## CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION.

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SATURDAY FER. 28.

DANIEL O'CONNELL, Esq., in the Chair.

Upon the motion of Mr. Colway, it was resolved that the proceedings of the Aggregate Meeting on Friday, should be inserted once in the Morning Chronicle and Courier London Newspapers, and twice in such Dublin papers as the Secretary should think fit.

Mr. O'CONNELL stated that he had received £2. from a Catholic Clergyman in England, on account of "the Catholic Rent," and he (Mr. O'C.) then gave notice that on next Saturday he should move that measures be taken for consulting each patish in Bublin, upon the best mode of collecting "the Catholic Rent." He had received an offer from 'Ir. O'Mara, of Lower O'mond, to collect the rent of two Parishes in that neighbourhood, and the Parish Priest Jud also promised to lend his assistance.

Mr. O'GONNAN was pleased at finding the Clergy disposed to assist in the collection. Heretofore they had been adverse to interfering in political proceedings.

Mr. O'CONNELL said it was well known amongst

disposed to assist in the collection. Heretofore they had been adverse to interfering in political proceedings.

Mr. O'CONNELL said it was well known amongst the Catholics, that several orphan charities were supported in Dublin, by the collection of weekly subscriptions. Forty-eight of those collectors had offered their services for Dublin, under the superintendance of the Clergy, but it was, not intended to give the Clergy any more trouble than that they should become the patrons, or act as checks upon the collectors, and see that the amounts were paid with punctuality. The first step should be, that of consulting the several parishes of Dublin, and having the mode of collection determined upon before they commenced in the country. From the many communications made to him, he was enabled to say, that an intense anxiety existed at present in Dublin, for the subscriptions being commenced. The people were convinced of the necessity for a general contribution, in order to provide legal protection against the atrocities of the Orangemen. Mr. O'Connell added, that he should move for having the Grand Warrant of the Orange Lodge framed and glazed, and hung up in the rooms of the Association.

Mr. O'GORMAN Observed, that proceeding would take the precious decument out of his custody, and he could not be accountable for it, if not in his possession.

Mr. Ford Said, he would rather move for an Iron

session.

Mr. Pord said, he would rather move for an Iron
Chest, in which to keep it.

Mr. O'Connell was convinced, by Mr. O'Gorman's objection, that his proposal was not practicalike.

ole.
The following names were added to the permane committee for managing the funds of "The Cath e Rent"

hie Rent":

Messrs. A. Browne, Scánlan, John Burke, James
Dwyer, Battersby, Kelly, Joseph M'Donnell, M. J.
O'Reilly, and Fitzsimon.

The Meeting then adjourned to Wednesday next.

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DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Iondon, Feb. 27.—Yesterday evening the City Road and places adjacent presented a most singular and dreadful appearance, in consequence of a fire which broke out in the extensive Wharfs and Warehouses of Messrs, Pickford and Co., on the banks of the City Road Basin. The fire was first observed in the interior of the middle row of Warehouses, and so rapid was its progress as to defy every effort to its spreading destruction around, and in a short-time-communicated to the buildings. Those premises which contained the greater portion of the product of the Northern part of England, were seen in eatire fiame, while the various commodities recently imported, presented a heap of smoky ruins. The engines are immediately brought into play, partly standing heat would allow them. The flames as the storehold was not an infall play seemed not in the least to damp the flame or prevent it spreading its destruction; the firemen in full play seemed not in the least to damp the flame or prevent it spreading its destruction; the firemen therefore turned their attention to the adjacent buildings were useless; every engine that was then in full play seemed not in the least to damp the flame or prevent it spreading its destruction; the firemen therefore turned their attention to the adjacent buildings of Messrs. Pickford lying eastward of the Cityrood, and displayed their utmost efforts to prevent them falling a prey to the fire. Their exertions were successful, and they saved the object they aimed at. All the gates in the Ratctiffe-row and Macclesfieldstreet were closed, but the walls, standing 18 feet high, were lined with persons. Some were pulling others down to obtain a view, while as many more were pushed over and received serious injuries; at this time a small wicket, large enough to admit one person, was forced, and in rushed the multitude as fast the possibly could; the intunders were h

totally consumed.

(FURTHER PARTICULARS.)

The conflagration was not owing either to the explosion of gas, or the taking fire of tow as reported, but from the bursting of a carboy of vitriol. It commenced in a warchouse to the eastward of the basin on entering by the arch from Racliffe-row, and was first discovered by a bargeman. The loss is reported this morning at 30,000l., but we have reason for believing it does not reach to near that amount, though the scene presents a picture of complete desolation; the ruins send up dense clouds of smoke, which mingle with the gloom of snow and sleet. At eleven o'clock, the half consumed body of Mr. Vilel collecting clerk of Messrs. Pickford's was dug out, to getter with the mangled joints of a boy named Thomas, and conveyed in a shell to St. Luke's bone-house.

Doven, Fen. 26, 1824.—Lord and Lady Granville, ith their family and suite, arrived yesterday after-on at Wright's. Ship Hotel, and this morning, at o'clock, embarked on board his Majesty's steam acket the Arrow, Captain Butter, with every prosect of making the passage to Calais in two hours ad helf.

pacted making the passage to Calais in two hours and a half.
It is sa'd in the fashionable circles that Lord John Thyne will lead to the hymeneal alter, on Tuesday next, the heautiful and accomplised Miss Ecresford, niece to Mrs. George Byag.

THE LATE CARDINAL CONSALVI.

THE LATE CARDINAL CONSALVI.

(FROM THE COURIER.)

ROME, J.N. 18-24.—His eminence Cardinal Consalvi is no more? This great Minister, who had governed Rome for nearly three-and-twenty years, and to whom Pins VII. was warmly attached, fell avietin this morning to his long and dreadful sufferings, which he bore with admirable fortitude, and true Christian patience and piaty. Admitted to a know-ledge of the leading interests of Europe, he was in the contidence of all the negociators who visited the Ponitical States; or with whom he had oceasion to be acquainted while in Vienna, Paris, London.

The importance of the affairs of Europe ever since the beginning of this century is sufficiently notorious. The Pope was hostile to no party—he was more injured than offending—but talents of the first order were necessary to induce those Powers who professed a different fulfi, from the Church of Rome to interest themselves in his béhalf. Cardinal Consalvi possessed talents of that description to a superior degree.—Treated with distinction by the different Power of Europe and their representatives, he was also honoured by the particular attention and regard of our own Sovereign.

His Ennience possessed a precision and discernment which enabled-him to class every different subject of action in his mind with order and method.—When the moment arrived for decision, his clear head and ready talent presented them to his attention, already sifted (if one may use the expression) in all their different bearings. He distinguished with peenlar sagacity political from religious interest; and when he had to discuss those of a political nature in which his own court was concerned, he met the demands of the opposite negociators with a frankness and firmness, which discovered to them at once the extent to which they might expect their pretensions to be admitted; for if one could wehavier to name amongst his many eminent virtues, the predominust one, it was a purity of truth and a fidelity to his promise, which no difficulty of anger could dimi

ple, in the Concordat of 1817 he nobly apprised the King of his rights, agif he had been negociating for France.

The qualities of his heart were gentleness, mildness, and affection—he was ever attentive, whether to a simple recommendation, or to the more important appeals to his higher duties. Rome seemed to belong to him as well as to Pope Pius VII. Each appeared to be her illegituinate Sovereign. No man ever acquired, in a greater degree, the friendship of illustrions persons, of all rauks and countries, that of of Leo XII. although more tardy, came to cheer his latter day.

The agreer of this distinguished Statesman was marked by events of the highest interest by the many important treaties he negotiated, by his protection of the fine arts and sciences, and by his unvestried attention to preserve the monuments of antiquity; thus filling the Papal Siffices with admirable monuments of his munificence, whilst, at the same time, he replaced the Holy See in a situation comparative independence and security.

Rome has indeed lost in Consalvi her bestfriend, and sensible to her loss, Rome poured out in crowds to do homoge to his remains. The multitude which assembled was unprecedented—every one was eager to have a last look, and to bid him a last farewell.—His fine countenance still bore the expression of his last words—words which, in the mouth of a man who till the last fave months had been for nearly 23 years Minister, tell volumes. It is known that a few hours before his death, the Pope, who mad learned to do justice to his merits, and was deeply grieved at his expected loss, sent him, at his request, his blessing by Cardinal Castiglioni, one of Consalvi's friends. The dving Cardinal received it with thanks. Cardinal Castiglioni seked him if there was any thing he wished to have said to the Pope. Consalvi answerbed without a groon. The following is the Latin inscription enclosed in his ceffin, and I will end my letter, yaving as hat does—

DEATH OF MR. LUKE WHITE.

On Saturday, an account was received in town of the death of Luke White, Seq. at his seat, near St. Alban's, Hertiordshire, where he has of late principally resided. Mr. White was in his usual health, and conversing with Mr. Marsden formerly one of the Irish Under Secretaries, when he droped down and expired without a groan. By his death there is a vacancy in Parliament for the County Leitrin, of which he was the faithful representative. We will not attempt to dilate upon his many virtues, both public and private. From a small beginning, he rose to great wealth and high station, without eney—without imputation. He is the founder, not of one, but of many families, having left to each of his sons splendid fortunes—but he has left them, what is more-valuable, his exceptle, in nothing more worthy of their imitation than in his love of country, and his attachment to civil and religious liberty—Freeman's Journal.

## IRISH MAILS.

IRISH MAIIS.

It is in contemplation to convey the Mails between London and the South of Ireland entirely by the route through this city to Milford Haven. According to the present mode, they pass three times a-week through Bath and Bristol, and, three times through the Mail of the

Young radishes and tongue-grass have been presented to a person in this town, which grew in the graden of Mr. Bernard 'N'eil, Crossuacreery—Belfast N. L.

Last week, 60 bales of tobacco were seized, at or near Wilson's Point, a little to the northward of Baugor.—Ibid.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

to the wite #

HOUSE OF COMMONS-FRIDAY, FEB. 27. USURY LAWS.

Sir R. Heave steed to ask the learned sergeant (Ondow) shether at that lake hour, and in the exhausted state of the house, many members having attended stready nine hours, he proposed to go into the committee upon the usury laws repeal will. It was really to be hoped that the learned sergeant did not, seeing the vast importance of the subject, the extreme anxiety of unmerous opponents to the measure, and the probable length to which the discussion would run.

Mr. Serzeant Onstow thought if the hon, bart.

would run.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow thought if the hon bart, had been present on Friday last, he would not have asked this question. He had then postponed it till to-day, upon the express understanding that it should now come of the control of the co

to-day, upon the express understanding that it should now come of the committee ... 85
The house then divided, when the numbers were—For going into the committee ... 85
Againstit ... ... ... ... 31
Majority ... 44
On re-netering the gallery, we found
Mr. Robertson on his legs, tracing the existence of usury laws up to the time of the ancient Romans, and opposing the repeal of those now in force in this country. The borrower, as it seemed to him was always a fit object for protection, inasmuch as that he acted from necessity; the lender had no such plea. It was a gross error to suppose that there were no usury laws in France, or Holland, or Gernauty; no doubt the laws were guaded occasionally in those countries, as they were in this; but by no means to such any extent, as some hone, gentleman imagined. Let the house look at India, and see the state to which the natives were reduced by the want of a check upon the interest of money. Where usury was once permitted to get footing, there was no end to its encroachments; money was lent, not by the year, but by the month the week and the day. In Chian, where interest was limited only to 33 per cent. the wealth was all found; collected in a few hands, and the mass, of the people were ground down to the lowest state of miscry had degradation. The witnesses examined before the committee had almost all of them been interested parties; but there was not one who spoke to any inconvenience from the laws as they now stood; 'Mr. Rothschild was decidedly of opinion that there would be dauger in their alteration. It was instanced as a proof, that throwing open the money trade could do no harm, that the interest was now lower than the sum allowed by the state, but the was all known did not now get his discounts under conviction that the country had not the slightest be lief that the house would pass the bill, sat down by more inclined to limit or interfere with the price of money than he would be to fix that of any other commony than he would be to fix that of any other conmony.

Captain Mannexy supported the bill; and was no more inclined to limit or interfere with the price of money than he would be to fix that of any other commodity.

Mr. Aldernan Hevevre decidedly opposed the projected measure, and read a recommendation from a committee of the house, dated the 30th of May, 1818, pointing out that time as a most fitting one for the repeal of the laws in question. If that recommendation had been followed, he would put it to the house what would have been the case two months after, when the change was made in the state of the currency. He heardfor no inconvenience from the laws as they stood; saw no petitions for their repeal. The witnesses examined before the coamittee above stairs—what were they? Lawyers and capitalists—no people else. Besides, he, generally speaking, attached no great weight to the evidence given before committees. When a gentleman brought a question forward he was permitted probably to name his own committee; and then the members of that committee cided witnesses whose view coincided with their own. He had himself been asked twenty times to come and give evidence on particular committees; and if ever he had stated that his opinion differed from that of the friend applying, the answer had been—"Oh, then you had better stay away?" (hear and laughter.) He forgeaw great difficulty in the common treasactions of his from the want of a fixed rate of interest. Guardians and trustees, who had not got high rates, might be challenged with neglect of datu. Besides, the question was not how would the measure affect the great manied men, but the small delare who wanted accommodation. If a farmer went to a country bank for money, what was to prevent the banker from charging him any interest he pleased? The man, perhaps, was known but at that one bank; perhaps, there was no other within a considerable distance. Again, with reference & the arrangements of Government, could any man doubt that if the usury has had been repealed twenty years back, the national delt would have been fou

those laws.

Mr. C. W. Wwyn attributed the usury laws, the wisdom and antiquity of which were so loudly vaunted, to the spirit of meddling interference, which formerly regulated cloth, corn, and other commodities, including poultry, ancepa subject of grave and deliberate legislation. As to the ment of antiquity, the usury must share it in common with the law which punished all the members, whether nearly or remotify related, of him who had committed a particular offence. In fact, they were beneath the callightened spirit of legislation, which characterized the present age. That they were mainly inoperative, was certain. Every one could produce instances to prove

it. He would content himself with one. He kees a gentleman upon whom a mortage of forty year standing with out to be foreclosed, and though a secure the money, he could not raise 200,0001, upon it, except by annuity at 10 per cent. As to authorities, he did not place much reliance upon separate on it. As to authorities, he did not place much reliance upon separate on the content of the content

Mr. T. Wilson said a few words against the u

Sir John Senatorit was favourable to the measure and begged, as a landed proprietor, to return thanks to the hon, and leasned gent, for have brought it forward.

orough it forward.

Mr. Barno supported the measure, on which is had never entertained but one opinion since he had been capable of forming an opinion on such subject-