

by 'Papists.' There is nothing the matter with these statements except this trifling circumstance—they are one and all untrue. (1) The figment of Ulster's superior wealth is a favorite theme on Orange platforms. It was rudely shattered by the Parliamentary returns of 1882 and the following years. Most of these will be found in the 'Financial Reform Almanac' and the 'Constitutional Year Book' for 1885. They are carefully analysed in the 'Contemporary Review' for June, 1893, and in the able series of articles written at a later date by a Scottish writer on finance, Mr. Galloway Rigg. (2) The second contention is summarily disposed of by Mr. Labouchere in a recent issue of London 'Truth' as 'a fallacy which has succeeded in working itself,' by constant repetition on Orange platforms, 'into the position of an accepted fact. In this regard,' he adds, 'a few undeniable facts relating to the strenuous and successful business men of Belfast are interesting. In the great firms of Harland and Wolff, the former was English, the latter is a German. Sir Otto Jaffe, the present Lord Mayor, is also a German, and Mr. Pirrie a Scotchman' (These, we may add on our own account, are the men who were chiefly instrumental in raising Belfast to its present position in the world of commerce). 'Dublin, and not the Northern capital, has produced the richest and most successful business man in Ireland, and of Irish birth, Lord Iveagh. The Orangemen of the North are unquestionably strenuous in shouting and beating the drum; otherwise, however, it would not seem that they have shown a superior capacity for business.'

(3) The 'odorous comparison' based by our contemporary on the supposed superlative virtue of the 'Scotch Protestant settlement' of Ulster provokes a reply which might easily be made more deadly and decisive. In a recent issue we explained that there are in reality two Ulsters. There is the Ulster which is predominately Catholic, and which, we think, is comparatively free from graver crime, and especially from offences against morality. And there is the Ulster of the Yellow Agony—the north-eastern portion of the province—which has won an evil notoriety for its low religious tone, its rabid fanaticism, its 'annual specimens of civil war' (as Chief Secretary Fortescue termed it), and its extraordinary relative prevalence of immorality. Dr. Leflingwell's work on 'Illegitimacy,' and the Registrar-General's annual returns furnish information that should give pause to those who fling the 'yellow' regions of Ulster at the Pope's head. In our last issue we pointed out the unwilling testimony recently dragged from the pro-Orange Chief Secretary Long in the House of Commons as to the high prevalence of specific forms of grave crime in the northern province. To the figures then published by us we may add the following: Sixteen out of Ireland's seventeen cases of uttering base coin were located in Belfast; 41 out of the grand total of 81 cases of robbery and assaults with intent to rob, were in Ulster—31 of them in Belfast, 17 out of a total of 41 cases of concealment of birth were in Ulster, including Belfast, out of 16 cases of indecent assault, eight were reported from Ulster; there were 175 cases of burglary and housebreaking in Ireland—the extraordinary proportion of 188 of these took place in Ulster, of which 127 were in Belfast; five out of Ireland's six cases of bigamy were in Ulster, and no less than 35 per cent of all the offences against property in Ireland were perpetrated in Ulster, while Belfast showed the phenomenal rate of 23 per cent.

These are the figures of the strongly Orange partisan, Chief Secretary Long, as we find them in the Irish and Scottish papers. Most of them are for 1901; a few of later date. They were dragged out of Mr Long by a series of sharp queries which exposed some of the methods resorted to by him to justify a regime of Coercion in the South and West and spare his bosom friends of the Ulster lodges—Cork, for instance, being included

and Belfast excluded, in the returns of provincial 'crime.' We may add, on our own account, that 'crime' in, say Munster, and 'crime' in Ulster are two very different things. In Munster, Leinster, and Connaught, for instance (as the results of actual prosecutions, some of them reported in our columns, show) it is a 'crime' to say 'boo' to a policeman, to whistle 'Harvey Duff,' to 'smile in a threatening manner' at a policeman, to 'blow one's nose towards a policeman' who is on the other side of a street (as recently at Malahide). And almost every week it is made a 'crime' for a Member of Parliament and his constituents to assemble in a legal and peaceable manner, at a public meeting. Moreover (we quote from official returns of 'crime' before us) it is—still in the South and West only, of course—one 'crime' for Pat. Byrne to smite Denis O'Leary on the nose; it is a second and separate 'crime' for the said Denis O'Leary to 'land' the beforementioned Pat. Byrne a return blow on the chin. And it is, furthermore, a 'crime' (always, of course, in the West and South) if 'a barrel of coal-tar' is found spilled, or 'a small wooden gate' is damaged, or a pane of glass broken in a house. And we have before us a case in which one single occurrence was manufactured, for Coercion purposes, into no fewer than five separate 'crimes'! Those who are interested in the value of returns of Irish 'crime' given for Coercion purposes will find both instruction and amusement in the historic debate in the House of Commons on January 27, 1881, when Mr. Labouchere's exposure of 'Buckshot' Forster's cooked statistics of Irish 'crime' made Members of all political colors break into grand guffaws of forty-rod laughter.

Chief Secretary Long's tricksome Coercion figures are now going through a somewhat similar experience. By the time they are sifted and subjected to the keen eye of independent criticism, they will probably dwindle as did those of Mr. Forster in 1881. And it will probably be found that the Catholic portions of Ulster will be found as comparatively free from other kinds of serious crime as they are from offences against good morals. As a final word, we may add that the 'yellow' regions of Ulster—beloved of the anti-Catholic lapsed Catholic Michael McCarthy—are the only parts of the Green Isle where sectarian strife is a permanent feature of social and public life; where wild and sanguinary outbreaks of revolutionary fanaticism periodically take place, where the Executive has not dared to reduce the police force, and where minorities that profess the Christian name are to this hour treated as if religious liberty and equal religious rights were high treason, and as if the Emancipation Act had never received the royal signature.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The members of St Joseph's Ladies' Club have under preparation two comedies, which they intend staging at an early date. The rehearsals, which are under the direction of Miss Leech, are being well attended, and, as the pieces will be elaborately staged, a production of more than ordinary merit may be anticipated.

From a private source we learn, with regret, that the Rev. Father Lynch, C.S.S.R., formerly of Dunedin, met with a painful accident recently while driving to Dublin. Father Lynch and another priest who accompanied him were thrown from the vehicle, and the former had his collar-bone and arm broken.

The annual meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday afternoon of last week. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and there was a fair attendance. Miss Purton, hon. secretary, read the report and balance sheet, which appeared in our last issue. His Lordship, in moving their adoption, complimented the members on the good work which the Society was doing, and expressed his pleasure at the generous response to the appeal made in the churches on behalf of the funds of the Society.

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