by the Rev. Father Agnew and his assistant, Rev. Father O'Neill; after which the whole congregation remained a considerable time in silent supplications, many continuing their prayers until a late hour. After Mass the Very Rev. Father Vaughan, of Kinnoull-hill, Perth, preached from the words: "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." The sermon being ended, the funeral procession was formed. It consisted of the school children dressed in white, with black sashes; the Marist Brothers, in the habit of their order; a numerous body of the clergy, among whom were represented the Franciscans, the Redemptorists, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, all in their religious habits; the coffin borne shoulder high; the bishop in mitre, cope, and crozier; and his assistants in full vestments. The procession descended to the vaults beneath the sanctuary; and while the coffin was being carried down the steps, the school children from above strewed it with flowers. Father McDonald was born in Perthshire. He studied at the Scotch College, Valladolid, and lastly at St. Sulpice, in Paris; was ordained priest at the age of 25 years, and sent to Dundee, where he laboured for upwards of 20 years in the capacity of curate, parish priest, and vicar general to the late Bishop Gillis. He governed the vicariate between the death of that prelate and the appointment of the present bishop, Dr. Strain. Though only curate at the time, he may be said to have been the principal mind in the erection of St. Mary's Church, Dundee. He was also instrumental in establishing a convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Lochee; and in founding the Redemptorist Fathers' at Kinnoull Hill, Perth. He gave the fathers the use of his own house for two years while their monastery was being built. His last work in Dundee was the purchase of a larger house for the Marist Brothers, ten of whom he has left in charge of three flourishing boys' schools, attended by upwards of 1,000 children. Providence then called him to another field of labour. In Dumfries he found a benefactor in the late Honorable Marmaduke Maxwell, of Terregles. The plans for enlarging the parish church were soon conceived and executed, and then a boys' school and teacher's house seemed indispensable. He began the good work; and having carried it on through unpeakable difficulties, left it flourishing under the direction of the Marist Brothers. His last labour of love and disinterested zeal was the founding of a novitiate and boarding school of the Marist Brother sin Dumfries. Almost every inhabitant of Dumfries remembers what bitter complaints were promulgated when it was understood that the old infirmary was to be turned into a monastery. It is now a flourishing institution, affording board and education to 70 boys from different parts of the world. A novitiate was formally approved by the Holy See, and has within three years established two other branch houses, one in Jarroon-Tyne and another in Edinburgh. Among patrons Father McDonald was the most liberal; among pastors the most watchful, attentive, tender and consoling; to his brother priests most agreeable, warm-hearted, and hospitable; and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, believed and esteemed him even to veneration. May his soul rest in peace, while his name will go down to posterity in the annals of the good works he has left behind him.

PROGRESS OF CATHOLICITY IN SCOTLAND.—During the thirty years which have passed since the

Franciscan Nuns established themselves in Glasgow they have taken a very large share, and one that is becoming daily larger both in the city itself and in other parts of Scotland, in the great work of Catholic Education. As this work is undoubtedly one of the most important that the Church has to do and one of her strongest helps to her progress in Scotland, a short sketch of the past labours and present condition of the above community may be interesting to our readers. The settlement of the sisters in Glasgow was owing principally to one of the city priests, Father Peter Forbes, who had seen for a long time the great need that there was of such a community in a city where many of the Catholic children were being brought up in Protestant schools. Being in France in the summer of 1846, visiting the Convent of Our Lady of Angels, at Tourcoing, in the Archdiocese of Cambrai, Father Forbes spoke to the sisters there of his idea of founding a community in Glasgow, in the hope that some one or other might be found hopeful enough to see a chance of success in the plan, and courageous enough to realize it. Two of the nuns were particularly impressed by what he told them of the state of matters at home, and of the noble work that was waiting for some able and willing hands. Without much consideration they volunteered at once, and offered to set out for Glasgow immediately. However, on their asking permission to do so from their archbishop, he told them to wait a little, think the matter over, and if after twelve months, they were still of the same mind, to come and tell him so. Next year came and found Sisters Adelaide and Veronica as anxious to set off as ever; and set off they did, with the permission of the archbishop on Corpus Christi, 3rd June, 1847, taking with them Madlle Marchand, a lady of means, who thought she could not employ her money more usefully than in helping the two brave nuns in their first struggles in Scotland. She afterwards joined the community. Towards the middle of June the three arrived in Glasgow. It would take too long to tell of all the preliminary anxieties and disappointments they had to go through before they got fairly settled down at all. It will be enough to say that after a great deal of trouble they at last set up house in Montethrow, a quiet place in the East-end of the city. By the end of 1851 there were 16 sisters in the little convent; by 1852 there were already 26. Their own school would hardly have given them all employment, but other and heavier work was soon found for them. Large poor-schools had been opened in the missions of St. Andrew, St. John, and St. Joseph, and the managers thought they could not do better than entrust the work of teaching to the sisters. By 1851, the house was already too small for them. Another was bought in the same street and taken possession of early in the next year. Additional school and house buildings, and a neat chapel were put up; and by February 1852, (the chapel was opened on the Feast of the Purification) Sister Veronica, only three years from the day when her companion died, and she herself seemed to have no prospect but of returning to France, found herself with a thriving community, well housed, and with good schools. The first chapter and election took place in 1854 when, as might be expected, Mother Veronica was chosen superioress. One of her first works was to establish a branch-house at Inverness; and two years afterwards she opened another at Aberdeen. In the same year 1856, the number of nuns, boarders, and day scholars had so much increased that the adjoining property had to be purchased. A few details will give a better idea of their work.—In the Convent at Charlotte street, Glasgow, there are 55 Sisters; at the orphanage, seven; in Inverness, five; Aberdeen, nine; Greenock, eight. Of these 59 are choir and 23 lay sisters. In Glasgow they have two middle-class schools—one for boarders, the other for day scholars—with in all nearly 200 pupils. The other three middle-class schools in Inverness, Aberdeen and Greenock have 184 pupils, bringing the total for middle-class schools up to 380. Of the ten parochial schools, as already stated, one is in Greenock, one in Inverness, and one in Aberdeen. The remaining seven are in Glasgow—i. e., those of St. Andrew's, St. John's, St. Patrick's, St. Francis', St. Alphonsus', St. Mary's, and the Sacred Heart. Each of these ten schools, two only excepted, has its three separate departments—day, night and infants—so that in reality there are 26 distinct schools: ten day schools for girls over seven years of age, eight infant, and eight night schools, each having its separate staff of teachers. The total average of girls attending these schools is 4,021; 2,264 between the ages of seven and thirteen, 937 infants, and 820 generally above the age of thirteen attending the night schools. Of this number, of course, by far the largest contribution is from Glasgow: its numbers reach the grand total of 3,259; 1,675 day, 576 evening, and 828 infants. Besides this, the industrial school has 170 girls, who, besides the usual school work, are taught in sewing and knitting and household and laundry work. Finally there are the Sunday schools, in which religious instruction is given to an average of 5,000 girls. This is the work done by the sisters. Let us see how it is done. We have a sure test in the reports of inspectors whose high and responsible position prevents any suspicion of partiality. All but two of the 26 poor schools and their two evening schools are under Government inspection; and by seeing how the work is done in them, we shall at the same time be able to have a good guess of how it is done in the middle-class and Sunday schools which are not inspected. If we look now for a moment again at the past, and remember that the number of children in the parochial schools first entrusted to the sisters' care in 1850 was about 800, and that the number has been steadily growing till it has reached its present high figure of 3,629 in Glasgow, and 4,575 in all the schools, and if we bring the average attendance of scholars during 26 years to one average taking in the whole period, we shall have a daily attendance of no less than 2,110 children. If we suppose, then, that each child remains, say five years at school, we shall find that 10,773 children have passed through the sisters' hands during their 26 years' work, each child receiving five years of good religious, moral, and secular education. The rule observed by the community is that of St. Francis for the Third Order of Penance, approved by Pope Nicholas IV., and confirmed (for members of the order living in community) by Pope Leo X. A special approbation for their recently revised constitutions has been also received from the congregation of Propaganda, confirmed by the Pope. Curiously enough, it was in the very first year of the pontificate of Pius IX. that the very first step was taken towards the formation of this community, and their work seems to have shared in the special blessings which have been given to all the undertakings of the Church during his reign. This then is briefly an account of the sisters' thirty years of hard work for Catholic education. Considering the great good they have done already, and the still greater that they are sure to do as their field of labour widens and their number increased—as they are increasing every day—one may be justified in looking upon this community as likely to be an important factor in the working out of the problem of Scotland's conversion. Certainly, for the mass of vice and irreligion which surrounds us in this country, and chokes, as it were, the Church's efforts to extend herself, no more active, purifying agent could be found than this earnest body of single-minded women bent on sacrificing themselves by saving others, and sending out every year a fresh corps of well instructed young people, confirmed in goodness and purity to do the great work that can be done by good example.—Corr. of Catholic Times.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

The floods in county Armagh are unprecedented. A considerable portion of the Great Northern line, between Madden bridge and Portadown, is covered with water to a depth of five or six inches.

Ireland is not a very large place, but it contains the largest lake (Lough Neagh) in all Europe. It contains the longest river (the Shannon) in the three kingdoms, and the highest salmon leap (Ballyshannon) perhaps in the world.

PEACE PRESERVATION ACT.—By proclamations in the Dublin Gazette, the Lord Lieutenant has relieved the county of Kilkenny and Queens County of the restrictions of the Peace Preservation Act applied to them in 1868. The proclamations took effect on the 10th ult.

An address, accompanied by a splendid gold watch and chain has been presented by the parishioners of Borrisoleigh and Leigh to their late curate, the Rev. James Hickey, C.C., on the occasion of his leaving them for the parish of Ballingarry, County Tipperary.

IRISH UNIVERSITY EDUCATION QUESTION.—The Irish Catholic prelates have communicated to Mr. Butt their intention to hold forth with a series of diocesan meetings in support of his University Bill. It is stated that their decision in its favour has caused quite a sensation among the students of the Catholic University.

A Galway man, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, has been selected Comptroller-General of the Finances of Egypt. Mr. Fitzgerald was sent from the War Office to India in 1863, in order to revise the India accounts' system. It was intended that the employment should be temporary, but Mr. Fitzgerald proved too valuable a servant and he was retained on the permanent staff after five year's labour.

At the meeting of the Dublin Corporation on Jan. 29, a letter was read from Dr. Caulfield, Cork, asking the Council to accept a copy of his work entitled "The Council Book of the Corporation of Cork," which the letter explained, included the records up to the year 1643, and from 1690 to 1800. On the motion of Sir George Owens, seconded by Mr. Warren, the work was received, and the thanks of the Council passed to Dr. Caulfield.

Patrick Commins, T.C., proprietor of the Commins Commercial Hotel, Waterford, died, on January 23rd, after a long illness. Mr. Commins, who was brother of the Rev. George Commins, C.C., and of Alderman Commins, ex-Mayor of Waterford, was generally esteemed for his business qualities and kindness of heart, the best proof of which was the long and most respectable cortege which followed his remains to their last resting place in Knockboy.

A couple of Irishmen distinguished themselves on January 26, at the great Cambridge (England) University Mathematical Tripos examination. The fifth on the list of Wranglers was M. C. V. Coates, son of Mr. James Coates, of Belfast, a graduate of the Queen's University in Ireland; and the eleventh on the list was the Hon. Charles Algernon Parsons, brother of the present Earl of Rosse, who was educated in Trinity College, Dublin.

On Jan. 27th, Sir Arthur and Lady Olive Guinness, accompanied by Mr. Burke, paid a visit on foot to Cong, where they entered all the poorer habitations of the town, minutely inspecting them and cheering the occupants with encouraging promises of soon making them comfortable, and not leaving without bestowing some proofs of their charity and benevolence. It is understood that Sir Arthur intends to improve generally the condition of all his tenantry.

The viaduct crossing the river Nore at Jerpoint, full, on Jan. 30th, during the prevalence of a severe storm which raged over the county. By the fall of this viaduct communication between the cities of Waterford and Kilkenny by the Limerick, Waterford, and Central Ireland Railway will be interrupted for a considerable time. A new viaduct was in course of erection to supersede the original one which has fallen. Portions of the new bridge have also been carried away by the force of the wind. Much damage has resulted from the storm.

On January 30th, a young man named James Reilly, aged 22 years, was drowned near Trinity Island, Cavan. Deceased observing a number of wild fowl near the edge of the lake went into the house for a gun, which he discharged at them, and a wild duck having been wounded, he went out in an old "cot" to get possession of it, and when a few perches from the shore, the "cot" owing to the roughness of the water, overturned and sank, and he was drowned. The body was recovered near where the disaster took place.

The Freeman's Journal says:—"The Home Rulers have solemnly renounced all connection with the English Liberal party, and after that renunciation the action of the Liberal chief in sending a 'whip' to a Home Rule member is an impertinence that deserves to be resented. Major O'Gorman is perfectly right in reminding the noble leader of the Whig party that to him the Home Rulers owe no allegiance; that with his followers they have no solidarity, and that he has no right whatever to address to him his summonses and ukases. It is quite right and necessary to mark on all fitting occasions that the Home Rulers have no connection with an English party."

On Sunday, Jan. 28th, a terrific hurricane, accompanied by unprecedented lightning and thunder passed over the Islands of Arran. The gale commenced on Saturday evening and raged with unabated fury until Tuesday morning. The lightning struck the spire of the Protestant church situated in the centre of the village of Killoonan, and literally set belfry, roof, portion of front wall, gables and stones flying through the air. At the time the church was struck two young men were taking shelter under it in an angle of the wall near the vestry door, and strange, this is the only portion of the wall that remains uninjured. The sea was never observed so high around Arran. Great panic and excitement prevailed in the place during the existence of the storm.

An address, signed by 148 students and ex-students of the Catholic University, was presented to Mr. Butt, M.P., in Dublin, on the evening of January 26th, thanking him for his efforts to settle the Irish University question, and urging him to renew those efforts in the ensuing session. Mr. Butt, in the course of his reply, expressed his belief that the best mode of solving the question would be to unite two distinct Colleges into one national University, rather than to have two distinct and separate Universities, and he pointed out the advantages that would result from constituting Trinity College, with its splendid associations, the national University, in which Catholics in their separate College would have a partnership.

The agricultural returns for 1876, show that the total quantity of land returned in 1876, as under all kinds of crops, bare fallow, and grass, amounted for Ireland to a total of 15,725,000 acres. In corn crops in one year there has been a decrease for Ireland alone of 68,000 acres. The cultivation of flax has increased, but it is still little more than half what it was in 1867. It is noticeable that the acreage under the head of potatoes was during 1876 considerably less than at any time in the past

decade. The stock of cattle has also decreased. Of sheep in Ireland a decrease of nearly a quarter of a million, or 54 per cent, has occurred, the number of sheep being in 1876, 4,006,000, against 4,248,000 in 1875, and 4,438,000 in 1875. The stock of pigs is increasing.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE.—A strange case has opened before the Master of the Rolls in Dublin. Mr. Philip Sheridan Lefanu, son of the celebrated novelist, who was also author of the famous poem, "Shamus O'Brien," is seeking to have certain deeds set aside under which he conveyed away property in the neighbourhood of Dublin for a sum greatly below its value. It is alleged that he has been for years a person of dissipated habits, and in needy circumstances, and that in the course of 1874, after his father's death, he fell into the hands of Mr. Dutch, a money-lender, who encouraged his vicious propensities, supplied him with the means of indulging them, and ultimately induced him to enter into a highly improvident bargain, by which he parted with all his property for a nominal consideration.

A very large and enthusiastic meeting of the surrounding parishes was held at Headford on Feb. 1st. The object of the meeting was to protest against the exorbitant demands made by some landlords in the districts on their tenantry. Landlord's receipts were produced at the meeting and handed in by the tenants as evidence showing that the rent now demanded was 300 per cent. over what the tenants were paying heretofore. In some instances, and in other cases where a fine equal to what ought to be the fee-simple was demanded, besides paying the present rent annually. Despite of great opposition given by some of the landlord class, who tried to keep their tenantry from the meeting, it was a large and successful one, and resulted in a great deal of practical work being done. The meeting, which comprised over 2,000 persons, was held close to the Parish Chapel, in the vicinity of which a platform was erected.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.—On the 24th ult., Mr. Peter Sheridan of Dublin enclosed to Mr. Gladstone printed copies of two letters recently published by him, and in his letter stated that he always had been a supporter of the "so-called Liberal party up to 74," but that at the present time it was difficult to know what English party to trust as far as Ireland was concerned. To this the following reply, was received from Chippenham, as usual on a post card:—"Sir—I thank you for your letter and enclosure which have followed me to a distant quarter. I have no responsibility for the proceedings of the Liberal party, but I have also a pretty decided opinion, I am afraid not in accordance with yours, as to the relations between that party and the greater part of Ireland, in respect to which country at least it seems to me that it has been something more than a so-called Liberal party."

VICEREGAL SNUG TO THE LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN.—We (Freeman) perceive by the official lists that on Thursday evening his Grace the Lord Lieutenant gave what may be called the inaugural Viceroyal dinner party. To it were invited the Mayor of Cork, the Mayor of Belfast, the ex-Mayor of Belfast, the High Sheriffs of Down, Waterford, Antrim, Londonderry, and a number of distinguished private individuals. Afterwards there was an evening party, to which the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Dublin (had the honour of being invited.) Last evening (Friday) there was another dinner party, to which the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Dublin were invited. The order of precedence observed on the two occasions will be duly appreciated by the citizens of the capital of Ireland. It is, perhaps, a question altogether for the taste of his Grace; but we may say that we doubt the course observed on the occasion is calculated to stimulate admiration for the Viceroyal office amongst the citizens or their representatives.

DEATH OF ANOTHER NATIONALIST.—The hand of death is rapidly thinning the devoted band of men who have given their young lives to the holy cause of Ireland and freedom. On Saturday last, 3rd inst., Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of 22 City quay, died at the early age of 26 years, leaving behind him a memory which will not soon die out amongst those who had the pleasure of knowing him in life. An ardent lover of his country, he devoted himself in season and out of season to the task of lifting his Fatherland up to his ideal of a nation free independent, and happy. His was no mere passing enthusiasm, but he carried with him a set determined purpose, and a resolve to do and dare everything for the darling object of his ambition. But, alas! consumption—that deadly foe to those who think and toil too much—set in and carried him off before the powers of his mind were developed, and ere he could see the fruition of his labours. Peace be to his ashes, and may his life not have been wholly a vain one.—J. K.—Irishman.

This highly interesting journal of the Gazette, in which is published the proclamations of the Lord Lieutenant, and other documents relating to the government of Ireland, on Tuesday last made the welcome announcement that the County of Kilkenny and Queen's County have been relieved by proclamation from the operation of the "Peace Preservation Act," under which they had been placed in 1866. This act was in force since the time of its enactment all over Ireland, except in the County of Tyrone and the borough of Carrickfergus, up to 1875, when by proclamation it was removed from Carlow and Wexford. Last year the County of Dublin (outside the metropolitan police district), Kildare, Waterford, Wicklow, parts of Donegal, and parts of Fermanagh were also exempted from its operation. To these we have now to add the County of Kildare and Queen's County. The first part of the act which has been removed from the above counties prevents people having arms without a license. It therefore follows that people so disposed are free to have arms without a license in the counties of Dublin, Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Wexford, Waterford, Wicklow, Queen's County, and parts of Donegal and Fermanagh. This is one of the things not generally—but which should be well—known.—Dublin Irishman.

The great topic in commercial circles in the North is the ascending of Mr. W. J. Devlin, of Cookstown, who was recently sworn in as a magistrate for the co. Tyrone. Mr. Devlin was a flax dealer and general merchant in Cookstown and chairman of the Town Commissioners. He took an active part in the return of Mr. Macartney at the last election. He leaves liabilities amounting it is said, to £40,000. He has been some time embarrassed about pecuniary and his difficulties reached a cli-max on 22d, January when he left town via Dungannon for Dublin, and has not since returned. It appears that he has compromised not only his own aristocratic and political patrons, but the small tenant farmers of the district, with whom his principal business was transacted, and to whom he was indebted in sums more or less considerable. An extraordinary scene was witnessed when his departure and the cause of it got noised abroad. Hundreds of his creditors poured in from the country districts and surrounded his house in a state of great excitement. At length they broke all bounds and rushed into the house, seizing chairs, sofas, coaches, pier glasses, &c., and carrying them away until, in a short time, the house presented the appearance of a looted barracks, in besieged town. Those who could not make an entrance in the front made a flank movement in the rear, and entered the stables, taking the horses, machines, and every available chattel about the premises. A warrant has been issued for his apprehension.