THE CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH SATURDAY MAY 8 1858

Letters to the Editor.

[No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

☞ We do not hold ourselves accountable for the opinions expressed in the communications of our Correspondents, except when they are accompanied by observations of our own.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.]

CATHOLIC MUNIFICENCE.

May 4, 1858.

SIR—I beg leave to acknowledge, with gratitude, the receipt of one hundred pounds, the bequest of James Kearney, Esq., of Culmullen, to the poor of this parish, and particularly for those of them adjoining his former residence; and say that I disposed of the bequest in the following manner:—

			£	s.	d.
For best at Christmas	...	...	12	12	0
For 2-2 Blankets	...	...	10	7	7
In cash, blankets, stone, clogs, and clothing	...	...	10	7	7
			100	0	0

Trusting that our prayers may be heard for the repose of the good giver, I remain, Sir, faithfully yours,

GEORGE LEONARD, P.P., O'donelis, Meath.

EDUCATION.

SIR—My attention has been called to a letter, addressed to the Marquis of Kildare, by a Mr. P. Fitzsimon, principal of the Springfield College, Ennis, which appeared lately in the *Post*. The letter is on the important question of education, and recommends some changes in the system of public education, or instruction, as at present existing in this country. There can be no great objection to the publication of opinions, even though they may be adverse or erroneous; for public discussion will ultimately enable us to separate the truth from error; but the great evil would be to allow such opinions to deducible pass uncontradicted, for all who read newspapers may not be competent to sift the sophistries of smart writers. All who undertake to lead public opinion, or who would wish to influence it, should have a view to the means them brought before the Legislature, do well to place their case before the interested parties, through the medium of the Session of Education, they may be at right, and also saved from the deplorable consequence of misleading others. As an interested party, I take the liberty of offering a few remarks on Mr. Fitzsimon's proposal. He informs us that he is a Catholic. That was necessary, for he appears to be no liberal of the rights of Catholics in Catholic system of Education. He would wish to be mere interested about the machinery of State schools and in keeping it oiled, than in ensuring the Faith from State interference. He would have the Bishops and pastors of the laity, and he leaves the watching of it to them. That is their affair. But when true pastors express doubt and distrust of the Government system of Education they must understand that the whole attention seems to be concentrated in the Government! But perhaps Mr. Fitzsimon is not aware that the model schools which he recommends have been condemned and denounced by some of our Prelates; that the National system, of which he is so enamoured, has been me-ely tolerated as a lesser evil; and that the Catholic University has been established at the desire of His Holiness the Pope to counteract the effects of the Godless Colleges. And now he comes forward with complete the system of mixed education which English statesmen attempted to bind down the intellect of Ireland, by adding to it the last connecting link—the grammar schools.

A system of instruction not based on religion is an insult to Catholics. The Queen's Colleges are not Catholic. Yet they are the fountain head from which the whole system flows. Neither are the model schools. And the national schools are neither Catholic nor national. For no emblem of Catholicity is admissible to intermix with the work of Pelagian, it is a positive good, and, like its Divine Founder, he who is not for it is against it. The principle of the whole system is godless from root to branch. Can a pupil of a teacher bless himself or say a Hail Mary during school hours without breaking rules? No. Not so in the schools of the Christian Brothers or Sisters of Charity.

The boast of the system is that it is neither Protestant, Catholic, or Presbyterian, but *mixed*. Now, I seriously assert that the Catholics of Ireland ought to have a Catholic system of Education. Catholic commissioners, inspectors, teachers, and patrons. Anything else is an insult to us, and ought not to be submitted to by any. But Mr. Fitzsimon, though a Catholic schoolmaster, does not raise a single objection against our state schools. He recommends a minister of public instruction, and a Minister House of Commons. But does not express a wish to have him a Catholic—that would be too illiberal. He would leave the entire control to the National Board! and he says:—

"Under the National Board, representing as it does *fairly* the interest of Protestants, Catholics, and Presbyterians, and possessing the confidence of the country, as any of these enjoyed before by any superintending board in Ireland, I would place all endowed educational establishments (universities and the College of Maynooth excepted)."

Well done most liberal of legislators. The National Board represents *fairly* the interest of Protestants, Catholics, and first, Secondly, of Catholics, and thirdly, of Presbyterians. Now, if this wonderful Board represents the interest of Protestants and Presbyterians, it is not the interest of these of Catholics, and vice versa. Their educational systems are neither similar, nor identical, nor compatible. Protestant don't fancy Glossary or Rosary beads for their sons, and sincere Catholics never give a preference to a Protestant College. Even the poor will send their children elsewhere if they have not the means to educate them as they by a Model School. I therefore assert that Mr. Fitzsimon has either not taken the trouble to understand what he states, or that he has inadvertently misrepresented the facts. I don't mean anything personal, but I'll like to know how the national Board *fairly* represents Catholic interests? In order to do so *fairly*, it should be a mixed Board, for any of these taint can have no right to direct the education of Catholics. Nor is there the least necessity for doing so. But how many Catholics have we on the Board? Two, I believe, and a majority! *How many Catholic Bishops have we on it?* Has not the Apostolic Delegate run away from it? And this is the Board that *fairly* represents the Catholics and Presbyterians of Ireland, according to our Catholic Instructor from Clare. No Board will or can represent our interests but one that is composed entirely of Catholics, and of such Catholics only as have the sanction and confidence of the bishops and clergy of Ireland.

JOHN CARROLL.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN NEXT LETTER.]

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SIR—Permit me to acknowledge, through the medium of your columns, the following subscriptions:—Rev. Edward Mullingar, £1; Rev. Michael Waters, C.C., ditto, 10s; Rev. James Moran, C.C., ditto, 10s; Rev. Peter Molloy, C.C., ditto, 10s; Rev. Thomas O'Reilly, C.C., Rockford bridge, Meath, 10s.

Thus it is evident that the sympathies of the charitable and generous are with us; and, when the forthcoming Parliamentary Committee will have substantiated our statements, the public, we are assured, will come forward, even more liberally, and relieve the victims of misrule and oppression.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

HUGH M'FADDEN, C.C.

Manorcunningham, 1st May, 1858.

DISTRESS IN DONEGAL

The following communications have been received by the venerable Bishop of Raphoe, from his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Cullen and the Right Rev. Dr. Grant:—

"*Sir Roche-street, Dublin, 27th April, 1858.*

"My dear Lord—I beg to forward you a small sum, for the relief of the sufferers in Gweedore, £2 16s. 8d., the contributions of several charitable persons in the Island of Guernsey, whom came to the unsolicited list. £2 0s. 8d. received from Anonymous, who wishes to participate in the prayers of the poor suffering people. It is sad to think that so many families should be reduced to so awful a state of destitution. I hope your lordship's exertions in their favour may be the means of procuring many of their fellow countrymen, even a may your charitable exhortation will soften the hearts of all those who were induced by misrepresentations to persecute or to injure them. We are well worthy of the sympathy and kind assistance of all charitable Christians.

"Wishing your lordship every happiness, I remain, with great esteem, your lordship's devoted servant,

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"Right Rev. Dr. M'Gettigan, R. C. Bishop of Raphoe."

"St George's, Southwark, S. April 20, 1858.

"My Lord—The Rev. Henry Phillips, missionary curate of Portsmouth, has asked me to forward the accompanying check to your lordship for the suffering poor of Gweedore and the other districts of Donegal.

"Wishing your lordship many days of happiness, I beg to remain, my lord, your obedient and humble servant,

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ARDEE UNION—THE SISTERS OF MERCY.

At the usual weekly meeting of the guardians of the union, held on the 20th ultimo, Mr. P. M. O'Hanlon proposed the following motion:—

"That the Sisters of Mercy, forming the community of nuns of the Ardee Convent, shall be at liberty to visit the workhouses at such stated hours as shall be ascertained to be most convenient and consistent with the discipline and regulations of the house, for the purpose of affording spiritual counsel and instruction to the Catholic inmates of the establishment."

Mr. O. Callan, of Cookstown, seconded the motion.

Mr. G. M. Alvena said he did not intend to cavil the board upon the motion, but he could not permit it to pass without entering his protest against it.

The motion was then put from the chair and carried.

The Church.

The Forty Hours' Adoration, with solemn exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, will weekly to be celebrated in one church or chapel, during the year, with solemn exposition to-morrow, May 9, at the Parish Church, Athy.

CONVERSIONS.—We are happy to learn on undoubted authority that at the late mission in Tuggard, Co. Wexford, two adult Protestants renounced the errors and delusions of the Protestant religion, made a solemn profession of the Catholic faith, and were happily received into the bosom of the Catholic church.—*Wexford Purple.*

Glenliffe House, formerly the fine and hospitable mansion of the late Frederick Howard, of Corrig, Esq., tenantee of the Crow street theatre, with its extensive offices, large gardens, pleasure ground, the whole standing on about twelve acres of land, held in fee, and not subject to any rent whatever, was sold by auction on Friday last, by Mr. Littledale, in his saleroom, No. 9, Lower Ormond-quay. £6,000, purchased in trust for his Grace the Most Rev Paul Cullen.

A new Catholic church is about to be erected in East Bergholt. Suffolk.

A new church and presbytery is to be commenced in Wenwick, from the designs of Mr. Pugin.

On Sunday the handsome new church of Patrick, Edinburgh, was solemnly blessed and opened by Bishop Smith. W.A. Coadjutor of the Western District of Scotland. The erection of this church, and the establishment of the mission of St. Patrick are due to the zeal of the devoted Irish Missionary, the Rev. Daniel Gallagher, late of St. Patrick's, Glasgow.

A new church is proposed to be erected in the important town of Sandbach, Cheshire, for which there has been exacted by Mr. Pugin, who also supplies those for the presbytery at Newcastle just completed.

Messrs Hardy, Starr, and Richardson have constructed, at their factory, a magnificent organ for the church of the Oratorians Fathers at Brompton. Its cost is somewhere between £2,000 and £3,000. It is specially destined to be played by a noble lady, a member of the congregation.—*Weekly Register.*

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CATHOLIC CHURCH.—A Limerick correspondent informs us that the Right Rev. Dr. Moriarty, Bishop of Kerry, will lay the foundation stone of a Catholic Church, Catholic Church, in Limerick, on the 30 h of May. His Lordship will preach in the open air, and an immense concourse of persons is expected to attend on the occasion as the pastor of the parish, and he leaves the watching of it to them. That is their affair. But when true pastors express doubt and distrust of the Government system of Education they must understand that the whole attention seems to be concentrated in the Government! But perhaps Mr. Fitzsimon is not aware that the model schools which he recommends have been condemned and denounced by some of our Prelates; that the National system, of which he is so enamoured, has been me-ely tolerated as a lesser evil; and that the Catholic University has been established at the desire of His Holiness the Pope to counteract the effects of the Godless Colleges. And now he comes forward with complete the system of mixed education which English statesmen attempted to bind down the intellect of Ireland, by adding to it the last connecting link—the grammar schools.

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The Lady Altar is the gift of Mr J. T. Devereux, M.P., and of his late son, Richard; and is conducted by connoisseurs to be more architectural and beautiful, if possible, than that which is even so much admired in the Church of the Assumption. It may not be out of place here to mention that the Ball, which was completed and erected by the workers of one of the sweetest toned we ever heard, and does honor to Mr. Murphy, of Thomas-street, Dublin. at whose foundry it was cast, and who supplied it free of charge to the Church of Great Exhibition. It is cast to D, that of the Church of the Assumption being E, b th forming a delightful and harmonious concord, sweet and beautiful, it possesses, and a sound for the sanctuary of the congregation of St. Mary's, by Mr. Sullivan, to the Very Rev P. O'Ferrall.—*Weekly Register.*

CATHOLIC DOMESTICITY.—The usual weekly meeting of this society was held in the Oratory attached to the society, 79 and 80, Townsend-street, on Sunday, for the purpose of making arrangements for the bazaar, fancy fair, and drawing of prizes to be held in the Exhibition Room, in month of August next. John Kelch, Esq., presided. Several articles were handed in for prize. After the handing in of several sums the meeting adjourned.

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. DR. O'CONNOR, P.P. OF SLEVEN, COUNTY MEATH.—On Monday, the 26th ultimo, rather suddenly, at the age of fifty-eight, the Very Rev. Dr. O'Connor was called to a better world. He was occasionally, for some few years, subject to severe attacks of pain, and it is believed that this treacherous malady was the immediate cause of his premature demise. When the melancholy event became known in the people were at first almost bereft of reason, and each parishioner felt he had lost a dear friend, a tender father, and a most enlightened pastor. Dr. O'Connor's career through life was one distinguished. In college he ranked as a student of the highest ability. On leaving Maynooth he was appointed to assist the late Dr. O'Reilly in the discreet seminary at Navan. The abundant field for interesting to improve how deeply and truly Dr. O'Connor was loved by priests and laity. Upwards of 30 priests were present. His remains were, by the Most Rev. Archbishop of Dublin, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. O'Connell, Trim; Messrs. Callery, Slane; Finnigan, Grangegeeth; Dr. Power, Navan; Very Rev. Mr. Mathews, Drogheda; Very Rev. Dr. Cullen, Ardee; Rev. Mr. Ratouth; Langan, Ardcath; Kearney, Drogheda; Timon, Johnstown; Professors Feeney, Gaughran, and M'Cormick, Navan; Rev. Mr. O'Hanlon, Dolan's; Lynch, Blackiston; O'Reilly, Jones, and Lynch, Kilmessan; Shirlock, Dunsany; and several others whose names we regret we cannot recall. Amongst the laity we noticed Lord Fingall, his son-in-law, Mr. Russell, the Messrs. Collins, Maurice, Lagan, Wilson, &c. It was quite impossible to approximate the exact number present, as immense, and so impressed with heartfelt sorrow.—*Requiescat in pace.—Drogheda Argus.*

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. MARTIN CONNOLLY, P.P.—We record with heartfelt regret the decease of the much esteemed and truly zealous parish priest of Boyounagh and Templeteghor. He died at his residence, Middletown, on Monday last, at the age of 60. His remains were borne to the grave on Wednesday, amid the tearful regrets of his numerous relatives, and the sincerest grief of a large concourse of his parishioners, including men of every creed and grade, who followed the mournful cortege. From an early hour clergymen from various parts of the county Dublin assembled, and as they arrived they offered up the most holy sacrifice of the Mass at the different altars prepared for them. At twelve o'clock a solemn High Mass was performed for the repose. Amongst the clergymen present we observed the Very Rev. Patrick Duffy, P.P.; Rev Henry Kelly, P.P.; Rev. William Farrell, C.C.; Rev. John J. Nunns, P.P.; Rev. J. Cavanagh, P.P.; Rev. John Burke, P.P.; Rev. Patrick M'Namara, R.C.C.; Rev. Thomas Hadsicen, R.C.C.; Rev. Patrick Fitzgerald, R.C.C.; Rev. Thos. Gibbons, R.C.C.; Rev. Malachy Monaghan, R.C.C.; Rev. David Mylotte, R.C.C.; Rev. Thos. O'Malley, R.C.C.; Rev. James B Davis, R.C.C., and Rev. Patrick O'Reilly. The remains were interred in the handsome and beautifully situated churchyard of Boyounagh.—*Requiescat in pace.—Trim Herald*

Lecture by Rev. Hall, of Springburn, by Glasgow delivered an eloquent and instructive lecture to the Young Men's Society, Audrie, in the School Rooms, on the evening of Monday last.

A NEW CHURCH—PRESENTED BY P. TAAFFE, ESQ

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Bareby, if ever, have I witnessed a more impressive ceremony or one more calculated to excite piety and devotion, than that of Tuesday, the 27th of April—the laying of the foundation stone of a new Catholic church in the parish of Bodoff.

His Lordship, the venerated Bishop of the diocese, arrived at twelve o'clock, just in time to calm the anxiety and dispel the doubts of the congregated people. Indeed, so apprehensive let the constant rain of the morning and louring aspect of the day would deter his lordship from coming and frustrate the many anxious expectations. But when the day cleared up, the clouds dispersed, and heaven seemed to smile on the pious performance of the day. At past 12 o'clock his lordship, dressed in full pontificals, with mitre on his head and crozier in his hand, proceeded, from the old chapel, attended by the clergy, to the site of the new church. Here stood a large wooden cross, the emblem of man's redemption, planted there the night before. Over the northern corner of the church was suspended a beautifully cut stone of vast dimensions, and just under it another piece of equal size with a cavity sufficient to contain a bottle, in which were deposited the current coins of the realm, together with a parchment bearing the following inscription:—"April 27, 1858.—Designed by Mr. Goldie, built by Doolan, and dedicated by the Right Rev. Dr. Durhan, (the gift of Philip Taaffe, Esq.) to the immaculate Mother of God."

The appropriate antiphons and psalms being chanted, and the litanies of the saints being sung, the first stone was solemnly blessed and lowered in its position, to the great joy and delight of every Christian present.

The Bishop then proceeded by the Rev. Mr. Halligan as cross-bearer, and followed by the Very Rev. Dean Durhan, Rev. Daniel Mullarky, Rev. John Finn, Rev. Thomas M'Nicholas, Rev. James O Dowd, Rev. Mr. Judge, and Rev. Mr. Burke, took the circuit of the church, sprinkling the foundation with holy water as he went along. Having arrived at the spot whence he started he granted an indulgence of forty days to all who attended on the occasion, exhorting them at the same time briefly but emphatically to redouble their zeal and fervour in invoking the intercession of the sorrowful and immaculate Virgin Mother of God for themselves and Mr. Philip Taaffe, the founder of that beautifully designed temple, who has devoted a sum little short of £2,000 for their use and benefit. As these last words fell from his lordship's lips a thrill of gratitude pervaded every heart, every face was flushed with joy, every tongue invoked a blessing on their bountiful benefactor.

After the ceremony was over his lordship, the clergy, and many of the gentlemen took refreshment at the hospitable board of the Rev. Mr. Judge, the parish priest, after which all retired to their respective homes quite delighted with the ceremonies of the day.

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On this day were published the particulars of the interesting ceremonies attendant on the opening of the New Catholic Church of the Assumption, and we are now called upon to discharge a similar duty to its Twin Sister in Rowe street. The Bishop, robed in full pontificals, performed the "benedicto loci" High Mass next commenced. After the Gospel at which Dr. Gillooly, V.G., preached the sermon in the pulpit, and delivered one of the most eloquent, graceful, and soul touching discourses it was our good fortune ever to hear. In the course of his observations he compared the church to the Sanctuary, the Right Rev. Dr. Hughes, Bishop of Gibraltar, and the Very Rev. Dean Murphy, V.G., for whom special seats were set apart at the south end of the sanctuary; the Rev. Gentlemen of St. Peter's College and the Franciscan Convent occupying the sedilia on the Epistle side. The magnificent vestments and chalice used on the occasion were the gift of the lamented Countess of Shrewsbury, as well as those used on the previous Sunday in the Church of the Assumption. The splendid Gothic Altar, which is the finest, is a part of the triple did bequest of the late lamented Dr. Sinnott to his successor in the Parish of Wexford and was greatly admired. The three Gothic niches, which are beautifully corresponding with the character of the Church, were the gifts of Miss Kellet, of Clonard. The Gong, the gift of the Rev. W. Murphy, Wexford; the Missal, that of the Rev. J. Cullen, Wexford; the Linens of the Alter and Sanctuary, those of Mrs. Michael Finn and Mrs. Thomas Scallan; and the two splendid Gothic Lamps, which are regret even was not time to suspend before the ceremony, the gifts of Mr. J. G. MacCarthy, the prominent architect, under whose direction all the interior of the Church was carried on. The statues of the Passion, set in Gothic frames, richly illuminated, were greatly admired, and reflect much credit on the donor, Mr. T. Gaffney. Like that of the alter, which is the gift of the Rev. Dr. Cullen, the nave and aisles are tastefully decorated, though different in manner, yet equally effective, the former being panelled, with a view to the introduction of bore paintings hereafter, and the latter divided into compartments, supported on slender pillars, from Holy Writ in the old English character. We must not forget to mention the four stained glass windows, whose dim and mellowed light adds to the solemnity.

The Lady Altar is the gift of Mr J. T. Devereux, M.P., and of his late son, Richard; and is conducted by connoisseurs to be more architectural and beautiful, if possible, than that which is even so much admired in the Church of the Assumption. It may not be out of place here to mention that the Ball, which was completed and erected by the workers of one of the sweetest toned we ever heard, and does honor to Mr. Murphy, of Thomas-street, Dublin. at whose foundry it was cast, and who supplied it free of charge to the Church of Great Exhibition. It is cast to D, that of the Church of the Assumption being E, b th forming a delightful and harmonious concord, sweet and beautiful, it possesses, and a sound for the sanctuary of the congregation of St. Mary's, by Mr. Sullivan, to the Very Rev P. O'Ferrall.—*Weekly Register.*

CATHOLIC DOMESTICITY.—The usual weekly meeting of this society was held in the Oratory attached to the society, 79 and 80, Townsend-street, on Sunday, for the purpose of making arrangements for the bazaar, fancy fair, and drawing of prizes to be held in the Exhibition Room, in month of August next. John Kelch, Esq., presided. Several articles were handed in for prize. After the handing in of several sums the meeting adjourned.

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. DR. O'CONNOR, P.P. OF SLEVEN, COUNTY MEATH.—On Monday, the 26th ultimo, rather suddenly, at the age of fifty-eight, the Very Rev. Dr. O'Connor was called to a better world. He was occasionally, for some few years, subject to severe attacks of pain, and it is believed that this treacherous malady was the immediate cause of his premature demise. When the melancholy event became known in the people were at first almost bereft of reason, and each parishioner felt he had lost a dear friend, a tender father, and a most enlightened pastor. Dr. O'Connor's career through life was one distinguished. In college he ranked as a student of the highest ability. On leaving Maynooth he was appointed to assist the late Dr. O'Reilly in the discreet seminary at Navan. The abundant field for interesting to improve how deeply and truly Dr. O'Connor was loved by priests and laity. Upwards of 30 priests were present. His remains were, by the Most Rev. Archbishop of Dublin, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. O'Connell, Trim; Messrs. Callery, Slane; Finnigan, Grangegeeth; Dr. Power, Navan; Very Rev. Mr. Mathews, Drogheda; Very Rev. Dr. Cullen, Ardee; Rev. Mr. Ratouth; Langan, Ardcath; Kearney, Drogheda; Timon, Johnstown; Professors Feeney, Gaughran, and M'Cormick, Navan; Rev. Mr. O'Hanlon, Dolan's; Lynch, Blackiston; O'Reilly, Jones, and Lynch, Kilmessan; Shirlock, Dunsany; and several others whose names we regret we cannot recall. Amongst the laity we noticed Lord Fingall, his son-in-law, Mr. Russell, the Messrs. Collins, Maurice, Lagan, Wilson, &c. It was quite impossible to approximate the exact number present, as immense, and so impressed with heartfelt sorrow.—*Requiescat in pace.—Drogheda Argus.*

DEATH OF THE VERY REV. MARTIN CONNOLLY, P.P.—We record with heartfelt regret the decease of the much esteemed and truly zealous parish priest of Boyounagh and Templeteghor. He died at his residence, Middletown, on Monday last, at the age of 60. His remains were borne to the grave on Wednesday, amid the tearful regrets of his numerous relatives, and the sincerest grief of a large concourse of his parishioners, including men of every creed and grade, who followed the mournful cortege. From an early hour clergymen from various parts of the county Dublin assembled, and as they arrived they offered up the most holy sacrifice of the Mass at the different altars prepared for them. At twelve o'clock a solemn High Mass was performed for the repose. Amongst the clergymen present we observed the Very Rev. Patrick Duffy, P.P.; Rev Henry Kelly, P.P.; Rev. William Farrell, C.C.; Rev. John J. Nunns, P.P.; Rev. J. Cavanagh, P.P.; Rev. John Burke, P.P.; Rev. Patrick M'Namara, R.C.C.; Rev. Thomas Hadsicen, R.C.C.; Rev. Patrick Fitzgerald, R.C.C.; Rev. Thos. Gibbons, R.C.C.; Rev. Malachy Monaghan, R.C.C.; Rev. David Mylotte, R.C.C.; Rev. Thos. O'Malley, R.C.C.; Rev. James B Davis, R.C.C., and Rev. Patrick O'Reilly. The remains were interred in the handsome and beautifully situated churchyard of Boyounagh.—*Requiescat in pace.—Trim Herald*

Lecture by Rev. Hall, of Springburn, by Glasgow delivered an eloquent and instructive lecture to the Young Men's Society, Audrie, in the School Rooms, on the evening of Monday last.

A NEW CHURCH—PRESENTED BY P. TAAFFE, ESQ

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Bareby, if ever, have I witnessed a more impressive ceremony or one more calculated to excite piety and devotion, than that of Tuesday, the 27th of April—the laying of the foundation stone of a new Catholic church in the parish of Bodoff.

His Lordship, the venerated Bishop of the diocese, arrived at twelve o'clock, just in time to calm the anxiety and dispel the doubts of the congregated people. Indeed, so apprehensive let the constant rain of the morning and louring aspect of the day would deter his lordship from coming and frustrate the many anxious expectations. But when the day cleared up, the clouds dispersed, and heaven seemed to smile on the pious performance of the day. At past 12 o'clock his lordship, dressed in full pontificals, with mitre on his head and crozier in his hand, proceeded, from the old chapel, attended by the clergy, to the site of the new church. Here stood a large wooden cross, the emblem of man's redemption, planted there the night before. Over the northern corner of the church was suspended a beautifully cut stone of vast dimensions, and just under it another piece of equal size with a cavity sufficient to contain a bottle, in which were deposited the current coins of the realm, together with a parchment bearing the following inscription:—"April 27, 1858.—Designed by Mr. Goldie, built by Doolan, and dedicated by the Right Rev. Dr. Durhan, (the gift of Philip Taaffe, Esq.) to the immaculate Mother of God."

The appropriate antiphons and psalms being chanted, and the litanies of the saints being sung, the first stone was solemnly blessed and lowered in its position, to the great joy and delight of every Christian present.

The Bishop then proceeded by the Rev. Mr. Halligan as cross-bearer, and followed by the Very Rev. Dean Durhan, Rev. Daniel Mullarky, Rev. John Finn, Rev. Thomas M'Nicholas, Rev. James O Dowd, Rev. Mr. Judge, and Rev. Mr. Burke, took the circuit of the church, sprinkling the foundation with holy water as he went along. Having arrived at the spot whence he started he granted an indulgence of forty days to all who attended on the occasion, exhorting them at the same time briefly but emphatically to redouble their zeal and fervour in invoking the intercession of the sorrowful and immaculate Virgin Mother of God for themselves and Mr. Philip Taaffe, the founder of that beautifully designed temple, who has devoted a sum little short of £2,000 for their use and benefit. As these last words fell from his lordship's lips a thrill of gratitude pervaded every heart, every face was flushed with joy, every tongue invoked a blessing on their bountiful benefactor.

After the ceremony was over his lordship, the clergy, and many of the gentlemen took refreshment at the hospitable board of the Rev. Mr. Judge, the parish priest, after which all retired to their respective homes quite delighted with the ceremonies of the day.

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH, RINGSEND.

A numerous and influential meeting of the Catholic inhabitants of St. Mary's, Haddington-road, Irishtown and Ringsend, was held on Sunday last in St. Patrick's School, Ringsend, for the purpose of considering the best means of organising a collection to build a new church, dedicated to St. Patrick, and suited to the requirements of this populous village. The parish priest has determined that it shall be erected in this very popular locality, where your children may be instructed, not only in the rudiments of their faith, but that they may be taught to lead good lives, and be worthy of their faith—worthy of the venerable saints from whom they are descended (loud cheers.)

Dr. Jackson, who said—On coming here to day I was agreeably surprised to see the walls of the new church in such a forward state—such an admirable evening school for boys, such a splendid commodious school for girls, which seems to be ever by the Sisters of Charity. The founding of those schools and the building of this church must do an incalculable amount of good. It is the bringing of the light of faith to the parishioners to rally round our beloved parish priest, and enable him to bring the completion of this church to a speedy termination; there will be no fear of the children falling out of church. Hence it is to guard against any possible, even the most remote, danger of a future attempt, our venerated parish priest has determined that a gallery shall be erected in this very populous locality, where your children may be instructed, not only in the rudiments of their faith, but that they may be taught to lead good lives, and be worthy of their faith—worthy of the venerable saints from whom they are descended (loud cheers.)

Dr. Jackson then said—On coming here to day I was agreeably surprised to see the walls of the new church in such a forward state—such an admirable evening school for boys, such a splendid commodious school for girls, which seems to be ever by the Sisters of Charity. The founding of those schools and the building of this church must do an incalculable amount of good. It is the bringing of the light of faith to the parishioners to rally round our beloved parish priest, and enable him to bring the completion of this church to a speedy termination; there will be no fear of the children falling out of church. Hence it is to guard against any possible, even the most remote, danger of a future attempt, our venerated parish priest has determined that a gallery shall be erected in this very populous locality, where your children may be instructed, not only in the rudiments of their faith, but that they may be taught to lead good lives, and be worthy of their faith—worthy of the venerable saints from whom they are descended (loud cheers.)

Mr. Fitzgerald said too much praise cannot be given to those men who spend six days of the week in labour and toil, and, on the seventh, after their religious exercises before the altar of their God, devote the evening to the collection of funds for the new church (hear).

Several gentlemen were appointed to act as collectors.

Mr. James O'Shea was called to the chair, when a vote