

## MR. RONAYNE ON CATHOLIC EQUALITY.

MR. RONAYNE, M.P. for Cork, has republished in pamphlet form, the substance of several letters which attracted considerable attention some short time ago. "How Liberal England governs Catholic Ireland, as exemplified in the County of Cork," is a title calculated to excite surprise. Mr Ronayne has chosen to deal with facts which can be established. He knows his own country, and he tells the story of its government in plain, terse, vigorous English. He shows that the whole power of the county is in the hands of the minority; that the local taxation, the administration of law, the relief of the poor, are such and all vested in persons of the disestablished creed. It is worth while to note the statistics of the case. The Lord Lieutenant and his Secretary are Protestant. They constitute the Castle, and the Castle governs Ireland. With the assistance of political lawyers, whose fidelity to anything whatever is more than dubious, the Castle makes all appointments, either directly or indirectly. The High Sheriff and the Lord Lieutenant of the county both are Protestants. The sub-Sheriff is a Protestant. He is the nominee of the High Sheriff. He selects the County Grand Jury, and he invites 19 Protestants and 3 Catholics. He summons the Special Jury, which consists of 39 Protestants and 9 Catholics. In the Special Commission of 1865, he asked 110 Protestant and 22 Catholics, and in that of 1867, he asked 62 Protestants and 10 Catholics. The County Grand Jury appoint the baronial high constables, or, in less lofty language, the cess-collectors. Mr Ronayne finds that the proportion of these is 19 Protestants to 3 Catholics. On the Board of Superintendence the figures are 10 to 2. The chief officers of the gaol are all Protestant. Of 11 assistant County surveyors 2 are Catholics. Of 28 deputy-lieutenants 2 belong to the religion of the nation. There are 378 magistrates, and 65 represent the people of the county. The officers of the militia number 87—5 are Catholics. Those who preside at 24 quarter sessions, at 35 petty sessions, at presentment sessions, at boards of guardians, are practically all Protestant. They are in such a sweeping majority that their voice is law, and no man dares to challenge them. In the police force all the best places are held by professors of a creed at stern variance with that of the governed people. The stipendiary magistrates are for the most part Protestants—but it matters little to what creed they give their careless assent. Every man in Ireland who knows anything knows that the manner of appointing stipendiary magistrates is a disgrace to justice and honesty. There was one fitness regarded, and Mr Ronayne shows that it is regarded still. Let a broken *roue* be a Protestant and his chance of an appointment is good. We admit that matters are improved, but the improvement is theoretic rather than practical. There is equality in the letter of the law—but, as Peel said, Catholics may be emancipated, and still left where they were. In fact, Peel's notion has been carried out, and, as Mr Ronayne abundantly proves, the motto "No Catholic need apply," lives as vividly to-day as when Emancipation was not.—*Dublin Freeman*.

## HOW ITALIAN DEPUTIES DIE.

(Roman letter of 'Boston Pilot'.)

THERE is one saying which I heard many years ago which almost assumes the proportions of a proverb: "There is an art in everything but dying." It might almost be supposed that Italian deputies had discovered an art in dying. A few weeks ago I described the death of Ratazzi, and told you as his last words: *Close the doors*. Now another deputy of the same school has just died and his death is characteristic. Signor Biella was, with some other deputies, in the north of Italy at a place celebrated for its baths. There was a dinner at which Visconti Venosa and Deputy Rossi were present as well as Biella. Shortly after dinner this last was seized with violent colic. He bore his suffering with a smile and laughed on, nor did he cease to mingle with his witticisms the most horrible blasphemies. There was a ball later in the evening, and Signor Biella, with the idea of alleviating the excruciating pains which he suffered, began to dance vigorously. When he retired to rest he was thoroughly wired out. His face had become cadaverous now, but a ghastly smile still hung round his lips, and his eyes flashed with a terrible brilliancy. On the morning following this night of a suffering he summoned a doctor and returned to bed which he had left a short time previously; while a drink which he called for was being prepared for him, he died without speaking a word. A few minutes after his death his body became of a livid hue and turned pestiferous. Telegraphic messages were sent to his friends, but no one came. His relations were telegraphed to likewise, but they remained away. The director of the baths took his funeral in hand; he wanted to place the body in an oratory, but the priest refused, because the oratory was for those who died Catholics, and he did not know in what religion Signor Biella died; the priest said the truth of him when he described him as an enemy to the Church in the Parliament and the press. In spite of the priest, however, the body was brought into the oratory. Since then the Bishop of Como has sent to the priest the necessary authorization to purify the chapel where the corpse of Signor Biella was exposed. This death is eloquent; the man was given up, body and soul, to the secret revolutionary societies, and employed a brilliant talent and an eloquent tongue against the Church of God: and this is how he dies—forsaken by all, sneering and blaspheming a few hours previously!

But there are Deputies and Deputies. Some good men have thought they might be able to effect something in the Chamber, or they were led there, perhaps, through weakness or vanity. Men like these are like pebbles in a mountain stream; they cause the water to roar louder, and they only increase the velocity of the current instead of arresting it. Giulio Cesare Libetta, a Neapolitan, feeling that the work of a deputy in the Italian Parliament was not very like Catholic work, made a declaration of his faith shortly before he died. The part most interesting to us is the following:—"I, the undersigned, who belonged to the Chamber of Deputies, declare that I have never acted nor voted against Holy religion, nor against the Church, either in spirituals or in temporal; and I declare myself to be through the grace of God and most Blessed Mary, a true Apostolic Roman Christian." The signature of Libetta to this document is witnessed by two

persons, whose names are attached to this declaration. Funeral honors were bestowed by the Church on Signor Libetta, who died furnished with the Sacraments of Holy Church and edifying all who were near him. There is assuredly a difference between the deaths of these two deputies!

## IMPORTANT DECLARATION OF THE BISHOP AND CLERGY OF CLOYNE.

THE following most important declaration of the Most Rev. D. Keane, the venerated Bishop of Cloyne, and his patriotic clergy, on the great question of Home Rule, was published in the 'Cork Examiner' of a late date, and will be read with joy in every homestead in Ireland:

That the time has arrived when the interests of our country require from us, as priests and Irishmen, a public pronouncement of the vital question of Home Rule.

That, as impartial history has branded as unconstitutional and corrupt the means by which we have been deprived of our legislative independence, we regard the claim made by the Home Rule Association of Dublin for its restoration, as the assertion of a true principle, and the vindication of an outraged right.

That, whilst we emphatically disclaim any intention of seeking for separation from England, we would respectfully suggest, as the best means of giving practical effect to these views, the holding of an aggregate meeting in Dublin of the representatives of all interested in this great question—and they are the entire people, without distinction of creed or class—for the purpose of placing by constitutional means, on a broad and definite basis, the nation's demand for the restoration of its plundered rights.

## THE JESUITS IN DUBLIN.

A GRAND educational establishment will soon be completed in Dublin. The Jesuit Fathers of Dublin have purchased Killiney Castle and the grounds adjoining, for the purposes of a lay college. The place is prominently beautiful, even among the beautiful environs of Dublin. The London 'Daily Telegraph,' commenting on the purchase, says:—

Forty or fifty years ago Protestant Dublin would have been furious at the erection of a house for Jesuits on one of the prettiest and most romantic hills overlooking its bay. Within the last thirty years a landlord in the immediate neighborhood of the new college would not permit a Roman Catholic Chapel to "desecrate" his Protestant estate; while now his ghost, if it reads the Irish newspapers, is doomed to observe that his property is in the possession of what Oxford calls a 'vert.'

## A CATHOLIC BISHOP ON DANCING.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, at every chapel within the diocese of Ferns, a pastoral letter was read to the congregations by their priests from the Right Rev. Dr Furlong, the Bishop, against "Fast Dances." His Lordship said "that these modern dances, with all their concomitant circumstances, are an immediate occasion of sin, is a truth so patent as not to admit of controversy. Should individuals affirm that they feel no inconvenience from engaging in those dances, let them reflect that they are accountable, not only for themselves, but for others, so as not to afford anyone an occasion for sin. Besides the attitude and postures in those dances are so offensive to modesty as to stamp upon them at once a character of impropriety. Then there is the responsibility of giving bad example. Again, we know from experience that the habits or fashions prevailing in the higher classes of society are sure to descend through its various gradations. Should this result follow in the present instance, as infallibly it will, no one with Christian feeling can contemplate the consequences without horror." His Lordship throughout his pastoral gives many extracts from learned divines bearing out his opinions condemning such dances as waltzes, polkas, galops, etc.

## WHAT HOME RULE MEANS.

( 'Boston Pilot'. )

It is well that the Irish in America should clearly understand what the Home Rule movement aims at securing. The proposal of the Home Government Association is, in effect this:—That the internal affairs be regulated by an Irish Parliament, consisting of the Queen, Lords, and Commons of Ireland: all Imperial affairs, and all that relates to the colonies, foreign States, and the common interests of the Empire continuing to be regulated by the Imperial Parliament, in which (but only on Imperial questions) Ireland would continue to be represented.

Here is a statesmanlike middle course, a wise adaption of constitutional principles to actual facts. Let there be a division of legislative and executive labor. Let an Irish assembly manage exclusively Irish affairs: let the Imperial Parliament continue to manage all that relates to the Empire at large. Retain every guarantee for the real and effective union of the Empire: but let Great Britain and Ireland each transact its own private business as each deems best. Let both neighbors combine for every neighborly purpose, and pull together, if need be, against the rest of the world as good neighbors should; but let each give up, once for all, the arrogant mischievous pretension of lordling it over the heartstone and dictating the domestic economy of the other. Thus will be combined national freedom with national strength.

This is Home Rule, according to the ideas of the Home Rule Association, and we think it will commend itself as a practical and sensible plan to every thoughtful Irishman in America.

## THE POPE'S INTENTION OF LEAVING ROME.

THE people who make themselves uneasy about the Pope's intention of leaving Rome, may rest at last. The Holy Father has spoken emphatically on this point. On October 2nd, in an address to a delegation, he used the following words:—"Confusion has entered the enemy's camp. They strive to induce me to leave Rome, but I never will."