

what he saw with his own eyes last night did more to render the contrast perfect than anything which has been said or written since the hour of its perpetration. After what he then saw, I venture to say that it will not in future be so easy to excite the confidence of the Hildebrand of the West as it was before Lord Aberdeen's Advent of power. Dr. McHale was also enabled to appreciate the cant in which some of the Irish Ministerialists have indulged as to their motives in preparing the Liberal to the illiberal side of the house; for he was struck by the venerable head of Henry Drummond, who sat next to Mr. Roebuck; he observed Mr. Kinnaird, who sat a seat or two off, and he knew the particular spot sacred to the occupancy of Mr. Thomas Chambers; and it need scarcely be added that he is fully aware that these three respectable senators are strong in their religious zeal as the two pious members for Warwickshire, who sit on that side of the house occupied by the Independent Party, and the "hereditary enemies of their race and country." The greatest interest was excited by the presence of the great bishop, and many men of the most adverse opinions were glad to be told that he was in the house and where he sat, and eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity of beholding the renowned John of Tuam, "the Lion of the Fold of Judah." I am happy to say that I have never seen him look in better or more vigorous health.

The Irish papers announce the death of Rev. David Dee, P. P., of Loughmore, near Templemore, in his 71st year.

A purse of seventy sovereigns was recently presented to the Rev. John Ryan, on his promotion from the curacy of Cashel to be parish priest of New Inn and New Argraffan, county Tipperary.

ST. MARA'S BELL.—A small antique bronze bell, which formerly belonged to the abbey of Fahan, and was called after the founder, St. Mara's Bell, recently produced £75 12s, at a sale in London.—*Freeman's Journal.*

Joseph Kenny, Esq., Solicitor, has been elected Mayor of Limerick, in the room of the late Mayor, Alderman William Smith, deceased.

KILKENNY MARBLE MILLS.—Mr. A. Colles, the proprietor of the local marble mills, has just taken out a patent for a new and most ingenious improvement in the machinery for sawing blocks whereby three times the amount of work is done in the same time.

IRISH LEAD.—A considerable quantity—43 tons—Irish lead ore was sold last week by the General Mining Company from Silvermines, county Tipperary, to the Mining Company of Ireland, to smelt at Ballycorus.

THE IRISH MILITIA.—It is reported in Ireland that the County of Dublin Regiment of Militia, as soon as its organisation is fully completed, will proceed to Edinburgh, there to be stationed. The City of Dublin Regiment, with its artillery companies, will, it is added, embark for Chatham in the course of the spring.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—A return obtained on the motion of Mr. Kennedy, M. P., shows that on the 30th of September, 1854, there were in the service of the Board of Education in Ireland, 378 male teachers of the first class, 863 of the second class, 601 not classed, and 158 assistants; 166 female teachers of the first class, 298 of the second class, 645 of the third class, 236 not classed, and 348 assistants. The rate of salary per annum varies from £36, the maximum, to £8, the minimum. The teachers of model schools are not included in the above return, while to five convents, and to teachers in three ordinary national schools, additional salaries are paid for the highest branches of industrial education. Individual teachers are not paid in convent schools, and aid is given only in three ordinary national schools for the higher class of industrial education.

A TOWN COUNCIL IN DEBT.—The proceedings in Chancery against the Town Council of Belfast have commenced. The debt of the council £34,000.

HOUSE LEVELLING ON THE TEMPLETON ESTATE.—On Tuesday last five cars, filled with police, under the command of Sub-Inspector Boxham, left Castleblaney, and proceeded to the Templeton estate, where some houses were to be demolished. The houses in question belonged to the persons who have been imprisoned in Monaghan gaol on the charge of conspiring to shoot the late Mr. Bateson. The brigade levelled the houses of Francis Hughes and James Woods. They then set fire to the house of Edward Maginnis, and when the thatch and timber were burned the walls were thrown down. Two other houses are to share a similar fate.—*Dundalk Democrat.*

ARRIVAL OF IRISH PAUPERS FROM AMERICA.—On Sunday forenoon the Trafalgar steamer arrived at the North Wall, from Liverpool, having on board, amongst other passengers, six poor Irishwomen, who had recently arrived from the United States. From the statement of one of them it appeared that they had all been confined in a lunatic asylum in Worcester, United States, for a considerable length of time, and that the agents of the Government there had employed a person, to whom a free passage was given, to take them in charge to Liverpool, where the authorities put them on board the Trafalgar for the passage to Dublin, but otherwise took no care for their comfort or safety.

A SPELL BROKEN.—Ahasragh, March 10.—Our quiet portion of the Green Isle is this day in a wonderful state of excitement on the coming of age of Lord Clonbrock's eldest son, the Hon. Gerald Dillon, and a peculiarly nice fellow he is. This event has for some time been looked forward to with no ordinary anxiety on account of a popular tradition that in that family the father was fated never to see his son of age, and our superstitious peasantry universally accorded it a more implicit faith than they do to holy writ.—*Evening Mail.*

AFFAIR OF HONOR.—On Thursday morning a personal encounter took place between two gentlemen pretty well known in this city (Cork). It appears that on Wednesday evening the two gentlemen were playing at billiards, in company with several other parties, when Captain _____ made a remark to the effect that "he was the only gentleman present, all the rest of the company being common potato-feeders"—an observation which roused the indignation of the young gentleman already alluded to, who then and there rebuffed the captain to mortal combat. The challenge was accepted, and the affair was arranged to come off the following morning at Ballinacorney. Seconds were procured, and on Thursday morning the two principals, with their seconds, proceeded together in a car to the ground. Two shots were fired on each side without injury, it would appear, to either party.—*Cork Constitution.*

THE BROKEN PLEDGE.—The wife of an industrious laborer, residing in the County of Antrim, was much given to intemperance, and in August last she was constrained by her husband to promise that she would not, for a year drink any spirits. This vow, which was performed with all ceremony, she kept till February last, when, on the 3d ult, she privately purchased a bottle of whiskey, which she took home and secreted among the straw of her bed. On the following day, when her husband was at his place of worship, she was tempted to drink so largely of her secreted store, that the effect was obvious to her husband on his return. He at once charged her with intoxication and perjury; but she directly denied the double charge, and was suddenly discovered to be unable to speak, her power of utterance having become suddenly paralysed. It was found, upon examination, that her tongue was spasmodically contracted, its top adhering firmly to the palate, her jaws contracted, and her teeth set so firmly as to defy every effort to insert even the edge of a knife. In this condition she remained for fifty-three hours without food and nourishment, and not until the third day did any relaxation take place. She is now humble and penitent for her sin.—*Banner of Ulster.*

ASSAULT "BY A GENTLEMAN."—William De Courcy O'Grady, Esq., of Kibbaloyen, in this County, eldest son of "The O'Grady," and Wm. O'Connor, a laboring man, were severally indicted for an assault upon Michael Casey, an old man, upwards of seventy years of age, on the 16th of January last. The evidence of the prosecutor went to show, that on the day in question he was digging in a field near his house, when the two prisoners came there accompanied by a bulldog, and committed the offence charged in the indictment; he said that he, and his father, and grandfather before him were tenants of the O'Grady family, and that he had given up his farm to them, and merely held half an acre of land and the house upon it, and that on the day in question, when the prisoners arrived, Connor attempted to take the spade from him, and, in doing so struck him behind the ear and knocked him down, and after he got up the dog flew at him, whereupon, he called out to take away the dog, in reply to which Mr. O'Grady said let the dog eat him. The prisoners were both convicted, and his lordship sentenced them to a month's imprisonment each, observing, that he had dealt very leniently with Mr. O'Grady, whose education and position should have taught him to conduct himself with more propriety.

In the *Dublin University Magazine* for the present month we have a very interesting memoir of a succession of famous generals given by Ireland to the armies of Europe, and derived from one family, the Lacys of Bruree, in the county of Limerick, of whom the present representative is General Sir De Lacy Evans. The five valiant soldiers and kinsmen were—Marshal Lacy, called by the Great Frederick "The Prince Eugene of Muscovy," and the conqueror of the Crimea—his son, Francis Maurice Count Lacy, one of the great commanders in the Seven Years War—Francis Anthony Count Lacy, the famous Spanish general and diplomatist, who commenced his career of arms in the renowned Irish regiment of Ulster Infantry attached to the army under the Count de Gages, or Gage, who was also an Irishman, and commanded *en chef* the combined armies of Spain and Naples in the war of the Spanish succession—Patrick Lacy, brother of Anthony, died young, and left a son Louis, who fought with such distinction in the Peninsular war, and, having proclaimed the constitution in 1817, was shot as a traitor. Few families have presented to the world such a succession of illustrious generals. The writer in the *University* renders full justice to these shoots of brave old Irish oak.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.—Mr. McGee has addressed the following letter to the *Wexford People*—

Moore's Hotel, Limerick, March 8, 1855.

SIR—In your last paper I read with much interest a letter discussing some suggestions of mine, as to the relative attractions of Canada and the United States, for those who must emigrate from Ireland to America. It would appear from that letter which you quote from the U.S. paper, the *Boston Pilot*, that these suggestions since my departure from New York, have been considerably canvassed, and it is also to be inferred from it, that some of the canvassers have employed themselves rather upon conjectures as to my motives in instituting the contrast, than upon the merits of the subject considered in itself.

I have never been an advocate for emigration from Ireland unless in cases of last necessity. All that I have ever said about it may be resolved in one sentence—"if you must emigrate, look well before you leap."

In accordance with that general sentiment, I visited Canada last autumn, and sought carefully for information, useful to our people, whether unsettled in the States or likely to arrive in America, during this and coming years. I do not presume to say that I fully mastered the condition of Canada on that tour; but I do feel that I did my best to form a rational judgment upon it, and that that judgment was more favorable than otherwise to the choice of Canada by Irish settlers.—The colony is to all intents and purposes as free as the neighboring Republic; its proximity to that Republic is the best guarantee against English oppression hereafter. Lower Canada is three-fourths, and Upper Canada, one-third Catholic: its school system is more parental and less objectionable than the system of the Union; the rates of wages averages as high as on the other side of "the line"; the wear and tear of human life is thirty per cent less in the colony than in the Republic; and the possibility of any such wholesome proscription as "Know-Nothingism," is entirely chimerical in Canada. Under certain contingencies which may unfortunately happen, I should not shrink under any degree of opposition from advising an Irish landslide out of a proselytising state of society—such as we are threatened with in the Republic—into a self-governing Province where religious freedom can still be enjoyed. Up to the present in America I have confined myself to raising the alternative and drawing the contrast. In so personal and practical a matter, as the choice of a home, men generally will act for themselves let who will advise pro or con.

I am glad to find, however, that so much attention has been excited to the general subject in America, and I am certain that if debated in the good tempered, and deliberate spirit, which it so well deserves, some good will result, in whatever way the majority or minority of those interested may hereafter act.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
THOMAS DARCY MCGEE.

THE EXTRAORDINARY SEVERITY OF THE WINTER—DESTRUCTION OF GAME.—The severity of the winter in Ireland the papers have spoken of in general terms. But the following description which we have received in a private letter from a friend in the most delightful part of the sunny south of the island, gives a better idea of what the winter really was;—"The winter has been very severe. Great frost and snow, which lasted about three weeks. The birds were almost all starved to death. The snipe died in every direction. The curlew (the wildest and shiest of birds) so tame that you could catch them with the greatest ease. At last they died from want of food. But the strangest thing of all was the unusual number of woodcocks. They were everywhere, even in the bare places in the middle of the fields. I saw the first day at least 60 brace. They all disappeared in three days. You would suppose, from the quantity of snipe that perished that there was none left for breeding. There was not more than seven inches of snow, but the ground was frozen so hard that it caused it to remain." This would be nothing wonderful in the Northern states of America; but in Ireland, and especially in the south, it is very rare indeed. It has been a very hard winter for the poor.

"PROTESTANT LOYALTY."—We find a notable announcement in the *Limerick Examiner*:—"We have been accustomed too long to hear of 'Protestant loyalty,' and all that sort of thing; but when hard knocks, and not defence of self or property, are in question, those Protestant fire-eaters can be mild as sucking doves. To an unsophisticated mind it would seem that Catholics have less right to run into danger for England than Protestants. At all events, the latter should have their share of what's going in that line, as they have the lion's share in every other. The following is our contemporary's statement:—'Upwards of 120 of the Catholic privates of the county of Limerick Militia volunteered for the army in the Crimea, while of the Protestant officers, and there are none other, EVERY ONE REFUSED.'"

It is stated that the late Mr. Hume obtained the representation of Kilkenny, at a cost of SEVEN PENCE—the amount of postage on a letter requiring his acceptance of the seat.

MR. CARDEN.—It is said that Mr. Carden has refused the terms upon which the government offered to remit the remainder of his sentence, regarding the terms of the bond he was required to enter into as too stringent.

A ROBBER SHOT.—Mr. H. J. Wallace, of Newry, on Sunday evening week, detected a laborer, named Doran, who had been four years in his service, robbing the premises. While attempting to make his escape, he was repeatedly fired at by one of the clerks named Taylor, and also by the brother of the proprietor. When he was fully secured, it was found that he was wounded in the left hip and near the left shoulder, and he is now in a very precarious state.—*Freeman's Journal.*

GREAT BRITAIN.

CONVERSION OF MR. PALMER.—The *Tablet* of last week thus announces this event:—"This distinguished clergyman of the Church of England was received into the Church at Rome on the 28th ult., and confirmed on the 1st instant by the Bishop of Newport and Menevia. Mr. Palmer has always been remarkable for the earnestness and sincerity of purpose with which he has for many years pursued his inquiries upon the question of Church authority. Dissatisfied with the utter hollowness of the Protestant system, and with what is called the Anglo-Catholic theory, he was for a long time led to contemplate the hope of a union, either personal or corporate, with the separated Greeks, and actually, we believe, endeavoured to negotiate it with the authorities of that communion. Failing in this attempt, he repaired to the Centre of Unity, and there came into contact with the eminent Father Passaglia, of the Society of Jesus. From an antagonist he soon passed into a disciple, and at length entered into a Spiritual Retreat under the Fathers of the Roman College. Even his friends, we are assured, had no expectation that the issue of this Retreat would be what has proved. Whether from any still remaining difficulty, or from a natural desire of concealing his deep growing convictions even from his most intimate friends, Mr. Palmer gave no previous signs of entering his Retreat under any bias, save only the disposition towards a full accomplishment of the Divine will in his regard. The result has filled the hearts of Catholics with joy. Mr. Palmer entered the Retreat as a humble inquirer, and came forth from it a Catholic. The gain is his own. Let us transfer his name from our mementos to our thanksgivings, and rejoice, for the sake of the Divine glory, in the signal triumph of grace manifested in such instances as that of Mr. Palmer and Archdeacon Wilberforce.

CONVERSION.—The Rev. Edward B. Deane, Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, and Vicar of Lusknor, Oxfordshire, was received into the Catholic Church last week by the Very Rev. Father Fabre at Brompton.—*Catholic Standard.*

The Leicester Mercury states that the Rev. D. Edwards, Curate of King's Cliffe, announced from the pulpit of the parish church on Sunday evening, that on that day his brief labours as a Minister of the Church would cease. He proceeded to make numerous quotations from the prayer book, which he believed contained doctrines and enjoined practices at variance with the teachings of Scripture. He also noticed the facility with which men of improper character obtain admission into the Ministry; the unscripural assumption of the priesthood, and the absence of the discipline necessary to the purity of a Christian Church. For these and other reasons he could no longer continue to officiate as a Minister of the Church of England, or remain in her communion.

PRINCE ALBERT AND THE ARMY.—Some people at Tonbridge are petitioning the House of Commons that Prince Albert should be sent out to the Crimea, "where he may cheer the English and give them the advantage of his great military experience."

THE SOCIAL VOLCANO.—There is reason to believe that England is gradually ripening for a great Popular Movement, of which the Preston Strike, the Recent Famine Riots in Liverpool and London, and the anti-aristocratic spirit of the *Times*, may be considered the premonitory symptoms. What the *Leader* says upon this subject demands serious study:—"We have a report upon which we can perfectly rely as to the state of feeling in the cotton manufacturing districts: We are not unacquainted with the iron district, and we have some reason to believe that the other great manufacturing regions do not differ from the condition of that of which Lancashire is the centre. We speak

however, chiefly of North Cheshire, Lancashire, and the part of Yorkshire adjacent. In that tract of country the state of the people is anything but contented, or even resigned. We have heard the feeling likened to that which prevailed in 1838. It is still more like that of 1842—probably it may not take the directly insurgent form which it assumed in that year of starvation. For the working classes have had many lessons besides those of 1848. They have learned to emigrate, and have been departing from the country at the rate of a million in three years. They have also learned to despise the aristocracy. They have learned a yet more ominous lesson; they have found that the magnates of the middle class, the great factory lords, the millocracy, who raised them to help in dragging down the exclusiveness of our aristocracy, now turn round and maintain against the working classes the same exclusion in power and in trade which they charged upon the old Tories and landed gentry. Dislike is a feeble expression for the feeling that these lessons have engendered. The glutting of the markets in America, India and Australia, brought about by the reckless over-trading of the manufacturers, has entailed upon the manufacturing district a stoppage of trade. We have some right to charge these consequences upon the factory lords, since not only have they neglected proper steps for acting in concert to prevent any such suicidal over trading, but many of them we know introduced the innovation of directly over-trading in Australia in order to anticipate the market, where however they had been already anticipated by local merchants, and where, therefore, they only heaped up the glut. They suffer from suspended profits; the working classes from short time, which means suspended bread. Which is the worst? When the men of Preston talked of suspended work to enforce their own rules, they were put down by a great union of mill-owners. What remedy is there when the mill-owners suspend work to let the glut that they have made drain off? If it were mere calamity the working class would bear it tranquilly, as they have before; but it is a calamity brought about by rapacity and recklessness on the part of men who have the means of saving themselves, and leave the real pangs of suffering to the working classes. These are sufficient causes for the dislike which exists, and the increased taxation brought about by the war has rendered the burden heavier.

The Government Fast of March 21st, 1855, presented many subjects of consideration. It has painfully illustrated the effectual manner in which the "Reformation" has done its work in England. The law of the English Establishment still supposes all men to spend Lent in fasting and prayer; and, lo! zealous Protestants are astonished and indignant at being called by the head of that Establishment to give to these duties one Wednesday in Lent. And then, to hear their objections. It is assumed, almost by everybody, that no man can reasonably fast and pray, much less be invited and expected to do so, except as a punishment for some misconduct of his own, which has directly contributed to our disasters in the war. Hence correspondents of the *Times* have asked, "Should the people fast?" pointing out that the mass of the British people cannot be charged with the misdoings of the army. The Editor of *Household Words* follows in the same strain; in a word, all who profess to represent the common sense of the country, rather than the Government, or the Establishment, assume that a man may be expected to fast for the disasters of the army, as he might be hanged for murder, if it was his own act; and that if not, it is as unreasonable as it would be to hang the first laboring man you meet for a murder committed by Lord Palmerston or Lord Raglan.—Why all this? In one word, because the English people have ceased to believe, long ago, that prayer and fasting can produce any effect. Lord Palmerston did but express the national mind, when he told the Scottish clergy that prayer and fasting had nothing to do with the prevention of cholera, which depends upon drainage and whitewashing.

Yet there is a mixture of better thoughts left. The observance of the days was creditable. The outward appearance of London was that of a Sunday; and, to judge from the numbers we met in the streets, as well as from the reports in the papers, we believe the attendance in the churches was more than that of Sunday. A Catholic foreigner, however, would have been less struck by their number than by their exclusive character. There were many ladies with prayer-books in their hands; many well-dressed, domestic-looking gentlemen. But he would have said, Where are the poor? The truth is, in Protestant countries the poor do not go to church at all. In the country villages of England no doubt, wherever the incumbent is squire, or has the active support of a resident squire, a decent sprinkling of smock frocks and best bonnets is brought to the parish church by an unsparing and incessant use of what is called in Parliament, the "whip."—But in the towns the number of the working classes who attend any church at all, is so small as hardly to deserve mention. This is, as far as our experience extends, universal through all Protestant countries.—To attend church, is a peculiarity of what are called the "respectable classes"—i.e., of those who are comfortably off. The contrast to a Catholic country we need hardly point out. Still, poor as a Protestant solemnity is, we are far from denying its use. The public humiliation of the heathens of Nineve brought a blessing, and we hope that those who meant what they said on Wednesday obtained one for themselves, if not for others. Perhaps—greatest of all—they may be in the Church before next Lent comes round. The general feeling, we think, was, that it was an extra Sunday. We saw a fair amount of junketing and country expeditions (sandy cold), and were amused by the ringers, who, thinking a week-day on which there was service must be a high-day, signalled it by a merry peal, all the afternoon, upon the bells of the neighboring Protestant church.

As to the Catholics—although of course they could not recognise the spiritual authority of the Queen—it is remarkable that they were not only engaged in the usual duties of the season—which include all that this day was intended to embrace—but that in this diocese the *Quarante Ore* are in perpetual celebration. We need not remind our Catholic readers that this glorious solemnity was originally instituted by St. Carlo Borromeo, as a special supplication in a time of war and pestilence, and that the peculiar Litany sung in it especially asks deliverance from these Divine scourges. On the second day, too, the *Mass de passe* is always solemnly sung. The Queen's Fast, no doubt, set many Catholics free from different offices and shops, who were glad of the opportunity of assisting at the *Mass*, which was celebrated that day, *omni sanctissimo* at the Oratory, Brompton, and at St. Mary's Church, Poplar.—*London Cath. Standard.*