

FERNANAGH MILITIA.—DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT OF TWO PROTESTANT OFFICERS TOWARDS A CATHOLIC CLERGYMAN.—We regret the necessity which makes us record the following disgraceful facts:—On the evening of the 24th March, the Rev. James Hughes, of the parish of the Ferry-boat, on the shore opposite to the poorhouse, on the Cemetery side, for the purpose of going across to the fever hospital on duty, before the ferry-boat arrived a boat, in which were three officers (Barton and Bayley, of the Fermanagh, and Scott, of the Tyrone Regiment; along with whom was a son of Mr. Keys), was rowed past the spot where Mr. Hughes was standing. Seeing the clergyman on the shore, their ultraloyalty manifested itself in such pointedly offensive language as "To hell with the Pope!" "The Pope in the pillory and the devil pelting priests at him!" &c. The rev. gentleman coming himself as became his clerical character, while the officers gave him this salute as they sailed past to the morning. Mr. Hughes, however, represented the facts to the Horse-Guards, whence they were communicated to the Commander of the Forces in this country—Lord Seaton; and after a good deal of negotiation, an investigation was ordered, which came off in the mess-room here, on Saturday last. The court of inquiry consisted of Colonel Campbell, 2d Dragoon Guards; Lieutenant Colonel Disney, Royal Artillery; and Major Grierson, of the 15th Regiment. The Rev. Mr. Hughes stated his complaint, and brought forward two persons to prove the same. Lieutenant Scott, of the Tyrone Militia, was brought forward by the accused, and stated that he was in the boat with the officers on the evening in question, and that no such expressions were used. During the course of the inquiry, which occupied from eleven, a.m., to four, p.m., the majority of the militia officers were present, and a few respectable civilians. The court was open at one. During the proceedings, some person pencilled the words "No Popery" in large letters, on the margin of the *Daily Express* of the 14th, and handed it round for the inspection of Mr. Hughes and his two fellow curates, but he had no allusion to the matter at the time. —*Fermanagh Mail*.

There was a great muster of the city of Dublin regiment on Saturday, in order to ascertain which of them were willing to volunteer for foreign service, either at Gibraltar, Malta, or the Ionian Isles. Colonel Latouche, Lieutenant-Colonel Routhie, and the other officers were at the Linen-hall Barracks at half-past 12. The men were formed in hollow square, when the colonel addressed them in explanation of the course before them. The officers, on being asked if they would volunteer, walked into the centre of the square, with the exception of the doctor, Surgeon Leech. The men were then told off in companies, and individually asked, when it appeared that the great majority had volunteered to accompany their colonel wherever he was going. There was loud cheering on this being announced. It appears that not more than three-fourths of any militia regiment will be required; the remainder is to stay at home and act as a depot.

The Antrim rifles having given upwards of 75 volunteers to the line, Ensign Goddard has been recommended to the proper authorities for a commission in the regular army.

The Monaghan Militia has given 52 volunteers to the regular army.

The Galway Militia having been called on to volunteer for the Ordnance and line during this week, their colonel, the Marquis of Clanricarde, addressed his regiment on parade on Friday morning, stating that an officer from the Royal Artillery, and another from the 39th Regiment, were there in attendance, by authority from the War-office, to receive the volunteers. On noticing a slight hesitation, in consequence of some misunderstanding respecting the amount of bounty each volunteer would receive in cash, Captain Eyre, of the Galways, sprang forward, and said, that he and his brother officers volunteered, with their men, in a body for the army of the Crimea. This met with a hearty response by a cheer from this gallant corps.

The Linen Hall at Loughrea is being converted into a Militia barracks!

On Sunday a party of 26 wounded soldiers arrived at the North Wall, Dublin, from Plymouth, in the Screw company's steamer Sylph. They consisted of one colour-sergeant, two sergeants, two corporals, and 21 privates, and were from various regiments of horse and foot. Some of these brave fellows have been engaged in the principal battles fought in the Crimea, and all were more or less severely wounded. They soon became objects of interest to a large number of persons on the quays, and every accommodation was provided for them by the police on duty. One man, a private from the 11th Hussars, excited special notice by wearing around him the cloak of a Russian officer.

DISCOVERY OF AN ANCIENT PIECE OF ORDNANCE.—On Thursday the labourers engaged in levelling the ground surrounding the Kilkenny National Model School, whilst excavating a portion of the inner embankment of the old town wall, under the bastion anciently known as "Talbot's Castle," discovered a very curious piece of ordnance, probably a relic of Cromwell's siege, at a distance of several feet from the surface. It is the species of gun termed a Saker, with a moveable chamber for loading; and measures seven feet six inches in length, with a bore of two inches. A fragment of a 24 lb. cannon-shot was found a few days previously in the same locality. Both these interesting remains have been deposited in the Museum of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society, by Henry P. Clarke, Esq., Local Inspector of National Schools. We presume the public will be further enlightened as to their history at the May meeting of the Archaeological Society. —*Kilkenny Moderator*.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—There is at present in the County Infirmary in this town, a man of the extraordinary age of one hundred and twenty-seven years. We have personally visited him, and can have no doubt of the certainty of the fact, which he states can be attested by various documents. He is still a hale looking old man, and states he never had any sickness previous to that of which he at present complains, a "dizziness" in his head. Although his hand trembles on his staff, his form is perfectly straight, and his step comparatively firm. He is a man of about 5 feet 3 inches in height. He was born in this country in the neighbourhood of Ballygawley, has twice visited America; and on each return to this country has employed himself in various occupations in his native village. From his present appearance, we can have little doubt that he will soon be able to return there, and it is possible may yet live to double the usual three-score and ten. —*Tyrone Constitution*.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—From a report lately published by the "Church Education Society" it would seem that a great decrease has taken place in the average attendance of children at the schools in connection with the above named society; amounting to no less than 3,784. Of this decrease the greater part has been occasioned by the withdrawal of Catholic children; and this again is justly attributed to the exertions of the Catholic—*Romanist*—clergy to keep their flocks free from all taint of heretical communication.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The British Parliament assembled on the 16th ult. The estimate of the expenses for the year are stated at £86,339,300 sterling.

LONDON, APRIL 15th.—The semi-official character of the *Observer*, "gives increased importance to the following statement:—"We believe," says the *Observer*, "that we shall be found quite correct in stating that the ministers will be prepared on the reassembling of parliament to-morrow not only to commence a most vigorous prosecution of the war, but also a thorough reform in the departments connected with the army: The first great reform will embrace the abolition of the ordinance department and its consolidation with the war department. The other boards connected with military management will be consolidated under a single head. Within the last two months ten full companies of artillery have sailed to the Crimea. In the course of last week 5,000 infantry have sailed for the same destination. Early in May there will be fully 6,000 British cavalry at the Seat of war. The Turkish contingent and the Sardinian army will by that time be ready. The very first week in May will see in the Crimea a force perfectly capable of sweeping our enemies from the field, as well as to maintain our position before Sebastopol, which we are by no means disposed to permit to escape from our grasp. As to the negotiations at Vienna, the sooner the delusion respecting them is dissipated the better. It was necessary for the sake of Europe, for Austria, and for Germany, that the last attempt should be made. But we shall all be glad when it is over, and we can lend our enemies to acquire that secure and honorable peace by arms which entreaty or diplomacy could not obtain."

THE VERDICT QUASHED.—The verdict against the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster is set aside. On the 16th of April, a *Rule Nisi* was granted for this purpose by the Court of Exchequer. Stripped of the technicalities of legal language, this means, that the Judges, considering the arguments and affidavits submitted to them by the counsel for the Cardinal, set aside the verdict, unless the other party shall produce arguments and affidavits so strong as to cause them to change their judgement. It is a decision as positive as could possibly be made (according to the principles of English law) upon the hearing of one side only. We may consider it absolute; for the point upon which it was granted, was mainly, that the Judge ought not to have received the evidence of Mr. Ivers as to the contents of the Cardinal's letter shown him by the Abbé Cognat, the original letter itself being tendered by the Cardinal's counsel. Upon this point the Judges were clear; and we are assured, by legal authorities, that the rule must be absolute; so that, virtually, the Kingston trial is wholly set aside. —*Catholic Standard*.

EASTER IN GLASGOW.—A correspondent of the *Glasgow Free Press* writes:—"How consoling to witness the silent, but rapid strides which are being made by our holy religion in this populous city, where, not many centuries since, the lamp of faith was well nigh extinguished by the fanaticism of Knox and his misguided followers. At no very remote period Glasgow and many of its surrounding villages, had only one or two zealous priests to attend to the spiritual requirements of their Catholic inhabitants. Glasgow now counts its seven stately churches. It has its sixteen priests, its convents, and many excellent schools. And what Catholic, aware of these facts, could be present on last Easter Sunday in St. Andrew's Church, Great Clyde Street, gaze on the noble edifice with its crowded congregation, contemplate the solemn and magnificent scene displayed within the sanctuary, and not rejoice, thank God, and feel a flame of hope enkindled in his bosom, that old Caledonia may, as yet, return to the faith of our fathers, and that her people may be again as of old, numbered in the true fold of Christ."

Arrangements have been made for the establishment in Dundee of the Marist Brothers, a society of religious teachers founded in France about the beginning of the present century, and whose success as instructors of youth has been amply demonstrated in the three hundred schools now under their charge in that country. The Catholic population of Dundee is estimated at about 20,000 souls. —*Scotch Paper*.

INSTALLATION OF THE EMPEROR AS A KNIGHT OF THE GARTER.—April 15th, her Majesty conferred upon the Emperor of the French the highest mark of distinction it is in the power of the Crown to bestow. The Chapter of the Order of the Garter was held at Windsor Castle. The Queen and the Knights received his imperial Majesty standing. The Queen assisted by Prince Albert buckled the Garter on the left leg of the Emperor, and then put the ribbon of the order on the left shoulder of the Emperor.

RETURN OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS.—It is understood that our imperial visitors will return to France, via Dover, this day (Saturday). They English and French Royal Mail Steampacket Company have announced that two of their steamers not engaged as part of the imperial squadron will take on board excursion parties, and afford them the opportunity of witnessing the embarkation at Dover and landing in France. —*Daily News*.

REPORTED ATTEMPT TO SHOOT THE EMPEROR.—A very unpleasant feeling was caused in the minds of the British public by the report, generally circulated, that an attempt had been made to assassinate Napoleon III. We are happy to state however, that there is no foundation for the rumour; although it is certainly true that a French refugee had attempted to throw a letter into the Empress's carriage while returning from Goldhall to Buckingham Palace. As the man appeared to be violent in his behaviour he was taken into custody by the police, and conveyed to the station at Gardner's Lane, to await an examination before the magistrates. It seems the individual seized is a doctor of medicine, who gave his name as John Pellet. The Emperor, on arriving at the Palace, said the document was perfectly harmless, and expressed a wish for his release, which considerate request was at once complied with. —*Standard*.

LAUNCH OF TWO FLOATING BATTERIES.—Tuesday afternoon two of the five floating batteries which are building by the river were launched from the yard of Messrs. Mare and Co., at Blackwell. They are intended for operating on the foits in the Baltic, and were designed by a French engineer. They are between 2,000 and 3,000 tons burthen, flat bottomed, and round stem and stern; bombproof deck 12 inches thick, and entirely encased in plates of wrought iron of four inches thickness the whole weight of which exceeds 800 tons. It is considered that they will be impregnable to any attack from the heaviest metal. Their length is 175 feet; width 45 feet; and 17 feet depth of hold. They are fitted with a screw propeller, and worked by two locomotive horizontal engines of 75 horse power each. The fighting deck is protected or covered by the top or shot proof deck. They were pierced to carry 32 guns, but their armament will only consist of 16.

THE WIGAN STRIKE.—Nearly 2,000 colliers are on strike at Wigan in consequence of a reduction of wages. The authorities have given notice that in consequence of the riots which took place at the last strike they will not permit large and tumultuous assemblages of the inhabitants in the borough.

A Liturgical Revision Society has been formed at Liverpool for the purpose of procuring alterations in the Church of England Prayer Book. Hereupon, a fierce controversy has arisen; Rev. Dr. Bayley (of No-Popery celebrity) has published 'Solemn Thoughts for Evangelical Churches who are associating to procure Alterations in the Liturgy' in a series of tracts. The Rev. J. B. Lowe has replied, and committees have been formed on both sides. Dr. Bayley's papers come forth to the world from "A Committee of Laymen warmly attached to the Evangelical Doctrine and Apostolical Order of the Church of England;" and Mr. Lowe's from "a Committee of Laymen in Liverpool, who are sincerely attached to the Principles of the Church of England." —*Record*.

The *Record* is already alarmed at the want of faith in the Establishment. Speaking of the publications of several clergymen who have lately denied the truth of different parts of the Old Testament, it says:—"These are fearful things—far more fearful than all the Romanising of Pusey and Keble. They strike directly at the foundation. If the Bible is not truth without any mixture of error, then have we no distinguishable Word of God. But if we have no word of God, then are we on the ocean, in darkest night, with neither rudder or compass! The whole of this school, from the plausible Maurice down to the reckless and unscrupulous Donaldson and Powell, are striving at one point—to take away from us the Divine message to man, holy Scripture. And when this is done, hope is gone; hope, either for this world or the next."

PROTESTANT RIOTS AT GREENOCK.—There has been no attempt since our last to renew the riotings of the early part of last week. Six of the rioters, some of whom admit their participation, and others are identified, were yesterday fully committed for trial, and were at once removed to the county prison at Paisley. They will probably be indicted for trial at the Circuit Court of Justiciary, which meets at the end of this month at Glasgow. —*Free Press, April 14*.

UNITED STATES.

ANOTHER EPISCOPALIAN MINISTER BECOME A CATHOLIC.—The Rev. W. B. Whitcher, a graduate of the Protestant Episcopal General Seminary in this city, and since then a clergyman in their diocese of Western New York, has become a Catholic. For some time past he had ceased to officiate in the community he has now left for the Catholic Church. —*N. Y. Freeman*.

KNOW-NOTHINGS DISMISSED.—It is rumored in Brooklyn, that all the Know-Nothing employees have been dismissed from the Navy Yard, by orders received from Washington. In view of the possibility of a war about Cuba, this is rather a politic measure. The "brave Irish" will be wanted by and bye, as food for powder. —*American Cell*.

WORKING OF THE MAINE LAW.—In Boston, Massachusetts, there is hardly a show of restraint in the sale of liquor; in Portland, Me., four hundred and forty drunkards were arrested during the past year; in Providence and Newport, Rhode Island, liquor may be bought by the penny's worth; in Hartford and New Haven, Connecticut, it is sold openly, and the Carson League wink at it; in Cincinnati, in Ohio, the groggeries are in full blast, and in Sausdusky City and Cleveland the Germans quaff their lager beer on the stoops in front of the saloons. —*N. Y. Herald*.

A WARNING TO IRISH EMIGRANTS.—A few days since a Rev. gentleman of this city informed us, that a poor Irish woman called on him for relief, with two young and beautiful children beside her, for whom she was in more trouble than herself. Her story was lamentable, but one of common occurrence in America. Obligated to enter the charitable prison for poor people at Syracuse, (a place not worse than any other part, it may be,) she was in a few days deprived of all the objects of her love, and all her ties on earth; her children were sent away, she knew not where. As soon as it was made known to her, she was ready to die; she cried, prayed, besought the "lords of the manor born," to give her lost ones back to her, and they should never see her face again;—perhaps, she may become a "nuisance" by her cries and lamentations, for she was a mother; and what will not a mother do, when robbed of those who are bone of her bone, and flesh of her flesh, of the fledgelings of her once warm home of those whom she brought to life with pain whom she nursed for years, whom she trusted to the open-mouthed ocean, in order that they may become happy in the "green fields of America." However, she was imprisoned for her consolations!—imprisoned, we believe, for eight days; imprisoned, in this free land, for having a mother's affection! Determined to find them again or die, she took the earliest opportunity to leave this "House of Charity," and travelled enquiring about them. Not far away she met a laborer, who informed her that he slept at a farmer's house lately on his travels, and heard them talk of a new purchase from Popery, in the person of a nice young child. It was just as he said. There was the child before the mother's eyes. There also was the mother, to whom it flew at once. But the fugitives from justice and law had not travelled many miles, when the "fond father" came up on horseback, demanding the child, and sending the mother to prison, for daring to take away from his house her child—no, not her child—the child of the State. Still,

there are plenty of good Americans, who remember that they themselves had mothers once; and who are not borne along the muddy torrent of prejudice, that is sweeping over the land; and the poor mother is once more, by their means, enabled to have her children beside her. God assist her to live long with them and bring them up faithful Catholics. Readers, remember how many Catholic children would be kidnapped by the charitable efforts of the bigots, if we had no asylums of our own. Forget not that the person who contributes to the support of those, keeps so many souls from the darkness of Heresy and Infidelity. —*Buffalo Catholic Sentinel*.

WOMAN RIGHT.—The Boston *Journal* states that Lucy Stone, the great exposé of woman's wrongs, has sobered down, and become a quiet domesticated wife. She has surrendered to the face of woman-kind, and been subdued by the bewitching shafts of Cupid. Who the fortunate winner of such a prize is, we have yet to learn.

HEAVY SEIZURE.—Four quarts of Lager beer were seized in Portland, under the Maine Law, on the 2d instant.

THE EBENEZER SOCIETY.—A society existing under this name, in the vicinity of Buffalo, N. Y., has attracted the attention of the State Legislature, and a resolution of inquiry in regard to it has been introduced by one of the members of the Assembly. It appears upon investigation, that the Legislature in 1846 granted certain privileges to an association of persons, giving them power to hold real estate, and to have charge of the personal effects of any who might join the organization. The name which the association has adopted, and by which they are known, is the "Ebenezer Society," and it numbers at the present time some five hundred persons, all foreigners of the German Swiss order. They have three villages, where they carry on woolen and cotton manufactures. They also raise their own provisions, holding sufficient land, for that purpose. The property of the community is now estimated to be worth from five to six millions of dollars, but taxes are assessed upon three hundred thousand dollars only. They are beginning to mix in politics, and they vote for their own interests, without respect for party considerations. The society is governed in religion by a prophet who claims to be spiritually equal with Jesus Christ, and who speaks by inspiration. Marriage is respected among them at least so far as ascertained. In temporal matters the government of the society is vested in fourteen trustees, who transact all business, but who are not compelled to labor. All adults are obliged to labor, and receive thirty-seven and a half cents per day for their services, while in return they are charged for their food and clothing, and, if, at the end of the year a balance be found in their favor, it is placed in the treasury for the benefit of the society! The condition of the laborers is but little removed from that of slavery, while that of the trustee is one of independence and ease. One of the late revelations to their prophet is, that the region is no favorable to their prosperity, that it is becoming too corrupt, and that they must seek a new home in the West beyond the reach of the corrupting influences of outside society. The organization is a species of socialism, with a religion quite so corrupt as Mormonism, but in which temporal benefits are far worse. As the society exists by a law of the State, the State has a right to investigate its affairs. The present inquiry arises from the holding back of the society of its returns of property for taxation, and the results will be detrimental to the well-being of the organization, in that it publishes to the world its repulsive features, and also increases its tax list. It is presumed that the society will heed the recent inspiration of the prophet and remove to the West.

N. Y. LEGISLATIVE DEGRADATION.—A general legislative demoralisation is already upon us, and the acts of the Know-Nothings which have caused so much opprobrium to the country, East and West, are, not the gangrene that devours the nation, but only the putrid matter that is sloughed off from the social ulcer,—the wound that needs healing is beneath. This legislative demoralisation is a fact, not a vague charge. It is a fact acknowledged by all parties even those who are our staunch opponents. Need we refer to Massachusetts, where members of the Legislature having committed misdemeanors not only sufficient to expel the participants from all decent society, but "enough to consign them to the penitentiary," are nevertheless whitewashed, because, as avowed by some of the body, there were one hundred and eighty members of that Legislature who were so implicated as to be in the power of the chief offenders—accomplices in their deeds of shame! Shall we turn to Pennsylvania? Let the *Richmond Enquirer* speak:

"Speaking Out in Meeting.—The corruption and profligacy of the present Know-Nothing Legislature of Pennsylvania is becoming apparent to every man in the State; but still we did not think the editors of that pure new party were so willing to acknowledge it. Yet such is the fact, as is evinced by the following clipped from the *Harrisburg Item*, one of "San's" organs:

"The fact is, legislation has fallen into bad hands. A set of political scoundrels took advantage of the late revolution in political sentiment, and, where they did not honestly succeed, fraud was resorted to in order to accomplish the object. The Legislation of this session, its glaring absurdities and villany, to make use of the mildest terms, will be execrated by every honest man in the Commonwealth. The honor of the State is bartered and sold by a secret conclave, as if they had no masters nor were in any way responsible to public opinion. Banks are chartered amid boisterous merriment, and foreign railroad capitalists are the 'lions' who are worshipped at the shrine of Mammon. When will Moses descend from the mount and cast down the golden calf?"

When the Legislature of Massachusetts, with its seventy or eighty sectarian preachers as members of it, presents so hideous an aspect of hypocrisy and pollution as recent developments have unveiled!—When the Know-Nothing organ at the seat of Government of Pennsylvania, speaks of that Legislature, controlled by its own party, in the terms we have cited.—When the Legislature of New York, went up reeling, drunk and debauched, from one of the most disgusting orgies in and around this city which ever disgraced its purities, or was reported in its newspapers,—to pass acts prohibitive of the inalienable rights of men; acts which would cost Russia, Austria, Naples, or France a bloody revolution, were the absolute monarchs of those countries to attempt depriving their subjects of the power of drinking what they pleased, in an orderly and peaceable manner,—it is time for the whole country to take it to heart. —*N. Y. Freeman*.