THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.-JUNE 12, 1874.

grisvoils and glaring detects which seven then unheinely existed in the constitution of the Irish par-heinely existed in the constitution of the Irish par-liament. It should likewise he remembered by all parties that the true history of this country since parties that the true mostly of this country since the Act of Legislative Union' clearly shows the innumerable evils endured by the people of Ireland, in consequence of being deprived of the incalculin course they would have derived from their avn separate legislature in Ireland, which for the own separate legislature in Ireland, which for the last eighteen years before the union was allowed to last eight exclusively for Irish affairs (not strictly imperial), under the authority of the Sovereign of Great Britain as well as Ireland, and without impairing the rights or prerogatives of the crown. It pairing humble judgment, very desirable that the people of Ireland should bear in mind that the Irish Home Rule League was deliberately founded in accordance, with the principles, which were finally adopted at the general Home Rule Conference adopted as convened last year in Dublin for that waton was convened also be remembered, undoubt-purpose. It should also be remembered, undoubt-edly, by all parties who are really friendly to the cause, that the final success of this well-devised movement may be retarded by dissension regarding those principles which are considered to be of great importance. I may be permitted on this occasion to recall to mind that the election address which was published by Lord Howth before his father's demise very justly stated 'that our country has many interests and characteristics that Irishmen are more competent to deal with than those who are are more composited with the country, and who have not a thorough knowledge of her people and herself.' Moreover, I believe it would be more advantageous to the public that members of parlia. ment should be in some degree subject to the infuence and operation of the statutes in the enactment of which they may be concerned.--I have the bonour to be, gentlemen, yours very faithfully, "FFRENCH. "To the Honorary Secretaries of the Irish"

Home Rule League."

IRISH INTELLIGENCE

CATHOLIC UNION OF IRBLAND .- The Catholic Union of Ireland published the following on the 12th ult : -To-morrow our illustrious Pope-King will have reached the eighty-third birthday anniversary of a life miraculously preserved, and in a few weeks afterwards will have completed the eight-and-twentieth year of a Pontificate almost miraculously prolonged. The greatest of all carthly sovereigns, he is as well the oldest amongst them all, and, though his sorrows and his burthens have only increased with his years, he is, thank God, still strong and brave to-day as when, on the 21st of June, 1846, he was borne to the Papal throne amidst the rejoicings of his Roman people and the prayers and the bless-ings of the Catholic universe. Many strange vicissitudes have befallen in the world since John Mastai Ferretti was born in Sinigaglia on the 13th of May, 1792, and the strangest of them all are those in which he has himself borne a share, or of which he has been a victim, in the twenty-eight years of his own eventful reign. In these eighty years of his life hugo conflicts have waged, and mighty empires have been made and shattered : a great, bad spirit of revolution has been abroad, and a final effort has been directed against the very existence of the most sacred institutions on earth. The Church has been persecuted in almost every region, and its prelates and its priests have been subjected to every outrage and every ignoming short of death itself. The ancient patrimony of St. Peter has been plundered, and rebbery and desecration are triumphant in the holy city of the Popes. In the midst of the universal infamy, one voice was ever lifted up in ceaseless though unavailing protest, and from the palace as well as from the prison of the Vatican Pius IX. was the fearless, uncompromising vindicator of the rights and prerogatives of the See confided to his charge. Up to this the powers of earth and hell have availed to the disadvantage of the temporal interests of the Church, and it would seem as if their victories were not yet complete. But the venerable Pontiff is not disheartened, nor will he allow his children to despair. He speaks to them ever with a hopeful voice, for he is firm in his faith that in His own good time God will come to the succour of the right and strike down the enemies of His Church. He knows, too, that his children, scattered widely over the world, listen lovingly to his voice, and join him when he asks them in praying for the speedy coming of that time. In the overwhelming afflictions that have come upon him, in the approach of every crux de cruce, he has had the unstinted sympathy of his two hundred millions of spiritual subjects, and the more he has been persecuted the more eagerly has gushed forth their love for him. Never was father loved by children more devotedly than Pius IX. by his faithful family. Never was the bond of union stronger within the Church than it is at the present moment of its existence, and never was affection more intense between Pontiff and prelacy than is the affection between Pio Nono and the Catholic episcopacy of the world. There is scarcely a day that does not bring forth its own proof of this, and no pilgrimage is more rapturously or more reverentially performed than the journey up the scala that leads to the prison chambers of the Pope-King in the Vatican. The pilgrims have come with their addresses of loyalty and their tributes of gifts, away from across the (Rocky Mountains-from the heart of infidel Asia-from the once Catholic but to-day unholy cities of Africa-from France-from Germany-from England-from Spain, and need we add, from Ireland too, all testifying to their duty in faith and in fervent attachment to Pius IX. Once again, on the recurrence of his birthday anniversary, in the name of the members of the Irish Catholic. Union, and indeed, we are sure we may say, of every Catholic in the land, we tender to his Holiness the expression of our loyalty to him, and our congratulations to him on the attainment of his eightythird year. We thank God that He has spared His Vicar on earth through so many trials, and through such agonizing afflictions, and preserved him in such health and strength' throughout them all. We trust that there are many years of life still before our venerable High Priest, and that before it shall please the Father of All Mercies to call him to Himself, He may vouchsafe to Pius IX, the glory of seeing that triumph of truth, justice, and true liberty for which his soul so ardently longs. Our "grand old Pope" mey rest as-sured that, come new sorrows: to him or come the joy of a splendid victory, his faithful children will continue to love him and to pray for him; and that here in Ireland many a Mass will be said, many a Communion will be offered, and many a supplication will be poured forth to-morrow morning, the 13th of the month of the Mother of God, that God might comfort the heart of Pius IX., and give him the happiness of witnessing many brighter and happier birthday anniversaries than that of 1874. The TRUE CROSS.-At a moment when his Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin is appealing (an appeal which is sure of a generous response, and which we heartily commend to the members of the Catholic Union, notalone in Dublin but throughout Ireland) for aid in the crection of a church in tionor of the Holy Cross 'at the College of Clonliffe, which owes its origin to the zeal, and in part to the munificence of his Eminence, the following reference to the relics of the true Oross, which we take from a Belgian paper, may not be uninteresting "Calvin," (says the article, "maintained that the number of relics of the true Cross venerated as such throughout the world is such that, joined together, they would reach a bulk one hundred times: larger than what we must reasonably suppose to larger than what we must reasonably suppose to wrongs which that of secure law of the objects of its institution is that of secure ness of some of the sectaries who, denying the an-have been the size of the Cross upon which our Re-have been the size of the Cross upon which our Re-hored union with England a union, as every dis-hored union with England a union, as every hored union with England a union with the based of which hored union with England a union with the based of the based of the based of the based hored union with England a union with the based of the based

for Calvin. Protestants and unbelievers have reneated it until people got sick of it, but they never took the trouble of trying to find out it it was true. It was a good peg on which to hang denunciations about the superstitions of the Catholic Church, and was always sure of winning a cheer. To meet the statement there would have been need of measuring every relic of the true cross to be found in the universe, and thus calculating the total measurement of them all. It was a bold task to think of it but not alone has it been thought of it has been done. M. Ch. Rohault de Fleury has gathered together all the testimonies of history and tradition which were available, so as to make a complete catalogue of every relic of the Cross which is, or has been, venerated in the Church. He has himself seen and copied a great number of those now in existence, and he has got accurate information about most of the others. He has completed this great achievement by a similar labor of love as to the nails, the crown of thorns, and other instruments of the Passion, and has combined the entire history of all in a gorgeous volume, entitled "Memoir on the Instruments of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ," and has dedicated it to Plus IX. He makes clear that the total bulk of the relics of the Cross of which, after the most diligent search, he has been able to obtain information, is about four millions of cube millemetres. Take three times three-nav even quadruple it so as to take in a measurement for relics of which he did not hear-and we do not arrive at the tenth part of the measurement to be allowed to the true Cross; for, according to the most carefully-made calculations; M. Rohault states that that measurement was not less than one hundred and seventy-eight millions of cube millemetres .-Assuredly it is now our turn to laugh at Calvin and his commentators. We shall not, of course, stop them from repeating their threadbare jokes and taunts; but it may do them no harm to let them see how ridiculous is this weapon they have so long been wielding against a pious practice of the Catha-lio Church. We may add that in the new Church of Clonliffe a treasure richer than its promised pillars of marble and its costly altars will be a relic of our Saviour's Cross, magnificently enshrined, and sure to be all the more affectionately prized because it has been a gift to the College from Pius IX. through its illustrious and beloved founder and patron, the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin .- Freeman.

THE HOME RULE PROGRAMME .- Amongst the letters referring to the Federal programme of the Home Rule League which appear in our columns this week, one from the pen of the veteran Repealer, Mr. O'Neill Daunt, and one from that patriotic nobleman, Lord French, will be certain to receive the especial attention of our readers. Lord French's letter, which was addressed to the Secretary, of the League, and read at the meeting of that body on Tuesday evening, contains many wise and seasonable suggestions. Lord French advises his countrymen to abide by the principles, and policy of the League -principles, he says, which were deliberately considered and finally adopted at the National Conference last year in Dublin, and a policy which has been wisely framed in accordance with them. And he remarks with great truth that dissensions with regard to these principles now could have no other effect than to "retard the success of this well-devised movement." As to the "status quo ante 1800." which is so mucb admired by some well-meaning friends, and a restoration of which they invite us to seek for, Lord French very appositely reminds his countrymen that it was under that state of things the rebellion of 1798 occurred. Another of our correspondents this week points to the same fact. Of course, neither means to imply that the freedom which had been won for the Irish Parliament in 1782 constituted the grievance of the United Irishmen or was in any way distasteful to them. What was dis-tasteful to them and unendurable was the oppression which England still continued to exorcise in Ireland. Under the Constitution of '82 England's hand was still heavy on this land ; during the existence of the Constitution of '82 England was able to goad the Irish people into insurrection, and in the course of her suppression of that insurrection to perpetrate a series of horrors for which there are few very Parliament which had wrested from her a declaration of its independence. Why, then, should we in claiming a restoration of our native legislature ask to get back with it all those evil conditions, all those imperfections, all those weaknesses of Parliament, and all those powers of the Castle, which, taken together, constitute the "status quo ante 1860"? We may be told indeed that the advocates of a restoration of that status do not want to get back the evil portions of it; they want to get it back with improvements, or with power to make improvements which would rid it of all its old defects-in other words, which would reduce the connexion between the two countries simply and solely to " the golden link of the crown." Not the least objection would we have to this arrangement if we thought England were at all likely to consent to it. But we believe England would object to being improved out of the constitution, and would not be satisfied to hold Ireand merely by the "golden-link," her objection in both cases being of so decided a character as to leave, us no chance of overcoming it. We have no expectation that England will ever yield peaceably to Ireland a settlement which would bring the two countries so near to separation-in all probability she would just as willingly yield separation itself. But all the constitutional difficulties of the case are met by the Federal programme of the Home Rule League. The settlement it proposes would give those guarantees for unity of action in imperial affairs without which England would not be satisfied, and would accord to the Irish people that control over their local affairs without which they will never be content. It is the most reasonable and feasible bargain that can be struck between the two countries, and because it has that character it has been most decidedly approved by the Irish people, and is rapidly winning favour amongst the English. The suggestion that it should be abandoned and a demand for "simple Repeal" substituted for it has not been countenanced in this country-in fact that suggestion has evoked such evidences of disapprobation from Irish patriots of all classes that we can hardly suppose there will be occasion for us to give the subject any further discussion. We cannot more appropriately close this article than by referring our readers to the admirable letter of Mr. O'Neill Daunt which we publish in another column. Irish Renealers and all other friends of Ireland may surely feel their honour safe under the banner of Federalism when they see it upheld by two such steady, consistent, and incorruptible patriots as W. J. O'Neill Daunt and honest John Martin .-- Nation. It is fashionable in the London journalistic world to have a "fling," at Ireland, to sneer at the Irish people, and denounce them as traitors. In every case where a manifestation of gross ignorance and abject puerility does not call for the pity of the enlightened, we have an instance of the fleeing criminal crying "stop thief," for there can be treason to one's convictions and fellows, from base motives as well as to the Constitution. We hold no brief for Ireland, but we confess to a feeling stronger than regret at finding that the London Figaro should stoop so low, to gratify vulgar prejudice and passion, as to print in its last issue a leading column of the foulest abuse of those who have been the means of compelling the Imperial Legislature to redress some of her wrongs which that country has suffered since her

accomplished by disgraceful deception and brazen fraud, and which has been productive of the worst possible results. Be it far from us to say aught calculated to embitter the relations existing between the two countries: therefore we abstain from giving the result of retrospective glance which would not certainly redound to the credit of England. The Irish have long memories; they can forgive but not forget. Looking round the globe, and realising the state of affairs at home and abroad; we think England's wisest policy is to extend the hand of friendship to Ireland in all sincerity, and say, "Let the dead past bury its dead." It would be but honest to say, "We cannot afford to regard you as other than an integral portion of the' British Empire, entitled to equal rights and privileges." Far better that than to connive at and foster rebellion in a distracted country for party purposes. But this consumation, so devoutly to be desired, is not likely to be arrived at so long as England tolerates, her minions at the press to revile a prond people, and insult them at every turn, as witness the jetsam upheaved by the scribe of the Figaro, of which the following is a specimen :--- " The people of the United Kingdom have resolved to show no more favour to Irish traitors. Any Government that did so would be forthwith turned out of office. The convicted scoundrels who committed crimes in the name of Fenianism will not be released from their durance vile. Any other persons who violate the law will be punished without mercy. It is right that the dupes of the skalking agitators should be forewarned. The Government cannot prevent them giving their money to the vagabonds who pretend to be patriots; but if they are incited to any overt acts, they will be consigned to penal servitude or to the gallows. Ireland is not oppressed. The Irish have the same liberty and privileges as the English." Were we not mindful of the high social status of our journal, as well as the cultured constituency which it is our privilege to address, we should have been tempted to use an epithet naughty, but most expressive and richly deserved. We string up, however, to the yardarm an anthropophagus unworthy to take foothold in the literary ship, incompetent as a writer of the English language, a being to be ostracised by every gentleman journalist for his ignorant scurrility and deserving to be instantly dismissed the Figuro staff. En passant shall we put into his cadaverous maw something to go on with in the shape of street literature ?

"I would I were a cassowary in the plains of Timbuctoo-I would eat a missionary, hat and coat, and hymn-

book too."

From the Cosmopolitan.

The many bills for the amendment of the Land Act do not seem to meet the approval of the different Farmers' Clubs throughout the country. Many of the Northern Tenant-right Associations have expressed their disapprobation at the want of united action which has characterized the proceedings of the Irish members respecting this important subject since the new Parliament assembled. The Limerick and Cork Farmers' Clubs are not better satisfied than their countrymen in Ulster, and the Kildare 'Tenants' Defence Association has endorsed these expressions of dissatisfaction. At a meeting of the committee held in Athy recently a resolution was passed, which, after a studied recognition of the anxiety of the Irish members to settle the Land question, states that the committee disapproves " of the introduction of a series of land bills by individual members on their sole responsibility, and without apparent concert between the Northern and Southern Tenant-right members."-Dublin Irishman

AN IRISH FISHERY .- Few of our readers probably are aware of the great extent of the fishing industry which at this season is in full operation round the Old Head of Kinsale. Yet from this point vast numbers of the finest mackerel are now being shipped daily for England or sent by, rail through Ireland for home consumption. The flotilla consists of 324 uessels, each being manned by seven hands. Of these craft 120 belong to Peel, and 70 to Port St. Mary, Isle of Man. English enterprise is but indifferently represented by 27 vessels, of which 23 are from Lowestoft and four from Penzance. Scotland parallels in the history of the human race. Under sends only three, all of which belong to Campbell-the Constitution of '82 England was able not only town; whilst Ireland furnishes 101 boats, and this to misrule and torture this country, and to sweep it portion of the fleet is collected chiefly from Arklow, with fire and sword, but was able also to destroy the Dublin, Newry, and Kinsale. As each hoat carries a train of nets which, when shot, are equal to a mile and a half in length, there is a net wall of something more than 500 miles set nightly, within about fif-teen miles cast and west of the Old Head of Kinsale. There are, however, certain allies to this great peace fleet, which are not included in the foregoing catalogue of ships. Busily plying their calling are 30 French luggers, of about 80 tons each. These vessels, in virtue of concessions recently granted to them, are able to sell their fish in the harbour on payment of the ordinary dues. Smacks, cutters, luggers, aud yawls, whose aggregate burden amounts to nearly 10,000 tons, manned by 4,536 hands, and carrying as we have said, 500 miles of net, exclusive of the French contingent, which adds an additional 90 miles, present as vivid a picture of fishing industry as any part of our coasts can show. At this season 400 tons of mackerel are frequently shipped or railed from this port in one day. All that is shipped has to be loed and boxed, and the labourers engaged by the buyers amount to nearly the number of fishermen employed in the boats .--The Country. FATHER O'KEEFFE .- This rev. gentleman has had yet another law suit. On this occasion he sued for £4,000 damages a gentleman named Coady for alleged libel. His case was that just before Mr. Bouverie's motion with reference to his case came off last session, a circular signed by the defendant was sent to members of Parliament, and this contained the alleged libel. It was drawn up by the Right Rev. Dr. Moran, and was to the following effect :-When the Rev, Robert O'Keeffe was appointed P.P. of Callan, in 1863, a document was forwarded to the Board of Education in the name of this committee, and bearing the signatures of its members. We beg to inform you that that document is not genuine, the signatures to it are forgerics, and the committee never forwarded Mr. O'Keeffe's name to be appointed manager under the National Board. The Bishop freely admitted the responsibility for the composition of the document, and stated that he was aware that the name of the plaintiff was attached to it without his knowledge or consent. The point to determine was, under such circumstances, whether or not the plaintiff was liable for the pub lication of what was admitted to be a libel. The trial lasted a couple of days, and resulted in a disagreement of the jury, so that it is clear that we nave not yet heard the last of Father O'Keeffe .-Irishman. ENGLISH REFORMERS AND IRISH HOME RULERS. - I have heard an important item of prospective news Why should they destroy the only embodi-thet has an intimate connection both with the Li- ment on earth of their own ideal? They may reberal party in Great Britain and the Home Rule gret, as the *Telegraph* says that some of the official party in Ireland. The Northern Beform Club of clergy should "try to make a Protestant Church a party in Ireland. The Northern Reform Club of England is at the present time reorganised. In a bad copy of the Church of Rome"; but such a copy short time a new programme is to be issued—indeed being only a new manifestation of the spirit of lawshort time a new programme is to be issued-indeed would now have been issued but for the illness of lessness, is naturally less odious to them than the Mr. Joseph Cowen, M.P. This new programme, I poriginal. And as the Ritualists are quite as latituhave on good authority, will include Home Rule for Ireland as one of its political creeds. I have good cheerfully communicate in meria and have a much reasons for saying that this information is correct. The temper of political thought is rapidly changing in favor of Home Rule here. The coming event in the expected programme of the Reform League has: already been cast before our eyes in the attitude, of the " Electoral and Reform Association," which in the fifth paragraph of its programme declares that one of the objects of its institution is that of secur-

programme of the Reform League will be equally pronounced, and it may be taken for granted that the Reform League is merely the advanced guard of the new Liberal party. I cannot refrain from say-ing that this news is full of significance as showing the change of thought in the current of English public opinion upon the Home Rule question in so short a time. I have heard, too, of a new M.P. for one English constituency, but whose name I hesitate to give, who will shortly declare himself the friend of Home Rule. The cause progresses "all along the line."-Correspondent of Freeman.

The National journals are quite pleased with the Judicature Bill, because it will diminish the temptations for place hunting barristers, and make the Bar, as they expect, more patriotic. There is much truth in the following remarks of the Irishman :-"The study of law as a means of advancement came to be considered a mere accessary, and we have had in our own times only too many examples of the exaltation of men to the highest dignities in the legal profession, whose sole qualifications for the position were the previous advocacy of views diametrically opposed to those holding the reins of office. The excessive number of lucrative appointments open to barristers who have dabbled in politics has proved the bane of the Irish Bar, and has been one of the most active causes in lowering its standard, Any diminution in the number of such bribes must be hailed with satisfaction by all who are jealous of the honour of the legal profession and desirous of seeing it restored to its pristine, honoured, and trusted eminence, and its members obliged to rely, as of yore, on their mental capacity and legal attainments for listinction in the honourable career on which they have entered."-Corr of Times

A claim for £100 was made at the Kilfinane Procontment Sessions on Wednesday by a man named Hackett, as compensation for the burning of a dwelling house, which he alleged was willfully and maliciously set on fire on account of his having given evidence against the parties prosecuted for riotous assembly at Glenroe. The presentment was opposed on behalf of the ratepayers. The sessions granted £60.

ALLEGED UNLAWFOL ASSEMBLY .- On Saturday the party cases which have been at hearing at the Magherafelt petty sessions for the last three weeks terminsted. Forty-two Catholics were charged with having formed part of an illegal assembly at Bellaghy on the 17th March. On that occasion several houses were wrecked. Thirty of the defendants have been sent to the Derry assizes for trial, the cases against the others being dismissed. Summonses have been also issued against a number of Protestants for riotous conduct on same day at Bellaghy and Castledawson.

THE ORANGEMEN AND HOME RULE. - The Orangemon of Belfast and Lisburn are already making arrangements for a monster demonstration at a suitable place between the two towns to commemorate on Monday, 13th July, the double anniversary of victories of Aughrim and Boyne. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill-Trevor, Grand Master of Antrim, is expected to preside, and it is hoped that the smaller listricts will abandon their local celebrations and join the larger one. Anti-home rule resolutions will be proposed.

On Saturday morning a man named John Maddock was killed by a goods train on the Waterford and Limerick Railway. Deceased was discovered lying across the line. Every effort was made to stop the train in time to save the unfortunate man but to no effect. The jury found a verdict of accidental death.

DEATH BY BURNING. - A woman named Mary M'Swiney, residing in Limerick, met her death on Sunday under peculiarly painful circumstances.-She had been at a wake over night, and on returning home in the morning, having occasion to pre-pare breakfast for two sons, she accidently fell into the fire, owing probably to the drowsy condition she was then in. Her clothing immediately caught fire, and before assistance arrived the unfortunate woman was burned in a dreadful manner. She was conveyed at once to Barrington's Hospital, but expired about ten minutes after admittance.

A serious riot occurred in Limerick on June 1st. A mob of 1,000 persons attucked a party of militia. The police defended the latter, and were stoned by the rioters. Reinforcements arrived from the sta

fold, still claim the glorious name of Catholic. This passage, which has been quoted in a recent number of the Catholic World in a valuable article on that great Frenchman, we produce here : The attempt to steal away from us, and appropriate to the use of a fraction of the Church of England, the glorious title of Catholic, is proved to be an usurpation by every monument of the past and present, by the coronation oath of your sovereigns, by all the laws that have established your church. The name it-self is spurned with indignation by the greater half, at least, of those who belong to the Church of Eng-land, just as the Church of England itself is rejected with scorn and detestation by the greater half of the inhabitants of the United Kingdom. The judgment of the whole indifferent world, the common sense of humanity, agrees with the judgment of the Church of Rome, and with the sense of her 150,000,-000 of children, to dispossess you of this name. The Church of England, who has denied her mother, is rightly without a sister. She has chosen to break the bonds of unity and obedience. Let her therefore stand alone before the judgment seat of God and man. Even the debased Russian Church-that church where lay despotism has closed the church's mouth and turned her into a slave-disdains to recognize the Anglicans as Catholics. Even the Eastorn heretics, although so sweetly courted by Puscyite missionaries, sneer at this new and fictitious Catholicism, whose very name betrays the usurpation and their contradiction, whose doctrinal articles, whose liturgy, whose whole history, are such as to disconnect them from all mankind except those who are born English and speak English-that they should pretend on the strength of their private judgment alone to be what the rest of mankind deny them to be, will assuredly be ranked among the first follies of the 19th century.

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You may turn aside for three hundred years to come, as you have done for three hundred years past, from the fountain of living waters; but to dig out a small channel of your own, for your own private insular use, wherein the living truth will run apart from its own dooile and ever obedient children-that will no more be granted to you than it has been to the Arians, the Nestorians, the Donatists, or any other triumphant heresy. I protest, therefore, against the usurpation of a sacred name by the Camden Society as iniquitous; and I next protest against the object of this society, and all such efforts in the Anglican Church, as absurd,"

A MATHIMONIAL HOAX IN MANCHESTER .- A YOUNG gentleman (a clergyman's son, it is said), belonging to Liverpool, has lately been advortising for a wife in the local papers. It appears that some persons spied the advertisement, and, desirous of having a lark," they answered it. On Monday evening the young gentleman in question arrived from Liverpool, and made his way to the neighborhood of St. Peter's Church (the appointed place) to meet, as he supposed, his fair correspondent. To his great surprise, however, he was accosted by a dozen young fellows, who escorted him to a neighboring hotel. Here he had to pay for some refreshments, and not having money enough on him an auctioncer was elected, and the young gentleman's overcoat sold for the sum of 4s. 6d., which he promised to return in a fortnight. He was then allowed to go; and as he wended his way back across Peter street and through Albert square he was followed by a crowd who reminded him of his unpleasant adventure by shouting after him all the way along .- Manchester Evening News.

AWFUL VISITATION .- An event occurred on Wednesday which created a great sensation in the neighborhood of Whitechapel. It appears that on Tues-day night a woman was taken to Leman-street police-station, where she was charged with drunkenness, and, on the following morning, was taken before the magistrate at the Thames Police Court, but was discharged with a caution as to her future good conduct. About two o'clock in the afternoon she was seen in Well-street, Whitechapel, and af-terwards went with some of her companions to a public house in that street. She there had drink, and sometime afterwards she was heard to any, "I was locked up for being drunk last night, but God strike me stone blind if I was drunk." Immediately she had uttered these words it was found that her dreadful appeal had been realised, for she had become totally blind.

tions, and the riot was finally suppressed, after a considerable number had been injured.

Tim IRISH PEERAGE.-According to a return just issued, there are at the present time 185 peers of Ireland-viz, 2 dukes, 11 marquises, 66 carls, 38 viscounts, and 68 barons, and that at the passing of the Act of Union there were 211 peers of Irelandviz., 1 duke, 5 marquises, 77 earls, 58 viscounts, and 70 barons. Since the Union 75 Irish peerages have become extinct and 61 peers of Ireland have been created peers of the United Kingdom. Of the existing 185 peers, 80 are also peers of England, Great Britain, or the United Kingdom, and 28 are representative lords, thus leaving 77 as the number of Irish peers without seats.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The real strength of the Church of England lies in the total indifference of the English people to dogmatic truth. That which dishonours it in the judgment of all other Christians, Catholic or Protestant, is its chief merit in the eyes of its own members. They want to profess their various religions, from Calvinism to semi-Popery, without impediment, and the Church of Eugland is the only community in the world in which they can do it. Even professed unbelievers desire to maintain that institution for the same reason. A Church which teaches nothing is, in their judgment, the next best thing to no Church at all. The Pall Mall Gazette often writes against Christianity, but never against the Church of England. Why should it? If there must be some form of religious belief, a Church which is equally friendly to all forms and upholds none in particular, is just the compromise which finds acceptance with unbelievers. The more different religions it tolerates the more palpably human it is in their eyes. What they fear is a Church which claims to be Divine, and teaches only one religion. "We have a regard," says the Saturday Review, " selfish it' may be, but very sincere, for the Church of England as an eminently useful public institution." We can easily believe it. If, continues the Solurday, " the Liberation Society chuckles over the sudden revelation of a divided Church," the only way to checkmate it is to make all varieties of doctrine 'equally lawful, though they are mutually contradictory, "by giving equal fair play to the tastes and the practices of the High and the Low Church parties." As long as a majority of Englishmen think, with the Saturday Review, that the chief function of a national Church is, not to teach truth, but to deny that there is any truth, the Establishment is safe. dinarian as the Broad Churchmen, with whom they deeper hatred of the Catholic Church, they justly think that such a signal merits not only counterbalance their objectionable theories, but ought to per the rigour of Episcopal legislation; and disarm the zealots of the Liberation Society .- Tablet.

MONTALEMBERT ON SHAM CATHOLICS. --- Montalembert once effectually disposed of the audacious coolness of some of the sectaries who, denying the au-

UNITED STATES.

A METHODIST VIEW .--- While on the subject of compulsory education, it may not be uninstructive to see the bold and Christian stand taken by the Bishops of the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church on this important question. In their quadrennial address to the late General Conference, they state :--- "Wo do not hesitate to avow that we regard the education of the young as one of the leading functions of the church, and that she cannot abdicate in favor of the state without infidelity to her trust and irreparable damage to society. The reasons for occupying this "ground, which inhere in the very nature of this interest, and in the relation of children to the church, all are intensified by the antagonisms of modern science, and the outcasting of the religious element from all the school systems fostered by state legislation."-N. Y. Tablet.

SECRET Societies .- The following memorandum on secret societies will indicate briefly the direction of the thought of the Church in condemning such societics. We hope to have space shortly to add to this explanation and the extract from the pastoral of Bishop Elder, of Natchez, which we gave some tume ago, the two very instructive letters which Dr. Murray, of Maynooth, published some years ago on the same subject :- The secret societies condemned by the Church are those only which adopt and enter into a close, hidden secret organization in order that by means of such secrecy they may the more securely plot against God or the people, that is against the well-being of legitimate ecclesiastical or civil authority. Thus the decree of the Sacred Congregation (15th August, 1846) referred to by the Prefect of "the Sacred Congregation of the Faith," (13th July, 1865) defines that "the secret societies condemned by the church embrace all those which have for objects anything hostile to the Church or State, whether they exact or not an oath of secrecy from the members."-See Decreta Concil. Balt, 1866-paragraphs 511, 518. The societies thus far authoritatively designated as condemned are ;---First, "The Free Masons" by Clement XII ; 1830 ; Benedict XIV., 1751; Pius VII., 1811; Leo, XII. 1816; Pius IX., 1865, and on several occasions .----Second, The Carbonari of Italy and France by Pius VII. and Leo XII., as above: "The Fenians" in Ireland-as appears on good authority-1870. Fenians condemned at least in the British Dominions. Besides the aforesaid, the Sacred Congregation (21st of August, 1850) declares that the "Odd Fellows" and "The Sons of Temperance" are included in the Pontifical Bulls."-(See Concil. Balt. as above paragraph 514). With respect then to the societies thus. named there can be no controversy among Catholics in the countries at least where they are condemned by name.-Catholic Review.

In the Warren Avenue Church, Boston, a lady in the congregation deliberately walked into the pulpit and placing her hands on the minister's head, offered a brief prayer of consecration, in which; many of the congregation seemed to join, by reverently bowing their heads. The good woman then returned to her place, and the service proceeded as usual. Performance Catholic Union.

A pious, but uneducated judge closed a sentence with the following touching report: "Prisoner at the bar, nature has endowed you a good education and respectable family connections ; instead of which