

produce a just estimate of the comparative rights and duties of mankind in every station and degree. Here, however, the course of things appears to have been inverted, so far as the character of our own Bar is concerned. Indeed, when we see in almost every other country shining lights amongst the lawyers, instructing mankind in the cause of constitutional freedom—it seems difficult to account for our lawyers being—(with only one honourable exception)—all arrayed in the Legislature, as well as out of it, against our acceptance of a just and constitutional system of Government. We could illustrate this point by reference to particular facts and instances; but no reader can be dull enough not to discover its force and truthfulness.

Idleness, it is said, is the root of all evil; but selfishness is a far more baneful ingredient in the human character, as it operates upon the general welfare, and may have a stronger claim to the appellation of evil. Perhaps we expect too much when we think that professional men can set aside their own personal advantages for the public good: These are not the days—or this is not the place for disinterested patriotism: Agencies of Land must be procured—Suits must be obtained, or neither Salaries or Fees will flow in. Over the distribution of these things the ever dominant Faction—as the lawyers well know—have still a most exclusive influence. Future Provost Marshalls—Solicitors and Attorneys General—and Assistant Judges, to say nothing of many non-professional public officers, will be wanted from time to time, as the Colony grows older, and the present incumbents die off. Keep then, O spotless Lawyers! within prudent limits—raise not your eloquent voices too soon on the popular side of any question—what signifies it to you that pretty nearly the whole Island is against you—they are not those who have much to do by choice with legal suits—they have no Agencies to bestow or influence—they have no more intercourse with the “powers that be” than common civility occasions. But there are other reasons why the Lawyers, with the exception of the Hon. CHARLES YOUNG, are all against any change in the Government of the country—against any reform in its institutions: one of these reasons is, their connection pretty generally in blood and interest with the holders of office; and where that is not the case, still there is usually some reciprocity stronger than family alliance. But, again, we fear there is wanting at our Bar that enlargement of mind—that extent of reading and education which refines and exalts the human character—produces a reverence for constitutional freedom, and dissipates all personal considerations—lifting the man from the condition of a selfish and calculating machine, and giving him the elevation of soul which belongs to disinterestedness and patriotism.

We agree with our correspondent in the reasons why our Bar are arrayed with other selfish characters against Responsible Government. There are, however, two cures, not for the men, indeed, but for the circumstance: one is that the constituencies of the Island are not so stupid but they will, at the proper time, duly appreciate their services; and the other is that it will sooner or later be the interest of some of them, at least, to tread in a different path. In the mean time, the public will not believe either them or their superiors when they “doubt that the country is ripe for Responsible Government;” and is it not to their eternal disgrace that it should have been argued by some of themselves, when the attempt was made by a sidewind to get rid of the whole matter of responsibility—that there must be an exception in favour of legal offices of distinction—that the Attorney and Solicitor Generals, if in a minority, should not be obliged to vacate their seats, because the state of the Bar made it obvious that they could not be replaced!

First June Mail from England.

The Mail Packet *Peri* brought from Pictou on Friday morning last an English Mail received in Halifax by the Steamship *America* in the surprisingly short space of 8½ days. We regret to learn that Mr. Mitchell has been condemned to transportation for 14 years. We shall endeavour to give in our next No. some extracts, in addition to those given below, from the Speech of his counsel, Mr. Holmes.

IRELAND.

TRIAL, CONVICTION, AND SENTENCE OF MR. MITCHELL—AWFUL EXCITEMENT IN THE COURT—

THE JUDGES TERRIFIED—MR. MITCHELL'S SPEECH AFTER SENTENCE—HIS DEPARTURE FOR SPIKE ISLAND IN CHAINS—GREAT SYMPATHY FOR MR. MITCHELL—PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFEDERATES—PROTESTANT REPEAL MOVEMENT.

The Commission Court met on 26th ult, and the jury having been called over, Mr. Mitchell was placed at the bar, and the Attorney General stated the case on the part of the Crown, commenting in brief and gentle terms upon the articles which formed the subject of the indictment.

Mr. Robert Holmes defended the prisoner, and in a most able and eloquent style addressed the jury.

Mr. Henn replied on behalf of the Crown. Judge Moore then charged the jury, occupying an hour in going through the case.

The jury after a deliberation of three hours, returned a verdict of “Guilty.”

The following is a brief account of the state of the streets after Mr. Mitchell had been removed to Newgate:

In the evening, a crowd in Chapel-street and about Green-street, composed principally of boys, became rather disorderly, and the police were obliged to clear the streets and use their batons pretty freely, in doing which, they received some rough treatment, one constable being struck in the face while others had their hats smashed and were otherwise knocked about. Small boys made themselves active in picking up and throwing stones. On one of these occasions the police were driving a crowd before them with their batons, and Mr. Devin Reilly and a brother of Mr. Mitchell, who happened to be in the crowd (after returning from visiting Mr. Mitchell) were knocked down, and the former received a blow of a baton on the wrist, and the latter rather a slight cut in the back of the head, either from a blow of a baton or by the fall he sustained. The parties were obliged to repair to a neighbouring medical establishment to get their wounds dressed.

At the sitting of the court on the following morning Saturday, May 27, the prisoner was sentenced to fourteen years transportation. After Baron Lefroy had delivered judgment, Mr. Mitchell, who heard his sentence quite unmoved, asked leave to address the court. He said—The law has now done its part, and I have done mine. I was prepared for this three months ago, when I told Lord Clarendon that I would compel him to bring me to what are called the courts of justice, and then pack a jury for my condemnation. I told the English Government, who now rule this country, that they would have to meet me in those places called courts of justice, as I would be ready to meet them here or in some other field. I have set my life upon the cast, and the victory is with me. I am sure that no man in this court, not even judge or jury, regards me as criminal. I have shown how the English Government in this country can alone be carried on—by packed juries, partizan judges, and a perjured sheriff. (Great sensation.)

Judge Lefroy said he could not suffer this course of observation to be persevered in.

Mr. Mitchell.—Well, then I will say no more on that subject. But I wish to say that all I have put forth—all that for which I now stand at this bar—all, all I have done from a strong sense of duty. I have performed my duty—the people have now to perform theirs. This is the beginning of the contest—its end is in the hands of God. Others are to be found to continue the struggle. The Roman stood unmoved whilst his hand was burning to ashes before the tyrant's face, and I can find one hand, two hands, three hands, to burn or die for their country.

Here the scene became most awfully exciting. A crowd of barristers and gentlemen crowded round the dock, to shake hands with Mr. Mitchell. A deafening cheer then resounded through the court. The police interfered to preserve order, and to prevent persons who surrounded the dock from striving to lay a hand on Mr. Mitchell as he was being taken from his place by the gaolers. A scuffle ensued—the judges fled from the bench, to which they returned in about two minutes, during which the heat of the excitement lasted.—Messrs. O'Gorman, Meagher, and Doheny were handled by the police. An officer of the line, who was near the dock, interposed between Mr. Meagher and the constables, and offered his arm to Mr. Meagher, who declined it, saying he would not take the arm of any man wearing the British uniform. Two or three other persons were arrested in the gallery—one gentleman for throwing a bouquet into the dock, as the convict was dragged to his cell. This gentleman, whose name we did not learn, was then brought to the bar by Inspector McCarthy, who charged him with having disturbed the court.

At about four o'clock on the same day he was removed in heavy irons, and placed on board her Majesty's steam ship *Sheerwater*, on his way to Spike Island, Cork, where he arrived on Saturday, the 28th ultimo.

An extraordinary edition of a Cork paper published on last Sunday evening gives the following:—

“The vessel that brought John Mitchell to Spike Island arrived in the harbour at an early hour to-day; and before it dropped its anchor, the martyr-patriot was landed on the island, and handed over to the custody of the governor.

“He was brought on shore, from the vessel, by two of the Dublin police, and two marines.

“Shortly after his arrival, Captain Atkins, of Waterpark, the inspector of the Penitentiary, gave orders that

a separate room should be provided for him, and that he should not be interfered with for this day; but that, on to-morrow, he would be obliged to wear the convict dress, and be treated in all respects as an ordinary convict.”

We learn that the officials sent in charge of Mr. Mitchell, on board the steamer from Dublin, protested against any courtesy being shown to Mr. Mitchell, as being contrary to their orders, but the high honour of the commandant of the vessel revolted against such barbarous severity. He ordered Mr. Mitchell's chains to be removed. The “authority” remonstrated, and it was only when threatened with being placed in chains himself, if he dared persevere in prescribing how the commandant should treat a prisoner on board his vessel, the humane official could be induced to give way.

The household furniture, &c., belonging to the unfortunate gentleman is advertised to be sold by auction on Monday next.

A tribute for the bereaved wife and family of Mr. Mitchell has been got up. Lord Cloncurry has subscribed £100.

Although John Mitchell is now drawing out a miserable existence as a ‘convicted felon,’ the Government cannot entertain the idea that it has subdued the repeal ardour. On the contrary it is evident that the great difficulty is yet to come. The Protestant part of the population are coming forward rapidly and enthusiastically to aid the cause. The second meeting of the Protestant Repeal Association was held in the Music Hall, Abbey-street, Dublin, on Tuesday night. The building was crowded in every part. Dr. Nutall occupied the chair. 800 new members were admitted, including 100 Orangemen, making in all 1500 members. The speeches and resolutions were strongly condemnatory of the proceedings of the Government prosecution, and a determination to resist by every means, the illegal and unjust attempt which had been made to force upon the people of Ireland such unconstitutional means of disposing of their demands. The people separated from the meeting in a quiet and peaceable manner, cheering loudly for “Mitchell,” ‘pikes,’ &c. We should have observed that one of the speakers intimated that at the next meeting 300 more Orangemen would be admitted, and that, if necessary, they would appear in costume. An Address to the protestants of Ulster was proposed and adopted.

The two indictments against Mr. Mitchell for sedition, which were to have been tried the present term, have, as a matter of course, been abandoned by the Crown.

The Crown has yet taken no step for proceeding with new trials in the cases of Messrs. Smith O'Brien and Meagher; but it is said they will be tried in the present term.

The Roman Catholic clergy of four dioceses have adopted addresses to the Queen, praying a repeal of the Union. In a fifth diocese, Ardagh, a similar address has been signed by eighty six clergymen. The Roman Catholic bishop of that diocese, Dr. O'Higgins, is at present at Rome.

Many Roman Catholics are deeply discontented at what they consider a slight cast upon them in the mode of arranging the juries in the State trials.

The Confederates, since the conviction of Mr. Mitchell, have made no public demonstration. It is stated that the Council of the Confederation held a meeting on Monday, at which the recent conduct of Mr. Smith O'Brien was sharply canvassed, and some discontent was expressed about his halting policy. Mr. Smith O'Brien, who is still suffering from the effects of the injuries he received at Limerick, entered into explanations; and it is understood that he is to resume his post as leader as soon as his health permits.

Five cart loads of arms and ammunition, escorted by a party of the 2nd Royals, were deposited in the Philipstown Barracks, on the 28th ult.

MR. MITCHELL'S SENTENCE.

In consequence of the unsettled state of the health of Mr. Mitchell, the Home Government have altered their intention of sending him to Norfolk Island, but have ordered him to be conveyed to her Majesty's dock-yard at Bermuda, and there, on board the Thames convict hulk, to undergo his fourteen years' sentence. Her Majesty's steam-sloop *Scourge*, of six guns, Commander Wingrove, left Portsmouth on Monday morning, for Cork, to take on board the unhappy Mr. Mitchell and other prisoners, and to proceed immediately to Bermuda.

ENGLAND.

CHARTIST MEETINGS—GENERAL DISTRESS.

We regret to state that some partial disturbances have taken place in the metropolis, at Bradford, Manchester, Leeds and other places. The Chartists have been the chief instigators of these tumults, which in every case have been almost instantly suppressed. On Monday evening a large assemblage of Chartists collected in Clerkenwell, in London, and after marching round Finsbury square, then proceeded through the main streets, westward; but at midnight they quietly dispersed. On Wednesday evening similar meetings again took place, but the arrangements of the police, aided by a demonstration of the military, were so complete that the mob, wherever it appeared, was speedily scattered. The special force was called out to guard the outskirts, and the same alacrity in turning out to preserve order and