

the caprice or the passions of the passing hour, and in an instant taking the world by surprise.

Without wishing to exaggerate a comparison, it is strictly true to state, that within the memory of the present generation no circumstance has occurred in these countries which is likely to be attended with more beneficial results to the cause of religion and order in Europe, than the exposures brought on the whole character of England from the late attempted assassination of the French Emperor.

The advocates of England may bluster as they will: speeches may be delivered in the House of Commons, as Cobbett would say, "by the acre;" the apologies said to be made by the French Press for the insult offered to England may be paraded, to save the national honor; but it won't do.

It may not be uninteresting to see how soon the English officials respond to the summons of order from the Emperor! The following extract from the Times of last Monday proves how docile England can be to the new laws imposed by the retan of France:—

SOUTHWARE.—A gentleman waited on Mr. Combe to obtain his certificate at the Foreign Office for a passport to Italy under the new regulations. Mr. Combe—I cannot grant you a certificate unless I know you. You are a perfect stranger to me, and must be aware of that.

Mr. Combe—It is impossible for me to grant you the required certificate, as I know nothing whatever of the person. You had better apply at the Lambeth Police Court; but that will be useless unless the magistrate knows the person.

Countrymen and Fellow Christians.—In the wilds of Donegal, down in the bogs and glens of Gweedore and Cloughaneely, thousands upon thousands of human beings, made after the image and likeness of God, are perishing, or next to perishing, amidst squalidness and in misery, for want of food and clothing, far away from human aid and pity.

The next public meeting of the Foreign Bible Societies will be a fortunate scene for the peace of society in general, and for the happiness of Ireland in particular. Since, of course, there can be no Bibles for Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, India and Ireland, it will be a curious investigation to learn what will become of the Bibles, of the funds, and of the Agents.

and utansila—and even mothers were known to have sold their cradles. It was, truly, a sight to make angels weep, to see the poor helpless fathers, amidst the tears and wailings of their helpless wives, and hungry children, parting with the last stone of their potatoes and other necessaries of life to pay this iniquitous tax.

There can be no doubt that the Bible and proselytizing imposture has received its final stroke from the present exposure in the House of Commons; and if the mercy of God could be invoked for any one favor more than another beneficial to Ireland, it would be to beg for the removal from the land of the late Souper swindle, which for lying, for malevolence, for hatred, for perjury, and blasphemy, has not been exceeded by any scourges which Satan has ever been permitted to inflict on our ill-fated and down-trodden country.

There are about 600 adults, of both sexes, who through sheer poverty, are now going bare-footed, amidst the inclemency of the season, on this bleak Northern coast.

There are about 800 families without a second bed, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, being luddled together as best they can.

There are about 400 families, in which there may be half a dozen of full grown females, who have only one dress between them, in which they can appear in public; mothers and daughters alternately using this common wardrobe when they go out of doors.

There are about 500 families who have now neither cow, sheep, nor goat, and who, from the beginning of the year to its close, hardly ever know the taste of milk or butter.

There are thousand of youths, of both sexes, verging on the age of puberty, who are so partially and scantily clothed that modesty forbids one to look at them—they are only objects for the eye of charity.

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But, surely, such a proposal ought to originate not with a Protestant, but with the leading members of that community whose vigor and determination at the Clare election of 1828, supported and gave effect to the eloquence of their illustrious champion. May we not expect that the Catholic members of parliament, whose ambition has been satisfied, that the Catholic officials, whose purses have been filled by the results of the great Clare election, that Catholic judges, that Catholic attorney-generals, nay, that even Catholic town councillors, whose social importance has been increased by admission to those corporations from which they were formerly excluded, should be the first to take a prominent part in regard to the erection of such a trophy.

I agree with you in thinking that the town of Ennis is represented by a gentleman who, not contented with prosecuting clergymen of his own persuasion at the dictation of the British parliament, has resorted to a species of persecution which every generous minded member of that parliament must disapprove. But what avails it for me to condole with the trades of Ennis upon their being thus represented, when I find that the feeling now generally prevalent in Ireland sanctions every proceeding, however mean and degrading, which is undertaken by any official who receives English pay and distributes the petty favors of English patronage.

There was a time when the Irish people felt an interest in questions which affected either the welfare or the honor of their country. Under the present regime of patronage all public questions are considered subordinate in importance to the advancement of individuals. See what is now passing in Limerick? The social harmony of that city is disturbed by a contest between two Catholics—one of whom is supported by hundreds, to whom he was a complete stranger, on an understanding (scarcely disguised, certainly not unavowed) that he is to go into parliament to advance his own personal interests and those of his connections, by adherence to the British Ministry. Scarcely a voice has been heard in favor of that independence of action in parliament which I believe to be essential to the protection of the interests of Ireland.

I agree with you, also, in deploring the extinction of the ancient language of the country. To prove to you that this is not a mere sentiment, I may mention that I am endeavoring, even at my advanced period of life, to make myself master of the language which was spoken by my forefathers. I am also doing all in my power to make known and to preserve the remains of Irish literature which are still extant, and which are much more copious than they are generally supposed to be. But I regret to find that we have to contend not only against positive hostility to Irish memorials of every kind on the part of the British functionaries who direct to a great extent the education of our people, but also against a still more vexatious apathy on the part of the clergy, whose religion was preserved during nearly three centuries in this country by being kept apart from the influences of English persecution in an unknown tongue, and also against the apathy of many Gaelic families whose position in society depends much more upon the traditional antiquity of their race than upon their own personal merits.

Upon the whole, I avow that I find little to satisfy or encourage me in the present tone of public opinion in Ireland, and I am therefore much indisposed to intrude my sentiments upon the minds of my fellow-countrymen, although I receive almost daily solicitations requesting me to address them.

The only satisfactory assurance I can tender in answer to your appeal is, that my affection for the county of Clare is inexhaustible.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN.
Mr. M. Considine, &c., &c., Ennis.

CONSECRATION OF THE RIGHT REV. DR. O'HEA, BISHOP OF ROSA.—On Sunday 7th ult., the solemn and imposing ceremony of the consecration of a Bishop of the Catholic Church took place in the parish church of Skibbereen, in the diocese of Rosa. Dr. O'Hea, who was consecrated Bishop, was the late Parish Priest of Rosscarberry, and the see of Ross having become vacant by the appointment of the Right Rev. Dr. Keane to the bishopric of Cloyne, that gentleman was appointed his successor in the usual manner, his name being the highest on the list of three sent to Rome, and his Holiness being pleased to ratify the choice, thus declared, of the Clergy of the diocese. Long before the hour announced for the commencement of the ceremonies every part of the spacious chapel was crowded almost to inconvenience, and a great many of the gentry of the districts around, Protestant as well as Catholic, were present. The Most Rev. Dr. Leahy, Archbishop of Cashel, officiated as Consecrating Bishop; the Assistant Bishops were the Right Rev. Dr. Delany, Bishop of Cork, and the Right Rev. Dr. Keane, Bishop of Cloyne, and two other Prelates were also present on the altar.

Last week we alluded to the substitute for a place of worship which the poverty of the inhabitants of Carrigrohilly compels them to use. It is as we said, a little box in which the priest offers the Holy Sacrifice: the people kneeling in the open air on the public road and fields adjoining. This box is six feet long, six feet wide, and seven feet high, raised about two feet and a half from the ground, on four wheels, so that it can be turned to suit the wind whatever way it blows. In order to favour Superstition no site would be given in the district for a chapel. The poor tenant giving the use of his house for Sunday Mass was made a market man. The priest had then no alternative but to get this box on the high road, or leave the people to Superstition. Two years after this box was placed where it is, the only sheltered spot in the district, a large house was built for Superstition. Two other small houses adjoining were cleared of the poor Catholic fishermen who lived in them, and Soupers put in their place. The people on their knees outside on those inside mocking the ceremony of Mass. At the Ennis Assizes, July, 1855, in reply to Judge Grampston, a Protestant sub-inspector said of one of this staff of Bible readers, "He is a disgrace to my religion, and a triumph among the people in the west of this county." They got up four houses for school and for preaching; the tenants refused both. In the year 1855, 300 acres of commonage and a large tract of bog were taken from them; the manager occupies them; and in 1854 they had to give him £6 an acre for over forty acres of bog, as potato soil, which they held themselves a little before at a moderate rent. Even though they should be stripped of the remainder of their land, the poor tenants are determined not to give up their religion; but their lives are miserable, not knowing when or where this worrying them out of conscience is to stop. In 1852 the priest was deprived of an old house which he bought to say Mass in on Sunday, but, though he humbly begged to be left in at any rent, even as caretaker, for the sake of shelter for the poor people, this cabin was taken from him in a month, and locked up and left idle for twelve months, and then tumbled down—no other chapel within five miles of them. In 1857, during the late Clare Election, shame put an end to this trick to undermine the faith of the people; and the basest—but by no means the severest—screw of the Superstition, ordeal (still at work) was removed—four leave was given them to build a chapel. The first stone was laid on the 12th July, by the Right Rev. Doctor Vaughan. The work is in progress. An extract from the Bishop's letter permitting the collection of building funds says, "The Rev. Michael Meahan, P.P., of Carrigrohilly, has established seven schools in this parish; he is now about building a chapel where it is very much required—wherever aids in its completion will be rewarded by Almighty God with a recompense exceedingly great. Any kind contributor sending stamps to the above address, Carrigrohilly, County Clare, will get a drawing of 'The Ark' by return of Post, and ever have the prayers of a persecuted, but faithful people.—Nation.

LETTER FROM SMITH O'BRIEN.
The following letter has been addressed by Smith O'Brien to the Secretary of the Trades of Ennis, in reply to one asking for an expression of his sentiments on the subject of a statue to O'Connell, which it is proposed to erect on the spot where the battle of Catholic Emancipation was decided.

Oxbermoyle, Newcastle West Feb 5. 1858.
Sir—I trust that the Congregated Trades of Ennis will not think that I am wanting in respect for them, if I decline to send, for the purpose of being read at their meeting to-morrow, such an address as that suggested in your letter of the 4th inst., in relation to the proposal of the Town Council of Ennis, to install, as a trophy, in the town of Ennis, one or more of the cannon which were taken at Sebastopol. The expression of my opinion on this subject is both needless and unavailing. Last year I took occasion to show that the people of Ireland ought to have taken no part in the war with Russia, because the Russians had never done any harm to Ireland; and because their Emperor had agreed before the war commenced, to make such concessions to the demands of Europe, as ought to have satisfied the British Government; and further; that by the operations of the war the prestige of England, in regard of martial fame, had been greatly impaired, whilst that of France, and even of Russia, had been augmented.

Recently, at Limerick, I endeavored to show that the guns which the Corporation of that city had begged the British Government to bestow on them, were taken by the French, not by the English—it being known to all mankind that the French succeeded in their attack upon the Malekoff, whilst the English were repulsed with ignominy from the Redan; but if they were to be considered as trophies of success rather than as memorials of failure, they were British, not Irish, trophies. Within a few days after the expression of this opinion (which appeared to command the assent of my large audience) the worthy burghers of Ennis implore the British authorities to condescend to honor their town by sending them one of the guns which were taken at Sebastopol. What avails it that I should reiterate the expression of sentiments which are already unwelcome to many whose kindly feelings towards myself I greatly appreciate.

I agree with you in thinking that the erection of a statue to O'Connell would be a proceeding worthy of the inhabitants of the County of Clare. That would, indeed, be an Irish trophy, because it would commemorate the event by which, as well as the man by whom, Catholic Emancipation was finally achieved.

POPULAR MEETING IN ENNIS.—At three o'clock on Saturday, 13th ult., a very large number of the trades and working class of Ennis assembled in front of the old courthouse. Besides these trades, there were several professional men, with many shopkeepers and mercantile men, &c., present, anxious to hear the address read of that illustrious Irishman, William Smith O'Brien, Esq., to the trades and working class of Ennis which had arrived that morning. Mr. John Tobin was called to the chair, after which Mr. Michael Considine, Secretary, came forward to read the address, but before he had done so he made some remarks to the meeting. He told them that the poor phoemans of Ennis should not look on the meeting of the trades and working class as a thing inferior because they were working-men. The working class should come out like men, legally and constitutionally, and do their own work; and not let themselves be made footstools to those gentlemen to get to power who are daily betraying them. He asked them were they agree with the Town Council of Ennis in returning thanks to their Borough member for sending a Russian gun to their town as a British trophy, at the very moment that he was stating that in the Catholic county of Mayo there could not be twelve honest men got on the oaths to try the Rev. Mr. Conway and the Rev. Mr. Ryan? (Cries of 'no, no, &c.?' 'I want no Russian gun.')

He then read the address, during which time a dead silence prevailed, every one anxious to hear, but when he came to conclude with the name of Wm. Smith O'Brien, an enthusiastic cheer was raised by all present with the waving of hats, accompanied with firing of shots, &c., after which several resolutions were proposed and adopted, amongst which were one thanking Mr. O'Brien for his letter, and one calling upon the county members to come forward to aid in erecting a monument to O'Connell on the spot where Catholic Emancipation was fought and won in the year '28. The thanks of the meeting having been given to Mr. John Tobin, the assembly separated by cheering for 'Old Ireland and William Smith O'Brien, Esq.

REPRESENTATION OF GALWAY.—We have heard it stated that at an early day in this session a motion will be made to have a writ issued for the election of a member for Galway; but with respect to the fate destined to await such a motion many and conflicting are the surmises now afloat in the City of the Tribes. The sooner that is decided the better; because "hope deferred maketh the heart sick;" anything at all events would and will, be better, much better than this state of political anxiety.—Galway Mercury.

DISTURBANCES IN LIMERICK.—Last night (8th Feb.) this city was in a state of great excitement and alarm owing to the disgraceful and riotous proceedings of a mob in the interest of Major Gavin's party. About seven o'clock intimation was conveyed to the constabulary that a riot was apprehended in the Abbey, where rumor had it (as conveyed to the force), that two Roman Catholic Clergymen were pelted and hooted when passing along the Sand-Mall, after dining with the Bishop at Park-house. The police, under Sub-inspectors M'Leod, Warburton and Mullarky, proceeded at once to the old town, where they found the contending parties prepared for action. It is right to explain that the Irish-town and English-town are divided by Ballsbridge—that the electors and non-electors of the English-town are for Major Gavin, and those of the Irish-town and Black Buttery for Mr. Ball, and in each locality there are furious mobs. It appears that when the constabulary took up their position on the bridge they were enabled, at great risk, to repulse the rioters, some of whom were arrested, but the English-town mob went round by the Matthew-bridge into George's-street, and before the constabulary had time to reach they attacked Cruise's Hotel, where Mr. Ball is staying, and commenced throwing stones at the windows, demolishing a quantity of glass, and breaking the sash of the window of the Commercial-room, through which a missile was hurled amongst a number of commercial gentlemen, who were comfortably enjoying their wine at the time. The windows of Mr. Ball's committee (in the house of Mr. Edward Beveridge, cloth merchant), were also broken, as were also those of the Clare Hotel, and of the house of Mr. Abraham, seed merchant. The dragoons were called out, and the streets cleared, when it was found that the rioting in the old town had been resumed, and several houses attacked. The dragoons scoured the old town, where the police had been so badly used, that a party of sixty were ordered to "load and cap" in self-defence, and for a time bad consequences were dreaded.—About half-past ten order was completely restored, but the police continued on duty during the night.—Freeman.

GALLANT RESCUE.—Youghal, Feb. 8.—This morning a Norwegian bark called the Galatia, from Swedestown, in standing in for this port in mistake for Queenstown, went ashore on the bar during a heavy gale from the S.S.E. The perilous position of her crew having been observed, the lifeboat of the National Lifeboat Institution has recently stationed here, manned by her gallant coxswain and crew, was soon launched, and nobly did she pursue her way through the surf to the stranded vessel and bring on shore her exhausted crew, consisting of the master and 13 men, amid the acclamations of the people.—Ten pilot boats attempted to reach the ship, but were compelled to return to the shore by the force of the wind and the heavy sea. The behaviour of the lifeboat on this her first trip elicited the unbounded admiration of her crew and of all who witnessed her valuable service.

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Recruits are offering freely in Belfast for the East India Company's Light Cavalry; but they are about the most diminished specimens of the genus militaris which we have ever seen sworn in. The standard has lately been reduced.—Banner of Ulster.

The recruiting sergeants have lately been doing good trade in this town of late, chiefly in consequence of the "bad times." The appearance of the recruits was not generally satisfactory. They are low-sized, famished looking boys.—Northern Whig.

Not only may a worthy Jew hold high office in France, whilst the British House of Commons is hermetically closed against the most eminent of the Jewish race, but Mohammedans may freely exercise their religious rites under the eyes of the "persecuting" Executive at Paris! Guizot and other staunch Protestants were first Ministers in France for several years; and France is a Catholic country; yet in Catholic Ireland a Roman Catholic cannot aspire to the office of Viceroy or Lord Chancellor; and if the Catholic Lord Mayor of the Capital were to enter a Roman Catholic church in his official robes he would subject himself to a fine of £500.—Dublin Evening Post.

DEARFUL MURDER.—Moate, 7th Feb.—About five o'clock on yesterday evening a very respectable farmer, named Kelly, was shot dead by two men who are at present unknown, in the presence of his wife, son, and servant boy, while on his return home with them from Killebeggan market. It appears the unfortunate man was fired at in December last.—Freeman.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

APPEAL.

Countrymen and Fellow Christians.—In the wilds of Donegal, down in the bogs and glens of Gweedore and Cloughaneely, thousands upon thousands of human beings, made after the image and likeness of God, are perishing, or next to perishing, amidst squalidness and in misery, for want of food and clothing, far away from human aid and pity.

The districts of Gweedore and Cloughaneely are the bleakest and most mountainous in Donegal or in Ireland. The entire surface is broken up by huge, abrupt, and irregular hills of granite, covered with a texture of stunted heath, while the space between is but a shaking and spongy marsh. The inhabitants of these wilds are all Celts of the pure old race, with the pure old faith, who cultivate small patches of arable land along the shore or *cladagh*, on which their wretched cabins are built, and subsist principally by rearing stock and grazing sheep on the steep sides of their mountains and in their hollow glens. The increase of their flocks they sold to meet the landlord's rent, and the other exigencies of life; while of the wool of their sheep they manufactured frieze and tummy as clothing for the male and female members of their families respectively. Thus from these wild mountains, leading a most innocent and peaceful rural life, warm and faithful in their friendships, while their attachment to the old faith was stronger than death.

Last year brought a sad change on these wretched peasants. All the landlords of the districts, save one, simultaneously deprived them of their mountains, giving them to Scotch and English graziers for sheep walks, and, at the same time, doubled, trebled, and in many instances quadrupled the rents on the miserable patches left them. These mountains so unjustly pressed from the unfortunate natives, were peopled with Scotch and English sheep. But sadder still, the strange sheep imported to these mountains threw not. Last winter was very prejudicial to sheep, particularly under Scotch treatment—the Donegal mountains proved treacherous, and their tracts desolate to strangers. The sheep recently placed on this strange pasturage were prone, from natural instinct, to wander, and the Scotch shepherds were supinely negligent in the duties of their calling. The natural consequences was that large numbers of the sheep strayed—large numbers of them were lost in bog-holes—and large numbers perished through the inclemency of the winter and the want of proper care. During the penal laws, we are told that Grand Jury levies were made upon Irish Catholics for losses sustained by Protestant merchants at the hands of Catholic powers, with whom England might happen to be then at war. It must have been in the same spirit that, in order to recompense these losses of the Scotch and English graziers, an enormous and unjust Grand Jury Warrant was obtained against these innocent Celts.—And, in order, moreover, to carry out this iniquitous enactment, and the more effectually to secure the adverse possession of these mountains, an extra force of constabulary was, at the instance of these landlords, ordered to these districts, for whose support a most ruinous tax has been imposed on the wretched inhabitants. In short, by those and similarly unjust and arbitrary proceedings, the sum of about three thousand pounds has been levied on the poorest and most miserable district on God's earth. Already the law officials, backed by 300 constabulary, have, at the bayonet's point, collected the last farthing of this enormously disproportioned levy.—The poor, shivering, and famishing peasants, under the terror of an armed force, yielded by officials without feeling or humanity, were obliged to sell their little scanty bins of potatoes and small stacks of rye and corn to meet this merciless demand. It is almost incredible the means these poor creatures resorted to, in order to make up the necessary sum. Many went thirty miles to borrow or beg the money from their friends—many sold their kitchen furniture

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CASUALTIES IN TRAMORE BAY.—During the last forty-two years fifty-six vessels were shipwrecked and 426 souls perished in Tramore Bay. The greatest number of lives lost was by the shipwreck of the Sea Horse, in the year 1816, 363 men having perished in that catastrophe.

Recruits are offering freely in Belfast for the East India Company's Light Cavalry; but they are about the most diminished specimens of the genus militaris which we have ever seen sworn in. The standard has lately been reduced.—Banner of Ulster.

The recruiting sergeants have lately been doing good trade in this town of late, chiefly in consequence of the "bad times." The appearance of the recruits was not generally satisfactory. They are low-sized, famished looking boys.—Northern Whig.

Not only may a worthy Jew hold high office in France, whilst the British House of Commons is hermetically closed against the most eminent of the Jewish race, but Mohammedans may freely exercise their religious rites under the eyes of the "persecuting" Executive at Paris! Guizot and other staunch Protestants were first Ministers in France for several years; and France is a Catholic country; yet in Catholic Ireland a Roman Catholic cannot aspire to the office of Viceroy or Lord Chancellor; and if the Catholic Lord Mayor of the Capital were to enter a Roman Catholic church in his official robes he would subject himself to a fine of £500.—Dublin Evening Post.

DEARFUL MURDER.—Moate, 7th Feb.—About five o'clock on yesterday evening a very respectable farmer, named Kelly, was shot dead by two men who are at present unknown, in the presence of his wife, son, and servant boy, while on his return home with them from Killebeggan market. It appears the unfortunate man was fired at in December last.—Freeman.