

readers will remember another and a fatal instance of this same spirit of compromise. It was Mr. Gladstone's boast that, in bringing forward his Irish Education Bill, he had entered into no communication whatever with any of the authorities of the Catholic Church. This was itself a compromise with Protestant prejudice. And it turned out fatal to the project which he had at heart, viz., to satisfy the Irish Catholic claim for university education. Had Irish Catholicism been communicated with the heads of the Catholic Church he would have learnt, either that they could not accept his proposed measure—and then he could have spared himself a defeat by not introducing the measure at all—or he could have ascertained in what form he could have made it acceptable, and have amended his bill to suit the requirements. It was not that Mr. Gladstone was unwilling to make a sacrifice and to lose office. "What happened was this," said Mr. Fortescue in his speech to the electors at Louth; "Mr. Gladstone made up his mind to do his best to redress the third grievance as well as the other two. He knew very well, and I knew, that it was by far the most difficult and I knew, that it was often talked it over with question of the three. He then talked it over with me, and he said to me, 'We shall have to shipwreck ourselves upon this Irish Education question,' and we did shipwreck ourselves." Had Mr. Gladstone but asked the opinion of those who are the organized leaders of Catholic public opinion in Ireland, he would have been saved from shipwreck, for he would have learnt that the Catholic Church in Ireland was altogether unwilling to compromise the matter of religious education with that Radical wing of his party which has now effectually turned out Mr. Gladstone himself, and destroyed all chance of his speedy return to power. So that it is literally true, in the words of the late Premier, that he and his colleagues "wrecked themselves" in their pursuit of this policy of compromise. They should have known better than the Irish Catholic Bishops, with Cardinal Cullen at their head, were the last men in the world to become parties to a compromise in a matter concerning the religious well-being of the souls of millions of their spiritual children.

Thus two things are certain: First, that the Irish Catholics defeated the strongest government that we have had for generations, when it sought to impose upon them a compromise in a matter affecting religious education; and secondly, that the Catholics of England were forced into precisely the same attitude of opposition at the General Election—only with this difference, that the compromise at the elections, if such a programme as that of the Radicals can be called a compromise, was offered to them, not by the Ministry but by the Radical tail of Mr. Gladstone's party. The Catholics found themselves compelled to assist in crushing that tail. It was, no doubt, a painful operation for all concerned. The Catholics found the process to be, in many respects, a thoroughly disagreeable one; for they sympathized in the pain that Mr. Gladstone would experience from it; and there can be little doubt but that the bruised and amputated joints which were to be cast into the cold shade would also writhe and suffer, though without commiseration. But we must again remark, that in the two defeats endured by Mr. Gladstone, the one of last session and the other in the elections the Radicals turned against him quite as much—nay, much more vehemently extravagant, and precipitately than the Catholics. In the elections, it was the Radical party that compelled the Catholics to withdraw their confidence. We are quite prepared, however, in spite of this, to be told that the blame of Mr. Gladstone's defeat is upon the shoulders—not of the Radicals, but of the weaker party, and it will be much safer, if not more generous, to vent all the latent spleen and wrath upon them rather than upon the Radicals. It now remains for us to see what course Mr. Disraeli will follow in respect to education. He and his party come in upon the principle of religious and denominational education. He has every opportunity—in the cry which has given him a majority, the plea of consistency, and the diminution of the Radical element in the House of Commons—to establish denominational education, where it does exist, upon firmer basis, and where it does not exist, and is desired as a boon to introduce and found it. Will he do this in Ireland? It is simply a question as to whether the feeling of hatred of Catholic claims is a more or less powerful element in the new Cabinet than principle, consistency, and the spirit of fair play. This is the real question at issue. We will not speculate on the answer. But it is an answer which must be given, not in words but in deeds.

In England we do not look forward to a pleasant time of it. Mr. Newdegate last year got ninety-six votes in a House of 227 to support his motion for a Commission of Enquiry into Convents and Monasteries. Will Mr. Disraeli's party be as eager to "harass" priests and nuns as he says Mr. Gladstone was to "harass" the interests of publicans and others? Suspicion has been raised and circulated to the effect that Mr. Disraeli is an admirer of Prince Bismarck; that he would be unwilling to follow, as far as English feeling could permit, in his footsteps. We know of no reasons to justify these apprehensions; and we are unwilling to entertain them until he gives us reasons for doing so. But of this there can be no doubt that there is a spirit of hatred and persecution abroad; and that if it were thought worth while to persecute in England, there would be plenty of men on either side in politics to justify and applaud the persecution of English Catholics. Speaking of the monastic institutions in England a writer in *Fraser's Magazine* for last month informs us in a deplorable article, affecting fairness and breath of view, that "it is not to be denied that if these institutions became at all powerful among us the country would demand, and rightly demand their entire suppression. It is because the public are fully convinced that they can never obtain any material importance, that the existing laws are allowed to remain a dead letter. We would not inspect them for this would be to a certain extent to bring them under the protection of the State; and could equally oppose Sir C. O'Loghlen's proposal to legalize them. It is far better to keep aloof from them altogether, retaining our power of interference and our right of suppressing them if we think fit."

Such are the views on liberty entertained by Mr. Froude and many others. Mr. Disraeli's cabinet will soon have an opportunity of declaring its opinion upon these points also. But it will be at least difficult for them to be more extreme than those of Mr. James Anthony Froude and the Liberals of the Continent.—*London Tablet*.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

THE HOME RULE LEAGUE.—DUBLIN, March 3.—The Home Rule League held a meeting in the Rotunda, preparatory to the assembling of the Parliamentary conference to-day. A number of the newly-elected Members of Parliament attended; Mr. Mitchell Henry occupied the chair, and congratulated the meeting on the advance of the Home Rule movement. He said the demand had extended to their fellow-subjects in Scotland. A list of 81 new members was read by the Rev. Mr. Galbraith, and they were admitted. It included the names of half-a-dozen Roman Catholic clergymen, and 54 persons from Montreal, Canada. Mr. O'Sullivan, M.P. for Limerick, spoke in terms of satisfaction at his election. That day, he said, would mark a new era in the history of Ireland, for on it they introduced the roll of honour, on which he hoped the name of every true Irishman would be inscribed. Sir J. McKenna congratulated the League upon the election of Mr. O'Sullivan, which, he thought, would mark a new epoch in the Parliamentary history of Ireland, and

dispel a vast number of illusions. Mr. Butt moved a formal resolution to the effect that a National Roll of Home Rulers be formed, and that any one desirous of having his name enrolled could enter on payment of 1s. He said the time had come when they could appeal to every Irishman, and say that Ireland demanded Home Rule. There was no longer any excuse for staying away from their country's cause, and all jealousies must be obliterated. The payment of 1s. for enrolment on the National Roll was a pledge of sincerity, and the roll would be signed throughout the country. He trusted that every hole and corner would be canvassed for signatures. The Roman Catholic clergy, the Poor Law Guardians, shopkeepers, and Town Councillors would act as wardens of the national Roll. He declared that the advent of Ireland's independence—that independence which would separate Ireland from England, but strengthen and unite the two countries—was as certain as the rising of to-morrow's sun. Once they convinced the people of England that they were not veiled rebels, but that all they asked was freedom, and that they were determined to be free and to live as friends to England, the whole English nation would be with them except the corrupt aristocrats who had some advantage to gain. There would be no defaulters in their Parliamentary ranks. The day of Ireland's deliverance was drawing near, and, without meaning to lower sacred things, he repeated the words of the Prophet to another enslaved nation:—

"Awake! awake! oh daughter of Zion; lift thyself from the dust; put on thy glorious apparel, cast off the bonds of captivity from thy neck and be free, for the day of thy deliverance is at hand; the day of thy redemption is nigh." He said to the captive daughter of Erin—"Arise! awake! Put on thy glorious apparel; lift thyself from the dust. Arise! cast off the chains of slavery from thy neck; for, oh! captive daughter of Erin, long enslaved and oppressed, seven centuries of thy slavery are gone; and surely, oh! surely, indeed, the day of thy deliverance is at hand—the day of thy redemption draweth nigh; arise and rejoice in your liberty."—*Times Correspondent*.

CATHOLICITY AND FREEMASONRY.—The Catholic Union (Ireland) have published the following:—"The distinguished prelate who fills the episcopal See of Mechlin, in Belgium, has just issued a pastoral letter on the subject of Freemasonry, and recalls to the mind of his flock the anathemas so frequently hurled by the Church against members of the fraternity. 'Let us not lose sight,' says the venerable archbishop, 'of the fact that Freemasonry is a secret society, not alone in the sense that it conceals its designs from the profane world (to use the words of the sect itself), but in the sense that the initiation of the high degrees conceal the true purposes of Masonry from the inferior grades, even though these latter may be great and august personages, clothed in the external dignities of the order. But, even these are not less guilty on that account, because they blindly engage themselves by an oath to carry out designs of which they are ignorant, despite the warnings of common sense, conscience, and the Church. Further, that which Freemasonry hides from a large number of its adherents, it reveals clearly enough by its actions to all who will open their eyes to watch them. It reveals also by the documents which are now and then issued from its council-rooms. Freemasonry, in its doctrine, often reduced to form, is the enemy of the Catholic Church. It treats with contempt all that has been venerated from the earliest ages of Christianity, and sets at naught the harmony of reason and revelation—of science and of faith. The very thing that stirred the enthusiasm of so many great men the eternal religion, whose unbroken liberty Bismarck had so clearly proved; all this the lodges pretend to confound with merely human religion and opinions, and they are content to live in peace with Christianity, only on the condition that it shall respect its divine origin. The pretended respect for the lodges for worship is to be purchased only on this condition. The Catholic Church is excluded from this respect, precisely because it bears on its forehead the characters of the unity of God—the Father of all men and of all peoples. The lodges will not have a God living in revelation, or a revelation living in the Church. Whoever leagues himself in a lodge, leagues himself in a society which blasphemes the Divinity of Christ and the universal Church. Can we, therefore, wonder that the Church should declare excommunication against those who join in Freemasonry?"

A GERMAN VIEW OF IRISH REVOLUTIONISM.—The leading Catholic and anti-Bismarckian paper of Germany, the *Germania*, in one of its latest issues, reviews the result of the elections to the British Parliament at some length, and expresses its unqualified satisfaction at the accession of the Conservative party to power. After alluding to the observations made by Mr. Disraeli, in his Aylesbury speech, on the anomaly of the maintenance of coercion in the sister island and on the return of Home Rulers as *minors*, the *Germania* goes on to say:— "In all that Mr. Disraeli has to say with respect to martial-law in Ireland we fully concur; but when he proceeds to designate the Home Rulers as revolutionists and rebels he lays himself open to flat contradiction. The Irish are very little given to revolutionism, less so in fact than other nations, decidedly less than the English. Let us cite one fact in support of this proposition. Although unhappily Ireland has been oppressed by the English conquerors these seven hundred years, her very life blood been sucked out and her soil made into an abode of misery; although, owing to the tyrannical laws and administrative measures of an alien government which has no understanding for the faith and the nationality of the people, as well as the mercenary egotism of the ruling race unscrupulously seeking its own advantage in the impoverishment of the conquered, millions and millions have been driven away from their beloved green island, whilst those who remained behind dragged on an existence scarcely worthy of human beings, under the supervision of goulers and tax-gatherers; although, by reason of the wantonness and injustice of the rulers, of the hard-heartedness and contempt of the men in possession, the distress and starvation of the disinherited, Ireland might have appeared as a soil specially fitted for the plantation of the poisonous flower of Internationalism; it is yet certain that, whilst in all the principal towns of the British empire the International Association has its branches—it has not one in Ireland. Surely, the Irish can never be called a nation of 'rebels' and 'revolutionists'!"

That veteran Nationalist, Mr. Philip Callan, that will probably retire from Dundalk now the voice of his native country has conferred upon him the higher honour of representing Louth, and we are glad to see as a candidate already in the field for the anticipated vacancy, Captain Michael Nolan, of Birkenhead. The qualifications of this gentleman are of a high order. A native of Dundalk, he has by his own clever brain, untiring industry, and steadfast integrity raised himself to a position in the mercantile marine world beyond all civil question. His knowledge of trade requirements, in connection with seaport towns, is accurate, substantial and active; he is in the confidence of the steamship companies on both sides of the Channel, and he is prepared to take an energetic part in the contest which is always more or less waging between the former and the railway companies who are ever seeking to draw traffic as much as possible from the sea should use all the influence they have to counterbalance it. On the grand questions for Ireland, Captain Nolan is soundest of the sound. He accepted in toto the platform of the Home Rule Conference, whose principles he has indeed always ad-

vocated, even before they took visible shape at the great Dublin meeting. Denominational Education, Fixity of Tenure, and Amnesty for the political prisoners, are among the firmest portions of his political creed, and to their attainment he pledged himself to devote all his intellect, his energies, and his industry. Such are some of the many qualities which seem to us the most suitable to the representative of an Irish seaport; Captain Nolan possesses them all in a high degree; and we must say that he appears to be in every respect a most eligible candidate to sit for such an independent constituency as that of Dundalk. We have every confidence in the claims of Captain Nolan, and we heartily bid him God speed in his efforts to represent his native town in Parliament.—*Catholic Times*.

THE LONDON PRESS ON THE HOME RULE MOVEMENT.—In discussing the work before the new Ministry, different organs dwell on the question of Home Rule. The *Observer* of Sunday, commenting on the subject, says:—"It is, perhaps, an omen of the future that the first voices to make themselves heard since the general elections are those of the Home Rulers. The League has held a meeting in Dublin within the last few days, at which Mr. Butt proposed a resolution calling on 'all Irishmen to unite in energetic action in support of that claim for self-government which has now been constitutionally declared to be the national demand.' In the course of his speech Mr. Butt said that fifty-nine Home Rulers had been returned in Ireland, and in England twenty-four. 'For the first time since the accursed Union a decisive majority of Ireland's representatives who are in favour of Ireland's nationality had been returned. O'Connell had only thirty-nine members to support his motion for repeal; nearly double that number were enrolled as Home Rulers. If one month's preparation had been given—the Queen had not been advised to abuse her prerogative for the purpose of stealing a march upon the opinions of her people, his prediction that eighty Home Rulers would have been returned from Ireland would have been verified.' All this, of course, means that Mr. Butt and the party he represents are in a high state of exultation at the result of the election, and that they look upon the fifty-nine Home Rulers who might have been eighty but for the Queen's unfortunate abjuration of her prerogative with no little satisfaction and hope for the future. With this satisfaction we have no right to quarrel. The Home Rule party are entitled to all the natural advantages which belong to people who know their own minds who place amidst many others who are by no means so well acquainted with theirs. While English Liberal constitutions have been wavering between attachment to old principles and dread of their developments, between the desire to support their party and the desire to dethrone its leaders, the Irish electors, ever by far the larger portion of their country, have set their faces steadily in one direction, and have reaped the reward of their unity and fastness of purpose. Whatever we may think of their object they have at least established two points beyond a doubt. First, that the majority of the Irish electorate desire Home Rule; and, secondly, that they desire it so intensively as to be willing for its sake to sacrifice all other political considerations. The simple letters 'H. R.'—after the name of a candidate at the last election have, in many instances, been sufficient without any other political declaration whatever to place him at the head of the poll above the most thoroughgoing and fair-promising Liberal who hesitated to affix the mystic letters to his name. The success, in short, of Mr. Butt's party, great as it was expected to be, has far exceeded his expectations, and, so far as the issue of the Irish elections alone is in question, he has every reason to be gratified with his position. From our own point of view, and looking at the matter as ninety-nine Englishmen out of one hundred look at it, we can only regard the result of the Irish elections with unfeigned regret."

DEATH OF MR. MICHAEL ROCHE, GRANGE.—Died at Grange, on the 15th inst., Michael Roche, sen. Blessed with length of days given to few, he was a witness of the long struggle for Catholic Emancipation, and in the front rank of the electors of Carlow, who, with an enthusiasm and self-sacrifice seldom equalled, sustained N. A. Vigors in the battle for Reform. Firm and brave, loyal to his party, and faithful to his friends, he gained the respect of those who differed from him. In his last moments he received the sacraments of the Church, and went to his rest with the consolations of that Holy Faith which he professed with the energy of his nature, and practised with earnestness and humility. His remains were removed from his late residence to Grange Chapel on Tuesday last, attended by a host of relatives and friends. After the High Mass, the Bishop officiated at the Absolution, and then the remains were borne to the cemetery by his children and relatives, where the Bishop performed the last rites of the grave.—*R.L.P.— Freeman*, 28th Feb.

Mr. Butt visited Limerick for the first time since his election, and was received with immense enthusiasm. His arrival from Ennis was awaited by thousands of the citizens at the railway station, and he was escorted in triumph to the O'Connell monument where he delivered a brief address, expressing his belief that no Ministry could resist the demand for Home Rule, backed as it was now by the majority of the representatives of the Irish people, and a considerable number of English and Scotch members. Addresses were also delivered by Mr. Daly and Mr. W. H. O'Sullivan, M.P.—*Cork Examiner*.

The present Administration, with one exception, adheres to the principle of Home Rule by appointing Irishmen to office. All yet appointed are Irishmen save the Chief Secretary, and he is very little known to the public. We hope the Government may be in every other respect as consistent with Ireland. It is in the power of the present to emulate the last Administration by proper concessions to Ireland. But we fear ancient prejudices are too deeply imbedded in the hearts of the followers of Mr. Disraeli to allow them to act in accordance with the principles of justice by the many, contrary to the wishes of the few.—*Mary Examiner*, March 2.

WAR AGAINST DRUNKENNESS.—The Leuten Pastoral of the Most Rev. Dr. Furlong, Bishop of Ferns, was read at church and chapel in the diocese of Ferns on Sunday. His lordship again calls attention to the spread of intemperance throughout the country. He says—"Seeing our native land, so specially blessed by Heaven, overspread with this pestilential vice, and knowing the hideous work of ruin, temporal and eternal, effected by it; when we witness that mass of iniquity perpetrated each day before high Heaven, and calling down upon us the wrath and chastisement of an offended God, with what heart can we enter on this penitential attire, recite those psalms and hymns expressive of a bruised and contrite heart? How can the pastor approach the throne of grace, and, in the name of his entire flock ask forgiveness for the offences of his people, whilst, almost within his hearing, perhaps, there are found members of his flock revelling in heathenish indulgence, uttering blasphemous and profane language, stifling the voice of reason in riotous excess, forfeiting their title not only to the name of Christians, but of men? And all of this in a nation solemnly consecrated to the Sacred Heart of our Lord. How can the minister of God, who is called to represent on earth the love for man of the Sacred Heart—how can he view, without the deepest sorrow, the havoc which the sin of drunkenness is making everywhere around us—consigning its guilty victim to a premature grave—desolating our homes, turning out on the world wretched, destitute orphans; leaving young girls, unprovided and unprotected, a prey to the prowling licentiousness that goes about seeking whom it may devour. Visit one of those asylums

where lost innocence and virtue have found a refuge and a home and ask one of its inmates what it was that led to her melancholy fall. She will answer, 'Oh, sir, my father was once sober and industrious, and was supporting his family in decency and comfort, but in an evil hour he was led by bad companions into the public house; there he squandered his earnings in drink, he lost his character, his employment, his health, he pined away in want and misery, he died, and left us to starve. To ward off starvation I made the fatal plunge into vice. I became a wretched cast-away, till a merciful God directed my steps to the home that harbours the poor prodigal, lost to God and His grace.' Did that father repent, did he truly repent, or before he turned sincerely to God was he summoned into the presence of an angry Judge with the manifold damnation on his head of his own unnumbered crimes, and the fearful temptation to crime which he bequeathed to his children? How strongly are we reminded here of the fearful denunciation of the prophet Isaiah:—'Woe to you who rise up early in the morning to be inebriated with wine. Therefore hath hell enlarged her soul and opened her mouth without any bounds and their people shall go down into it.' Is it not incumbent on all good men to combine together to put down this monstrous evil? What man with a human heart in his bosom can survey the desolation it has caused without deep affliction? What more afflicting than the cries of starving children, and the hopeless, helpless distress of a broken-hearted mother? When we think what happiness may be enjoyed in an humble, it may be, but comfortable, orderly home; how the father is cheered each evening on his return by witnessing the happy fruits of his industry and toil; and then, on the other hand, his re-appearing when no longer a man but a brute more inhuman and cruel to his own than the savage beast that roams the forest?"

THE LATE TIBERARY ELECTION.—Mr. Peter E. Gill, one of the defeated candidates at the late election for this county, has announced in the columns of his own journal (*The Tipperary Advocate*) that "the *Tipperary* of last Saturday, by the deliberate falsehoods of its anonymous correspondents, and by the imputations in its articles, appears to force us to make its proprietor prove his assertions in a court of justice."

MONUMENT TO THE LATE LORD ROSSE.—Immediately after the demise of this nobleman and famed astronomer, the people of Carlow town and neighbourhood, at the instance of the Town Commissioners, set about raising a monument to perpetuate his memory. A large sum of money was collected, and the contract given to Mr. Foley, the eminent sculptor. For some reason unexplained, the building of the pedestal was not commenced up to the 1st of January, 1874, and in the course of a short time we hope to see a monument raised worthy of the memory of the deceased nobleman, and worthy of the people who raised it to his memory.

GREAT BRITAIN. As the result of eighteen years of encouragement of anti-Catholic evolution in every country of Europe—Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Austria—the British Government stands isolated and friendless among the Governments of the world. The confederate giants of the North—Germany and Russia—are again marking out with their sword-points the new acquisitions of territory which they desire to one another—not that they love one another, but because they can be mutually useful at the present moment, and because no other country of Europe can afford to offer to either of them the bribes which they can offer one another. To secure the goodwill of Russia, so important in view of France's enmity, Germany is ready to yield Constantinople itself to the heir of Peter the Great. In return Russia can secure Germany against Austria and France, and will have no objection to any further acquisitions of territory which Germany may desire. As for Austria, honeycombed with Liberalism, deprived of France, and deserted by England, she can only hope to make the best bargain she can with the masters of four millions of soldiers. What can England do? Of course she cannot oppose Protestant Germany. Such a proceeding would be treason to the Reformation, and Prince von Bismarck is so pious a man. Neither can she oppose Russia; for it is Russia, like Germany, the enemy of Rome? It is England's part to sit and smile while her ancient prestige and her modern supremacy are being steadily sacrificed on the altar of the Reformation by the Evangelical Prince von Bismarck and the Orthodox Prince Gortschakoff. A former race of Englishmen—the Great Commoner and his successors—did not look to enquire whether it was a Protestant or a Catholic nation which was threatening the security of England. In those days France was curbed, though revolutionary, and Austria was our ally, though the Hapsburg was His Apostolic Majesty. We have changed all that, and when England has sunk to a third-rate power, it will console us for the loss of India, for the German annexation of Holland, Denmark, and Teutonic Austria, and for the Russian annexation of Turkey and Persia, that we refused to be saved by Catholic alliances, and nobly preferred to be outwitted by the Straussist Prussian and the Schismatic Muscovite.—*Tablet*.

In the palmiest days of Rome the Empire was numbered, imperfectly and loosely; but Gibbon, no reckless computer, fixed the population of the Imperial Dominion, with its vast area of 1,600,000 square miles, at the moderate figure of 120,000,000. The British Census of 1874 makes it clear that Queen Victoria rules over nearly twice the number of subjects who were governed by the Emperor Claudius. The Imperial Crown of England is the symbol of Sovereignty to which "two hundred and thirty-four millions" of people look up; and these inhabit 7,769,149 miles of territory.—*Times*.

CAVASSING AND PLEDGING.—If the letter of the law is violated, the offender is liable to punishment; but the violation of the spirit of the law may be much more serious, and the offender is not liable to any punishment. Now this we (*Law Journal*) maintain happens with regard to the election law. How far the ballot prevents bribery and corruption we will not discuss. How complete it is a system of secret voting may be disputable, though it is no doubt thoroughly perfect as respects an individual voter who wishes to keep his vote secret. Neither the card trick nor any other trick strips the mask from the individual vote. Among the discussions on the ballot, it was often asked why a man should wish to vote in secret; it was hard to evade the conclusion, that the man who desired secret voting either wished to conceal his political opinions or vote contrary to his expressed opinions. As the Ballot Act now stands, it most undoubtedly fosters deception and falsehood. The electors are canvassed by the respective candidates, and asked to pledge themselves to vote for A. or B. We have heard of an enthusiastic lady, who, having obtained the promise of a vote took a Bible from her pocket and requested the elector to swear that he would vote according to his promise. In other cases the pressure is very severe. The voter has to promise emphatically that he will vote for A. or B. In large boroughs the canvassing is carried on through the agency of the post. It will, we presume, be admitted that before the election there may be just as much pressure, undue influence, and intimidation as in the olden time. Well, then, what is the use of the ballot? It enables the voters to break their promises. That this is done to a large extent is beyond question, because the figures of the returning officers have not coincided with the promises made to the candidates. We do not say repeal the Ballot Act but we ask that it may be completed.

Mr. Disraeli will also have to please a great many voters on the one hand and place-lauzers on the other, as the Conservatives have been so long in the cold, waiting for the turn of the tide. Disraeli, as he has denounced wholesale Mr. Gladstone's policy, it is only natural to expect that every class of persons affected by the ex-premier's legislation will seek an asylum from the policy and change of the defunct ministry in the policy of Mr. Disraeli. Disraeli will be asked to put his hand deep into the national purse to compensate all those—from dock-labourers to the officers of the army—who prospects in life have been blighted and whose hopes have been dashed to pieces by the economic policy of Mr. Gladstone. And, therefore, Mr. Disraeli will have a host of harpies about his ears that will not add either to his peace of mind or to the security of his position. With these and other difficulties staring the right hon. gentleman in the face, it is all very well for him and his party to gloat over the Conservative majority. But, when every danger that threatens them is reckoned, we are inclined to believe the boasted number may be found to grow more and more "beautifully less." And, consequently, however Mr. Disraeli may pool-pool Home Rule, it is reserved for the Home Rulers to read him a lesson in the new Parliament he is not likely to forget, and to show the British Senate once again that the Irish members, when they combine, can upset the strongest government in the world. The more we look into the whole question, irrespective of Mr. Disraeli or Mr. Gladstone, the more clear it appears to us that it will depend on the Home Rulers to break any government—Tory, Liberal, or coalition—like a dry faggot, that will not govern Ireland according to Irish views and wishes.—*The Freeman*.

As incidents of the election, it may be mentioned that three gentlemen named Mackintosh competed for the representation of the Inverness burghs, one of them wresting the seat from the late member, Mr. James Mackintosh, while at Exeter, the electors had to choose between two Johnsons of opposite politics. Whether any votes went astray in these stages does not appear. In the county Donegal, where two Kennedys stood, the situation was less complicated, both of them being Liberals. Lord Sandon, the senior member for Liverpool, enjoys the distinction of having received the largest number of votes—viz., 22,000, while Mr. Dawson Damer, at the other end of the scale, sits for Portlinton, by virtue of 77 votes.

Did our Protestant friends imagine when they were demonstrating in St. James Hall in favour of the persecution in Germany, that they were trying Catholicity alone? If so we will just forgive their minds with the following scrap of news, cut from one of Bismarck's own peculiar organs.—"The last two Protestant pastors in the province of Hesse have been suspended yesterday. Although twenty-two have now been removed from office, it is reported that three more will be removed to-morrow." What do Earl Ross B. and his Protestant friends sympathize with—Bismarck, or the Protestant pastors of Hesse?"

Discussing the probable policy of the Home Rule party in the House of Commons, the *Irish Times* anticipates that Mr. Butt will seek an alliance with the Opposition, and it warns the English Liberals that they must take care to avoid even the appearance of association with Irish hostility to the integrity of the Empire.

UNITED STATES.

THE PATRIOTIC PROFESSOR.—The clerical wisdom of the Boston Baptists assembled, a couple of weeks ago, to discuss the question: "Should church property be taxed?" The prevailing opinion was that edifices and property devoted to religious purposes should not be liable to taxation by the State. But Professor Gould, of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Newton, was present, and, to demonstrate his own depth of thought and his fitness to sit in judgment in the Seminary, instructed the brethren as follows:—"If any objection is to be made, it should be to IMPOSE A TAX UPON THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES, inasmuch as the principles which they maintain are subversive of the principles of a Government like our own. As Bismarck said: 'They are a body within the State, seeking to overthrow the state.' An eminently generous Professor. We were never before aware that Bismarck was an authority in matters of Baptist theology. Now are we made wise by the logic of Gould, who says that any man who declines to admire and obey Prussian absolutism, is necessarily seeking to subvert the Government of the United States. Artemus Ward was so patriotic in the late war, that he wanted to see all his wife's relations drafted into the ranks and placed in the front. The Professor is patriotic after the same fashion; he would gladly see the public treasury replenished at the expense of the Catholics. It would assuredly be a treat to hear this "grave and reverend seignior" give an exposition of what he conceives to be the principles maintained by the Catholic Church. He is also as a capable judge of Catholic doctrine, an Ashtabutee of the electric telegraph.—*Irish World*.

A YOUNG KENTUCKY WOMAN.—The Mount Sterling (Ky.) *Scimitar* gives this notice of a marriageable young female in Montgomery County:—"A young woman in this State, at a party the other night, for \$20, ate a roast pig, an entire stuffed turkey, all in an opossum, ten large corn dodgers, and drank a gallon of hard cider, at one sitting. Her name is Miss Mary Jane Severance, and she is a plump and pretty brunette, lively and bright and hasn't a taper."

A "MAD" STONE.—In Mississippi, there is a mad ailment, a certain cure for hydrophobia called a "mad stone." The stone is about half the size of a hen's egg, an irregular rounded cube of whitish gray color marked with small radiated lines like rough coral, or resembling pits of small-pox. Under the microscope the stone discovers a great number of minute pores, and has nothing like the weight or solidity of coral. It is broken into five pieces which are bound together with wire. It was brought from China about seventy years ago by a Dr. Parker, and purchased from him by Dr. Milam, the father of its possessor, and two other gentlemen, Mr. Milam afterwards becoming its sole proprietor, Eleven hundred applications of the stone have been made to mad dog and snake wounds without a single failure to cure. Two hundred and fifty of these applications have been made by Mr. Benjamin Milam, to whom the stone was bequeathed by his late father. The latest cure the stone has effected is that of a Dr. Hudgins, of whose case there is a long report in the *Winona Advance*. Dr. Hudgins was bitten on the 20th of May last by a mad dog while attempting to destroy it, and received a slight wound in the left wrist. He was some months later seized with hydrophobia, and the case appearing hopeless, Mr. Milam was telegraphed for on the 11th inst, and shortly afterwards appeared with the "mad-stone." The wound had cicatrized, but the skin was parod off by Dr. Holman and Trotter, and the stone bound on. After an hour the bandage was removed and the stone firmly adhered, so that considerable pressure was needed to disengage it. The application was made at eight p.m., and the stone dropped at four p.m. It was immersed in hot water for an hour, dried, and again applied. Three applications were made, and Dr. Hudgins is now perfectly well, and not only free from any symptoms of hydrophobia, but also from the terrible fear and anxiety which before oppressed him.

In a breach of promise case at Fort Wayne, the lover was convicted of writing, "mi hart bees oanley for the, my darling hiny."