

FENIANISM IN AMERICA—Its Practical Application.—The "Utter Observer," of the 24th ult., publishes a letter from the Rev. A. M. Geogh, of Albany, N. Y., from which we extract the following paragraph, on "Fenianism," and we think we may, without fear of contradiction, add that the proportion of Catholic clergymen in this country, who entertain opinions similar to those expressed in the Rev. Father's letter on that subject, is about 999 out of every thousand.

EDUCATION.—Among the agencies actively and extensively employed by the Fenians was the very potent one of circulating and singing seditious songs, especially among soldiers. A private named Flynn, belonging to the 3rd Buffs, stationed at Longford, was recently found engaged in this practice at a public-house, swearing at the same time that he was a real Irishman and would fight as an Irishman. His misconduct was reported by some of his comrades, and an order was received, yesterday from headquarters, directing that he should be tried by court-martial, with the view of putting a stop to this practice.

FENIAN PIKES.—The Cork Examiner informs the public that a new use has been found for Fenian pikes, quite different from what the manufacturers contemplated. It states that the Austrian Consul at Queenstown has received a request to procure a few of them for the Museum at Vienna. He made known the request to Mr. Cronin, E. E., who promised to procure a few of those works of art for him.

At Kilspeal, within seven miles of Castle, six constables on Sunday last arrested two reputed head centres. One of them was rescued by a mob of young men. A man named Sheehan, who had been on the run for some time, has been arrested in Limerick. In obedience to the proclamation, a great number of arms have been surrendered in the county Kildare. At Athy about 200 single-barrelled guns and several hundred other weapons, including a great number of expensive revolvers, were brought in, and ammunition sufficient to supply them for a small campaign. Not less than £150 was expended in Athy on the purchase of weapons within the last three months.

DUBLIN, March 27.—The Fenian armouries, there is reason to believe, have not all been discovered. They must have been in work for a considerable time, and of the immense quantities of weapons they must have turned out only a small portion has fallen into the hands of the police. Rifles and revolvers, too, must have been purchased to a large extent, while the number of firearms surrendered in obedience to the Government proclamations has been very small. There is ground, therefore for apprehending that if the Government had not frustrated the designs of the conspirators by capturing the leaders, and if an outbreak had occurred, Stephens could have mustered a formidable number of well-armed men.

The discovery made yesterday morning by the police at Upper Rathmines will probably lead to others. No one would have thought that buildings in course of erection would have been selected as places for the concealment of arms. Yet, a moment's reflection shows that such places are admirably suited for the purpose, if some of the workmen be Fenians. War materials could be easily conveyed there without suspicion, and buried under the ground floors, still in a rough state, with rubbish and loose clay lying about. There is a district in Upper Rathmines called "the Bloody Fields," because there in 1849, Colonel Jones, with a Republican army of 19,000 men, defeated the Royal army, under the Marquis of Ormonde, killing 4,000, and taking 3,000 prisoners.

Between those fields and the Dodder are Lord Palmerston's Grounds, through which a road has been made from Upper Rathmines road to the Milltown Station on the late noble proprietor's Temple-road. Upon this half-a-dozen very handsome villas have been erected. One was being built for a gentleman named Power, and it appears that the builder was Mr. Hugh F. Brophy, one of the persons convicted of complicity in the Fenian conspiracy at the late Special Commission in Dublin. The work had been interrupted by his imprisonment, but it was resumed by his brother James Brophy.

The place is so retired, quiet, and respectable, that no one would ever suspect that the mechanics working at such buildings had any connection with Fenianism, or were preparing to fight for the Fenian Republic. Yesterday morning, however, in consequence of private information, Superintendent Donovan and Inspectors Daly and Dowling, with a party of police, went at an early hour to the villa in question, in order to search for arms. When they arrived there were five men at work on the premises, and when questioned they denied all knowledge of any such things being concealed there. The police searched for a considerable time, digging up the floors, but for a considerable time without success.

At length they found, buried in a small room off the kitchen, two large boxes one containing five rifles and bayonets and the other four rifles and bayonets. Some of the rifles had the "Tower mark," and some were marked "United States, Middleton, 1840." Subsequently the builder Brophy and the other men appeared on the premises. They were all placed under arrest, protesting that they knew nothing about the arms. The following are the names of the prisoners:—James Brophy, builder; John Gill, Henry Doran, Alexander M'Keon, Michael Doran, George Rigby, William M'ullen, Daniel Leonard, William Brady, Patrick Kington, Michael M'Obao, and George Clarke. They were brought up at the head office before Mr. M'Dermott, and Mr. Wyses, when Inspector Dowling deposed to the facts above stated. Inspector Donovan asked for a remand, about which the magistrates hesitated, and they were also disposed to take solvent bail for the appearance of the prisoners. But the police officers stated that they had information which might lead to other discoveries of the same kind, which would be prevented if the prisoners were let out, and that if the magistrates refused to remand them, they would be obliged to detain them under the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act. They were then remanded for a week without bail. Brophy stated that some of the men had gone to the place that day for the first time, and it was hard to keep them from their families.

At the same office, Edward Obeylon, of 7, Angling street, was charged with having a gun in his possession without licence. He was admitted to bail. At the Chapel street office, a man named Doyle was committed on his own confession as a deserter from the 14th Regiment; shortly after which the sergeant of a recruiting staff entered and stated that he had recognized the prisoner as a deserter from the 5th Dragoon Guards.—J.

DUBLIN, March 28.—A very important conference on "ministerial support" was held in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, on Wednesday. About 200 influential laymen, connected with the Presbyterian Church and a large number of the clergy attended, and in the evening there was a public meeting on the same subject. Mr. William Kirk, D.D., occupied the chair. The financial condition of the churches connected with the general Assembly has for some time been the subject of anxious consideration, and the proceedings of these meetings are not without political interest as bearing upon the discussions in Parliament on the state of Ireland. The Chairman stated that the members of the Presbyterian Church seemed to rely on the Royal bounty rather than on their own resources. According to the report of the General Assembly there are no fewer than 14 congregations which do not pay their ministers 1s. a day each; there were 66 congregations which pay only 1s. 6d. a day, and 96 that pay 2s. a day, which is more than the 23s. a year required by Government as a qualification for receiving the *Regium Donum*. This, Mr. Kirk said, was very humiliating: 142 congregations pay their ministers less than 3s. a day, which is the common pay of mechanics in the country, and is less than they receive in towns. There are only seven congregations in this very large and wealthy body who pay their ministers at the rate of 7s. a day while there are 449 ministers out of a total of 562 who receive from these for whom they labour less income than ordinary mechanics. Mr. Sinclair, J.P., concurred with the chairman in his views. There are, he said, 130,000 communicants in the Presbyterian Church, each of whom pays about three-eighths of a penny per week to the pastor. A number of gentlemen deputed this state of things, and a series of resolutions was adopted with a view to bring about an improvement. Some of the speakers ascribed the impoverished state of the ministry to the *Regium Donum*, which relieves the people from a sense of responsibility, while it is itself an inadequate support.—Times Cor.

A number of Fenian prisoners were removed yesterday evening from Richmond Bridewell to Mountjoy Prison. They were escorted by a large force of mounted police amid continual cheering along the entire route.—J.

Very few arrests of suspected Fenians have taken place during the week. Several of those who were in custody have been discharged on their own recognisances. The trials of the soldiers are proceeding.

On Monday, the police found buried under the floor of an unfinished house at Temple-road, Upper Rathmines, two boxes containing nine rifles furnished with bayonets. J. Brophy, the builder, brother to H. F. Brophy, the Fenian convict, and eleven other men found working at the buildings, were arrested, and have been remanded for a week.

Viscount Castlereagh has been sworn in as Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Kerry, in the room of the late Col. Herbert.

"CAN ENGLISHMEN LEGISLATE FOR IRELAND?"—As for English statesmen, we protest they know more about the condition of Japan or Kamtschatka than of Ireland. The chief object proposed by the Fenians is an index—much exaggerated, it is true—but still an index of what Ireland wants and needs, namely, a secure tenure of land. Earl Gray may talk philosophically of the Disendowment of the Church Establishment as constituting all-Ireland requires; but that is the biscuit with which Ireland will not be satisfied. She wants more; she requires that her toiling sons shall have some security for expending the sweat of their brows on the soil. Amidst the facilities on this subject of which, for the greater part, Earl Gray's propositions were composed, was one sound measure, that of abolishing the power of distress, for rent. Lord Dufferin, who replied to the speech of the noble earl, objected that if such a measure were known to be about to pass, every landlord to whom an arrear was due, would immediately call it up. We know that there are landlords who would not have recourse to so harsh and selfish a measure, but, coming from so distinguished a member of their body, and one who himself grants tenant-right, we fear the assertion is true of landlords as a class. But they who propose this measure, do so with a condition which should take away any pretext for the cruel course of which Lord Dufferin believes the landlords would be guilty.—The measure or clause contemplated is to allow the power of distress to subsist in all cases where a lease of a certain minimum term was made. All the compulsion put upon the landlord, therefore, would consist in inducing him to give a lease so as to preserve intact all those powers which he holds at present, and which he regards as rights. And must the tenant have no right? Is he to be expected to spend his time, labor, and capital on land from which he may summarily be expelled at the caprice of the lord of the soil, or owing to the cupidity of a rascally agent? The fearful tide of emigration which has been, and is still, going on, is a sufficient answer to the question. Let a good system of tenant-right be conceded, and we will hear no more of the Fenian folly of re-distribution of land. Tenant-right would, we are sure, cut the last plank from under the feet of that conspiracy.—Waterford Chron. etc.

"CANNABICULTURE IN IRELAND."—TENANT-RIGHT.—This is the title of a remarkable pamphlet from the pen of a Fellow of the Linnean Society, which has been lately published by Mr. Kelly, of Grafton street Dublin; and we can imagine a group of country readers spelling over the said title, and asking with unaffected wonder—what the dickens is "Cannabiculture?"—has it anything to do with "Cannibalism"—and if so, have not Irishmen been devouring each other so voraciously during centuries past, as to leave no doubt about the possibility of the practice, while the "profit" arising from it has not afforded much encouragement for any systematic cultivation of this habit as a source of national prosperity? For the satisfaction of this order of startled doubters, we beg to explain that "Cannabiculture" means simply the cultivation of hemp, as an article of staple produce, and has nothing whatever to do with Cannibalism, nor with man-eating in any of its accredited varieties.

The author of this pamphlet shows from historic records, that hemp was formerly cultivated in Ireland to a considerable extent, and even so late as the reign of William III. (Anno 1695) this cultivation had not entirely ceased. The plant then, is by no means unsuited to the soil of Ireland, and our author enters into statistical details showing its value as an article of productive industry, and discusses its varieties in a scientific point of view, and concludes his dissertation with practical directions for the culture; management, treatment, and preparation of the article, until it is fitted for the uses of commerce. There can hardly be a doubt that the establishment of hemp culture in Ireland would be a new source of profitable employment to large masses of our rural population; but in order to its permanent introduction, ceased tenures for very long periods are absolutely necessary, and this circumstance leads the writer into a preliminary digression upon the Irish Land Question. Here the sentiments expressed are fully in accordance with those of the greatest of living authorities on political economy, and the science of government—John Stuart Mill, Esq. M.P.—and also with our own, however humble our relative position; and we accordingly submit an extract of our author's statements on this absorbing topic. He first discusses the economic question, proving from classical authorities that it was the abolition of small farms, and their consolidation into great territorial allotments devoted to the pasturing of cattle, which wrought the downfall of Greece; and that the precisely similar policy ruined Italy; and brought down the Empire of the West. The same economy has been applied to the Highlands of Scotland, and a powerful arm of Britain's military strength has been cut off; while a vigorous process has long been going forward in Ireland. On grounds of political economy, as well as of imperial states-

manship, our author discards 'emigration' as a barbarous remedy; the suggestion of minds wholly unscientific. The potato failure has put an end for ever to the old "hand-to-mouth" system of land occupancy depending upon the stability of one solitary vegetable; the "Cattle Plague" has demonstrated the danger of the "consolidated farm" scheme as an Irish remedy; and Fenianism has turned even 'emigration' into a source of personal uneasiness. In a word, British Administration seems to be shut up, by the action of Divine Providence itself, to the economy of 'small forms,' as a general rule, and to the encouragement of home colonization, in lieu of the perilous experiment of indirectly scattering the Irish people abroad upon the face of the earth. From the Census returns the writer shows—first, the enormous preponderance of the 'industrial classes' in England over the same order in Ireland, being all but a fraction in the proportion of two to one while the 'non-productive classes,' under one head, are in England only 2.7 per cent, whereas in Ireland they amount to 8.2 per cent (!) under a second category of 'non-productiveness,' the English proportion is 0.8 per cent, and the corresponding Irish ratio no less than 6.6 per cent (!). In the following passage the writer propounds his own theory of Tenant-Right adjustment; he says:—

"One method of gradually utilizing the non-productive class generally, is by the introduction of crops which shall necessitate or create local manufactures, to popularize industrial and commercial undertakings. In this manner the non-productive class, becoming industrial, might be made to destroy itself to a considerable extent. Those able to live idly, and those obliged to live idly, might thus reciprocally benefit each other, and in so doing elevate their common country. It is true enough, as Spenser said, that cow-keeping is an 'idle occupation,' and tends to idleness—but it has been shown that cattle keeping, to the injurious extent hitherto practised, will soon be no longer profitable. The second difficulty is more serious. If a man hire a horse to do work for him, and find that if he improve the horse by good feeding he must pay more or give him up, that man is not likely much to better his own or the horse's condition. If you tell him that by using such means, giving such food, he will make the horse stouter and stronger, he is likely to reply, 'The horse is hired by the day, and the stronger I make him, the more I'll have to pay for him—so that I'd only have my trouble for my pains.' What answer can be made? Hire the horse for a definite period, will the master agree? Compel him by law to repay you for the increase in the horse's value if he should abruptly take him away? There is no law. Buy him? Perhaps he cannot buy; perhaps the owner cannot sell; or perhaps several horses are sold together, and the farmer wants but one.

"This, in fact, is the land-question in a nutshell. As it stands, the tenant is dissatisfied, and the landlord distrustful—deplorable rancour results, except when each knows by experience that he can depend on the other. The discussion of the question is outside these limits. Some settlement, fair to both parties, is, however, most urgently demanded. Compensation for exhausted improvements—power to destroy all improvements effected; both have been suggested: the former in Ireland, the latter in England. A joint-stock company to purchase land in the Incumbered Estates Court, and to sell it in small lots so as to form a peasant proprietary, lacks only one thing—existence. Stuart Mill, the most distinguished of political economists, makes this proposition:—'The legislature, which, if it pleased, might convert the whole-body of landlords into fundholders or pensioners, might, a fortiori, commute the average receipts of Irish land-holders into a fixed rent-charge and raise the tenants into proprietors; supposing always the full-market value of the land was tendered to the landlords, in case they preferred that to accepting the conditions proposed.' In his 'Social Condition and Education of the People in England and Europe' Kay, another eminent English writer (the Travelling Bachelor of the University of Cambridge), advocates the same view saying: 'The Irish, who make such good colonists, when they emigrate, would, with a system of free-trade in land, make equally good citizens at home. The enormous tracts of waste lands would be soon brought into cultivation, as the mountain sides of Saxony and Switzerland, as the sandy plains of Prussia, and as the low lands of Holland have been under the same invigorating system. Capital would make its appearance in Ireland from a thousand unexpected sources; a good class of yeomanry would grow up there as in Germany, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, and France; while, as has been the case in these countries since the subdivision of land amongst the peasants, the habits, manners, dress, and industry of the people would all revive and improve under the invigorating influence of a sense of ownership, and of a consciousness in the labourer's mind that he may be prosperous and happy, if he choose to be patient, self-denying, and industrious. (If Stein and Hardenberg had been ministers of England, depend upon it they would have endeavoured long ago to introduce into Ireland at least that system which has raised the Prussian, Saxon, and Swiss peasantry from a social condition analogous to that of the Irish poor, to one which renders them worthy of being regarded as examples for the consideration of the world.) In countries, he says, where the Irishman can make himself, by industry, a proprietor of land, and where he is not shackled by middle age legislation, he becomes immediately the most energetic and conservative of colonists. He there acquires faster than any one else; he affects more in a day than any one else; and he forces his rulers to write home to England—as the Governor of South Australia did a few years ago—that the Irish are the most enterprising, orderly, and successful of all the colonists of those distant lands.

All showing that, as far as the Irish are concerned they might be made, and would certainly become, the best of citizens, if they only had the best of institutions under which to live.

The writer adds, in a foot note, the following explanation of the Prussian system, viz.—'By the Prussian system, lands to be sold are officially valued and mapped; the maps, descriptions, and values, are hung up in the chief office of the locality itself. The purchaser of a lot, being approved, pays one-twentieth of its value down; a note of the transaction, having received the government stamp in the metropolitan office, is returned to the vendor, and becomes negotiable. An instalment, with interest, is paid yearly to the office, and land notes—excellent security—are returned. On the twentieth instalment being paid the purchaser becomes owner in *allodium* (perpetuity), and thus a prosperous small proprietary exists. There is nothing to prevent this system from being at once established in Ireland; Sir Robert Peel seems to have intended it; its establishment occupied Lord Clarendon's attention in 1848; it well deserves Mr. Gladstone's serious notice now, and the Irish members should urge it forward with proper earnestness.' We have repeatedly asserted from our own knowledge, that Sir Robert Peel had in contemplation a grand scheme, of which the arrangement above described formed an important part, and we are gratified to find this unexpected confirmation of our statement, though we did not before know that the subject had ever been under Lord Clarendon's consideration. This portion of the plan, along with the assumption of many millions of acres of realisable waste lands by the State, for home colonization purposes, could be established immediately, and we do hope that Mr. Gladstone will take up the question in a spirit of reflective, as well as of practical earnestness. Had Sir Robert Peel lived to carry out his magnificent conception, there would not at the present hour have been in Ireland perhaps even the name of a dissatisfied organization.—London Daily Standard.

"It is a mountainous district called Buir Hill, in the county of Longford, an exhaustless vein of iron is being wrought upon since last June.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The London Punch publishes the subjoined, as having been written by Stephens, to his friend Jones in Paris. We do not vouch for the genuineness of the letter:—

Dear Jones,—Here I am, all safe and sound. For the last three days before leaving Ireland I had a fatiguing time of it, as I was perpetually walking about with the police in search of myself. On Tuesday, previous to my departure, I had the pleasure of dining with his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.—We talked about the prospects of Fenianism, and he said that he would give something to catch Stephens. I told him I was the Head Centre, but he wouldn't believe it. I am having a very pleasant time of it, as there is still plenty of money left.—When it is finished, I shall, I think, take to Spiritualism, or go on the stage as a star. The report that Mr. Stephanos Xenos is myself in disguise is calculated to produce a wrong impression. I admire the Greeks.—Yours truly, STEPHENS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN LONDON.—The feast of Ireland's Patron Saint passed off quietly in London:—

The Star of the Monday evening had the following respecting the eastern portion of the metropolis:—'There was not a single case arising out of the observance of St. Patrick's Day before the magistrate, Mr. Paget, this morning, and there was a less number of Irish prisoners than usual for a Monday. The charges against them were of an ordinary description and attended with no circumstances of aggravation. Inspector Bears of the K division, an old and experienced officer doing duty in Poplar, where there is a large Irish population, said he never knew a quieter Saturday than St. Patrick's Day, 1866. It was the same in Limehouse, Ratcliff, Shadwell, Stepney, and Wapping. The Irish people were remarkably quiet and well-behaved on Saturday, and were in their homes earlier than usual. The district assigned to this court contains a larger Irish population than any other in the metropolis, and the good order and sobriety which prevailed among them on Sunday was most remarkable, and deserves to be mentioned. Harris-court, Ratcliff, with its alleys and palaces, which is solely inhabited by the Irish, and has become proverbial for outrages and riots, was as quiet as a church on Saturday and yesterday. Inspector Honey, of the K division, stated at a later period of the morning that he did not observe a single drunken Irishman or Irishwoman on Saturday, and that the quietude of the district was most astonishing. The pastoral of the Roman Catholic Archbishop Manning lately issued seems to have had the effect he desired. Inspector Denby and Holloway of the H division, gave a good account of the conduct of the Irish in their district.

At Bow-street there were only a few cases on the Monday, and those were of a trifling character.

About Liverpool a daily paper says:—In spite of Fenian intrigues, and the boast of the Irish People (now published in New York) that the civil war would burst out in Liverpool on an early day, the Roman Catholic Clergy have not yet lost their hold over their flocks in Liverpool. Yesterday the number of drunken cases brought before the Liverpool magistrates were far below the average, and this is undoubtedly due to the indulgence offered by Archbishop Manning to all the faithful who would keep from drinking intoxicating liquors from Friday night to Sunday night. St. Patrick's Day—luckily very wet atmospherically—passed off without any attempt at disturbance.

From Leeds we read as follows:—In a letter dated St. Patrick's night—Statements have been current during the day that we were in danger of a Fenian outbreak in the town in honor of St. Patrick, as this is his day. The statements were so far believed that the magistrates instructed the police to make arrangements with a view to prevent any demonstration on the part of the Irishmen here resident; and as the rumours more directly pointed to alleged secret drillings and manufactories of pikes, the police were very busy inquiring in that direction. Nothing however has been discovered, and although I have visited the suspected districts this evening, I have been unable to find that any grounds exist for the statements. Not the least traces of any systematic organization can be discovered; and my impression is that the whole affair will turn out to be an idle rumour. There is no truth either in the statement that the volunteers of Leeds are infected with Fenianism.

At Manchester apprehensions appear to have been felt in the neighborhood that St. Patrick's Day would not pass over without a display of Fenian violence; but affairs seem to have been more than usually quiet on that day.

These reports, (all from English Protestant sources) speak well for the Irish Catholics in England. The 'Truce of St. Patrick,' orthodoxly called by Protestants a 'Pastoral,' evidently exercised an influence which must have much gratified the Archbishop.

It is expected that the Government majority on the Reform Bill will exceed twenty.

THE OATH BILL.—The Ministerial measure for the simplification of the oath of allegiance to be taken by members of Parliament has passed through the House of Commons without the attempted disagreement of the Tory leader. Sir George Grey very properly accepted Mr. Disraeli's clause concerning the Act of Settlement, rather than fight about a platitude, and the House acquiesced in the futile amendment without a dissentient voice; but he effectually resisted the other mischievous amendment, which covertly preserved an objectionable feature of the old oath of Supremacy, and the bill passed the House of Commons in a form to which there is and can be no objection. No loyal subject objects to call God to witness that he will bear true allegiance to the Sovereign, or to the Sovereign's successors, in the order prescribed by law, and this is what the oath in its present form in the Ministerial Bill provides. We repeat the expression of our own belief, that all such oaths are useless. It is not an oath that makes a subject loyal; and, as we have more than once observed, there is but too much historical evidence that an oath of allegiance does not keep those who have sworn it from committing high treason, and even regicide. Loyalty must rest upon a more solid foundation, or it will topple over before the first blast of popular passion and political excitement. But as it is imagined that members of Parliament on taking their seats should go through the solemnity of taking an oath of allegiance, and that this solemn engagement gives security for the stability of the throne, and the peace of the realm, we consider the form of oath embodied in the bill of which the House of Commons has approved as wisely simple, plain, and unobjectionable as possible, and it is clear that Mr. Disraeli himself is of the same opinion. A writer in the Saturday Review of last week, after expressing satisfaction at the success of the Ministerial Bill in the House of Commons, proceeds in the habitually flippant strains of that print to read a lecture to the Archbishop of Westminster and the 'ultramontanians' for the regulation of their public conduct. The objections to Mr. Disraeli's amendments, we beg to assure the Saturday Review, were not confined to Archbishop Manning and the 'ultramontanians' whoever they may be; but were and are entertained by the Catholic Hierarchy and laity of the United Kingdom, with the exception of the gentlemen who have constituted themselves the Catholic Privy Council of the Tory leaders. Of the devotion of the Archbishop of Westminster to the Holy See there can be no doubt, but it must be a source of great gratification to his Grace to know that his sentiments in this respect are shared by the most, if not all, his Catholic countrymen. The modern history of England unfortunately furnishes, as we must admit, evidence that some British Catholics did at a period not very remote, profess other

principles and express other sentiments than those which, thank God, were then as now prevalent in the British Catholic body. There were in England, and even in Ireland seventy years ago, and much later, Catholics of social position who were willing to purchase Catholic emancipation at the price of Catholic principles; and there were then, as possibly there may be now, persons calling themselves Catholics, who held very low notions of ecclesiastical rights and authority, who would have willingly seen the temporal power of the Pope destroyed, who set little value upon the decrees of Councils, the rescripts of Popes or the ordinances of religion, though they shrank from apostasy, who were prepared to allow the Protestant Crown to have a veto upon the appointment of Catholic Bishops, and to make other concessions adverse to the interests of religion and the Church.—Weekly Register.

STORMS AND SHIPWRECKS.—The equinoctial gales, which set on the 23rd inst. with great violence, have caused serious disasters about the coast. The loss of life and property is, we lament to say, very great. One fine vessel of 1,100 tons, the Spirit of the Ocean, only two years old and ranking A 1 at Lloyd's, broke up on the rocks on the Devon Coast near Start Point, and of her crew of eighteen and her twenty-five passengers only four of the former were saved—three of whom owe their preservation to the kindness of Mr. Popplestone, resident of the neighbourhood, who first witnessed the wrecking of the vessel and descending the rocks with a rope at the imminent peril of his own life, saved theirs, in accomplishing which he narrowly escaped destruction, having been once washed off the ledge on which he stood while performing his heroic deed of benevolence, but fortunately thrown back again by the returning waves. The unfortunate vessel was bound for Halifax, and the loss of property alone, without including the passengers' luggage, is £65,000. Everywhere the boats of Life Boat Institution did invaluable service by saving many lives.

The fact is that filibustering of any kind is popular with certain classes at New York, and there is still a lingering wish to see British commerce smothered in its turn for the injury done by the Alabama. Americans do not dislike the spectacle of a 'pauvre' as they call it, in Canada. Perhaps they would rather enjoy hearing of a brush between the 'pauvres' and the Irishmen, especially if the latter were signally beaten. But, in spite of appearances, we feel persuaded that Fenianism has received, and will receive, neither material aid nor moral support from the American nation as a whole. They are much too shrewd to desire the annexation of Canada, until Canada herself shall ask for it. When that time comes, if it ever does come, no resistance will be offered by the mother country, and nothing can be more likely to defer it than a Fenian invasion, with the prospect of Canada becoming 'New Ireland.'—Times.

FOUR DEVONSHIRE MURDERERS.—The arrival of Devon Lent Assizes of 1866 probably has no parallel. Four women were at one time within the County Jail at Exeter who had been guilty of murder, accomplished or attempted—Charlotte Winsor, Mary Jane Harris, Alice Dodd, Elizabeth Ashford.—Western Morning News.

THE NEXT WAR.—We cannot tell whether our ironclads will prove efficient sea-going vessels, or less whether they will leave us relatively superior or inferior to our rivals. We cannot tell how far torpedoes will revolutionize coast and harbour warfare. We do not know what port rockets or submarine vessels are destined to play. We are not clear as to the comparative advantages of broadside or turret armament. We are doubtful whether we should gain or lose by declaring maritime commerce neutral. In the same way we can only conjecture what figure our Enfields would play if opposed to the Prussian needle-gun, to Sherriff's breech-loader, or Henry's repeating rifle. We cannot pronounce on the relative merits of our Armstrong field-piece compared with the French rifled cannon, the Parrot, or the Prussian Warendon gun. Then, again, we cannot foresee how European alliances would arrange themselves in case of a great war, nor how far our relations with Canada and the Australian colonies might be affected. It is not only that we cannot tell whether hope or dread is the feeling we ought in sagacity to have, we cannot tell on what we should chiefly ground our hope, or where our principal danger lies. It is like some crisis of the Arabian Nights, where whole armies are baffled by the single possessor of some enchanted talisman. We may be ludicrously underrating or overrating ourselves or our possible enemies. Perhaps a war, with the United States for instance, might prove like a Jack where only one pistol is loaded, and the antagonist fight across a handkerchief, and it is quite impossible to say at present which would prove to have the loaded weapon. Our guinea may, as in the Irish legend, become furs-blossoms in our pockets, our swords and spears rushes and flags, and our strongest shields be only mushrooms; or all this may, on the contrary, be the case with our adversaries. *Quis viri errat*, but in the mean while, with such possibilities as we can imagine looming upon us, to do anything likely in the smallest degree to accelerate war would surely be fatuation almost like his who cut his throat from curiosity.—Pall Mall Gazette.

MORMON MARRIAGES.—It was decided in the Divorce Court the other day that Mormon marriages cannot be recognised in this country.

NATHAN PADDOCK NON SENEW.—On Saturday last a private trial was made of a new principle of motion, as applied to vessels, entitled the Hydraulic Propeller, Ruthven's patent. The Nautilus, to which the power has been applied, was built expressly to show that it can with less horse-power than ordinary steamboats equal them in speed. The Nautilus as she started on Saturday started from Vaux-hall-bridge pier at 11 o'clock in the morning, and ran up and down the Thames in company with the Citizen and other river steamers, and held way with them steadily, gaining a little on some. She ran between Vauxhall and Westminster bridges with the wind and tide in 42 minutes 20 seconds, and against in 8 minutes 22 seconds, being at the rate of 13.5 and 7.2 miles per hour respectively, or at an average speed of 10.35 miles per hour—say 10.4. She then steamed down the river, and when off the Tunnel pier, with both strong wind and tide in her favour, going at full speed, was made to stop suddenly by reversing the valves. She stopped dead in less than ten seconds, and in about a quarter of her length. Her Majesty's ironclad gunboat Waterwitch, now being built, is to be fitted with the new propeller, which is nothing more nor less than water taken in under her bottom, and set in motion by simple machinery worked by steam engine. The water is discharged in a heavy stream on both sides of the vessel; consequently there is nothing outside the vessel to be injured by any accident. Another important novelty is that the vessel is quite independent of her rudder, and is worked under the complete control of the master, officer of the watch, or man on deck, without any communication with the engine. The Nautilus is also fitted with Ruthven's steering apparatus, an invention which gives a large amount of power to the rudder.

DR. M'NEILL AGAIN.—Dr. M'Neill has lately been making a speech at Liverpool in a meeting of the Irish Church Missions to Roman Catholics. He spoke of the fact that the priests have every where both in Ireland and America, announced it as a desirable canon, declares that the priests are the promoters of Fenianism. This tirade is the more disgraceful, as on the day before which it was delivered, a Roman Catholic Bishop had denounced Fenianism within a few minutes' walk of Dr. M'Neill's own church. But of course he would never think of hearing a Romanist speak in his own behalf. He evolves professors of that faith out of his own consciousness, or unconsciousness rather.—Western Morning News.