

succeeded in retaining the kingdom, the Catholic Church must necessarily have been restored there. King William, however, remains the traitor who broke the treaty of Limerick, or permitted it to be broken, and with whom the penal laws originated. He also must bear the everlasting stigma of the massacre of Glencoe—as he does that of the murder of the De Witts, committed barbarously, and with his connivance, before the landing now celebrated took place. However the memory of King William, therefore, may be rolled up as a bolus and gilded for our swallowing, it must still contain much that is suggestive of cramps and cholera, and narrowly connected with what is poisonous and deadly. But it may appropriately serve to nourish the Orange element among us. Like we know, as the *Star* reminds us, cures like. ▲ poison therefore for the poisoned, and to the unreasoning bigot unreasoning bigotry.

THE Tories themselves do not seem by any means confident that the Parnell Commission is to result in putting an end to the Home Rule demands. Their spokesman, Mr. Goschen, now shows the weakness of their cause by requesting Mr. Gladstone to state whether he is prepared to place Ireland in the same position as that occupied by the colonies towards the Empire. Are the Tories, therefore, resolved even to sacrifice the colonies, England's greatest source of future strength, to their determination to resist the claims of Ireland? For the drift of Mr. Goschen's argument can only be to discredit the union of the colonies with the mother country, and to show in like manner how little reliance might be placed on such a union as applied to Ireland. Mr. Gladstone, however, answers with a manifesto, in which he declares himself ready to make provision for the retention of Irish Members in the House of Commons. But the wisdom of King Solomon's judgment still seems to hold good. The false statesman will consent to impair the strength of the empire, in order to carry the object of his party; the true one is prepared to sacrifice something of his project that he may secure his country's good.

A LETTER from Mr. Patrick Barrett of Christchurch, now studying medicine in Dublin, gives us, through the kindness of a friend, some interesting details relating to the late imprisonment of Mr. Matthew Barrett, a cousin of the writer's, who, for refusing to give evidence before the Star Chamber, was sent to gaol for three weeks. "I was through the gaol at Carrick," writes Mr. Barrett, "and saw the cell in which he spent the time. It is a very small one. When I was standing in the middle of it, I could almost touch the four walls." But, whatever the cell may be, what nobler monument could any man have to point back to through all future years. Well may the relations of Mr. Matthew Barrett visit with pride the scene of his heroism, and describe it to their distant friends.

MR. A. C. BEGG, we perceive, has been seeking, and no doubt receiving the refreshment to his soul made desirable by his sufferings during the recent synod. There Mr. A. C. Begg was outraged by being obliged to listen to such horrid suggestions, for example, as that all babies dying as babies might not be damned eternally, and that there was the possibility of salvation for any heathen man or woman in existence. Who would not pity Mr. A. C. Begg under the circumstances, and rejoice that he has found something to give him consolation as a man of piety and an expounder of the "unaided Word," his consolation being the repeated assurance that, if not the unselect babies and the heathen, the Catholic world are certainly, to a man, rushing headlong down to hell. Mr. Begg's appropriate refreshment took the shape of a lecture delivered in the Lyceum Hall, Dunedin, on Monday evening by some man called Dr. Hammond. As to the substance of the lecture it is not necessary that we should trouble our readers with any lengthened allusion to it. It was of the usual Evangelical penny-dreadful type to which we are accustomed, and which is got up to order for the delectation of audiences which may be distinguished generally as having men of the Begg type as their chairmen. But to come to details, we should like to ask, for instance, what really became of those skulls that this lecturer told his hearers had been disposed of separately from the heaps of human bones he had lately seen in a certain room in Rome—not reported of, nevertheless, even in the revolutionary Press. Had the human heads then, of which the skulls were the miserable remains, been used somewhat after the fashion of those sheep's heads which the bounteous Mr. Begg recommended the other day as wholesome food for the poor of Dunedin. Cannibal usages, we should say, would not be more out of place among the society alluded to by this Dr. Hammond than skin-flint and beggarly usages among ourselves. There is one other definite statement reported as made, under Mr. Begg's appreciative nose, by this Hammond. It is to the effect that a darkness occurred at the reading of the definition of the Pope's infallibility in the Vatican Council, so that the gas had to be lit and the document to be handed by the Pope to a Cardinal to read. There is no truth whatever in the statement, and we have no hesitation in characterising it as a *lie*, pure and simple. Mr. Begg, then, has been appropriately refreshed. But great are the privileges of the Lord's elect. Let the unselect baby go to perdition. Let the heathen man and woman, unexcused by their ignorance, perish etc.

nally. But for him who cries "Lord! Lord!" there is a crown of glory—even though he may offer to feed the poor on offal, and may take part with the liar and slanderer in his infamous calling.

THE gallant Captain O'Shea has quite distinguished himself before the Parnell Commission. The cable tells us he has proved, which, however, means that he has testified with more or less brazenness and doubtful truth, to several very damaging matters against Mr. Parnell. He identified Mr. Parnell's signature to the forged letters; stated that he had been in communication with Sheridan, and that he himself, on hearing of his (Mr. Parnell's) knowledge of Sheridan's doings, had turned him out of his rooms in Dublin. But, as to the forged letters everyone knows that the signature affixed to them was copied, as it might easily be, with much exactness. Everybody knows, besides, that Mr. Parnell had been in communication with Sheridan, whom he had no reason at the time to suspect of any sinister associations. And everyone is quite prepared to believe that Captain O'Shea draws on his imagination when he says he kicked Mr. Parnell out. The toe, we may confidently believe, has not yet been put in the brogue, nor the leather cut for it, perhaps not even the bullock skinned or calved, with which he could do so. But already Captain O'Shea has been flatly contradicted. Sir William Harcourt has written to the London newspapers giving him the lie in a very unceremonious manner as to certain statements made by him relating to parleying between Mr. Gladstone's Government and the Irish members in Kilmainham. Sir William asserts that some parts of the Captain's evidence are pure fabrication, and we may charitably conclude that the rest of it is no worse than the fruits of a vivid imagination. Meantime, we may wish the Commission joy of the search for the evidence of complicity with crime through the account-books and documents of the League. These have been forwarded to the Court, and weigh the goodly sum of over two tons. The search for a needle in a rick of hay would be a joke to the job that here awaits the Commissioners. Even Mr. "Torquemada" Day, giving him credit for all the evil designs attributed to him, would seem to be about to be sufficiently punished by the perplexing and humiliating task required of him.

THE Rev. Rutherford Waddell, the other evening, in the last of a series of lectures on social problems delivered by him, and which were, one and all, characterised as much by able handling of the subject treated of, as by lucidity and elegance of style, referred in rather a summary manner to the Catholic Church, which he described as having gone down before the invention of printing. Now, it is an undoubted fact that the invention of printing, the outcome of Catholic intellect, like the revival of letters of similar origin, was abused by being turned against the Church. To say that the Church went down before anything of the kind, however, is an inaccurate expression, and one not justified by fact. Countries and communities it is true, fell away from the Church, but the Church remained firmly standing. Macaulay, for example, who is an unsuspected authority, when he testifies in her favour, records that her gains in the East almost compensated for her losses in the West. In the invention of printing itself, or the dissemination of learning promoted by it, there was nothing that could injure the Church in any way. For that the highest condition of learning or civilization was compatible with faithfulness to her, we may call on Macaulay again to witness. He tells us, for example, it is doubtful as to whether any European country of the present day is so highly advanced in wealth and civilization as Italy was four hundred years ago, or during her most Catholic period. But if the art of printing was used in the times alluded to to lead men out of the Church's fold, it is to day a great means of bringing them back there again. The Church depends on the learning that is dispensed by means of the printing press for the preservation of her children, and the enlightenment of those who are without her pale. She leaves it to the Protestant sects, who nevertheless boast of their free use of reason, to gain or confirm their adherents by particular calls and spontaneous experiences. Her reliance, as taught us by her head, the Pope, is on learning, for whose advancement, therefore, every possible method is adopted by her pastors. The conversion to the Catholic Church which takes place to-day without learning, may be said to be a true miracle, so many and plausible are the arguments it is necessary to overcome. And a miracle of another sort it may be, but no less a miracle, only can keep the learned man who thoroughly examines into the Church's claims from becoming a convert. If the printing press, therefore, was turned against the Church, it was abused, as everything good and useful upon earth has been. But its abuse did not overthrow the Church, which to-day stands as firm and as young as she was ages before the learning she fostered had made way for the invention of the printing press, and, as the whole history of her past, if there were nothing else, might assure us she is destined to continue to the end.

OWING to pressure on our space, we are obliged to hold over the Riverton art-union list, and other matter.