

benefit to be derived from an enlightened knowledge of that Divine Religion which dignifies poverty, and toil, and suffering and a low estate; will they condemn them to the indescribable misery which results from the union of moral wickedness with physical suffering, and permit them to grow up hardened into insensibility to every religious appeal, when there are religious men that entreat them for the love of God to give to the Church those years of their children that are, by every claim, so justly her own, those inestimably precious years when the character is easily impressed, the affections easily moved, and when habits of docility and obedience are easily formed. The poor, but more especially the children of the poor,—of the people,—are the object of the Church's tenderest care, singled out by her as something sacred, even as they were singled out by our Lord for His especial blessing.

It is not lawful to take that which is holy and cast it to the dogs. Your children are the children of God by baptism, members of the sacred and mystical body of which Christ is the head. Education, for them, must not be mere learning to read and write and reckon up; this may do for those who accept this world and the things of this world, as man's last end and greatest hope. God does not require that your children should know these things, and He will not send them to Hell for ignorance in these respects.—The education of a Christian child must be, before all things else, the teaching him what he must believe and do for his soul's health, the knowledge of the Christian doctrine, on which alone all true morality is based, and the acquisition of those habits whereby a Christian life is secured, or in which it consists.—That your children must learn these things at home, is very true; but that they must not be made to unlearn and laugh at all these things and at you for teaching them, at school, is another truth which it will not do to overlook.

For our own part, we believe that, in a century from now, when our Catholic descendants shall learn that, at one time in the United States, Christian children were committed, by their Christian parents, to the care of teachers hostile to their faith and the hired servants of a system, the very essence of which is a denial, not simply of Christianity, but of the necessity and importance, nay of the very fact, of a Revelation, they will not believe their eyes, and will choose to reject the documents which shall establish this fact, rather than admit that any professing the Christian Religion, and wishing to train their children up in it, should have been guilty of such an absurdity as this.

THE MADIAT FAMILY.

(From the Pittsburgh Telegraph.)

The Protestant press having almost exhausted its misrepresentations and appeals to prejudice, Catholics may now hope to have an attentive hearing. We therefore request the lovers of truth (it would be useless to request the others) to read the following article from the *National Democrat*, whose Protestant Editor is not willing to be duped by fanatics or knaves whenever it is to their interest to humbug the brethren:—

"Justice to the American people compels us to unmask a grand deception which was palmed upon our citizens, at the sympathy meeting which came off at metropolitan hall on Friday 7th ult. For some time past the American newspapers have groaned aloud with a shocking narration of the imprisonment of the Madiat family in Tuscany, for 'reading the Word of God,' and last evening a grand meeting of sympathy for the sufferers was called at Metropolitan Hall, to express the indignation of our people at such cruelty. We lay before our readers the simple facts of the case:—

The Grand Duchy of Tuscany is governed by a constitutional monarchy, according to the constitution of the 16th of February, 1848. Its present Grand Duke is Leopold II, of a branch of the House of Austria, and who has reigned since 1854.

The law-giving power is shared by the Prince with two Chambers, of which the first consists of members chosen for life by the Grand Duke, and the second of members elected by the people.

In Tuscany as in England, one form of religious worship only is recognised by law, and in the dominions of the Grand Duke, the Catholic religion has existed since the martyrdom of Ignatius. Other forms of worship are nevertheless permitted, and in the city of Leghorn (where there are upwards of 5,000 Jews, who own quite two-thirds of the landed property,) there is at this moment a Protestant Episcopal Church, a Jewish Synagogue, and a Mahomedan Mosque. This is certainly as great an instance of religious tolerance as we ourselves exhibit, and we may reasonably conclude that our Protestant brethren in Tuscany sometimes read the Holy Scriptures without the fear of incarceration, or the necessity for public sympathy.

A recent historical and anti-Catholic writer in alluding to the political and mental degradation of some of the Italian States, says 'Tuscany and the Lombardo Venetian Kingdoms nevertheless form honorable exceptions, and show that when a good government has the control of affairs, and especially where much is done for popular instruction, a people sunk even so low as are the Italians may yet be raised again.' It seems well here to remark, in expressing an unqualified disbelief of the statement that the Madiat family are imprisoned for simply possessing and reading a Bible, that there are at this moment no less than forty different editions of that sacred volume, published on the Italian peninsula—that in fact more than one-half of that number of editions were extant before the Reformation began, as is fully authenticated by their dedication to the various Popes, Cardinals and Bishops of that remote period. It seems hardly probable then, that any body should

be jailed in Tuscany now, for simply reading a book which is so generally known and circulated as the Bible. But to assert gravely in an appeal for religious freedom, that any living despot has power over the thoughts or consciences of men, is to assert one of the most absurd propositions that the human mind can conceive of. It is in fact to take away the great cardinal dogma of all Christian doctrine—the self agency of man, and to vitiate his accountability to God.

It is true that Leopold II. may load his subjects with manacles of iron, and plunge them into the depth of the most loathsome dungeons, but neither he, nor any other monarch on earth has power to control the hearts and the consciences of men.

Naturally alive to the feelings of humanity, and to the suffering of the oppressed, especially of those whose lot is cast in a country less free than our own—we confess that we read in the call to 'Christian Freeman,' with sentiments such as most men feel when their religious and patriotic sympathies are appealed to. But we hate to be deceived, and we mean not to deceive others; and we have taken sufficient pains to inform ourselves definitely in relation to the whole matter.

Madiat it seems was for many years a courier. Now everybody who knows anything about Italy, cannot be ignorant of the prevailing characteristics of the class to which Madiat belonged. They are in fact somewhat analogous to those members of the Indian tribes, who from intercourse with civilised men, acquire all their vices without learning any of their virtues. And in Italy most of the couriers gain their daily bread by serving as agents for infamous houses, and by being brokers in female chastity. Of this stamp was Madiat, 'long and favorably known' to a certain lecherous class of aristocratic English travellers; but whether he imbibed from them his love for that unfortunate Bible, which seems to have doomed him to a prison, is a matter which we leave for the 'Christian Freeman' of this city to decide. *Signora Madiat, it seems, was educated in a somewhat similar school of moral ethics.* She was an English lady's waiting maid, in which capacity doubtless, she had an ample opportunity to become thoroughly conversant with the sacred Scriptures.

After the lapse of some time, we find these converts abandoning their old business, and going into a new one. In fact holding prayer meetings and revivals, and announcing themselves as preachers and teachers of the true faith. For a while this passed unnoticed by the Government, and had the Madiat family confined themselves to the limits of Protestant toleration, we should not have been called upon to waste so much room upon their history. But not content with worshipping God in their own way, they sought to become propagandists—to convert all Italy, even to the Pope himself, and to the overturning the whole church and state of Tuscany, they made themselves in that country a public nuisance, and were sent to the calaboose.

It is painful to us as public journalists, and as men born in the Protestant faith, to witness such exhibitions of misplaced sympathy as that of last evening. There were men there who ought to know better than to toady to the husbands of these titled ladies whose recent sympathy for the slaves of the South in this country might better have been reserved for home consumption. Here however there is always a class, who claim to do all our moral reading for us, they examine into the merits of all charitable cases, and where they find a popular mare's nest of some sort or other, they organise a meeting, invite distinguished men to preside, incur a considerable bill for printing and posting placards, gas, room-hire, &c., and then invite us Christian Freeman to settle the account. It may be that we require some sort of feasible safety valve to keep us from bursting, but we do protest against such wholesale doses of nonsense and untruth as were administered at Metropolitan Hall last evening. To say the least of it, it was an insult to the understanding of sensible men, and a futile attempt to extort an expression of sympathy from a generous and charitable people. We are weary of the impositions which are constantly practiced upon the American people by those who have some personal and selfish ends to serve. We are weary of the shameless deceptions and lies which are often vended at public displays, in the prostituted names of liberty and religion. *It is not true that the Madiat family was imprisoned for reading the Bible. And we simply make ourselves ridiculous in the eyes of mankind by condoling over such a tissue of falsehoods.*—*National Democrat.*

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

On Wednesday, the 12th ult., at the Convent of St. Clare, in Newry, Miss Ellen Fottrell, daughter of the late John Fottrell, Esq., of Buckingham-street, Dublin, and Miss Ann Hamilton, daughter of James Hamilton, Esq., of Kilkenny, county Down, made their solemn profession.

Miss Walsh, a Waterford young lady, received the white veil on Tuesday last, in the Catholic Church of Tralee, in presence of thousands, amongst whom were many of the most respectable people of Tralee, who differed from the great body of their fellow-townsmen in religion.—*Munster News.*

CONVERSIONS.—A correspondent of the *Tuam Herald* reports the conversion of three young ladies, daughters of the Marquis de Pall, and adds, that the Marquis and the mother are expected soon to follow the good example. The same authority also informs us of the reception into the Catholic Church of Mlle. Boutanger of St. Helier's, and of two other converts at Tuam, by the Rev. W. Dixon.—*Deo Gratias.*

On Saturday, the 7th ult., a Protestant family abjured the errors of Protestantism, and was received

into the One Fold in the Church of St. Roch. The conversion of that family is due to the zeal of the Abbé Chartrain.—*Catholic Standard.*

On Tuesday, the 25th ult., in the Cathedral, the Most Rev. Archbishop conferred the Minor Orders and Subdeaconship on Messrs. Patrick Egan, Bernard Farrell, Patrick McGovern, and Thomas Mooney; on Thursday, the 27th, Deaconship; and on Saturday, the 29th, with Rev. William Everett, they were promoted to the holy Priesthood.—*New York Freeman's Journal.*

THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF NEW ORLEANS.—This province, the Metropolitan see of which is at New Orleans, includes, besides the Archdiocese of New Orleans, the four dioceses of Mobile, Natchez, Galveston, and Little Rock. The Catholic population of this province, not including the diocese of Galveston, is stated in the Catholic Almanac to be 170,000: if we suppose, with the Catholic Almanac, that the Catholic population of the diocese of Galveston, which was not stated in the statistics, is 30,000, it would give an aggregate of 200,000. But we believe that the Catholic population of the Archdiocese alone comes up nearly to that number.—*N. O. Catholic Messenger.*

We read in *Le Courrier du Gers*:—"A foundation of the greatest importance has just taken place at the extremity of this department. The Trappists have taken possession, on the 2d of December last, of a solitary place, which seem to have been prepared expressly for them, and whose name, which is very ancient, seemed to call to its bosom its new inhabitants. That place is called *Notre Dame du Desert*, (our Lady of the desert) being situated between Cologne, L'isle Jourdain and Cadours. It belongs nearly as much to our department as to that of the *Haute Garonne*. The Tarn and Garonne goes nearly as far as that venerable sanctuary, and the Hautes Pyrenees are not very far from it. These four departments will soon feel the powerful attraction of that religious centre."

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE PARLIAMENTARY APOSTACY—THE PRESS.

The honest, independent, and popular provincial journals are again, this week, loud and vehement in their indignant denunciations of the base apostacy in parliament. We give elsewhere a collection of articles from these journals, which, for genuine vigor, spirit, and honesty we have never seen excelled on any similar occasion however great and critical, and which we commend to the perusal and consideration of all our readers. The *Cork Examiner*, the *Waterford News*, *Kilkenny Journal*, and *Newry Examiner*, received this day, contain additional articles on this subject, written with trenchant vigor and ability. We have only room for the following extracts from a very able and valuable article in the *Cork Examiner*:—

"The Irish people must pronounce upon the right or wrong of the act which has stricken a blow at the Irish party, and which, for aught we know, may have cloven that party in two. Every constituency in Ireland is interested in the question now formally put in issue by the acceptance of office, and the consequent desertion, or betrayal of a policy deliberately adopted, and even solemnly—we may say awfully—sworn to. Mr. Moore asks 'how many Irish representatives are prepared to cross the house with the deserters—how many prepared to close their ranks, and still struggle with the people?'

"We would like to set one delusion at rest. A 'Lord of the Treasury' has a grand sound—to the ears of every Attorney in the land it has a prodigious significance. It is quite true that it may be regarded as the very acme of the pyramid in the future ambition of the profession. But, after all, the Lord is nothing but a first-class 'whip.' Mr. Hayter has more patronage at his disposal, and Mr. Hayter is even a more responsible 'whip' still. We have seen these 'Junior Lords' at their work, in the full exercise of their functions, and we have looked upon them as a kind of political poodle, a ministerial fetch-and-carry. Their bustle and agitation betoken a coming contest, and, like the stormy petrel, they are seen skimming along the surface of the parliamentary sea, when the waves of party are rising, and the helmsman of the cabinet has heard the ominous cry of 'breakers ahead!' We say it in no insulting sense—these small fry of the Treasury, lords notwithstanding, are hucks, and nothing but *recognised and admitted hucks*, to be ridden and spurred to death, if the exigencies of their party need it. So let us have no more nonsense as to the assumed 'national importance of the acceptance of this whippers-in-office.

"And as to the idea of a subordinate law officer influencing the decisions of the cabinet, or controlling the policy of the government, it is arrant sham. He may, like Mr. Whiteside, bring in a bill for law reform; but, like Mr. Napier, his feelings and principles are likely to be outraged and set at naught by any First Secretary, like Mr. Walpole. The fact is, men who take small offices such as have fallen to the lot of the Irish Brigadiers are not in a position to make terms; if they take the shilling they must submit to have their hair cut, their persons scoured, and their clothes made for them like all other raw recruits. They don't share in the government—they only take the wages, wear the livery, obey the orders, and do their master's work—any work, every work, all work.

"The question, then, is not so much have these men committed an act of public scandal as have these men, who assumed to speak and act on behalf and in the name of the people of Ireland, adopted a course which that people expected or authorised them to adopt, or which, being adopted, they can sanction with their approval? To this question an answer should be given with equal promptitude and emphasis, so that there shall be no room for doubt, uncertainty, or misrepresentation."

THE ANGLO-CELT.—The new Attorney-General has consented to Mr. Wallace's remaining at large for a few days, in order to afford time for considering whether he should apply for a new trial. It will be remembered that he was convicted of a libel upon the regiment whose detachment was concerned in the Six Mile Cross affair.

Four men have been committed to Armagh gaol, charged with the murder of Mr. Bateson.

Mr. Butt, M. P., who acted as counsel for Kirwan, intends, on the 5th of February, to bring a bill forward in the House of Commons "to make better provision for the granting new trials in criminal cases."

EFFECTS OF THE LATE STORM.—We are sorry to perceive that the beautiful new chapel of Kilskyre, in the county Meath, has suffered so much from the late storm. When we consider the great efforts by which this edifice had been brought so near its completion, we can well conceive the extent of loss and disappointment to the Rev. gentleman of the parish, and the generous people by whose aid the good work had so far progressed. It had been one of the neatest structures which we have seen for some time, and the loss is felt the more, as not only had this new building suffered so much, but the old chapel, still used by the congregation, had been almost rendered unfit for public service by the same unfortunate disaster.—*Tables.*

STATE OF THE WEST.—The *Ballinastoe Star*, alluding to the disastrous state of the weather for some time past, appends the following gloomy remarks:—"For weeks past there has been little or nothing done in tillage occupation, and owing to the flooded state of the country it is not likely that field operations can be resumed in many quarters for a week, or two more, even should the weather take up. This is truly a painful state of things to contemplate in a country which has so lately shown symptoms of recovery from intense suffering. Would it not appear as if we were doomed to see our entire population cleared out—for there is no doubt that the state of things here indicated will act as a further stimulus to the incessant stream of emigration which we have been witnessing for the past 3 years? And to those acquainted with the facts it must be evident that no additional motive was necessary to urge our peasantry—and not this class alone, but the small traders and shopkeepers—to quit their native land, as every post which arrives from America, and latterly from Australia likewise, brings sterling reason—dispensed with no niggard hand by those who have been fortunate enough to quit our shores last year and previously—why those who have been left behind should no longer tarry, but as soon as may be join their brethren in distant and happy lands. From what we have learned upon the subject we have reason to think that the emigration to Australia next spring from this province alone will equal, if not exceed, anything which we have yet had to record. The glowing accounts from Australia which have been received here from some who have gone out little better than paupers, but who are now in a position of decided affluence, as is indicated by the sums sent to their relations here, after a residence of some months in that country, have rendered emigration to the Antipodes to be the prevailing idea even with many who heretofore looked upon a voyage across the Atlantic with 'fear and trembling.' For ourselves, we have at length arrived at the conclusion that two years more will see Ireland with as spare a population of natives as she had at the close of the last century."

AN "EVANGELICAL" EPISODE.—At the Outerard Quarter Sessions, which commenced on Thursday, the only case of any public importance was the following:—*Sullivan v. the Rev. John O'Callaghan*.—The action was one for loss and injury sustained in consequence of a malicious prosecution, and damages were laid at £10. It appears that about six months since the plaintiff was in the employment of the defendant, and acted as Bible reader in Outerard. They quarrelled, and Sullivan summoned the Rev. Mr. O'Callaghan before the magistrates for wages alleged to be due to him. On the hearing of the case the Rev. Mr. O'Callaghan caused extracts to be taken of the plaintiff's evidence, and subsequently had him brought up at Petty Sessions on a charge of perjury. The magistrates sent the case for trial to the next Quarter Sessions of Galway, but when the bills of indictment came before the Grand Jury they were ignored. These were the grounds of complaint on the present occasion, and after a patient hearing of the case, which was fully established, the jury awarded the plaintiff the full sum claimed.

A JUMPER.—Edward Gray, an Irishman, extorted £1 from the servant of the Rev. Mr. Clark on the false pretence that he was agent to the Newcastle Deaf and Dumb Asylum. He wrote what he wanted with a piece of chalk—"he was deaf and dumb." The prisoner kept up his sham of being deaf and dumb while in the custody of the constable, and during his examination before the Magistrates; but after he was committed to gaol for trial, his imposture was ingeniously detected. He is a man about five feet three inches, and a hot bath about seven feet in depth was prepared for him: it was made sufficiently warm, and he was ordered to strip and go in. Little thinking it was so deep, he plunged in some overhead; and, on coming to the surface, roared for assistance, in a fine mellow voice, tipped with the true Irish brogue, very much to the amusement of the gaolers, and to the Court when it was related in evidence at the Quarter-Sessions.—The imposter was found guilty, and sentenced to seven years' transportation.

SUGAR MADE IN IRELAND.—A most gratifying proof of the success of the beet sugar experiment in Ireland was afforded at Mr. Stokes's sale, on Thursday week, in Dublin. The Mountmellick Company's manager, Mr. Hirsch, had 67 bags brought forward, representing three qualities. The lowest (Yellow grainy) fetched 41s. 6d. to 42s. per cwt.; the medium 44s. 6d., and the finest 45s. 6d. per cwt; whilst the finest white Bengal fetched no more than 40s 6d; and Demerara 41s. The finest quality of the Irish beet sugar is very beautiful. In color it is nearly pure white; in grain almost resembling crystallised Jamaica; while its flavor is superior, and its saccharine qualities are quite unrivalled.

Letters from Limerick report a turn-out on the part of the shipwrights of that port, who, in consequence of the great increase of repairs arising from the late boisterous weather, demand 6s to 6s 6d per day, but which increase of wages the masters have refused to pay.

CASE OF ABDUCTION.—Two soldiers, named James Roland and John Underwood, belonging to the 46th Regiment, at present stationed in this town, were, on Thursday, charged at the Police Office with having conspired to take away Ellenor Hazleton, of Donegal Street, Belfast. In this case it appears that the young lady in question, having formed an attachment to the prisoner Roland, who is a drummer in the regiment, and about twenty-two years of age, disappeared one evening about a fortnight ago from under the paternal roof, and could not be discovered by her parents. Suspicion fell upon Roland and Underwood, who are brothers-in-law, that they had persuaded her to leave home, and afterwards kept her concealed in this town, in some place unknown; and the consequence was, that Colonel Garrett of the 46th Regiment was made