

Meantime, after his failure at the hall-door, Ned Fennell had rushed into the yard. Flames were issuing through the open doorway of the hay-loft, and with them came a very horrible clamor and clatter from the poor idiots within it; each wretched being expressing, in his own accustomed phraseology, the frantic fears that possessed him. So that much of the ludicrous ran strangely through the fearfulness of the scene. Ned Fennell's flesh crept; but he was about to bound up the step-ladder, when, his scanty portion of attire fringed with burning blades of hay, the colossal Mickie appeared at its top, and crying out:—"a-rodge! a-rodge! come out o' that, murder o' Heaven! come out o' that a-rodge!" leaped into the yard, clear over Ned Fennell's head, rolled about for an instant on the ground, then gathered himself up, and clambering into the kitchen-window, galloped through the house, as he had entered it.

Immediately after, Ned Fennell was groping his way through the dense smoke with which the hay-loft was filled. Louder than ever came the screeches and gabble of the poor fools upon his ear. He called out to them, over and over, to approach the doorway and escape. The obstinate creatures only strove to hide themselves closer in the hay. Choking with the smoke, he groped about, and seized one of them.

"No, you begging bochach," cried this person. "No, we're free! no hoult is to be laid on us! By herrins, I'll—" But here Ned Fennell twisted him down the step-ladder.

Three more of them Ned saved in the same manner; encountering from each similar resistance, though in different ways. To accomplish his purpose with Paddy Moran, the vicious and dangerous idiot, he was obliged to thump him well, and stun him with repeated blows on the head, aimed as well as he could with his right hand, while he held him tight with his left. He knew that there was yet another—the poor deaf and dumb simpleton; but he, alas, must be left to perish. Ned no longer had a second's time to search for him. The fire was rapidly gaining upward; even at this moment of terrible excitement, he had presence of mind enough to perceive that it had been kindled near the doorway. And excited indeed he was; his own brain and marrow felt to him as if on fire too. He began to tear away the blazing hay nearest to him, and toss it into the yard; in a few seconds he gave God thanks, to hear some one else laboring at his side. The smoke cleared away a little, and again he fervently thanked Heaven that it was the poor trebly afflicted being whom he had given up for lost.

The swinging clash and roar of the town-bell now broke upon him. Shortly after he heard the breaking in of the hall-door, and he had help enough. Half-dressed men and lads filled the yard, and bounded up the ladder, into the hay-loft; and in half an hour, by their agency, and that of a good pump to their hands, in a corner, all was safe.

"God bless you, my son," said the voice of Father Connell, addressing Ned, as for the last time, he was burying down the ladder—"they told me that the fire was in this direction and I had a great fear for the house that my son lived in, and I could not stay away from it. God bless you, Neddy, my boy."

Ned sprang to him. They kissed each other on the cheeks, and Edmund bent his knee to the old priest, as the "God bless you" was repeated; then, still half-choking and burnt, though not dangerously, in the face and hands, he hurried Father Connell up to Nick M'Grath's bed-room, preparing him on the way, in a few words, with an account of what had recently happened there.

On entering the apartment, he started in great surprise and some consternation, at seeing the spot where so very lately he had left Costigan so well tied up, now quite unoccupied, except by fragments of the "good strong rope," which Ned had so boastfully coiled and knotted round and round him. The uncomfortable threats of the old ruffian returned to his mind;—and this sudden escape seemed to give by no means a pleasant earnest of their being carried into effect. He returned in a race to the yard, whispered Tom Nuddy, whom he had seen there among the crowd, and in a few bounds regained the bed-room.

Ned and Father Connell looked about them for Nick M'Grath. He was still crippled up in the corner, and still smiling, though almost insensible.

"Oh, sir," said Ned to his companion, "it was for this I brought you here."

They raised the old man to his bed, and undressed, and covered him up well. Ned then ran for a physician, speedily returned with one, and poor Nick M'Grath, having been judiciously bled, gradually shook of the first approach of an apoplectic attack, and regained his senses. Other comforting treatment was applied, and he expressed a wish to be left alone with Father Connell.

Their interview was a long one—it should have been mentioned that they were old friends. Father Connell summoned Edmund Fennell, to call in another professional person—an attorney. In much alarm, the lad inquired if his old master was dangerously ill; the priest said, not at present. The man of law arrived, and he and Father Connell spent some time at Nick M'Grath's bedside. After this, the poor "buffalo-man" seemed much at his ease, and recovering fast. In a few days following he was dead; and as Father Connell and his adopted son sat together, after his funeral, the former acquainted Neddy Fennell that, by virtue of a will, lying in his, Father Connell's desk, and witnessed by himself, Nick M'Grath, not having any relations that he knew of, had bequeathed to the person who had saved his life from the robber's hand, and whom previously he had loved, almost as if he were his own child, all his acquired money, in different shapes, together with his stock in trade, and the interest in his little, old, dingy house, and interest in other houses of the town.

The only drawback on the full amount of the bequest, was a legacy of a hundred pounds to Nelly Breehaz. But Ned could not have been the worse of this; for was not she dead? No—all the credit of fair intentions to kill her with her own kitchen poker, as well as all the inward gratification resulting from the certainty that she had been so disposed of, we accord indeed to the amiable young person who, after Nelly herself, had most to do with the question; dead, however, she was not, but, on the contrary, quite alive and up, to receive her little fortune, and to enjoy it in a quiet relief from worldly care and labor.

(To be Continued.)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE HIERARCHY IN IRELAND ON EDUCATION.

The following are the resolutions unanimously adopted by the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland at a meeting held in Dublin:

"We hereby declare our unalterable conviction that Catholic Education is indispensably necessary for the preservation of the faith and morals of our Catholic people.

"In union with the Holy See and the Bishops of the Catholic world, we again renew our often repeated condemnation, of mixed education as intrinsically and grievously dangerous to faith and morals, and tending to perpetuate dissensions, insubordination, and disaffection in this country.

"Recent events known to all, and especially the acts of secret societies, and of revolutionary organisations, have strengthened our convictions, and furnished conclusive evidence that Godless education is subversive not only of religion and morality, but also of domestic peace, of the rights of property, and of all social order.

"As religious equality, which, according to the constitution of this country, is our inalienable right, is incomplete without educational freedom and equality, we demand as a right that in all the approaching legislation on the subject of education, the principle of educational equality shall be acted on.

"We repudiate the pretensions of those who, holding different religious principles from ours, seek to violate the civil rights of our Catholic people by forcing upon us a system of education repugnant to our religious convictions, and destructive alike of our temporal and eternal welfare.

"In the efforts to force Godless education on this country, we recognize another phase of persecution for conscience sake. Hence, following the example of our fathers, who sacrificed all earthly interests, and life itself, rather than imperil their faith, we shall never cease to oppose to the utmost of our power the Model Schools, Queen's Colleges, Trinity College, and all similar institutions dangerous to the faith and morals of Catholics.

"We call on our Members of Parliament, as representatives of the feelings and interests of their constituents to sustain the principles embodied in these resolutions in Parliament and elsewhere, and to oppose any political party that will attempt to force upon this country any Godless scheme of education, or refuse to redress our admitted educational grievances.

"In future elections of members of Parliament and other representatives we pledge ourselves to oppose the return of any candidate who will not uphold the principle of denominational education for our Catholic people.

"Knowing the zealous attachment of our people to the Catholic faith, we invite them to hold meetings and sign petitions in their respective parishes under the guidance of their clergy, making known their determination to accept no system of education except in conformity with the principles here announced.

"We request his Eminence Cardinal Cullen, Archbishop of Dublin, to take immediate steps towards the establishment of a central training-school for the training of Catholic teachers, and we pledge ourselves to assist his Eminence by our subscriptions, and by our best influence in our respective Dioceses.

"Contemplating with deep concern the melancholy wreck in other quarters of all order, moral and social, mainly caused by the wide diffusion of a literature immoral and hostile to religion and society, we, the divinely-constituted guardians of the spiritual interests of our people, solicitous, moreover, for their welfare, and following the example of the faithful, emphatically warn our flocks to abstain from the perusal of all publications, in whatever form, in which the maxims of our holy religion and its ministers are misrepresented and assailed, and principles inculcated subversive to society, order, and Christian morality.

"These resolutions will be read on the first convenient Sunday at one of the public masses in each of the churches and chapels in this kingdom.

(Signed)—PATRICK CULLEN, Archbishop of Dublin; GEORGE CONROY, Bishop of Armagh; JAMES M'DEVIET, Bishop of Raphoe, Secretaries to aid in carrying out the tenth resolution."

The Bishops present opened a subscription, the following contributing £100:—Cardinal, Archbishop of Armagh, Archbishop of Tuam, Archbishop of Cashel, Bishops of Derry, Cloyne, Kerry, Dromore, Galway, Down and Connor, Limerick, Kilmore, Elphin, Glogher, Ardagh, and Raphoe.

HOME RULE: AN ANSWER FOR THE OBJECTORS.

For several weeks the *Coric Examiner* has been engaged in the publication of an able series of earnest and closely-reasoned articles on the Home Rule movement, the effect of which on the minds of moderate politicians must be of considerable importance. We give the following extract from a late article, in which our contemporary examines and answers the various objections alleged against the movement by timid sympathisers and secret enemies:—

Is the demand for Home Rule revolutionary?—has it the remotest analogy to the French Revolution and the worship of the Goddess of

Reason? We might as well ask, has it any connection with the mysteries of Mumbo Jumbo, or with the rebellion in Jamaica? It is revolutionary, that Progress is revolutionary, that higher Education is revolutionary, that Improvement is revolutionary. In this sense Home Rule is a very great and very striking revolution; but it is one which would elevate and bless this nation, not one which would plunge it in anarchy and confusion. The noblest and purest of the patriots of the Irish Parliament resisted with all their might, with a courage of soul, and a splendour of eloquence, and a force of reasoning, never surpassed in any assembly of the world, the destruction of that which Home Rule would restore, but on a safer and a surer basis; and the men were not revolutionists. They had no connection or sympathy with the Protestant and Presbyterian United Irishmen of the North, whose revolutionary character was the result of the persistent opposition of the governments of the day to every demand for Reform, and every attempt to remedy the shocking abuses and corruptions by which and through which an evil faction ruled and robbed this country—they had no connection with the Catholic peasants who, goaded by the most hellish provocations, the ferocity and lust of a brutal soldiery, rose in mad rebellion, and braved, with desperate valour, the trained discipline of a regular army. Grattan, Ponsoby, Bushe, Plunket, Curran, and a host of other men, to whom none but soulless churls would deny the loftiest meed of praise, were the most consistent supporters of law and order, the most determined opponents of violent policies, violent means, violent measures. They were, in fact, as Conservative as Edmund Burke, whose horror of the excesses of the French Revolution almost drove him to the opposite extreme; and yet these men fought like lions against the surrender by placemen and corruptionists of the national life of their country. Now, why with one breath honour the patriotism of these giants of the past, and fowl with the worst epithets the attempts to restore, we repeat, in a better and safer form, that which they so gallantly strove to protect from destruction? Was it lawful in those men to declare that England was incompetent to deal with Irish affairs and Irish interests? Was it mad, or foolish, or wicked—may, was it "revolutionary"—on the part of those men to try and preserve to the people of this island the right of managing their own business, watching over their own interests, attending to their own wants? Of course you say, "No"—and you say truly; for otherwise their names would not have been enshrined as they are in the inmost heart of the Irish race. Then, if so, where is there anything mad, foolish, wicked, or revolutionary in attempting through the ways—the broad, open paths of the law and the constitution—may, in the very blaze of the noonday sun—to give back to Ireland and her people that power and authority?

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

MEETING OF THE AMNESTY ASSOCIATION.—An extraordinary special meeting of the committee of this association was held on Monday evening in their rooms, in the Mechanics' Institute, Lower Abbey-street, to receive and consider the reply of her Majesty to the petition forwarded by Mr. P. J. Smyth, M.P., praying for the release of the remainder of the political prisoners still unparoled, including the soldiers tried by court-martial for Fenianism, and those convicted of aiding in the rescue of Kelly and Deasy at Manchester, when Police-Sergeant Brett was shot. There was a crowded attendance of members. Shortly after eight o'clock the chair was taken amid loud applause by ISAAC BUTT, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

Mr. Nolan, hon. sec., said he had received a letter, which Mr. P. J. Smyth had been sent by command of her Majesty, and also one from Mr. Smyth himself, apologising for his unavoidable absence from the council. He then read the following letter:—

WHITEHALL, October 17, 1871.

"Sir—I am commanded by her Majesty to acknowledge the receipt of a petition of the people of Dublin, adopted at a public meeting held in the Phoenix Park on the 3rd of September last, praying for the release of certain persons who were not included in the recent amnesty, being soldiers convicted by court-martial for Fenianism, and prisoners implicated in the rescue of a political prisoner at Manchester, purporting—it does not appear on what authority—to represent the wishes of the Irish people. Her Majesty accepts, and has acted on the principle, that political offences should, when the danger arising from them has passed away, in conformity with the sentiment of the age, be treated with leniency; but the murder of Police-Sergeant Brett was not, in her Majesty's judgment, a political offence, and still less can she consent to place in that category the conduct of those who, by perjury and inhuman acts, have brought disgrace on the profession of gallant soldiers. Her Majesty commands me to add that, while she recognises the humane feelings which have suggested a prayer of this nature, she cannot but regret that it been presented, as it might naturally raise hopes which could only end in disappointment.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

"H. A. BRUCE.

"Patrick James Smyth, Esq., M.P."

The New York correspondent of the *Irish Times* the other day took upon himself to declare that some of the best educated and ablest of the Irish exiles recently deported to the United States from English prisons had so far abandoned the error of their ways that the grant of a Federal Parliament for Ireland would reconcile their "irreconcilability" to England, sufficiently atone for centuries of misgovernment of their native land, and be compensation sufficient for their own sufferings in her cause. Now, we think we may safely meet this astounding assertion with a flat denial.

We don't believe that there is a word of truth in it. It is absurd to imagine that men who have risked their lives to give freedom to their country, and who have laboured heroically, and who are still working for something more than Home Rule, should now declare themselves willing to accept what they must regard as a mere instalment of justice as a payment in full. But we shall ere long have an authoritative pronouncement upon that point. Meantime, we just point out that one not undistinguished Irish exile—Mr. John Mitchell—is of a far different way of thinking. He says, in the *Irish Citizen*, "We would not move one step or pay one dollar to effect the simple and absolute Repeal of the Union between England and Ireland—still less would we value a federal or local parliament." But, nevertheless, he takes an interest in the agitation for Home Rule in Ireland, because "it will help to arouse the Irish, to exasperate the English, and generally to prepare for that most needful and much-prayed-for revolution." And we venture to assert that Mr. Mitchell is at least as well qualified to interpret the aspirations of the Irish exiles as the correspondent of the *Irish Times*.—*Dublin Irishman*.

IRELAND AND THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY.—A strong effort is to be made during the ensuing month to introduce the organisation of the International Society into Ireland, with a view to its taking root in that country. Up to the present time the objects and machinery of the International have found little, if any, favour in the sister country, but the Council sitting in London believe that the principles of the Association will be adopted by a large section of the Irish people.—*Correspondent Irish Times*.

A PROTESTANT MARTYR.—Mr. Horace Skimpole was not the only man who combined an artless ignorance in the business affairs of life with a singular capability in that form of sculpture known as chiselling your neighbour. If ever Dickens's hero was incarnate it is in the person of the Rev. J. Joy, a report of whose pecuniary adventures now lies before us. This lively clergyman, whose religious denomination has, we regret to say, been suppressed, when brought up charged by his landlady in connexion with some trifling articles of plate, her property, which the prisoner, of his own motion, hypothecated at a pawn-office, was confronted by no less than twenty-nine creditors, made so by direct process of borrowing, or by the sleight-of-hand of your picket-up of unconsidered trinkets. The story told by some of the injured parties disclosed an amount of mean imposture on one side and of stupid credulity on the other which one might say were well matched, and ought have had no other issue than that which resulted. Two witnesses gave £20 each to a private mission which Mr. Joy was projecting. This money was devoted to himself, and we certainly say it was properly appropriated, even though no conversion came of it. Other complainants detailed narratives of contributions bestowed on Mr. Joy's appeal for the suffering poor. He had, it appeared, an unlimited command of tears, and very probably the corresponding snuff. Both gifts, exercised together, are irresistible. There were many other charges of false pretences, while Nemesis from half a dozen lodging-houses identified the culprit as the man who had gone off not only without paying the rent, but carrying away souvenirs of his residence.—In his defence the prisoner was true to character. He weepingly declared his readiness to set for righteousness' sake, expressed confidence that Heaven would not abandon his servant, and wound up by submitting that he had all his life been afflicted by an inability to comprehend the value of money, an improvidence of habit, and a simplicity in dealing with other men, which were continually getting him into difficulty, and as often rendering him incapable of extricating himself. The reverend prisoner has been remanded for the present, and we can only sigh with the poet:—

Alas! that our Joys are so few.

—*Dublin Freeman*.

DEPLORABLE ACCIDENT.—It is with profound regret that we place on record a most deplorable domestic catastrophe which has happened in the family of our esteemed fellow citizen, Mr. Maxwell Hutton, J.P. Mr. Hutton has recently purchased the residence of Altador, near Bray. On Monday his little daughter, a beautiful child of ten years, was driving along the road, near the house, in a donkey-chaise, when the chaise was accidentally overturned, and the poor little girl killed on the spot. We are sure we can tender the universal sympathy of their fellow-citizens to Mr. Hutton and his family in their great bereavement.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF TUAM AND THE MAYO PRISON.—We are very glad to learn from the *Mayo Telegraph* that the suggestions made by his Grace, on the occasion of his recent visit to the Mayo prison, have been ordered by the Board of Superintendence to be complied with, and that in future the chapel is to be exclusively devoted to the celebration of Catholic worship, while another apartment in the establishment will be devoted to a like purpose for Protestant worship. We also learn that an order was given to provide the Catholic chaplain with all church requisites necessary in the performance of his clerical functions. This (our contemporary observes) speaks well for the liberality and Christian feeling which pervade the board, and proves to be a demonstration that the fell spirit of sectarian animosity is fast disappearing from our midst.—*Tuam Herald*.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT OF DUBLIN ON THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—At the last meeting of the Dublin Corporation, Alderman Durdin, Lord Mayor Elect, a Protestant and Conservative, said, in reply to a question put to him, that he was and always had been in favour of denominational education. He considered the Presbyterians, Protestants, and Catholics should have the money intended by the State for the purposes of education entrusted to them in proportion to their numbers.

A DIFFICULTY OF THE IRISH PROTESTANT CHURCH.—Under the new order of things, when a benefice becomes vacant, advertisements are put in the papers for candidates, who have then to go through the unapostolic ordeal of a rigorous canvass. This is looked on by pious persons as a scandal greater than even the old patronage system. However, there seems to be no disposition to mitigate the lay influence in the management of such matters.

CONC, Wednesday.—The labourers employed in all the large establishments in this city having served notice of a demand for an advance of wages to an uniform rate of three shillings a day, a meeting of the employers was held at the Commercial Buildings to-day.—Alderman Hill presiding—to consider the matter. After much discussion, the employers came to the determination that the demand was excessive, and that an uniform rate, irrespective of capacity, would be objectionable.

A MAN FOR GALWAY.—Who will be the new man for Galway? Will he be Liberal, Conservative, or Home Rule? These are questions Time in its inevitable round will answer. The appointment of the member from Galway to a lucrative foreign office, makes necessary an election at a time when Home Rule principles are being advanced by the triumph-

ant and often unopposed election of its staunchest advocates. Month, Westmeath and Limerick signalize its most recent and most glorious triumphs. Limerick is so recent that all are familiar with its incidents. The Home Rulers have determined that at every opportunity a candidate shall be presented for the suffrages of the electors. Such a course will tend to make this organization a powerful auxiliary in promoting the material prosperity of Ireland, which her truest sons believe can be best advanced by the management of the details thereof being placed with her own representatives.

Galway will be the scene of another contest for self-government, and taking faith from the past triumphs, victory will await the advocate of Home Rule who may be advanced as the representative of that cause. Home Rule will have about fifty adherents in the next Parliament, and this power is a force which even Gladstone must not openly ridicule, or his followers seek to suppress. Though Gladstone may complain that other business of the session is neglected by the persistence of the Irish in bringing forward questions concerning Ireland, we may not look for less persistency in the coming session.

The Irish offer generously to take most of this wearying business from the domain to which it is now confined, and in which they justly urge that the attention necessary to properly comprehend and legislate upon measures for Ireland cannot be bestowed. To strengthen and increase the force now demanding Home Rule, Galway will add another "man," and as candidates have not yet been announced the importance of the agitation now moving Ireland leads us to ask "who is the man for Galway?"

MURDER IN THE COUNTY MEATH.—One of those outrages of which happily this county has been free from for the past few years, took place on Sunday night at Carrigrohane, near the village of Moynalty, the victim being a small farmer named Edward Brien. It appears that between seven and eight o'clock on Sunday evening, Brien was sitting at the fire in his own house, when he was fired at from a small window in front of the house, the shot taking effect in the back of his neck, killing him on the spot. The Constabulary at Moynalty were soon apprised of the affair, and immediately turned out, and soon after a strong force from Kells, under Sub-Inspector McCormick, arrived at the place to make all inquiries relative to the occurrence. Later in the night a young man named Brien, nephew to the deceased, was arrested by the police on suspicion.—No reason can be assigned save that the deceased at the recent Quarter Sessions at Kells, served notice of ejectment on some persons, which was defended, but at the instance of the Chairman the amount of compensation was left to arbitration. An inquest will be held on the remains.—*Irish Times*.

There was a story long current in the Leinster family which illustrates the state of the title question at the period of which we are writing. It went by the name of "She is not well." The incumbent of a neighboring parish was staying at the house of that respectable nobleman, the Duke of Leinster.—He had been a guest there three or four days when, on Saturday night, as the visitors and family were retiring to rest, the Duke said, "We shall meet to-morrow at breakfast." "Not so," replied the reverend gentleman, "your Grace's hour is rather late for me. I am very particular in discharging my duty, and your breakfast would interfere with my church." The Duke was pleased with so proper an excuse, and they parted for the night. It was blessing to any mansion to harbor such a vicar. When his Grace, however, came down in the morning and entered the breakfast room, the first person whom he saw was the punctual parson tapping an egg, with a large slice of the best Tipperary ham before him, flanked by butter and hot rolls. "Delighted to see you, my dear vicar," said the Duke, "but surprised as well as delighted." "Oh, don't you know what has happened?" said the sacred feeder. "She is not well." "Who is not well?" asked the Duke. "You are not married—you've no sister living—I'm quite uneasy; tell me, who is not well?" "Why, the fact is, my lord Duke," returned the divine, "that my congregation consists of the clerk, the sexton, and the sexton's wife. Now the sexton's wife is in very delicate health; when she cannot attend, we cannot muster the number required by the rubric, and on that day, therefore, we have no service. This morning she has a cold and sore throat, so, as I had breakfasted but slightly, I had hurried back to the family dejeuner." The vicar's case was no unusual one in Ireland.—*Tablet*.

THE CLEANSING OF THE CROWN AND HAMPER.—Sir Patrick O'Brien, M.P., writes to the press stating that he is not a candidate for this Government appointment. The authorities are apparently again afraid to try the issue of a contest in the King's County.

THE HOME RULE ASSOCIATION.—At the last meeting of this Association, Sir George Bowyer and Mr. John F. Maguire, M.P., were, amongst others, admitted members. Alderman Durdin, Lord Mayor Elect, presided. Mr. Gladstone's infelicitous allusion at Aberdeen to the Irish fisheries, of which he evidently knew nothing, was the subject of much ridicule. The following resolution on the subject was adopted:—"That the continued refusal to comply with the strong and repeated recommendations of Committees of the House of Commons and loyal Commissions, that aid by way of loan should be given to the fishermen engaged in the Irish deep sea fisheries, supplies a striking illustration of the disadvantage which Irish industry sustains by the absence of Home Rule."

THE IRISH MEMBERS AND THE HIERARCHY.—A proposal of Mr. Aytoun's statements respecting the pressure exercised on Irish members by the Catholic hierarchy in Ireland, we have received the following communication from the pen of a well-known Protestant member of Parliament for an Irish county:—"I read Mr. Aytoun's absurd letter in the *Times* abroad, and had half a mind to reply to it. During the fourteen years in which I, a Protestant, have represented the Catholic county of — in Parliament, I do not think I was ever written to by Bishop or Priest to support any particular measure, except on one occasion, and that was on a subject in which Catholics and Protestants are equally interested, namely, as regards the Permissive Bill. During the same period I have no recollection of ever having been asked by Bishop or Priest to subscribe to any Catholic religious object. I have been in communication, of course, with prominent members of the Catholic hierarchy, on subjects of Catholic interest, but they have always reposed the most generous confidence in my desire to forward what I considered to be just demands."

The committee appointed by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland to revise the Liturgy are now holding their sittings and endeavouring, in a moderate and cautious spirit, to fulfil the trust reposed in them. There is a very full attendance, and the questions which arise upon the revision are fully and frankly discussed, with an anxious desire on the part of all to arrive at a result which will meet all reasonable objections, and establish peace and union in the Church. The only change of any importance which, up to the present, has been made is the omission of the damnable clauses of the Athanasian Creed. Some of the points under discussion are of a minute and trivial character, and these are the most likely to be troublesome, for hair-splitting is a process in which clergy and lawyers may engage with equal skill and zeal. It is expected that the revised Prayer Book will be a very mild and innocent production, but whether the laity will accept it is another question, which fortunately need not be discussed for some time, as the committee will