

THE CATHOLIC.

QUOD SEMPER, QUOD UBIQUE, QUOD AB OMNIBUS CREDITUM EST.—WHAT ALWAYS, AND EVERY WHERE, AND BY ALL IS BELIEVED.

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IRELAND.

SPEECH OF O'NEIL DAUNT

At a recent meeting of the Loyal National Repeal Association, Dublin.

Mr. O'NEIL DAUNT rose, and said he was desirous to move on their books the insertion of a passage from last Tuesday's *Times*, in order to preserve the record of the headlong hostility to Ireland, of the party whose sentiments were represented by that organ. Mr. D. then read the passage, as follows:—"A Repeal is not a matter to be argued on; it is a blow which despoils the Queen's domestic territory—splinters her crown—undermines, and then crushes her throne—exposes her to insults and outrage from all quarters of the earth and ocean: a Repeal of the Union leaves England stripped of her vitality. Whatever might be the inconvenience or disadvantage, therefore, or even unwholesome restraint upon Ireland (although the Union secures the reverse of all these: but even were it a gall to Ireland, England must guard her own life's blood, and sternly sell the disaffected Irish—you shall have me for a sister or a subjugatrix—that is my ultimatum." That was the ultimatum of the *Times*. He would reply that the ultimatum of Ireland was, the whole Repeal, and nothing less (tremendous cheering). After some remarks, Mr. O'Neil Daunt then proceeded to observe—The Reverend George Bird, an Anglican clergyman, had on a recent occasion, thrown up the living of Cumberworth, and published a pamphlet, in which he stated that his reason for doing so was the hopeless and utterly incorrigible immorality of the parish. The reverend gentleman gave the following pithy illustration of the state of religion in Cumberworth; here were his words:—"In cases of baptism, the parishioners came for the most part with a scarcely suppressed grin on their countenances. If asked whether the child had been baptized before, they usually answered—'Yes'—as they were so grossly ignorant as not to distinguish between civil registration and church baptism. A prostitute has come to stand godmother to her illegitimate child. Many in that neighbourhood neglected baptism altogether." There now was an instructive account of public religion and morality in the very paradise of state-paid persondom (loud cheers)! Mr. Daunt next quoted from *The Quarterly Journal of the Statistical Society of London*, for April, 1840, a report on St. John's and St. Margaret's parishes, Westminster, by which it appeared that out of 5,366 principal members of families amongst the working classes, there were 2,077 who attended no place of worship, and 1,181 who professed no religion at all. This was under the noses of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, (hear)—Oh! how it would delight the *Times* if the suffocating influences of state-payment could reduce Catholicity in Ireland to such a state of moral inanition as this (hear, hear)! There were, next, Lord Ashley's well-known statements, made in March last in the House of Commons—"A lady of sixty, Charlotte Kirkman, says: 'Many women now have children at fifteen. I think bastardy almost as common now as a woman being in the family way by her husband. Now it is nothing thought about.'" From evidence relating to Yorkshire, Durham, Lancashire, North Staffordshire, and Cumberland, Lord Ashley had taken the following answers of

children:—"James Taylor, eleven years old, has never heard of God, but has heard men say in the pit, 'God d—n them.'" A girl, aged eighteen, said, 'I never heard of Christ at all.' This was very common among children and young persons—I never go to church or chapel.'" Again—"I do not know who God is."—The following relates to Halifax:—"You have expressed surprise," says an employer, "at Thomas Mitchell not having heard of God; I judge there are hereabouts very few colliers that have." Then, with respect to Dorsetshire, there was the following evidence of Mr. Somerville, taken from the *Morning Chronicle*:—"In Dorsetshire the population is degraded to the most deplorable condition; such, indeed, was the poverty of the diet, the nakedness of household furniture, the base ignorance, the reputed and visibly universal want of female decency and virtue, the brutal manners, and ferociously expressed hatred of the gentry and clergy among the agricultural population in Dorset.... that in no part of any town in the kingdom, among no class, are these characteristics to be surpassed." There, now, was a beautiful specimen of the missionary triumph of the state-paid parsons of the richest church in the world!—Again—let them listen to the following statement of the religious condition of the Sussex-born prisoners in the House of Correction at Lewes, he [Mr. Daunt] quoted from a speech of Cobden's in the House of Commons:—"Out of 2022 prisoners, 1120 could barely tell the Saviour's name and that he died, and 646 knew not his name." He [Mr. Daunt] defied the *Times* to find 600, or 60, or even 6 adults in Ireland, whose priests had left them in this hideous ignorance of the only name under heaven given unto men whereby we must be saved [immense cheering]. With this awful destitution of religious knowledge it was natural to look for corresponding specimens of conduct. The *Morning Herald* had a statement that on the 23d of last November, a blacksmith near Crewe, in Cheshire, who was the priest of a sect called "Latter Day Saints," insisted on baptizing his pregnant wife almost naked in a mill race at eight o'clock at night. The stream was swollen and rapid, the night cold and dark, and the unhappy victim of her husband's fanaticism was drowned. The blacksmith-priest, whose name was Cartwright, quietly consoled himself by observing that God had predestined the matter [great sensation]. The *Times* had recently called out for government vengeance and coercion upon Ireland, making the horrible murder of Mr. Waller and his sister at Finnoe an ingredient in his appeal. Will the *Times* apply this reasoning to England [hear, hear]. Last week two ruffians broke into the house of two aged persons, named Sperring, at the upper Bristol road near Bristol, and murdered an old woman of eighty. At Bruntswood, near Litchfield, a woman named Westwood poisoned her husband by mixing arsenic in his gruel.—There had lately been twelve incendiary fires in one night, in Wales. Since then there had been numerous incendiary fires in England. Mr. Daunt concluded, amid loud cheers, by moving the resolution.

Mr. Steele's Witnesses.

Mr. Steele had given instructions to have Sir James Graham, the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord Lyndhurst, immediately summoned to give evidence on his trial. Sir James Graham is his principal English witness, we believe, in consequence of the fact

that Mr. Steele was a member of the Birmingham Political Union when the present secretary for the Home Department was a Whig.

So decided is Mr. Steele's purpose of compelling these four ministers of the crown to undergo his personal examination, defending himself as he did before, without counsel, that notwithstanding his perfect knowledge of the extent of English prejudice at present against the Repealers, he will, after examining Lord Plunkett, offer to go to London and take his trial before a jury of Englishmen, if the Cabinet Ministers should try to deprive him of justice by evading coming to Dublin.

DESPICABLE TREACHERY OF THE GOVERNMENT.—We cannot imagine baseness more contemptible than that indicated by the annexed paragraph, which we take from the *Liverpool Albion's* Irish correspondence (Jan. 5th.)

"It is said that an agent of the Conservative Society has been employed for the purpose of obtaining the signatures of such Liberals as have been returned on the special jury list to a sort of declaration against the course of policy pursued by the Government in reference to the prosecutions, and that the signatures will be brought before the Clerk of the Crown in the event of any of the writers being drawn on the ballot. The person employed on this honorable mission represented himself as an agent of the Repeal Association, and very many gentlemen have been deluded into an act which may probably disqualify them to serve on the jury."

DUBLIN, Jan. 7.—THE SPECIAL JURY.—In answer to the carpings of the whole tribe of Whig, Radical and Repeal journals, touching the "registry of bigots," as one of the travellers' agents politely styled the special jury struck on Friday, the *Evening Packet* positively asserts that the eleven Roman Catholics objected to by the Crown were, to a man, avowed and ardent Repealers, and therefore disqualified to act as jurors at the approaching State trials.

The *Ausburg Gazette* states from Rome, December 22, that the Papal Government has ordered a levy of men from the army, for the purpose of placing it on a footing to resist any attempt that may be made to disturb public order.

FRANCE.—On Monday, the 5th of Jan., the Duke de Broglie read to the Chamber of Deputies an address, in reply to the King's speech, which is very flattering to Louis Philippe. It concludes by saying, "the King, on ascending the throne, promised to devote to us his entire existence, to do everything to promote the glory and welfare of France. France promised to be faithful to him. The King has observed his oath. Where is the Frenchman who could forget or betray his allegiance?" At the conclusion of the address, the Duke de Richelieu rose, and explained respecting his late visit to the Duke de Bordeaux in London. At the last accounts the Chambers were left sitting, the three first paragraphs of the address only having been adopted.—The others were under discussion, and would, without doubt, be adopted.

PORTUGAL.—The Cortes was opened on the 11th, by a speech from Donna Maria in person.