

On the 26th ult., Mr. Carran attended before the Lord Chief Justice, at his lodgings in Tullamore, and applied for habeas corpus upon an affidavit made by a Mrs. Magee, of Belfast, from which it appeared that she and her husband lived at 6, Johnsons Court, Belfast. They had a daughter who was about thirteen years of age, named Margaret Magee. She had been baptised a Roman Catholic, and she (Mrs. Magee) and her husband and the child's grandfather and grandmother had also professed and followed the same persuasion. On Saturday, the 9th instant, she (Mrs. Magee) was engaged to work at the house of a Mr. Irwin, of Belfast. She left her daughter at home, and found on her return that she had left the house. Until the Tuesday following she did not see her. On that day she saw her coming out of the house of the Rev. H. Hanna, Presbyterian Minister in Belfast. She had a Bible in her hand, and on being questioned she stated the Bible had been given to her by a Mr. Dixon. She (Mrs. Magee) requested her to give back the Bible and return to her home, but she refused to do so, and began to screech and hawl. Persons carried her into the meeting-house and remonstrated with Mrs. Magee for having interfered with the child. She (Mrs. Magee) succeeded in recovering possession of the child, and next morning she was visited by a Roman Catholic Clergyman, with whom she remained till the 15th instant. The child was again missed, and after some time she found her. Mr. Hanna called on her, and informed her that the child had come to him, and was staying with him. She said that the child should be restored to her, and he promised to permit her to see her that day. She called, according to agreement at 4 o'clock, at Donegal-place, and saw the child, and Mr. Hanna consented to restore her upon the terms that she should be allowed to attend the meeting-house. She refused to do this, and Mr. Hanna told her she was leading the child astray; and it was not the child's duty to return unless she (Mrs. Magee) would consent to her becoming a Protestant and an attendant on the meeting-house. He added that Roman Catholics worshipped images and would go to hell. A conversation then ensued between them. She asked him would he like that any person defiled his children, and observed that not one of the Roman Catholic clergy would do so. He replied that the priests kidnapped children for other countries. She then called him a rascal, and left his house without the child. She returned to the house the same evening, but he was not at home; when he returned she again demanded that the child should be restored, but he refused to give up the child unless the conditions already specified.—The Lord Chief Justice made an absolute order, and directed that notice should be served on the Rev. Mr. Hanna to bring the child to his house, in Leeson street, Dublin, at 1 o'clock on the 8th of August.

CARRICKFERGUS ASSIZES.—THE HILDEN MURDER CASE.—Alexander Martin was indicted for feloniously killing and slaying James Kelly, at Hilden, near Lisburn, on the 6th of August, 1858. Sir Thomas Staples, Q. C., prosecuted on the part of the Crown and the prisoner was defended by Messrs. McMechan and Robert Seods. After several challenges on the part of the Crown, a respectable jury was sworn. It was tried twice at the last assizes, and on both occasions the jury could not, or would not agree. The facts, as elicited on the evidence, are these:—On the night of the 8th of August, there was a dance at Hilden among the workers of Mr. Darbour, and two young men named James Kelly and Owen Hughes were present at it. After the dance broke up a dispute occurred between James Kelly, and a man named John Martin. Kelly was a Catholic, and Martin an Orangeman. They had a scuffle on the road, a short distance from the house in which the dance was held; and during the scuffle the prisoner, Alexander Martin, who is the son of John Martin, came out of his own house with a bayonet up his sleeve, and as soon as he came forward to the parties engaged in the scuffle he stabbed Kelly in the abdomen. Kelly called out that he was stabbed, and he fell upon the road. The prisoner then went forward to Owen Hughes, who was also a Catholic, and without saying a word to him plunged the bayonet into his left side. Hughes fell mortally wounded, and the Martins then went home. Both the wounded men died, one, the next day, and the other in four days after. The prisoner was put twice on his trial, as I have already said, at the last assizes. On the first trial the jury could not agree, or rather would not agree to a verdict of guilty. The jury were all Lisburn men, and the Orange feeling is too strong with them in the jury box, whenever a case of the kind occurs, to allow the evidence to operate on their minds in the way it should, and the consequence was, there was no verdict. The Crown felt so much annoyed at the conduct of the jury that it insisted on a second trial. A jury of a mixed character was sworn, but with no better effect. The trial went on, and there did not appear to be a doubt that the prisoner would be convicted on the evidence but it turned out that the Orangemen who were on the jury would not convict, whilst the Catholics and the Protestants who were not Orangemen, were for a verdict of guilty. Under these circumstances, the case was postponed till the present assizes. Now, I have to mention a circumstance that occurred after the trials, that shows clearly how party feeling predominated in the case. As soon as the prisoner reached Lisburn after the trials, he having been let out on bail, the Orangemen assembled in procession with fifes and drums, and escorted Martin home to Hilden, a distance of three miles. This, then, is the way in which the Orange system operates in the jury-box. The jury retired at three o'clock, but had not agreed to a verdict when I was obliged to despatch this communication.—*Corr. of Nation.*

THE SECRET SOCIETY MEN.—Henry Smith, Bernard Smith, James Donoghue, Francis McGowan, Wm. Lavery, Wm. Finnegan, Jas. Kelly, Patrick Kelly, David McVeigh, Hugh Finlay, John Finlay, Daniel McKenna, Daniel Barr, and Wm. John McAuley, were then placed in the dock, and arraigned on a charge of being connected with a secret society. Sir Thomas Staples said it would be necessary to have the indictment read over to the prisoners. Mr. Rea handed in a long affidavit, which he requested his lordship to read, as it disclosed many things which he did not wish to read in the open court. He wished the case postponed till next morning, until he would receive an answer to a letter which he had sent to the Attorney-General. Sir Thomas Staples said he would not consent to a postponement. He had received instructions from the Attorney-General to submit the conditions upon which the prisoners would be allowed their liberty. The conditions were that the prisoners must plead guilty, and they would then be allowed to stand out on their own recognizances, to come up for judgement when called on, on receiving ten days notice, and to take the oath of allegiance. Mr. Rea consented to accept the terms, and the prisoners pleaded guilty. His lordship said he was glad the traversers had the good sense to plead guilty under the circumstances, and hoped the sufferers they had endured would be a warning to themselves and others in future.—*Id.*

THE KINSALE ORANGE RIOTS.—Now that the inquiries have been terminated, and despite of some opinions that have been expressed, it does not seem to us very difficult to come to the conclusion, that the whole affair was an Orange display—nay, it seems to us impossible to arrive at any other. Great stress was laid, by the military partisans of the regiment, upon the fact that the militia got the worst of the battle. We fully admit that. They attacked the people in the town and got well thrashed for their pains. That, however, is no excuse. They got some of the punishment they deserved, but that does not excuse them. During the whole of the military investigation the origin of the riot, which after all was the important and all essential portion, seems to have been carefully avoided. We had pathetic accounts given by officers of men coming into barracks with their heads bleeding, and rushing into different

places for protection; we had the narrative of rows two or three days before, where the militia, in the opinion of all their officers, were very badly treated. One witness, indeed, gave a different version that was worth attending to. Mr. Fussell, a respectable shopkeeper, described the acts of the militia on the 11th in such a manner as to prove that they were nothing less than a parcel of riotous blackguards. But though it was known through the columns of the press that the rioters of "the twelfth" had been causing in a public house, from whence, after all manner of Orange demonstration, they issued straight to the work of destruction, this important clue to the whole business was passed over as unworthy the notice of the military inquirers. Even with this omission, and within the very narrow range of the military inquiry, the evidence is complete to show that the riot was commenced by the militia. For the very first act of violence that the depositions of that inquiry prove to was the gallant fellows kicking over the milk pails of the poor women in the market; the second the beating of the sickly, infirm priest, who was only rescued by the courage of Head Constable Geale. After this, and when in despair the people of Kinsale had turned upon them in their own defence, some of them did receive injuries; but it is proved beyond a doubt that it was they who thrust bayonets into shutters, who broke windows with sticks, and smashed over a thousand panes of glass in the houses of the town. Let Lord Massereene defend those innocent and persecuted lambs as he will; let him sneer as gracefully as he chooses at the poverty of Kinsale, he cannot disprove these important facts. But the public will not be satisfied with this very lame investigation made by the military authorities. They will prefer to have the matter decided by the ampler one of the civil magistrate, which not only shows the cowardly brutality of the Antrim militia, but makes it as clear as light that that brutality was the distinct consequence of the Orange feeling of the regiment.—*Corr. Examiner.*

RETURNS OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE.—The statistical returns of the Dublin Metropolitan Police for the year 1858 have just been published. We are happy to say that they show a great diminution in the amount of crime—a diminution which has been progressive for the last six years, and which has reference both to the number and to the character of the offences. This speaks favorably for the social condition of our city, as well as for the efficiency of our admirable police force, to whose activity and zeal the prevention of crime to a considerable extent may be reasonably attributed. In this decrease of crime Dublin is not peculiar, as the present assizes have shown a remarkable decrease in the number of offences throughout the entire country, and especially in those of a serious character—a fact upon which his excellency the Lord Lieutenant, in his recent speech at the Dundalk banquet, took occasion to congratulate his audience.—*Fishman.*

IRISH REGIMENTS.—On the 28th ult., in Committee of Supply in the Commons, a very important discussion took place on one little item of £20,193 required to make up the sum required for Protestant dissenting ministers in Ireland. In other words, the question was as to the continuing the *regium donum* to the Presbyterian clerics of Ulster or not. It is usual to say, as to this vote, that Catholic M.P.'s could, with no grace, oppose it, seeing that they claim and get the Maynooth grant. The objection is, I submit, idle, and displays, as it seems to me, ignorance of the true grounds on which the Maynooth grant rests. The latter is not for the support of priests of the Catholic Church, while the *regium donum* is, in fact, a salary to the whole body of Presbyterian clergy. The Maynooth grant is a very inadequate substitute for the endowments of Trinity College (which supplies the place of an ecclesiastical seminary for the Protestant clergy), on the one hand, and corresponds with the Government grant made to the General Assembly's College (for the clerical training of Presbyterian youths), on the other. The *regium donum* is simply a paltry political bribe to the Presbyterian clergy, for which they are expected to give up their free political spirit and action, and become a part of the English political organization in Ireland, just as their co-recipients of the Establishment. Mr. Baxter, M.P. for Montrose, in bringing forward the motion, well and truly said:—"It is either more or less than a reward for political services, and for many years it appeared in the great secret-service money." Just the very place for it! It was in the same dark category that the money which paid for Lord Fitzgerald's head, and for Higgins' dirty jobs, and for the independence of Ireland, in fine, appeared. To those who know anything of Ulster politics, the importance of getting rid of this political cancer cannot be exaggerated. The tongues of the Presbyterian parsons there are weighed down by Government guineas, and to all intents and purposes (with a rare exception here and there) they are dull and spiritless, politically speaking, and as much bound up with the Established Church in Ireland, and the State order of things in general, as the deans and vicars and rectors of the Establishment itself are.—Almost. To those who don't know anything about Ulster politics, the fact (but for the gleam of light that the mention of this *regium donum* lets upon it) would appear unaccountable that the tenant farmers of that fine province return only landlord nominees at the bidding of their masters, and that they have practically no voice in the English Parliament. To those, too, who know anything about Ulster's past history, the position which it holds now, judged by the class of men who are called its representatives, and by the absence of any healthy national or political feeling throughout its thriving counties, must contrast strongly with its old position in the van of Irish politics.—*Corr. Evening News.*

THE HARVEST.—The harvest is fast approaching to maturity. A good deal of corn has already been cut down in Westford, Waterford, and Kilkenny. There is at present at Mr. Cherry's mill, nearly opposite our office, some very fine white oats, which were bought at 13s 6d. the barrel, and the produce of which, we learn, averaged from 18 to 20 barrels to the acre.—*Waterford News.*

We understand that an inquiry into the charge preferred against the police for not exerting themselves to extinguish the burning of the Christian Brothers' School, Nam, is to commence on Thursday next, to Mr. E. Knox, Esq., R.M.J., and P. Hobart, Esq., County Inspector.—*Nation.*

The calling out of the Limerick Militia has caused embarrassment to many of the mercantile firms of the city, says the *Examiner*, several of whose employees were originally enlisted in the regiment, and had to join it when recently embodied. Clerks, overseers, compositors, and in some instances shopkeepers, had to respond to the "call of the drum"; and in one particular case a local journal has been plundered of its reporter, that gentleman being also obliged "to report" himself present. It is not known when the regiment shall be disembodied.

It is with feelings of the utmost pain, says the *Tipperary Examiner*, that we have to record the occurrence of one of those agrarian outrages which have happily become so rare in Ireland of late years. The victim in this instance, a farmer named Crowe, was shot in his own field at Doon, in the county Limerick, in the middle of the broad day, on Tuesday last. The bullets, we are informed, penetrated the side and abdomen of the unfortunate man, but in such a manner as not to produce instantaneous death. His murderers, bent on his destruction, dragged him half alive into the road and dispatched him with stones. It is said that the cause of this murder is to be attributed to an apprehension prevailing for some time in the locality, that a widow woman who holds a small farm in the neighbourhood of the deceased, was to be dispossessed, and her holding given to Crowe. The greatest excitement prevailed in the district of Doon, and the police are on the alert to discover the murderers, of whom everybody confesses to be in total ignorance.

LORD CARLISLE ON THE IMPROVED CONDITION OF IRELAND.—Lord Carlisle, at the banquet given in Dundalk, on Wednesday evening, by the Royal Agricultural Society, made special allusion to the improved condition of the country. The following extract from his Excellency's admirable address is well worthy the attention of statesmen at home and abroad:—"Though we cannot precisely boast at the present day that feuds, and wars, and bloodshed disappeared from the earth—witness the gigantic carnage of Magenta and Solferino—yet we may thankfully acknowledge that the show-yard of Dundalk, as we saw it to-day, with its long lines of stalled cattle and its well-filled squares of peaceful implements, affording a gratifying and delightful contrast both to the barbarous battles of the old sept, and of the more scientific, yet the still deadlier massacres of modern warfare (hear, hear). As our interest to-day is mainly centred in our Irish soil, perhaps you will allow me for a very short time to occupy the sort of vantage ground which these annual meetings of the Royal Agricultural Society present to us, and to glance at one or two of the leading features of the prospect we may thus take in of the general condition of the country. Now, on looking into authentic documents, I find that the lands under tillage in Ireland for the first year when these returns were collected—in the year 1847, twelve years ago, amounted to 5,231,571 acres; in the year which has just elapsed, in the year 1858, they have increased to 5,882,152 acres, being an increase in those 12 years of 643,000 acres, or at the rate of 12 per cent. in eleven years. Now, the climate and circumstances connected with it have, with the true spirit of economy, produced their result in the different kinds of culture. The cereal crops have given way in a great degree to those more succulent and humid vegetables which are classed as green crops; and accordingly I find, in the same period to which I have referred, that the cereal crops have not diminished less than 565,000 acres, or 17 per cent. of the whole amount. The green crops have increased in nearly the same proportion. The live stock, which was valued in 1841 at £19,375,000, is valued now, in the last year, at £24,900,000—an increase of £5,525,000. The farms under five acres in 1841 amounted to 310,000. In 1858, instead of 310,000, they have decreased to 243,000. The farms above thirty acres in 1841 were 48,000; in 1858 they amounted to upwards of 150,000. Now, the absorption of small holdings I know well is considered by some in this country as injurious; by others it is looked on as a step in advance. But it is a fact that the application of capital to land necessarily leads to this result; just as in manufactures we see that factories draw to themselves labor that was formerly expended in the cottage looms. I take this to be according to the inevitable course of events, and, whatever we may think of it, surely it is our duty to watch all such tendencies, and to adopt our measures to them. Among other improvements in the country I believe progress has been nowhere more remarkable than in the dwellings in the laboring classes (hear, hear). Equally, if not more gratifying, has been the rapid diminution of pauperism in this country. It appears that in Dundalk workhouse—in the town where we are now assembled—within the last ten years, the numbers have fallen from 1,261 to 263; from 107 able-bodied males, the numbers have decreased to 31. The commissioners for inquiring into the condition of the poorer classes in Ireland, in their final report, made in the year 1830, estimated the number of persons out of work and in distress for upwards of half of the year at 585,000, and the persons depending on them at 1,800,000, or nearly one-third of the whole population. There are now in all the workhouses in Ireland but 57,000 inmates; with only 14,000 persons receiving out-door relief. Mendicancy is nearly extinct, and wages are very nearly doubled. Now the last elements to which I shall refer in this rapid contrast is crime. I do not seek, gentlemen, to deny that our ears are sometimes startled, and our minds shocked, by the occurrence of some dreadful agrarian outrage, deepening occasionally into the darkest shade of guilt. But, looking at the general amount of crime, and embracing in our view the country at large, the change is as remarkable of late years as it is blessed one. In this country of Louth the criminal calendar has this year been marvellously light. The system of reporting outrages by the constabulary in this county is singularly full and complete; it is a point in which we are far ahead of anything of the kind in England. Now, take the period of the last ten years. The outrages reported in Ireland in 1848 were upwards of 14,000; in 1858 they have sunk to 3,492. Those of an agrarian nature, in the year 1848, were 795; and in the year 1858, no more than 225. Now, gentlemen, taking all these various items that enter so largely into the condition of a country as a whole, surely we must feel that it presents a picture which may still to some extent be of a chequered character, and upon parts of which the shadows of scattered clouds may still be resting, but which still in all its broader spaces is bright with the hues of hope, and has the sun-light of Heaven to gladden it. I feel that this is not the time or the place to pause upon such matters as those remarkable demonstrations which have of late excited much attention, much anxiety, much I would believe, of hope, in the northern districts of this land. This I am sure of, that the old anniversaries of the present month have passed off with less of mutual provocation and bitterness, with more of Christian calmness and consideration, than ever has been the case before; and if, gentlemen, I may have appeared to some, and have been, too minute in summing up the signs of present and future good, before a company who are mainly brought together to promote the pursuits of agriculture, and thus to pay attention to what may at first sight seem only the material wealth and progress of the country, yet, I do feel that this great pursuit and science of agriculture acts with rapid and immediate contact upon all the fibres of Ireland's happiness and Ireland's glory—(hear, hear)—and that I have been addressing those who, besides the stake and the interest which they feel in her green soil, possess a fervor keenly alive to all the yet higher impulses which add to her just renown, and advance her in the scale of nations."

THE "REVIVAL" IN PORTADOWN.—To the Editor of the *Irishman*.—Dear Sir,—Our goodly town of Portadown for some days past has been in an unusual state of excitement. What, with the heat of the dog days and the fervid zeal of the revivalists, the people seemed struck with a kind of religious frenzy, and serious fears were entertained for their safety. Meetings of the revivalists (principally at night) were held at Portadown and at various places in its neighborhood, at which many converts were "stricken down" and after awakening from their trances they detailed the strange visions which they beheld, and the terrible conflicts they had with the enemy of mankind,—"Dan Sathán," whom they described in the most ludicrous and grotesque manner. They all agreed in representing the "fallen cherub" as a huge black monster in the human form, dwelling amidst fire and brimstone, and watching like a cat at the mouth of his den to pounce upon any unlucky wight that might come within his grasp. Their description of the celestial world, to which they were admitted, was equally absurd and laughable. They saw the Deity and the angels in the human form, and familiarly conversed with them, and they beheld many individuals (who had died at various periods in this part of the country) there, all arrayed in good substantial dresses, and moving about as they were wont on earth. Those whom they saw had been members of the Methodist connexion while on this terrestrial globe, but they did not see a member of the High Church or a Catholic among the blessed. The converts were principally the mill and factory girls and some loose characters of the town, who thought that something might be made of the movement.—Some of the "converts" however, gave indication that they were not fully awakened, and the leaders

were rather puzzled to account for their conduct.—The Methodist shopkeepers are the greatest leaders of the movement, and they may be seen continually passing and repassing on their visits to the converts. From evening till midnight, and at daylight in the morning, groups are seen moving along, and are heard singing in the most vociferous strains. Their great desire is to spread the "revival" among every body of Christians, and for this purpose they strive to force their peculiar views on those who dissent from them; and the usual question when they meet those who have not identified themselves with them is—"What do you think of the revival?" And if you candidly express your opinion you are regarded as a persecutor and an unchristian scoundrel at godliness. At their prayer meetings the most extravagant, incoherent, and blasphemous expressions are vented, and the outrageous and frantic gestures they use leads one to suppose that they are bedlamites in the midst of their revels—no Christians engaged in the worship of the Deity. They were, however, well-liked during the peace of Portadown during the past week by their presumptuous and extravagant conduct. In Marley-street, a locality the inhabitants of which are with the exception of two families Catholics, the saints attempted to have a "revival" on the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday. It appears that some members of one of the Protestant families had been "stricken," and visitors came "to hear their experience, and pray with them." The Catholics took no notice whatever of the proceedings for the greatest harmony prevailed in the street, and none of them ever had offered an insult to their Protestant neighbors. At midnight the saints in a body entered the street, singing in full chorus, and loudly vociferating. The Catholics awakened in alarm, thinking that some hostile enemy had invaded their usually quiet locality, and they started from their beds, and, half dressed, came to their doors to learn the cause of the wild uproar.—When they found that they were going to be treated to an "open-air" preaching they informed the brethren that they would not submit to have their repose disturbed by such extravagance; if the saints wished to pray with the "converts" let them go into the house and welcome, but they would not allow any open air exhibition. The saints insisted, but the Catholics stood steadily on their principle—the women, whose tongues are as still as the "scissors and saws" at the Currier's—raised such a clamor (while the men stood laughing at the scene), that the voices of the saints were fairly drowned, and they were forced to desert. Next night they returned to the charge, but the clamor again commenced. The police came to the place, but as the women used their tongues with great freedom and effect, and told some of the saints disagreeable truths respecting their conduct in their own domestic circles, it was deemed advisable to beat a retreat, and they left the street shaking the dust of their feet as a testimony against the ungodly deists. They, however, determined to have revenge, and as the brethren do not scruple to use a few bonneters to help their cause they published a fierce attack on the Catholics last Saturday in a paltry "fly-sheet," which is published for the brethren by an individual whose pretensions to literature are on a par with his pretensions to godliness. In the publication alluded to, the Catholics of Marley-street were represented as coming forth armed with weapons to oppose the saints; and a coarse vulgar attack, as unvarnished as it was malignant was made on the esteemed proprietor of the street—who, it was insinuated, instead of using his authority to keep the Catholics quiet had secretly encouraged them. John Murley, Esq., the gentleman so generously assailed, is justly esteemed by all classes for his gentlemanly conduct, liberality, and philanthropy, and the venomous slander of the traducer cannot hurt him; but it shows the spirit which ever animates them—when thwarted in their attempts at proselytism they vent their disappointment and hatred in the basest slanders and vilifications, but the public are now beginning to know them and see their hypocrisy.—I am, Sir, Portadown, July 26th, 1859.

A private letter from Coleraine contains the following with regard to the revival movement which has lately made so much stir in that vicinity:—"There is some sort of disease among the Presbyterians here they call 'reviving' that would make you laugh, if you were sick to see and hear them. To give a description of it properly would take a writer from *Punch*. Every bar in the street is getting up and preaching. D. McC—, the letter carrier, addressed a multitude on Saturday. We had the great Guinness here last week; and when he had done preaching up stairs J—H—, the coach builder, and made a public confession of all his sins—and God knows they were numerous enough. He said, after confessing that he had been fighting with Christ for the last week, and had spent £10 in drink in order to beat down the spirit within him, and was likely to win the fight, that he went to Portadown on Sunday, and when he went into the carriage on the railway, there was not one but Papists in it, not a Protestant but himself, so he went on the spree with the most respectable of them, and spent 30s.; and when he came home he was 'revived' or as they call it 'converted to God'."

THE INVASION OF ENGLAND.—The *Court Journal* says it is a positive fact, at this moment, there is in the War Office a plan drawn by the Prince de Joinville for the invasion of England, and that the Emperor of the French warned Lord Lyons, at the Conference at Paris, after the Crimean war, "That he might be goaded on by his army and the people to attempt an invasion, for he was but their Emperor by election, and might be driven to act against his will."

ARMSTONG'S LONG RANGE.—A few days ago we saw the range and accuracy of the new Armstrong gun tested in a way which demands a note. Cooling ourselves on the Essex coast, near the artillery practising ground, we were asked to see the firing; and while this goes slowly and solemnly on one of them spies a flight of gese far out to sea. "There they light on you sandbank." Up go down glasses. Yes, there they sicker in the sun, gray and white, mere specks in the blue sea air. Load the gun—load at the breach—poise—touch—bang! Bang of there to the sands! A signal toll—the tale. The shot has struck the seaward—a life is taken from the mouth of the gun! A shot as well aimed from Primrose-hill should hit the ball on Greenwich Observatory, or if fired from Richmond Park, should bring down a rider in Rotten-row. Here is a fact worth the attention of those Austrian engineers who have just come to London to study our new artillery and learn how to defend Verona against the Frank.—*Altonian.*

The *Times* urges the immediate arming of the navy with Armstrong's gun, as the French are introducing rifled cannon in their ships. The *Times* suggests that to expedite the supply of guns the work might be distributed among the various factories in our great towns, and by the end of the year large numbers of rifle guns might be fit for use.

Mr. Oobden has been so good as to give a lecture to all these, and particularly to journalists, who have urged the necessity of providing for the defence of England; and from that lecture it may be gathered that they are inspired by a wanton and

reckless desire to excite alarm for which there is no sort of foundation. Allow one who never has been an alarmist to make a remark or two on this subject. When Mr. Oobden believes that there is no chance of the Emperor of the French turning his arms against England, his assurances would have more weight if he showed that the Emperor had formally disavowed his own declarations. I have recently given an extract from his speech in the Chamber of Peers in 1840, in which he stated that one of the then objects for the promotion of which he claimed their support was "to avenge Waterloo." "I represent before you," he said, "a principle, a cause, a defeat. The principle is the sovereignty of the people; the cause, that of the Empire; the defeat, Waterloo. The principle you have recognized, the cause you have served, the defeat you wish to avenge." His Majesty's glory is that "the cause," namely, the re-establishment of the Empire, has been gained by "the sovereignty of the people" in other words, universal suffrage. I have not heard that the remaining point, namely, "avenging Waterloo," has been formally retrenched from the programme of 1840. If Mr. Oobden shows that it has shared the fate of the celebrated Milan programme, we shall all be delighted.

RESIGNATION OF THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—It is stated by the journal which is the organ of the extreme Tractarian party in the Church of England, that the Bishop of Exeter is about to resign the episcopal supervision of his diocese, and that he will be succeeded by the Right Rev. Dr. Eden, Bishop of Moray and Ross. Bishop Eden is in English orders, and was for many years rector of Leigh, Essex.—*Nat.*

A Catholic paper gives some account of the meeting of two Protestant Societies, in both of which there is a tremendous loss, notwithstanding the advantages the societies possess over ordinary tradesmen. At the meeting of the Book Hawking Society, at which Bishop Wilson presided—Mr. Hadfield said it appeared it had cost the Society £117 17s 2d worth of books; and as these books were just sold at bookstallers' price he thought the society had secured a failure. The Bishop said undoubtedly it had been a failure. He thought they should try it for another year, and then, if it did not succeed better they should let the society drop. The committee having recommended that only one hundred be retained for the future, and that the remuneration to him should be reduced to 10s. per week and 15s. per cent on the amount of the sales, instead of one guinea per week as at present—Mr. Moore said he had given £20 in order that a second haul might be made, and he thought it would be a breach of the understanding if that were not done. The affairs of the other society (that for Promoting Christian Knowledge) are in still worse state.

A correspondent of the *Round* suggests that "many of God's" should systematically and specially offer up their prayers that Lord Palmerston may become one of their number, as the title "man of God" is appropriated by all as applicable to the Prime Minister.—*English Churchman.*

A strike which threatened to be general has taken place in the building trade. It commenced with the workmen in the employ of Messrs. Trollope and Son, the demand being that the hours of labor should be reduced from ten to nine hours a day. The manager, who held a conference on Wednesday, have refused to comply with this demand, and the men on their side appear to be equally determined to fight their battle. Meanwhile the threatened strike in the building trade becomes more serious every hour.—The determination of the masters to don their establishments against those who act in combination has been followed by a Hyde Park meeting at which some thousands of workmen were present. At the meeting speeches were made of an encouraging character, and a resolution was adopted which affirms that the employers have withdrawn the branch, and that every moral and constitutional power of resistance should be used to bring the nine hours movement to a successful termination. The strike is, therefore, inevitable, and it is to be feared that on both sides hostilities will be waged until the weather goes to the wall by their exhaustion.—*London Paper.*

INTOLERANT LIBERALISM.—There are as many anomalies in British legislation as in that of any other country, and in many cases those anomalies involve quite as much injustice as inconsistency. The other evening, for instance, a bill was read a third time, providing that henceforward municipal officers of every kind should no longer be compelled, before entering on their functions, to take the oath in his capacity then not to do anything in their official capacity tending to militate against the Establishment Church in any shape. As was to be expected, Messrs. Spencer, Newdegate, and all of that ilk, opposed the passage of this just and reasonable measure, but fortunately without success. This result has now become so usual with all the amendments, motions, and measures of these gentlemen, that people are only surprised how they can persevere so long in a course of obstruction so very damaging to the cause of civil and religious liberty, when it is evident that the spirit of the age generally is in direct opposition to their obsolete views and narrow-minded prejudices. But though we have spoken in approval of this measure as a whole, there is an omission in it which, whether designed or not, detracts considerably from its merits in other respects. Proceeding in the direction of abolishing sectarian tests and invidious religious distinctions, another part of Mr. Hanfield's bill, after doing away with the disability which has hitherto prohibited Mayors, under a heavy penalty, from attending in their robes, any place of worship not of the Established Church, provides that *Protestant Dissenters* shall henceforward be permitted to attend divine worship in their robes, whenever they think proper so to do. Here, then, we have a measure unquestionably liberal in its general tendency, and abrogating exceptional legislation on the score of religion as regards Protestant Dissenters of every denomination, and yet this same measure leaves the previous enactment, as regard Catholics, in full force, with all the penalties still attached to its violation, thus keeping up the old disability against them, whilst it emancipates the Dissenter, no matter how much opposed his peculiar form of belief may be to that of the State Church! Thus it is ever with liberal legislators of Mr. Hadfield's stamp; they uniformly stop short at the very point where the enlightened views which they profess to entertain should carry them onwards, regardless of vulgar prejudices and grovelling intolerance. The gyve is never to be struck away from the free action of the Catholic conscience, and whether he be a Mayor or a Minister, a Peer or a Pope, Protestantism must needs hold him in religious and political fetters lest he enjoy any portion of that civil and religious liberty with which the orthodox of the reformation and their parent stem can, as they would wish the world to believe, alone be trusted. It is not for us to say what injury the civic robes would sustain by enfolded the worshipful person of a Catholic Mayor whilst performing his devotions in his own place of worship during his year of office. We are not prepared to say that if his successor happened to be a member of the Established Church, the slightest infection of Popery would adhere to the civic paraphernalia so as to endanger his Protestantism, or render it less staunch and steadfast, but even this consideration should not have induced Mr. Hadfield to manifest so glaring an inconsistency in his otherwise excellent measure as to clog it with one most intolerant provision whilst he was abolishing another. The danger to the Protestant wearer of robes that had been worn in a Catholic Church might have been effectually guarded against by a clause in his bill, making it compulsory on Catholic Mayors to have and to hold in perpetuity robes provided for them by their co-religionists, whilst Protestant Whittingtons should be compelled in like manner to obtain the ensigns of their office from the ample resources of the Church-by-law Establishment.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE INVASION OF ENGLAND.—The *Court Journal* says it is a positive fact, at this moment, there is in the War Office a plan drawn by the Prince de Joinville for the invasion of England, and that the Emperor of the French warned Lord Lyons, at the Conference at Paris, after the Crimean war, "That he might be goaded on by his army and the people to attempt an invasion, for he was but their Emperor by election, and might be driven to act against his will."

ARMSTONG'S LONG RANGE.—A few days ago we saw the range and accuracy of the new Armstrong gun tested in a way which demands a note. Cooling ourselves on the Essex coast, near the artillery practising ground, we were asked to see the firing; and while this goes slowly and solemnly on one of them spies a flight of gese far out to sea. "There they light on you sandbank." Up go down glasses. Yes, there they sicker in the sun, gray and white, mere specks in the blue sea air. Load the gun—load at the breach—poise—touch—bang! Bang of there to the sands! A signal toll—the tale. The shot has struck the seaward—a life is taken from the mouth of the gun! A shot as well aimed from Primrose-hill should hit the ball on Greenwich Observatory, or if fired from Richmond Park, should bring down a rider in Rotten-row. Here is a fact worth the attention of those Austrian engineers who have just come to London to study our new artillery and learn how to defend Verona against the Frank.—*Altonian.*

The *Times* urges the immediate arming of the navy with Armstrong's gun, as the French are introducing rifled cannon in their ships. The *Times* suggests that to expedite the supply of guns the work might be distributed among the various factories in our great towns, and by the end of the year large numbers of rifle guns might be fit for use.

Mr. Oobden has been so good as to give a lecture to all these, and particularly to journalists, who have urged the necessity of providing for the defence of England; and from that lecture it may be gathered that they are inspired by a wanton and

reckless desire to excite alarm for which there is no sort of foundation. Allow one who never has been an alarmist to make a remark or two on this subject. When Mr. Oobden believes that there is no chance of the Emperor of the French turning his arms against England, his assurances would have more weight if he showed that the Emperor had formally disavowed his own declarations. I have recently given an extract from his speech in the Chamber of Peers in 1840, in which he stated that one of the then objects for the promotion of which he claimed their support was "to avenge Waterloo." "I represent before you," he said, "a principle, a cause, a defeat. The principle is the sovereignty of the people; the cause, that of the Empire; the defeat, Waterloo. The principle you have recognized, the cause you have served, the defeat you wish to avenge." His Majesty's glory is that "the cause," namely, the re-establishment of the Empire, has been gained by "the sovereignty of the people" in other words, universal suffrage. I have not heard that the remaining point, namely, "avenging Waterloo," has been formally retrenched from the programme of 1840. If Mr. Oobden shows that it has shared the fate of the celebrated Milan programme, we shall all be delighted.