

SIX O' ONE AND HALF A DOZEN O' THE OTHER.—"Stranger," said a benighted American traveller, (who had been wending his toilsome march through the briar and brake, through bramble and thicket,) as he came upon a raw-looking genius at the door of a log-hut, "which is the road to—?" "There's two roads," responded the fellow. "Well which is the best?" "Ain't much difference: both on 'em infarnal bad. Take which you will, afore you've a got half way you'll wish you'd tuck t'other."

The following are amusing specimens of the laconic style of correspondence:—(No. 1.) "Dennis Macarthy; You owe me ten shillings. If you dont pay me— Patrick Sullivan." (No. 2.) "Pat Sullivan; I don't owe ye ten shilling. And if I did—Dennis Macarthy." Foote sent the following letter to his mother:—"Dear mother, I am in gaol;" to which the old lady then replied, "Dear, Sam, so am I."

"Do you believe in ghosts, Mrs. Partington?" "What" asked the old lady somewhat timidly. "To be sure I do," replied she, "as much as I believe that bright fulminary there will rise in the yeast to-morrow morning, if we live and nothing happens. Two apprehensions have sartainly appeared in our family. Why, I saw dear Paul, a fortnight before he died with my own eyes, just plain as I see you now, and though it turned out afterwards to be a rose bush with a nightcap on it, I shall always think to the day of my desolation, that it was a fore-runner sent to me. T'other one came in the night when we were asleep, and carried away three candles and a pint of spirits. Believe in ghosts, indeed! I guess I do, and he must be a dreadful styptic as doesn't."

LAMARTINE.—In a letter to a friend dated March 1, and published in the *Courier des Etats-Unis*, Lamartine says: "For seven days I have hardly had breathing time. I have passed three without ceasing to harangue and combat in the midst of 60,000 men, more agitated than the waves of the sea, but it was a sea of fire and of iron. God has protected me; now may he protect the Mother of ideas and great hearts—la France!"

PRINCE ALBERT.—Not contented with the £30,000 this fortunate individual is in yearly possession of, he has managed to get possession of the following offices—Steward and Duchy of Windsor; Ranger and Keeper of Hyde and St. James's Parks; High Steward of Plymouth: Capt.-Gen. and Col. of Artillery.

THE ARMIES OF EUROPE.—According to the most recent authorities, the armies of the principal powers are as follow:

Russia	568,000
Austria	414,000
France	340,000
Prussia, Bavaria, and other German States	268,000
Great Britain	137,895

The People's Charter, as it is called, contains six heads: 1. Universal Suffrage. 2. Vote by Ballot. 3. No Property Qualification. 4. Annual Parliaments. 5. Payment of Members. 6. Equal Electoral Districts.

The Old Umbrella.—Louis Philippe left his umbrella at Paris. We suppose he had no use for it when the reign had ceased.

All for the Best.—An aged spinster was wont to console herself by-past disappointment in the matrimonial line by the following reflection:—If she had been married, and had a baby, and the poor thing had crawled into the oven and burned itself to death, what a terrible thing that would have been!!!

Rustic Acuteness.—Counsellor Wallace once said to a countryman in a smock-frock who was undergoing his examination in the witness-box, "You in a smock-frock, how much are you paid for lying?" "Less than you are, unfortunately, or you would be in a smock-frock too."

Ancient Test of Love.—In the days of yore lovers punctured their arms with daggers, and mingled the blood with wine, drank it off to the health of their sweet-hearts. (More fools they!)

News by the last week's English Mail.

IRELAND.

The Cork Examiner states that the following resolution was adopted by the Roman Catholic clergy of Mill street deanery, diocese of Kerry, on the 26th ult.

"Resolved, That in the present agitated state of public feeling in this district, we feel bound thus publicly to declare our deliberate conviction, that, notwithstanding our earnest desire to promote peace and obedience to the constituted authorities, our best exertions will not be effected unless the Government do immediately restore to our country its own legislature, a measure which we look upon as practicable, and the only one calculated to remove the distress and embarrassment, and discontent, under which the classes in society are labouring.

- P. FITZPATRICK, P. P., V. F., Mill street.
- DANIEL HEALEY, C. C., do.
- THOMAS MAGINN, do. do.
- JOHN NAUGHTIN, P. P., Killneen.

A meeting of the Irish Confederation took place in Dublin on the 3d inst. The attendance was most nu-

merous, and the greatest possible enthusiasm prevailed. Much anxiety was evinced to be present at the proceedings, as it was understood that Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Devin Reilly, the writers of the United Irishman, had resigned as members of the Confederation. Mr. Chas. H. O'Neill, barrister at law, was called to the chair. Several admissions took place, among whom were Sir Jas. Anderson and the Rev. Mr. Birmingham, P. P., &c. The principal speakers were Mr. J. B. Dillon, Mr. C.G. Duffy, and Mr. Meagher. The resolutions proposed and carried amidst the loudest acclamations were:—

"Resolved, That the Lord Lieutenant having issued a proclamation against the proposed National Council and National Guard, the Confederation desire to warn the people that proclamations are merely formal notices, neither altering nor giving any new force whatever to the existing law; and they call upon the country to proceed as heretofore in their arrangements in both these matters."

"Whereas the Council of Three Hundred—proposed by the late Mr. O'Connell in 1843, and now revived by the general wish of the Irish people—would derive its chief value from being a fair representation of the people of Ireland, of all classes and associations.

"Resolved, That the Irish Confederation postpones till its next meeting putting forth any formal plan for the convocation of the Council, as we perceive by the public journals that the Repeal Association are about to bring forward a proposition for that purpose—a proposition which we pledge ourselves to adopt and act upon, if it is such as will meet the necessities of the time and the wishes of the country."

A grand display of the Irish confederates, in and around Cork, took place in that city on the 1st instant. The numbers assembled on the occasion amounted to nearly 25,000. Mr. Meagher, one of the state traversers, was in attendance, and addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech, urging on all present to procure arms, and prepare themselves for the coming contest.

The Protestant Repeal Association, to which we alluded last week, has issued an address to the Protestants of Ireland. The following is an abstract of the document:

"Brethren,—The time has at length arrived when the Protestants of Ireland can no longer hesitate to declare peaceably, but firmly and distinctly, their sentiments upon the great question which has so long agitated their country. The majority of us have long withheld ourselves from taking any active part in political questions. Disgusted by the time-serving policy of successive administrations, and dreading to mingle ourselves in agitations over which we could hope to exercise no effective control, we stood aloof from the contest, and suffered the conduct of the struggle for Irish independence to pass into other hands. But this timid policy will no longer suit either the spirit or necessity of the times. Now, when men breathe but in associations, the Protestants of Ireland, as a body, must declare, and that without delay, whether they are prepared to assist an English Government in maintaining their rule in this country against the wish of the great majority of its inhabitants; and whether, for any real or supposed benefits of that rule, they will pass through a bloody and doubtful civil war, the principal burden of which must fall upon them; and which, whatever may be its result, cannot be otherwise than disastrous and desolating to our common country. For our part we declare that we are not so prepared; and we invite you to unite with us in this declaration, being convinced that the only intervention now necessary to avoid these multiplied calamities, is the firm and decisive voice of the Irish Protestants.

"We have already declared the principles of the association to be—

"A determination to avoid mixing religious with political questions.

"The protection of vested interests.

"Loyalty to the Queen; and, as a necessary consequence, opposition to Republican principles, so far as concerns our own country.

"We do not, nor do we believe that the majority of our brethren expect or desire any ascendancy, political or religious, over our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen. To equality with them we have a sacred and indefeasible right; and we are convinced that if you, upon mature consideration, arrive at the conclusion that that equality can be, with absolute certainty, guaranteed and maintained, and will at once throw the weight of your intelligence, property and influence into the already trembling scale, by your decision that scale must preponderate inevitably and decisively."

After referring to, and answering probable objections to the repeal movement, on the part of the Protestants, such as its relation to the church establishment, the probability that the Protestants of Ireland will not be accorded toleration by any Irish Parliament, and the possibility of collisions between the English and Irish Parliaments, on matters of foreign policy, winds up in these words:—

"We take this occasion again to disclaim any intention of interfering with the prerogatives of our Sovereign, the rights of the public creditor, of disturbing the present settlement of private property, or in any other manner whatever promoting confusion or revolution. We feel it is sufficient to allude thus briefly to that point; for amongst the numberless accusations preferred against Irish Protestants, the desire of anarchy has never yet been laid to their charge.

"Finally, we earnestly pray that God may pour out upon our rulers 'the spirit of wisdom and of a sound mind,' that concessions be not delayed, till dignified concession be no longer possible, that the claims of justice upon its own merits may be regarded ere yet it be too late, and while agitation has not yet darkened into revolution. Signed by direction of the committee."

The Lord Lieutenant has sent a reply in answer to the address of the magistrates of the county and city of Dublin, who met at Kilmainham on the 28th ult., in the course of which he says:—

"I beg you will accept my cordial thanks for your offers of assistance, of which I shall unhesitatingly avail myself should the necessity for so doing arise—the measures of precaution which it has been the duty of the Government to adopt, have hitherto proved amply sufficient for the maintenance of public tranquility, sanctioned and supported as they have been by all loyal subjects and good citizens. I rejoice to think, however, that of late an important change has taken place, and that the few turbulent and desperate men who have occasioned so much alarm, having nowhere found the support upon which they had vainly reckoned, agitation has in a great measure subsided, and far better is it that it should be put down by the good sense of the people than by measures of coercion; but should the improvement not continue—should evil-disposed persons, by their seditious speeches or writings, persist in inflaming the minds of the people—should the manufacture and sale of weapons that can only be required for bad uses still continue, it will be my imperative duty, both in the metropolis and throughout the country, to put in force all the powers with which I am invested by the law to punish such offences, and to guard the loyal subjects of her Majesty from present or prospective danger."

The proclamation issued by the Lord Lieutenant warning the people against taking part in the proposed Council of Three Hundred, or the formation of the contemplated armed association called a national guard, concludes as follows:—

"Now, therefore, we, George William Frederick Earl of Clarendon, her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland, do hereby declare every such national convention or council, as aforesaid, and every other the like convention or council, by whatever name it may be called, to be unlawful; and we hereby absolutely prohibit the election, constitution or formation of any such convention, council, national guard, or other the like association, and all drilling, use of arms, or practice of military evolutions or exercises, in connection therewith or otherwise, contrary to the provisions of the said act of the 60th year of the reign of his said late Majesty; and we do earnestly caution and warn all her Majesty's well-disposed subjects against the same, and against taking part in any such election or representation, or in the formation of any such national guard, or like armed association, or engaging or promising so to do, on any pretence whatsoever.

"And we call upon and require all sheriffs, magistrates, constables, and other her Majesty's subjects, acting in their aid, to be vigilant in the prevention and repression of all such conventions, elections, associations, and illegal practices, so far as by law they are authorised and empowered to do.

"By his Excellency's command,
WILLIAM M. SOMERVILLE.
Dated at Dublin Castle, this 29th day of April, 1848."

MORE SEDITION.

The *United Irishman*, of Saturday last, abounds, as usual, with glowing panegyrics on the pike, the rifle, and the cold vitriol cure for her Majesty's troops. In reply to a Kilkenny Repealer, requiring information as to what he is to do now that sedition is made felony, Mr. Mitchell responds:—

"Why, get arms. If any one doubted or delayed before, let him about it quick now. Whoso intended to get a pike, let him get two or three, that he may have to lend to his poorer neighbours. Let those arm now who never armed before, and those who always armed now arm the more. We entreat Irishmen to call meetings, to make a fire therein, to burn publicly their registry certificates, and to sign a written pledge to procure, without delay, certain arms, to be therein specified, and ammunition befitting."

Another correspondent, "Anti-Corrosive," is thus answered:—

"Here is a rosewater revolutionist complaining of our description of the beauties of vitriol, and its use and capacity in street-fighting. Why, we are not the inventors of it; even if we were, we would regard it as a right lucky thought, nor scruple to put it in practice, and for these reasons: first, there is no means of offence and defence, no matter how strange or outlandish, how speedy or torturing, that should not become glorious, when used in asserting the liberty of our country, or the right and dignity of citizen men against usurping despots; and, secondly, because no despot, were his hands as white and delicate as snow, his teeth as clean as pearls, and his hair brushed to exquisite perfection, would scruple to use any weapon, or engine, or missile, from Warner's long-range to a lady's bookkin, from the fire of hell to a lucifer match, against us. All the cry about our vitriol is mere cant. A Berlin burgher prepared the other day to throw vitriol from the top-stones of his house on the King's troops, and every Prussian glories in the thought. In the Parisian Revolution of July, 1830, a manufacturer led his workmen to the