

SKETCHES OF THE IRISH PEASANTRY.

Hitherto, also, little has been thought of the importance of the Irish language as a key to the heart of the peasantry—that heart which occupies so large a part of their nature, that it is made the seat of all their ailments, and was the excuse given for their former habit of drunkenness. But England is at last beginning to open her eyes to this great instrument for the improvement of Ireland; and there is, we understand, in the north of Ireland one excellent nobleman, Lord George Hill, who has recently learned to speak Irish with this very view, and we sincerely wish his example was followed generally. Let it be remembered that a common tongue is one great bond appointed by nature to draw men's hearts together—that although sufficient English may be acquired by the peasantry for mere business, English is wholly inadequate to express the natural warmth and quickness of Irish feeling—that the Irish is identified with all their old and most gratifying associations—that there is a wide difference between using a language so as to be understood by others, and understanding it well ourselves—and that instead of perpetuating a barbarous language, the use of Irish will tend to preserve from destruction many most valuable records of interesting history, and finally, as it has proved in the case of the Gaelic, will render the English prevalent, by encouraging a love of learning. The author of 'Sketches in Ireland' has given an anecdote which we gladly transcribe:

"A shower of rain drove us to seek shelter in the hut of the man who looks after the peasants [on Lord Bantry's domain.] He was alone, and with all the civility that never deserts an Irishman, he welcomed us in God's name, and produced stools which he took care to wipe with his great-coat before he permitted us to sit on them.

On inquiring from him why he was alone, and where were his family, he said they were all gone to the Watch-Mass (it was the Saturday before Easter day.)—"And what is the Watch Mass?" He could not tell. "And what was yesterday?" He could not tell. "And what day will to-morrow be?" He could not tell. "What! cannot you tell me why yesterday has been called Good Friday and to-morrow Easter Sunday?" "No!" Turning to my companion, I was moved to observe, with great emphasis, how deplorable it was to see men otherwise so intelligent, so awfully ignorant concerning matters connected with religion.—"Not so fast with your judgment, my good sir," said my friend, "what if you should prove mistaken in this instance concerning the knowledge of this man: recollect that you are now speaking to him in a foreign tongue. Come, now, I understand enough of Irish to try his mind in his native dialect." Accordingly he did so: and it was quite surprising to see how the man, as soon as the Irish was spoken, brightened up in countenance; and I could perceive from the smile that played on the face of my friend, how he rejoiced in the realization of his prognos-

tic; and he began to translate for me as follows:

"I asked him what was Good Friday? It was on that day the Lord of Mercy gave his life for sinners; a hundred thousand blessings to him for that. What is Watch Saturday? It was the day when watch was kept over the holy tomb that held the incorruptible body of my sweet Saviour." Thus the man gave in Irish, clear and feeling answers to questions concerning which, when addressed in English, he appeared quite ignorant: and yet of common English words and phrases he had the use; but, like most of his countrymen in the south, his mind was groping in foreign parts when conversing in English; and he only seemed to think in Irish. The one was the language of commerce, the other of his heart."—*Sketches*, p. 311.

WHISKEY.—A most remarkable reduction has taken place in the demand for this article during the past twelve months. The demand was much reduced a year ago; but now it is not half what it was then. The distillers, four or five years since, were running their works night and day, pressed with the demand for whiskey, and consuming rye and corn in immense quantities; at one time four thousand five hundred bushels daily. Now the consumption is less than two thousand bushels daily, and is rapidly diminishing. There is on hand here a stock of twelve thousand barrels of whiskey and such is the decreased demand, that there is no diminution of stock, notwithstanding the great diminution of supply. The distillers appear to be as much pleased with the change, as their fellow-citizens generally. They are now reducing their work as fast as possible, so that for the next crop of coarse grain we presume the demand in this market from the distillers will not exceed one-fourth of what it was at the highest point. The falling off cannot be less than a million of bushels for the year. This change cannot but have some effect on the market. Yet on the other hand, the men who for years back have been guzzling whiskey and leaving their families half starved, will now eat bread and meat, and keep their families well fed. In a multitude of families this happy change has already taken place. The nation will not be made poor by the revolution, but rich; business will not be stagnated, but stimulated by it. No man is vicious and wasteful without causing some mischief to society, and no man is industrious and virtuous without adding something to the common aggregate of general wealth and happiness. Society does not truly thrive upon the vices and dissipations of its members, but upon their morality and general good habits. Vice will be made a mother of trade, as every thing else is; but those who make money by it, are likely to contract its pollution, and to sink with those whom they pamper or rob. Virtue makes the man who practices it, vigorous and comfortable, and generally gives him some property. As the wealth of a nation is the aggregate of its individual wealth, so the business of a whole people is measured by the aggregate of its industry. The loss of the whiskey business, therefore, will be a gain to the general business and wealth of the country.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST.

- Hamilton**—John Healy, Thos Closhey, Edward Condon, and Neil Hunter, each 7s6d.
- Amherstburgh**—Mr. Kovel for Joseph Barron, Israel Beniteau, Color-serjt. John Phelan, 89th Regt., Color-serjeant John Campbell, 89th Regt. each 7s. 6d., and Teovil Lemai, 15s
- Wilmington Square**—John O'Neil, 7s6d and Mr Cherier, 5s
- Waterdown**—Thomas English, 7s. 6d.
- Oakville**—John Sweeny, 7s 6d. and for Mr White (Albany) 3s9d.; M. Chalk, 15s
- Newmarket**—Rev. Mr. Quinlan, (2nd sub) \$4; and for Wm Wallis, Jas Wallis, Michael Bergin, and Michael Moriarty, each 7s6d.
- Belleville**—Mr. O'Rielly, 10s
- Kingston**—Rev P Dollard, Mrs Lynch, W. McCuniffe, Mrs Redmond, Finton Phelan, M. Donoghoe, Archd. McDonnell, Louis Laporte, Thos. Johnson, James Gleeson, James O'Rielly, Anastasia Mullin, Garret Commerford, Alex McDonnell, Michael J. McDonnell, Mrs Hickey, Patrick Curtis, Rev Eneas McDonnell, Jeremiah Meagher, Captain Burns, Thomas Baker, Andrew Blake, Cornelius Donohoe, sen., Dacan McPhee, Daniel Hickey, Thomas Moore, Alexander Skinner, Terence McGarvey, each 7s6d.
- Camden East**—Rev C. Bourke, (2nd sub) \$4; and for John Coen, 7s6d. Thos. Judge, 7s6d. and Mr Phelan, (Napane) 5s.
- Richmond**—Rev. T. Smith 7s 6d. and for Rev. T. O'Rielly, 7s 6d. and Rev P. Lamb, 7s 6d (Ireland) Also, for John McDonnell, (Fitzroy Harbor) 15s. Patrick Heffernan, James Malone, Peter Cassidy, Patk Gannon, Garret Fitzgerald, James Mantle, Peter Cavenagh, William Shee, Thomas Jones, John Manning, William Walsh, each 7s 6d.
- Brockville**—Rev Mr O'Rielly for Mrs. Dr. Hubble, and Thos Kennedy, each 7s6d
- Williamstown**—John Hay, 15s; and since the receipt of this, the Rev. George Hay has included in his remittance, a similar amount to the same address. (See St. Andrews.)
- St Andrews**—Rev. George Hay for Capt John McIntosh, 7s6d, James McDonald (elder) 7s6d, Wm Hay, 15s., John Hay, 15s. Alexander McDonnell, (elder) 7s 6d Donald P. McDonald, 7s 6d, John McIntosh, (D.B.) 7s6d. Archd Grant, 7s6d Alexander McDonnell, (Angus) 15s. Duncan Eneas McDonnell, 15s. D. McIntosh, Esq. 10s.
- Alexandria**—Ewen McDonnell, 7s6d.

Mr Jno McDonald, (Aylmer House) will please act as Agent for the Catholic in his neighborhood.
The Postmasters of Huntly and Ramsay will oblige us by seeing that no delay occurs in the delivery of the Catholic to our subscribers there.

SPRING AND SUMMER FASHIONS FOR 1842

HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE SUBSCRIBER
HE ALSO wishes to acquaint his Patrons, that he has REMOVED to his New Brick Shop on John Street, a few yards from Stinson's corner, where they may rely on punctuality and despatch in the manufacture of work entrusted to him.
S. McCURDY.
Hamilton, 1st April, 1842.

NEW HARDWARE STORE

The Subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has re-opened the Store lately occupied by Mr. J. Layton, in Stinson's Block, and is now receiving an extensive assortment of Birmingham, Sheffield and American Shelf and Heavy HARD WARE, which he will sell at the very Lowest Prices.
H.W. IRELAND.
Hamilton, Oct. 4, 1841.

WEEKLY & SEMI-WEEKLY N.Y. COURIER & ENQUIRER

TO THE PUBLIC.

FROM and after FRIDAY the 11th instant, the Weekly and Semi-Weekly Courier and Enquirer will be enlarged to the size of the Daily Paper, and offer inducements to the Advertiser and general reader, such as have rarely been presented by any papers in the United States.
SEMI-WEEKLY.—This sheet will be published on Wednesdays and Saturdays. On the outside will be placed all the contents of the Daily sheets for the two preceding days, together with appropriate matter for the general reader selected for the purpose; and the inside will be the inside of the Daily paper of the same day. This publication will of course be mailed with the daily paper of the same date, and carry to the reader in the country the very latest intelligence.
Terms of the Semi-Weekly Paper.—F O U R DOLLARS per annum, payable in advance.

WEEKLY COURIER & ENQUIRER.

This sheet also is of the size of the Daily Courier, and the largest weekly paper issued from a Daily press, will be published on Saturdays only, and in addition to all the matter published in the Daily during the week, will contain at least one continuous story, and a great variety of extracts on miscellaneous subjects, relating to History, Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Manufactures, and the Mechanic Arts.
It is intended to make this sheet the most perfect, as it will be one of the largest of the kind ever offered to the reading public; that is, a NEWSPAPER in the broadest sense of the term, as it necessarily will be, from containing all the matter of the Daily Courier, and at the same time very miscellaneous and literary, by reasons of selections and republications set up expressly for insertion in this paper.

Terms of the Weekly Courier and Enquirer.—THREE DOLLARS per annum to single subscribers.
To two or more subscribers less than six, to be sent to the same Post Office, Two Dollars and a half per annum.
To six subscribers and less than twenty-five, to be sent to not more than three different Post Offices, Two Dollars per annum.
To classes and committees over twenty-five in number, to be sent in parcels not less than ten to any one Post Office, One Dollar and Three Quarters per annum.
In no case will a Weekly Courier be forwarded from the Office for a period less than one year, or unless payment is made in advance.
Postmasters can forward funds for subscribers free of Postage; and all remittances made thro' Postmasters, will be at our risk.

The DAILY Morning Courier and New York Enquirer, in consequence of its great circulation, has been appointed the Official paper of the Circuit and District Courts of the United States.
Prices Current and Reviews of the Market, will of course be published at length in each of the three papers.
Daily Papers TEN Dollars per annum.
Postmasters who will consent to act as agents for the Courier and Enquirer, Daily, Semi-weekly and Weekly, or employ a friend to do so, may in all cases deduct ten per cent. from the amount received, according to the above schedule of prices, if the balance be forwarded in funds at par in this city.
New York, February, 1842.

Carriage, Coach, and Waggon PAINTING.

THE Subscriber begs to inform the Public, that he has removed his Shop from Mrs Scobell's to Walton and Clark's premises, on York Street, where he continues the Painting and Varnishing of Carriages, Coaches, Sleighs, Waggons, or any kind of light Fancy Work. Also, the manufacture of OIL CLOTH.
Having had much experience during his service under the very best workmen, he is confident of giving satisfaction.
C. GIROURD.
Hamilton, March 23, 1842.

GIROURD & MCKOY'S EVERY STABLES

Near Press's Hotel, HAMILTON.
Orders left at the Royal Exchange Hotel will be strictly attended to.
HAMILTON, March, 1842.