

themselves in the eyes of the authorities of any knowledge respecting the intention to commit the fearful crime. If they hold base, will not appear amenable to their eyes...

The London Standard, an influential organ of the northern Presbyterian body, has, on the contrary, the following severe comments upon the report of Lord Derby's intention:

"This manifesto of Lord Derby is just an embodiment of one of the worst and most iniquitous of the famous Downshire resolutions, which, during the late Tory ascendancy in the direction of state affairs, were to have been carried at the great landlord meeting appointed to be held in the Dublin Rotunda. Public opinion, and the indignant reaction got up by the liberal landed proprietary throughout Ireland, defeated this insolent conspiracy; but its authors publicly boasted that all their leading positions had received the sanction of the Derbyite authorities at the Castle in Dublin. We hesitated to receive this assertion, deeming it incredible that men of intelligence, of humanity, and especially of Christian education—however extreme their political torism—could put forth propositions so utterly monstrous as those contained in Lord Downshire's programme. If the Earl of Derby shall not in some form or other officially contradict the enormity attributed to him by the Clonmel Chronicle, the public will be forced to believe that, after all, the Downshire conspirators were playing a mere game of 'brag' when they boasted about the sympathetic help of the Derbyite government in the establishment of a landlord 'reign of terror' in Ireland, placing the whole country under curfew and military law at the fiat of a central club of squires, rent collectors, and crowbar-drivers. If Lord Derby really intends to act upon the notice which his Clonmel organ says has been served upon the people of Down, it cannot be difficult to conjecture the sort of Tenant Right which he and his colleagues, had they remained in power, would have bestowed upon the cultivators of the soil. It is a precious kind of tenant protection which daringly proclaims the right to sweep 500 individuals off the face of their native land, merely because one, two, or positively three, villains, who can keep their own secrets, may be resident within certain boundaries. British law lays it down as a maxim, that ten guilty persons should rather escape unpunished, than that one innocent man should wrongfully suffer. The direct contrary is Lord Derby's interpretation of British justice in Ireland."

The Derry paper then proceeds to give the annexed information with regard to the management of the estates in question:

"It is, we believe, a fact that ever since the famous years not a single lease which has expired upon the noble earl's Tipperary estate has been renewed to an Irish tenant, the landed holdings having been invariably given to tenants from England, with one exception, to be presently noticed. This exception occurred in the case of the late Dr. Heffernan, of Coshel, who in that borough, in 1852, supported the liberal candidate, while he wrought for the Tories in the country, and took with him a considerable section of the Liberals. Dr. Heffernan, it is understood, obtained from Lord Derby a renewed lease, while every other Irish tenant, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, liberal or Tory, has been steadily refused that privilege during the period mentioned."

THE IRISH REVIVAL.

SCENES AT THE CAMP MEETINGS AT ARMAH.

On arriving at Armah, fully half the number, instead of turning into the prayer field, close to the railway station, left it behind them, walked into the town, and dispersed into the houses and side streets. I saw them go eastward; I did not see them return. Why should they have come at all, then, it may be asked? "Sixty miles for eighteen pence," is the answer. The prayer-meeting train was a cheap opportunity of doing a little worldly business. And I felt slightly "sold," after hearing so much of Belfast piety, to find it so much alloyed by Belfast thrift.

The meeting "for all Ireland" was held in a gently sloping grass-field, a few minutes' walking from the railway; there was a wide prospect from it, over a well wooded country. The weather was very fine for the occasion, with a fresh breeze and a bright sun. At the foot of the slope, and facing up the descent, a small platform was pitched, with a sheet of canvass spread on a pole behind it. In front of this primitive erection the people gathered in a circular mass. The services consisted of addresses or sermons, alternating with hymns. Nine or ten reverend gentlemen relieved each other in the work of the afternoon on this, the chief point of the meeting. The addresses that excited most attention were those of the Hon. and Rev. B. Noel, and the Rev. Mr. Moore of Ballymena, the place where the movement is said to have commenced. The platform was intended to be the centre of the day's proceedings; the best preachers spoke from it, men of education and training in their office. But such an agitation cannot be controlled by the regular ministers of the different churches. They approve it, and go with it; but there are extremes to which moderate and well educated men, however pious, cannot go. Yet they must accept the co-operation of a host of ignorant fanatics, and of no inconsiderable number of those zealots whose zeal is half imposture, or always ready to slide wholly into it. Some of the clergy are beginning at last to see this, and are endeavouring, though far too timidly as a body, to check the horrible abuses that have lately sprung up amid this "revival."

The Armah meeting might have opened their eyes as to the sort of men who will be the real leaders of this movement among the lowest class. It is "regretted" that on this great occasion the people could not be kept at the centre of intelligence and piety combined. They broke into separate audiences round more violent and more exciting preachers. There were at one time five smaller circles in the field, besides the main body. And I can assert that the most successful preachers, tested by the amount of "mental agony" they produced in the listeners, were not the ten ordained ministers. This display of internal suffering is regarded as the proof of the "operation of the spirit," which is not supposed to triumph entirely till the patient is "struck down;" just short of this are those "deeply affected."

It was the circles round the wildest and most incoherent preachers that the most numerous cases of the "deeply affected" were to be seen. Where "divine religion" was actually being made a "rhapsody of words," there the most effect was produced. In one group I counted 20 poor wretches on their knees at the feet of an ill-looking, vulgar, and evidently ignorant man, who was consigning all the universe to perdition with extreme energy. At every sentence the prostrate creatures groaned and grolled in the earth, and shouted "amen" and "Jesus," in constant repetition; another batch of sinners (this time taken from "those looking on"), were sent to hell in the most distinct manner, then came more groans and ejaculations of "Amen," as if it had been a prayer for a blessing on them. Two images were continually repeated throughout this fanatic's address—he appeared to have no others—the fire of hell in every form, and the blood of Christ. On these he raved furiously till he was satisfied or exhausted, for he did stop at last. I could not see that he had produced more effect at the close of his address than at the beginning. The number of the "affected" had not increased, and those round him looked on with the same expression of mere curiosity as if they were watching a chemical experiment. I could not anywhere observe any intermediate state between those who remain quite unmoved and those whom such preaching

drives to the very verge of madness—often beyond it. Religious terror, thus fostered, seems to select a few victims, but leaves the great mass untouched. Of all that is said about an improved life, and "awakening," in this great number, I do not believe one word. They look on, and go out to see, just this display of misery, as they would go to see any other sight, and accessories before the fact to what is almost worse than murder—the extinction of reason in their fellow man. In the probability of cases of "prostration" consists the interest of a "revival" meeting. I note in all the reports of them an expression or tone of disappointment if no one has been "struck down."

In the minor circles of auditors—that were as satellites in the main body of the meeting—there were preachers quite as ignorant, but of a different kind of fanaticism to that of the Terrorist. One was a case of "full assurance;" he was perfectly contented, and wished to make others so. He was a short man, with a well-fed look, and an oily, bald head; he dealt with promise rather than judgment, and maintained that the elect were the happiest people on the face of the earth. But he had very few auditors; there was no chance of his frightening any one into a fit. Generally the active agents in the various groups were singularly hard-featured, many even evil-looking men. One leader was an exact reproduction of the Puritan in many of the caricatures of the time of the Commonwealth; he was the "low" ideal of that day exactly repeated. In every circle singing was a favourite and frequent exercise, and, as in the railway train, bad to a degree that cannot be described.—Cor. London Times.

THE SAN JUAN QUESTION.

This question appears to be clearly, accurately, and impartially put, in the following extracts from an article in the London Spectator of the 24th ult:—

We will not say that it would be a disgraceful testimony to the want of intelligence in both the communities of England and the United States if any serious difficulty should arise on the San Juan question; for we do not believe that any such serious difficulty will arise. We have the firmest conviction that all such hazards are out of date, and have been so for some years past. The question itself is one that naturally springs out of the antecedent circumstances, and we have not the slightest disposition, on the present showing, to anticipate the judgment by taking part with either side. The reason for our reserve is, simply, that we have not all the facts before us; and what is more, we doubt whether any party has yet been placed in a better position.

If any one will refer to the map of North America, he will see that the lower end of the Island of Vancouver lies parallel to the coast of North America on the westward side. The coast of the main land is to a certain extent slightly hollowed out in the form of an extremely wide and shallow bay, but then it bends back again towards the west, pressing the lower tip of the Vancouver tongue, until the corner of the main land and the outermost corner of the island are nearly parallel, forming the two posts to the gates of the straits of San Juan de Fuca. Where the channel is broader, and, as we have said, bent out, there lies near the middle of the strait a group of islands called the Arroo Islands. It will be remembered that before 1846 the sovereignty of the Oregon territory was in dispute between Great Britain and the United States. Through the treaty of June 15th, 1846, the dispute was settled by a division of the territory, and a boundary was fixed in these terms:

"From the point of the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between Great Britain and the United States terminates, the line of boundary between the territories of her Britannic Majesty and those of the United States shall be continued westward along the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the Continent from Vancouver's Island, thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and of Fuca's Straits to the Pacific Ocean."

The Ministers who placed their signatures to this treaty were, on the part of the American Republic, the Honorable James Buchanan, Secretary of State, and on the part of Great Britain, the Right Honorable Richard Pakenham.

The occupation of these islands ought not at this date to be a matter of expediency, but of justice and law. We have the great international statute, the Oregon Treaty, before us, and we appeal to that; but the question between the two countries turns upon the very construction of the document. We have two of the words above. The boundary between the territorial and the Republic territory is to be coincident with the 49th parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the Continent from Vancouver's Island, and then southerly through the middle of the said channel." Now according to the English interpretation, the boundary line would run along the 49th parallel of north latitude to the middle of the strait, which separates the Continent from Vancouver's Island.

But according to the American interpretation, the word "channel" is distinctive, and means the navigable passage. The difficulty is increased by the fact that there are two navigable passages, the one on the west side of the Arroo Islands, the other east and south of the group. This fact might seem to corroborate the English version, since, if there are two channels, it is remarkable that the framers of the treaty did not say which of the two was meant. On the other hand, the clause uses the word "strait" in one case, and "channel" in the other—a difference which certainly implies some distinction in the two phrases; and if "channel" is to be understood in the American sense, it is still a practical as well as a historical question, which of the two channels is meant? Under this latter supposition, however, the difficulty could not be great, because the eastern channel is so close to the American shore that it manifestly could not be intended. It is, moreover, so shallow that it is not available, like the western channel, which is in point of fact deeper, and is the highway for navigation. If we accept the American interpretation of the clause, then the boundary should run along the middle of the western navigable passage, and the Island would belong to the Republic.

PEKIN TO BE STORMED AND THE WHOLE CHINA EMPIRE ASSAILED.

The events of last June have, however, dispelled all our premature dreams, and shown us that we have a very arduous, long and costly work to do before the diplomatic relations which were agreed to can be acted upon, and before the advantages which were expected to ensue can be realized. That work is neither more nor less than a war of invasion. We have to insist that the treaty shall be carried out in all its integrity, and material guarantees surrendered for its perpetual observance. To do this we must assemble a large army and a powerful fleet at the mouth of the Peiho and on other parts of the Chinese coast. We must assail the whole empire this time. We must push our forces into the interior and storm the capital. And we must do all this, terrible as it is, without flinching or halting on any morbid pretence of mercy to simple-hearted and unoffending natives. The lesson we are to teach must be a lesson to all—to the Emperor, to his subjects, to the people of the coast, to those of the interior, to soldiers and to sailors, to old and to young. That lesson must be sharp, but it need not be cruel, and its significance should be, not that England is powerful only, but that she is just and reasonable. That she will insist on treaties being fulfilled, the Chinese have much to gain and nothing to lose by their intercourse with her. This is not a consoling prospect for our Chancellor of the Exchequer. The war, from its distance and extent, must be costly; but the chief burden must fall upon those who provoked it, and when the time for new conditions of peace shall have come, the wealth of China must pay the Piper. Even then the cost to England will be great, but not more, we may well trust, than will be compensated by the advantage of opening China once for all to the commerce of the world.—London Post.

BROCK'S MONUMENT.—The height of the monument recently erected in Upper Canada to the memory of Major General Sir Isaac Brock, is 190 feet, exceeding that of any monumental column, ancient or modern, known, with the exception of that of Fish-street in London, England, erected by Sir Christopher Wren, architect, in commemoration of the great fire of 1666, 202 feet high, which exceeds it in height by 12 feet.

A little more than eight years ago, when public opinion was recognized, for the first time in this Colony, as the source of executive power, the public were taught to believe that it was not merely the duty of their rulers to conduct the affairs of state in such a manner as would show how sensible they were of the source from which they had sprung; but that information would be frequently diffused through the accredited organs of the ruling party, with respect to the measures in progress or in contemplation, in order to give efficacy to the hopes and expectations which heralded their installation into office. That every reasonable effort was made to satisfy this belief, could be easily shown by reference to the columns of those papers which reflected the sentiments of the late Government—the recorded proceedings of numerous public meetings, called, attended, and addressed by prominent members of the Administration, and especially by a rapid glance over the table of contents in the statute book, where it will be seen that before the Liberals were a month in office they had reared some valuable monuments to the cause of constitutional freedom. Their successors have been more than six months in office, and they have done absolutely nothing to justify the hopes their professions of reform were calculated to excite. Their policy, their whole administrative ability, has consisted in the removal of every petty office holder within their reach who was suspected to entertain a friendly feeling for their predecessors. They of course retained their present position in April, and such was the furious outcry against their predecessors for the misconduct alleged to have been practised in every department of the state—the forlorn condition of the country was so pathetically lamented by the successful candidates for power, that every one expected, if not the adoption, at least the introduction into the Assembly of some great and startling measure of reform. Not a thing was done, excepting a repetition of the long, old and very stale talk, which of course ended as usual in nothing, about making the Legislative Council an elective body. The Session, which occupied about two months, was a mere blank so far as any important legislation was concerned. The Bills passed were nearly all of a private nature—more acts of Incorporation for Church and other Societies; and since the close of the Session nothing seems to have engaged the attention of the Executive—for silence as to measures in contemplation, if there be any, broods over the columns of their organ—but a vain effort to appease the cravings of their followers after little offices held by other individuals.

When the Liberals took office in 1851 they had great difficulties to contend with. The sudden acquisition of popular power led to the anticipation of the most extravagant results. More than half a century of misrule had deadened the energies of the public mind, and placed the country in an abject condition. The patronage of the Government was chiefly distributed amongst a favoured few, closely related one to the other, and the revenue appeared to be collected for their especial benefit, with respect to the disbursement of which they considered no one had a right to call them to account. Reform of all kinds was held to be synonymous with rebellion, and the Briton's right of dissenting freely and openly on public affairs was not simply ignored, but the man who dared to exercise it fifteen years ago, within hearing of the dominant faction, was regarded as only fit for a place in a Lunatic Asylum, or marked out for condign punishment as incorrigibly vicious. The struggle for Responsible Government, however, commenced by a few fearless spirits, gave birth to a strong public opinion, which became irresistible at the general election in 1850, and led to the overthrow of the old Family Compact Government in the following Spring. When this object was accomplished, the public mind—thus suddenly invigorated and proud of the result of its exertions—grew impatient of delay in regenerating the old and establishing new institutions. It was not enough to sweep away at once the abuses of long arbitrary power, but it was deemed to be the duty of the incoming party so speedily to eradicate the effects of the old despotism as to make men forget that it ever had an existence. The land was converted into one vast school of Liberal politics, wherein the enthusiastic students saw the future of their beloved country bathed in *couleur de rose*. Fascinated themselves by the prospect, the party just raised to office were carried along by the current of popular feeling. They worked the affairs of state as if they thought they could never do enough to meet the expectations of their constituents, and they addressed themselves to their tasks with an energy and determination which betokened a latent fear that their labours would never come to an end.

We have often thought that the Liberal Government performed their work too rapidly, and did too much in the first two or three years after their advent to power, to secure for themselves a long tenure of office. By hurrying on their measures of reform in the morning of their official life, their noon and evening were given to comparative repose. The public mind, excited by their first exertions, grew by what it fed on—new hopes and aspirations were aroused—new ideas promulgated; and the country could not understand why the party in power did not display the same activity in the last years of their administration as they did in the first. Want of exciting work was mistaken for the want of energy; and this misconception, with other circumstances, weakened the hold which the late Liberal Government had upon public attention, and prepared the way for the advent of a party who promised new and startling changes in the Administration.

The questions now arise, what are the changes which the successors of the Liberal party proposed, and how have they redeemed their promises?

The first object was the total subversion of all that was valuable in the new system of Government. They contended that the House of Assembly would never be a useful and independent body so long as any of its members were allowed to hold salaried offices under the Government. The receipt of public money, it was alleged, was incompatible with an honest discharge of their duties as representatives, and made them too easy a prey to the designs of the Crown. The parties who used this shallow argument never, of course, condescended to show what designs the Crown could have in making servile tools of members of the Legislature. The Land Proprietors, abroad as well as at home, are the only parties who could have an interest in corrupting the House of Assembly; and it requires no penetration to discover that never was there a majority in the lower House more abjectly prostrated at the feet of the proprietors than the majority of the present House, notwithstanding all their professions of independence, and the pretended sacrifice made by some of them in not having public offices of emolument directly attached to their own names.

But every intelligent man in the Colony knows right well that this pretended purification of the House of Assembly, by the exclusion of salaried officials, is practically a gross delusion. It is scarcely necessary to cite facts in proof of our assertion, but a reference to one or two well known things will not be trespassing too much on the patience of our readers.

Take, for instance, the office of Attorney General. It has been given to Mr. F. Brecken. Why? We are not aware that he is the best lawyer at our Bar. We know he is a very young one—passably clever—not a prodigy of legal lore,

nor the depository of vast experience; and as to political claims, we know not where and when he has borne the heat and burden of the day in political conflicts to such an extent as would entitle him to be singled out as a hero in the Conservative cause, worthy of its honours and its rewards. But the true secret of Mr. Brecken's elevation is to be found in the fact, that he has a name and character quite respectable enough to appear as the holder of the office, and private means sufficient to enable him to live handsomely without coveting its emoluments. Another fact which helps to explain the bestowal of the office on Mr. Brecken, is the circumstance of his cousin and partner in business, Mr. Haviland, being a member of the House of Assembly, and of the Government. Now, we know that the office of Attorney General gives some prestige, and adds materially to the private practice of the lawyer who enjoys it. Mr. Heath Haviland shares in that private practice; and though he may not pocket a pound of the Attorney General's salary, it is no doubt the means of bringing him many a pound in a private and indirect manner. Who can doubt, therefore, that he should be anxious to get the office for his cousin and partner; and who can doubt, moreover, that he would use his parliamentary position to enable that gentleman to retain it,—employing for this object as much zeal, and as little regard for that high perfection which he professed so much anxiety to infuse into the representative body, as if he himself were the holder of the office? But there is another circumstance which plainly shows that Mr. Brecken's name has been merely used, in this transaction, as an instrument to subvert the designs of others. The Hon. Mr. Palmer goes the circuit, and attends principally to the Crown business in all the Courts. It is true he may charge for services thus rendered in his capacity as Queen's Counsel; but when he performs duties which it would not be necessary for a Queen's Counsel to perform, if the nominal Attorney General did all his own work, we have every reason to express our belief in the general supposition that he pockets the lion's share of the Attorney General's salary; and who can, therefore, doubt that he—any more than Mr. Haviland—would throw aside all fine theories with regard to the purification of the House of Assembly, and do his best to keep the office where it is, while it can be made to bring him a handsome addition to his own income.

In making these observations, we are actuated by no hostile feelings towards Mr. Palmer, or any individual member of his Government. With regard to the Attorney Generalship, we know no man in the Colony who is more capable of discharging its duties; and so long as his party is in power, there is no one who has anything like his claim to the office. We should be glad to see him in the office of Attorney General, under present circumstances; nay, more, we do not envy him the emoluments he enjoys even in the indirect manner in which they come to him; but we ask, would it not be more honourable to himself, and more creditable to the Government of which he is the leader, if he would take the Attorney Generalship at once in his own name—enjoy all its duties, and emancipate himself from the trammels of a clique like the Political Alliance, which may, indeed, be said to have departed this life shortly after the demise of the Liberal Reform Association, but whose ghost, like that of Caesar in the tent of Brutus, conjures up an idea of its puissance. If Mr. Palmer knew his own power, as he ought to know, he would be convinced that those who have advised him against what we believe to be his better judgment, must rather submit to him, if a trial of strength should come, than he submit to them. In all their ranks, search where you will, the Tory party has no man who is capable of taking Mr. Palmer's place. If—while able to state and enforce his own terms—he is willing to remain the servant of a disjunct or defunct faction, for the sake of some paltry official fees—we are sorry for him, political opponent of ours though he be; and we shall regard him as the most remarkable instance of self-sacrifice at the shrine of a faction, whose influence without his aid would soon fade like the baseless fabric of a vision, and leave not a trace behind.

We will resume the consideration of this subject in our next No.

VIOLENT ATTACK ON THE SHERIFF OF KING'S COUNTY.

We learn from the Protestant of Saturday last, that while the High Sheriff of King's County, John Smith, Esq., was travelling one day last week on the road from Georgetown to Murray Harbour, in the execution of his duty, several shots were fired at him from a wood, one of which killed his horse, but he himself escaped unhurt. We are informed that Mr. Smith was about making, or had made some seizure to satisfy a demand for arrears of rent on the property of Laurence Sullivan, Esq., for which the Hon. J. Yeo is Agent. No one can excuse or palliate such violence to a public officer like Mr. Smith, who, we believe, is courteous and urbane in the discharge of his disagreeable and onerous duties; and we hope means will be taken to discover the guilty parties, and make them atone for the outrage. But we deem the Government should be held responsible for the wide spread dissatisfaction which prevails throughout the Island with regard to the payment of old arrears of rent, and which has unhappily taken this criminal mode of making itself known by a dastardly attack upon a civil officer; because, at the commencement of their career, they assured the people that it was wrong for the landlords or their agents to exact old arrears of rent—that the people were entitled to have them remitted to them; and that the whole question of landlord and tenant would be speedily settled by the appointment of a Commission. Views and promises of this nature were pompously paraded in the celebrated resolutions moved by the Hon. Col. Gray in the House of Assembly last Spring, which were carried by a large majority, when the gallant Colonel assured the public that the long vexed land question would be finally settled in eight weeks. Mr. Yeo voted for those resolutions—his vote on that occasion amounted to a positive declaration that it was wrong to exact the old arrears of rent; and if his efforts to enforce them now meet with a rather rude resistance, he has no one so much to blame as himself. We have no doubt that the specious promises of the Government, and their bad faith with regard to the settlement of the Land Question—for we do not believe they ever intended to do anything in the matter—will lead to a general refusal to pay rent, and especially long standing arrears; but whatever course may be adopted by the victims of the Government's bad faith, we hope they will not follow the example of the parties on the Murray Harbor Road, who have visited their displeasure on the unoffending officer of the law, and have thereby incurred ruinous penalties.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT MORELL.

We learn that on Thursday night, the 3rd instant, the valuable Household property, known as the Morell House, at Morell, owned and lately occupied by the family of J. B. Cox, Esq., was totally consumed by fire. Of the numerous out-houses on the premises, some of which were at a considerable distance from the Dwelling, only one escaped. It is said that a large quantity of grain was likewise consumed. We understand that the property was pretty well insured.