
REPORT

OF THE FIRST MEETING IN AID OF

ST. KEVIN'S

Reformatory School for Catholic Boys,

GLENCREE,

HELD AT THE MUSIC HALL, DUBLIN,

Wednesday, May 25th, 1859.

*[Re-printed, by the Committee, from the Freeman's
Journal of Thursday, May 26th.]*

Houses of the Oireachtas

REPORT,

&c.

ST. KEVIN'S REFORMATORY.

A numerous and highly respectable meeting of citizens of Dublin was held yesterday at the Music Hall, to promote the interests of the Catholic Male Reformatory, lately established at Glencree, in the County of Wicklow. The proceedings, as the subjoined report shows, were of the most gratifying character; fully realising the expectations of the friends of Reformatory Institutions, that the citizens of Dublin would come forward to give a hearty support to the valuable Catholic Reformatory at Glencree. A number of ladies occupied places in the boxes. Amongst those on the platform were—

The Chief Baron; Sir E. M'Donnell; F. W. Brady, Esq.; Thomas O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.; Rickard Deasy, Q.C., M.P.; Very Rev. Monsignore Yore, V.G.; Very Rev. Dr. Spratt; Laurence Waldron, Esq., M.P.; John O'Brien, Town Clerk, Waterford; Rev. James Murray, D.D., Chaplain Mountjoy Female Prison; Very Rev. Father Cooke, Provincial, O.M.I.; Captain Esmonde, M.P.; Rev. Father Fox, O.M.I.; J. Lentaigne, Esq., M.D., Director of Convict Prisons; Rev. Father Arnaud, O.M.I.; P. J. Murray, Esq.; Rev. Father Lynch, Director, St. Kevin's Reformatory; Rev. Father Crean, O.S.A.; Dr. Gray; G. G. Place, Esq., J.P.; Matthew Darcy, Esq.; Dr. Kirwan; Rev. Mr. O'Neill; Rev. Mr. M'Mahon, St. Michan's; James Curran, Esq.; Rev. Mr. O'Farrell; James O'Hara, Esq.; J. B. Kennedy, Esq.; Thomas Reynolds, Esq.; Rev. Father Mangan, O.M.I.; P. P. M'Sweeny, Esq.; Very Rev. Canon Pope; D. R. Kane, jun., Esq.; Rev. Mr. O'Dwyer, Enniskerry; Charles Langdale, jun., Esq.; Right Hon. R. M. O'Ferrall, M.P.; Captain Dillon; J. D'Arcy, Esq.; E. W. O'Mahony, Esq.; M. Merriman, Esq.; J. Harkan, Esq.; Thomas Nedley, Esq., M.D.; Mark O'Shaughnessy, Esq.;—Redmond, Esq.; Val. O'B. O'Connor, Esq., D.L.; Rev. Dr. Curtis; P. Byrne, Esq.; Rev. W. Murphy; H. G. Hughes, Esq., Q.C.; Very Rev. A. O'Connell, P.P., D.D.; Rev. W. H. Anderdon; John Daniel, Esq.; N. J. Lalor, Esq., T.C.; Henry O'Hara, Esq., barrister; Daniel M'Dermott, J.P.; W. Gernon, Esq.; Richard Kelly, Esq., T.C.;—Curran, Esq.; Rev. Mr. Irwin; E. M'Vey, Esq., T.C.; Rev. Mr. Murphy; James Egan, Esq.; James Martin, Esq., T.C.; John Gaynor, Esq., J.P.; Rev. James Cavanagh.

On the motion of Mr. Laurence Waldron, M.P., seconded by Frederick Kelly, Esq., the chair was taken, amidst applause, by

SIR EDWARD M'DONNELL.

The Chairman, having thanked the meeting for the honor conferred on him, said that it was not his duty to occupy their attention at any length, as several gentlemen would address them, and explain the object which had brought them together on that occasion. However, he would trespass on them for a few minutes, in order to point out how it was that the present meeting was held after, rather than before, the taking of the building, which was now, and henceforth to be, known as St. Kevin's Reformatory School. The idea of establishing Reformatories for juvenile offenders was entertained for a long time before the passing of the recent act of parliament on the subject. After the passing of the act, an appeal would have been made to the public for means to purchase or erect a building for the purpose; but Glencree Barrack having come into the market, it was thought to be so suitable for a Reformatory, that a committee was at once formed for the purpose of making arrangements to purchase it. They had succeeded in doing so, and it was very doubtful whether any subscriptions that might have been collected to build an edifice would have been sufficient to provide a place so commodious and suitable as that which had now been secured (hear, hear.) Already the institution had been opened; it now contained thirteen boys, and he strongly advised every person, who could spare the time during this fine weather, to go up to Glencree, and see, with his own eyes, how suitable the building was for the purpose intended, and how it was conducted. About 788*l.* had been collected, but it had already been expended in making the necessary repairs; and, therefore, the object of the present meeting was to decide to what extent this most useful institution should be carried. At present it would be able to accommodate between 50 and 60 boys; and whatever might be its extent hereafter, would altogether depend on the result of the public collection now about to be made. About 100 acres were attached to the institution, for the purpose of educating the pupils in agriculture. The building itself would be able to accommodate 200 boys; but a large amount of money would be required to make it fit for the reception of that number (hear). There was a mistaken view in the public mind as to the funds by which these institutes were to be maintained. Many people thought that the government would do all that was required for the establishment and maintenance of reformatories. The fact was that government would do nothing, as to the providing of a place, or the erection of a building; but as soon as a proper site was selected, and a building erected, if the government approved of it, they would give

a certain sum of money for the support of the institution (hear, hear). After some further observations, the chairman concluded by stating that the Rev. Mr. Lynch, the Director, would lay before the meeting some details connected with St. Kevin's Reformatory School.

The Rev. Francis J. Lynch, of the order of Oblates said, that in proceeding to address a meeting assembled to promote the benevolent object of the Reformatory, it was better to come at once to the point, and express a hope that the good example already set by a comparatively few, would be followed by the many in the city, who, having it in their power to assist, had not yet come forward to do so (hear, hear). A great work was before them. It was proposed to rescue from misery and degradation the children of misfortune and poverty—those, who, owing to the crimes, the negligence, or poverty of their parents, or the loss of parents, had been turned aside from the paths of virtue, and exposed to the demoralising influence of vice. What greater act of charity than to stretch forth the hand for the relief of misery of this kind. If it be good to relieve the corporal necessities of the poor, who are suffering from the want of food, how much more commendable to come to the relief of misery, which threatened not the body merely, but which was the certain forerunner of inevitable destruction to immortal souls. Now the means of effecting this great good were before them. A number of gentlemen had combined together for the purpose of inaugurating, in Ireland, what had already been done in England, and much more extensively upon the Continent, namely, to begin the establishment of an institution for the purpose of reclaiming from vice, those who had rendered themselves, by the commission of offences, amenable to the law. The means by which that great good was to be effected, were, in a measure, at present at their disposal. It was necessary, before the good work could be commenced, that an act of parliament should be passed. It was introduced into parliament, and became the law of the land, in the last session but one. The next necessary proceeding was to obtain a house fit for the purpose, and a house had been obtained, placed at such a convenient distance from the city, as, while it effectually prevented all facility for escape, it was, nevertheless, so near as to allow of frequent intercourse between the Directors and the Committee of Management. It had been necessary to procure the aid of a staff for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Committee, and the religious body to which he had the happiness to belong had been selected for that purpose; and he had the honor to stand before them that day as the future Director of the institution (loud applause). In the character, therefore, of Director of the institution, he had been requested to read to them, not exactly a report, for there were yet no materials for such a document, but a simple statement of the actual condition of the place

(applause). The Rev. gentleman then read the following statement :—

The Barrack of Glencree, which the Dublin Catholic Reformatory Committee have taken for the purpose of beginning in Ireland the important work of reclaiming and reforming boys convicted of minor offences against the law, is a building situated amongst the Wicklow mountains, at a distance of about ten miles from the city of Dublin, five from Enniskerry, and seven from Bray. The house, together with 100 acres of land, has been leased by Lord Powerscourt to the trustees, for a period of sixty years, at a rental of 50*l.* per annum, a fine of 250*l.* being payable to a previous tenant in consideration of the relinquishment of his interest in the property. Some of the land belonging to the estate is barren, consisting for the most part of large bogs and stony tracts which forbid all hope of improvement, but a very considerable portion in the immediate vicinity of the house might, by proper management, be made profitable and fit for the production of oats, potatoes, and green crops. The buildings present a frontal of 166 feet, consisting of two wings and a centre. One third of the house is at present in a dilapidated state, the joists and flooring having been removed. The other two thirds contain two rooms each 30*f.* by 18*f.*; nine rooms, each 22*f.* by 18*f.*; four rooms, each about 15*f.* by 18*f.* Three of the nine middle sized rooms have within their dimensions two closets partitioned off, 10*f.* by 6*f.* to serve as small bedrooms, but which, owing to their defective arrangement, must be considered as forming parts of the larger rooms containing them. A considerable outlay, however, will be required to put these rooms in a state available for the purpose of receiving and reforming boys, the floors of some on the first story having failed, and being now in an unsafe state, and all needing more or less of alteration and repair to fit them for use. We labor at present under the very serious inconvenience of having to manage a Reformatory without corridors or passages of any kind, one room opening into another, and no means existing of passing from one part of the building to the other without going through rooms or descending one of the three staircases and ascending by another, after passing to the exterior of the walls. For the purpose of effectually working a reformatory, it is indispensably necessary to have dormitories—one or more sufficiently large to contain the proposed number of beds: a chapel; a refectory; a lavatory; a school room; work rooms, numerous in proportion to trades taught; a bakery; a wash house; store rooms, large in proportion to the proposed number of inmates in the Reformatory; a cow house, stable, and the usual out offices connected with a farm; sheds in which those boys who are engaged in out door work may be employed in mat-making, mop-making, &c., when hindered by the inclemency of the weather from following

their ordinary avocations ; the rooms requisite for the accommodation of the staff employed in superintending the establishment, including a kitchen, commodious enough to serve both officers and boys. It is also desirable, if not absolutely necessary, to have an infirmary in the event of sickness occurring amongst the inmates of the house, together with a bath room to ensure cleanliness amongst the boys. From preceding details it will be evident that the difficulties in carrying out the benevolent intentions of the reformatory committee in a building which, however great its capabilities of development, is yet so imperfectly suited for the purpose, have been considerable ; and it may be even asked if it have been possible, with the amount of accommodation actually existing, to commence the work of the reformatory ? Notwithstanding, however, the existing condition of the premises, the building has been opened as a reformatory, and thirteen boys have already actually been admitted and are now residing therein. The general feeling of the public in favour of institutions of this nature—the admitted urgency of the case, owing to the number of juvenile criminals annually committed to prisons for minor offences, and who are returned again upon society only to renew their previous dishonest course of life—the desirableness of testing, without delay, the value of a system in Ireland which has produced such astonishing results upon the continent—these, and many other reasons, have doubtless concurred to induce the working committee to inaugurate the Reformatory of St. Kevin, at Glencree ; and accordingly a staff, consisting of a superior, a prefect, a sub-prefect, a schoolmaster, a cook, a farmer, three trades-masters, viz., a shoemaker, tailor, and joiner, have taken up their abode at Glencree, and are now engaged in superintending the few boys already received, and making such arrangements as may enable them to receive the greatest number that the house may be capable of accommodating. It is evident, however, that unless means be afforded to the committee to carry out the necessary alterations and additions, the undertaking will labour under very serious disadvantages, and it will not be difficult to foresee that when the small number of boys shall be increased, disorder and confusion will necessarily be the result if the premises be not then in a state of sufficient completeness to ensure the proper working of the system adopted by the Committee, and to be carried out by us.

In reference to what might be done with a view to carrying out the great objects of the committee—viz., the reformation of the largest number of boys—two plans are open for consideration : the one expensive but giving promise of great results ; the other less so, but affording only a prospect of reclaiming a comparatively small number of juvenile delinquents. The former of these plans consists in adding to the rear of the present range of building, which, although 166 feet in length, is only, exclusive of walls, 18 feet in depth, an

entire range of new premises, connecting them to the present building by means of a central corridor, the absence of which at present is felt to be a serious inconvenience. The adoption of this plan would provide an edifice capable of accommodating many hundreds of boys, and afford facilities for carrying out the objects of the committee upon a scale worthy of the city of Dublin, and equal to, if not far beyond, any existing reformatory in the sister island. The latter consists in simply putting the present dilapidated portion of the existing building into a state of thorough repair, replacing the joists and floors throughout, and making such arrangements as might secure the greatest amount of accommodation now deficient in the habitable portion of the edifice. If all this be done, the Barrack of Glencree may be capable of lodging some 80 or 100 boys, but beyond this its capabilities cannot be extended. For the former of these plans a few thousand pounds would be required; for the latter as many hundreds would suffice. It remains for the citizens of Dublin and the public at large to decide whether a reformatory upon a limited scale would suffice for present exigencies, or whether it might not be desirable to adopt such plans as would ensure the most complete building which could reasonably be desired wherein to carry on the work contemplated by the law recently enacted for the reformation of youth in Ireland. The adoption of the less expensive plan proposed, whilst it will afford means insufficient to meet the requirements of the country, will also be attended with much inconvenience to the directors of the reformatory. Instead of one, or at most two, large dormitories, the arrangement of the present building will involve the necessity of having no less than seven, and, consequently, the task of superintending the boys on retiring to rest, during the night, and subsequently on rising in the morning, will have to be performed by seven officers instead of one or two. Owing to the limited number of the staff at present engaged in directing the reformatory, every member thereof, with the exception of the superior and his assistant, would thus have to perform the duty of superintendent not only during the hours respectively allowed to each in the day, but also during the above mentioned period. Every one at all acquainted with the management of reformatories will easily understand how important it is that the utmost order and regularity should be maintained in the dormitories, and how difficult it will be to ensure this perfect order when the task of superintendence, instead of being confided to one or two, has to be undertaken by many, some of whom may not possess the requisite qualifications for the due performance of the duty. The work of the reformatory may be said to have commenced on the 14th April last, when the first boy was received therein from the Richmond Bridewell. Since that date boys have continued to come at intervals of three or four days, and

at present the number amounts to 13, of whom four were never previously convicted, four only once before convicted, four convicted three or four times, one convicted 19 times. Of those at present in the reformatory, three are 13 years of age, one, 11 do; three, 14 do; five, 15 do; one, 16 do; three have lost both parents, six one parent, and four have still both parents living. In consequence of the suggestion of the government and the general feeling of the committee and directors of the institution, it has been thought advisable to hold out to the boys a prospect of pecuniary advantage as an incitement to good conduct; and as it is quite possible for a boy to be skilful and industrious at a trade, but at the same time bad in all other respects, a plan has been devised for according the reward, not as a reward merely for industry in labouring at any particular trade or business, but for general good conduct in every respect whilst in the house. The method by which this result is obtained consists in the division of the boys into five distinct classes or sections, viz. :—1. The section of honour—First class. 2. The section of honour—Second class. 3. The section of honour—Third class. 4. The section of reserve. 5. The section of disgrace. To determine to which of these classes or sections a boy is to belong tables have been drawn up comprising minor and grave faults, the commission or non-commission of which during a definite period will involve either degradation or promotion to the inferior or superior sections. An exact registry of the conduct of each boy during the whole period of his detention is kept, and those who succeed in reaching the section of honour—1st class—are entitled during each month of their continuance therein to a certificate, equivalent to a sum of money, which sum will be reserved for the period of their discharge from the reformatory, and will then be given to them as a means of procuring tools or other requisites to enable them to begin a new and meritorious career in the world. With regard to the actual working of the reformatory, the experience of the directors is at present, of course, exceedingly limited, owing to the short time the institution has been in existence. The boys, however, are in excellent dispositions, and apparently well contented with their position and future prospects. No boy has as yet evinced any inclination to escape, and with, perhaps, one or two exceptions, all are desirous of remaining the full time of their conviction, and profiting by their stay in the house to acquire a knowledge of some useful trade or occupation. In consequence of the very short time which has elapsed since the opening of the reformatory, no financial statement has as yet been prepared. The money already subscribed by the public, and now lodged in the bank to the credit of the committee, amounts to £788 5s. Of this sum £250 will have to be paid to the previous tenant of the barracks as compensation for the relin-

quishment of his interest in the property. Nearly £100 has been already expended in repairs and other necessary expenses incurred by the staff, and a considerable sum will have to be paid to tradesmen for furniture, timber, provisions, &c., the accounts for which have not yet been delivered. The directors entertain the hope that the good work already so happily and successfully commenced may not be impeded by deficient means; that they may be enabled to labour still more effectually than heretofore in the ample field for exertion which now presents itself before them, and that before another year shall have passed away, a real and a lasting benefit will have been conferred upon society by the permanent reformation of much at least of the juvenile delinquency of Ireland and the metropolis.

Charles Langdale, Esq., jun. then came forward and was received with loud cheers. He said, since he came to the meeting, which he did, as they all had done, because he felt an interest in the movement, a resolution had been put into his hands, and he should say he would not have taken on himself to speak on the present occasion except that it was imposed on him, and because he had the happiness of having seen one of these admirable institutions in operation. The resolution he had to propose was—"That the statement just read by the Reverend Mr. Lynch, be adopted as his report for the time during which he has been Director of St. Kevin's Reformatory." He (Mr. Langdale) thought that they must all have been struck with the excellent beginning that had been made, and it only now remained for them to carry the matter to a successful completion. He had the greatest confidence that the result of the meeting would be to give Father Lynch the support which he contemplated and suggested, and that of the two plans they would unanimously agree that the largest plan was that which they would desire to carry out (cheers). From his experience of a similar institution in England, he could bear out the statement of the Rev. Mr. Lynch, that the work of reformation was much better performed in a large institution which is thoroughly organised for the purpose, than it could be in a small institution, where things would go on in a make-shift sort of way (hear, hear). He would tell them some of the facts connected with the institution—a Roman Catholic Reformatory in England—with which he was acquainted from its first institution. That institution was in Yorkshire, under the direction of the Fathers of Charity. In the report of the director, which was read last November to a meeting called for the purpose of carrying on a Reformatory, it was stated that there were then about one hundred boys; since then it had increased to one hundred and fifteen. Speaking as an Englishman to an Irish audience, he (Mr. Langdale) should say that in England the position of the Catholic

was different from what it was in Ireland. In England the Catholics were but units in the mass of the Protestant population. When the reformatory measure was first passed through parliament, the English Catholic felt that now, indeed, there was an opportunity afforded of showing to the world what they were. They felt that their religion gave them an opportunity of solving one of the greatest social problems of the present day; this they undertook, and, so far, happily with very satisfactory results (hear, hear, and cheers). There were three reformatories opened in England under the care of religious bodies—one in London, one in Leicestershire, and one in Yorkshire. When he was in England, the chapel he attended was near to the Reformatory. On Sunday evenings, especially if the weather was fine, the boys were sent to the chapel, and they returned singing hymns in praise of the Blessed Virgin. If the audience had the opportunity as he (Mr. Langdale) had, of hearing the boys singing these hymns, he was sure they would all feel a deep interest in the boys and the good work of Reformatories (hear, hear). From the report which he had referred to, it would appear that the system pursued in the English reformatory was exactly the same as that proposed to be followed by the Rev. Mr. Lynch at the Glencree Reformatory. He was present on an occasion of honourable promotion at the classes of the Reformatory in England, and it was most pleasing to witness the satisfaction of the boys who were promoted, and the interest taken by the others in the success of their fellows. Since that Reformatory was opened, only two boys were discharged from it, and these boys, when they appeared before the Bishop to obtain his last blessing, were dressed in clothes manufactured in the institution. It was part of the plan of the Reformatory that the boys should be taught only useful trades, in addition to their general instruction in agriculture. This was a most important and valuable matter, as the boys, when they left the institution, would be enabled to earn their living in an honourable way (applause). In all respects, the Reformatory in England that he spoke of, was most successful, and he would conclude by expressing an earnest hope that the Irish Reformatory would be equally, if not more, successful in its system, as he was sure it would be most valuable in its results (applause).

Mr. Waldron, M.P., said that he had been requested to second the resolution which had been proposed by Mr. Langdale. The document which had been read by the Rev. Mr. Lynch, had stated so fully and lucidly all the facts connected with this infant institution, that it would be impossible for him to add at all by way of amendment. Anything he could say would only weaken the effect which it was so well calculated to produce, and he would, therefore, content himself with simply seconding the resolution.

Mr. O'Hagan, Q.C., then presented himself, and was received with enthusiastic and prolonged cheering. When silence was restored, he said—"Ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to meet you here to-day, because to me and a number of others who have taken a very deep interest in the question to be submitted to you, this meeting, and what we expect from this meeting, will be a very great reward. I have been requested by the Committee to say a word or two with reference to the nature of the act of parliament under which the institution, so well described by the Rev. gentleman who read that admirable report, has been established, and in coming to speak to you on that subject, I feel strongly that though the question before you is not political—though it does not address itself very much to the passions and feelings of mankind—I feel, notwithstanding, that that question, being one of mercy and justice, and the highest social interest, ought to command your most kindly and generous consideration. I have said that the question is not political, and that it does not address itself very much to the passions of men, but so far as we regard either the obligations of humanity, or the spirit of our religion, that question, I repeat, is of the very highest interest and importance (hear, hear). I am perfectly aware that when questions like this are mooted amongst us, there are many people who talk of the sickly sentimentality which prompts men to interfere with the punishment of those who have offended against the laws of society. There is a great deal of talk of that kind. All I can say about it is, that talk of that kind ought, from what has occurred in the world, at last to be banished from amongst us (cheers). Punishment for crime is a necessity of society; and no doubt, the man who will prevent sufficient punishment for crime against society, is no friend to social order; but I believe this to be perfectly true, that every single punishment which is not necessary, by the want of its necessity, becomes unjust (applause). I say also, that whenever reformation can be connected with punishment it is the absolute duty of the state, and of all who can do anything towards that end, to take care that reformation and punishment shall be so connected (hear, hear). I believe that the true principle of penal jurisprudence is this—reform when you can—punish sternly when you must (loud and continued cheers).

Now, some friends of mine are possessed with the notion which I have indicated to you. They say that it is a wrong thing to be very tender or very jealous as to the treatment of public criminals. These are men who, if they had lived a few years ago, would have approved of the blood-written codes which so largely disgraced our humanity—those codes which were prepared and acted upon in the spirit of that ancient legislator, who said, "For the slightest crime the punishment of death is not excessive, and for the greatest I know of none more severe."

They would, undoubtedly, when, according to the law of this land, a man could be sent to the gallows for stealing five shillings worth of property—they would have said, as many then did say, that it was mere sickly sentimentality to attempt to save human life, made forfeit by such a law. Happily, most happily, the time for these things, I think, is passed. We have seen improvements in the system of our criminal jurisprudence. We have seen improvements in the condition of our prisons, which are no longer (though they are not yet as they ought to be) what they were within the memory of the existing generation—dens of demons ruled over by men scarcely less demoniac than themselves (loud cheers). It is a change to be rejoiced in by every good Christian man that, in the discipline, in the order, and in the classification of those prisons, there has been a great and continuous improvement—which is going on day after day, increasing and to increase, until they shall become really what they ought to be: and, so far as adults are concerned, it is a blessed thing that, in this city of Dublin, there is, at this moment, an experiment in progress which, in its admirable results, is unexampled, I believe, in the history of the world (hear). If a stranger came to Dublin, and if any man knowing what I know of what is going on quietly amongst us, were asked where should that stranger go to see the thing which to him, if he were a man of intelligence and heart, would be of the highest interest, he would point attention to the working of the institutions at Smithfield and at Golden-bridge; and he would say this, that, as a man of humanity and intellect, that stranger would be more delighted by observing the reformation which is effected in adult criminals, male and female, in these noble institutions, than by any other thing in this vast metropolis (hear). If that can be said as to adults, what is to be said of those children whose cause we come here to-day to advocate? It has been doubted and denied that the reformation of adult criminals is possible. It has been especially stated in public meetings and by grave writers, that female criminals are incapable of reformation. The experiment of Golden-bridge has answered that fallacy, and answered it for ever. But it was never doubted that, as to children, the distinction was plain and clear. No reasonable man ever questioned that there is a difference between the crime of the child and the crime of the adult, and that that which could not possibly be done with an adult might certainly be done with a child. It has always been a perfectly clear thing to every reasoning man, that the mind of a child being ductile, malleable, manageable, although that child be criminal, virtue may be superinduced upon his crime and put in substitution for it. Lord Brougham truly said on one occasion, that it had been perfectly demonstrated that the first crime of a child if properly dealt with, might be made the last; and we come here to say that, if we can and when we can, the first crime of the Irish child

shall be made the last (loud applause). The distinction between the adult and the child has not been recognised by our law, but it has been recognised by the laws of other nations, and in this, as in many similar matters, we have been outrun by our brethren of the Continent (hear, hear). Fifty long years ago, the law of France recognised the difference between the crime of the child *sans discretion* and the crime of the grown man; and in France was originated that movement which we come here this day to carry out for Ireland. Everywhere on the Continent—in France, as I have said, in Belgium, in Austria, in Prussia, in Hungary—everywhere for years, there have been reformatory institutions which we are only now beginning to establish. In France—it is a thing to be told to you that you may be animated in your place and sphere to something of a spirit of noble emulation—there was a man who held the position of a judge—a man of station and of high consideration amongst his fellow men—He descended from that station, he abandoned the great position which he held, he abandoned the world, and devoted his life to the reformation of the juvenile criminals of his country (hear hear). Demetz, the founder of Mettray, ceased to be a judge that he might be the reformer of those whom, if he had continued to be a judge, it would have been his duty to condemn: and if any of you go, as I have gone, to Mettray, you will find that man, the ex-Judge of Paris, living amongst the little criminals of France, their brother and their friend, rather than their master—dwelling with them from morning until night, and from night until morning—in the same apartments—resting on a bed like theirs, living on food like theirs, and like them sustaining life on the sum, as it is calculated, of seven pence a day (applause.) These things had been existing for many long years on the Continent; and, after a time, in England, good men began to think that something of a similar kind might be introduced with great advantage to themselves (loud and continued cries of hear, hear.) And, for many years, Englishmen associated themselves spontaneously, without the sanction of any law, in order that they might save their little ones from destruction. By their own honest and humane efforts, to a certain extent they succeeded; but even in England there was an indisposition to bring the law to bear in the service of humanity; and for a long time that act was not passed which ultimately gave the force of law to the voluntary action of virtuous men.

Time went on, but we had nothing of the kind in Ireland. Year after year, men, some of whom are around me, felt deeply anxious upon the subject. They were doing what they could in a quiet way—I and others speaking, when we could, a word in season—my friend beside me, Mr. P. J. Murray, acting with an energy and perseverance, beyond all praise, in this noble cause (loud cheers.)

Ultimately, through the efforts of good men, of all parties and creeds—for upon this question there was no distinction of party and none of creed—under the auspices of my most able and accomplished friend, Sergeant Deasy (enthusiastic applause,) an act of parliament was passed which enabled us to found this Reformatory Institution (hear, hear, and cheers.) And I come now, in a very few words, to do that duty I have been asked to perform by the committee—to state to you, and to the public generally, the substance of the statute, which it is our bounden duty, as Christians and as men, to carry out to the very utmost of our power (cheers.) The act provides, that when a certain number of people, associating themselves voluntarily together, and subscribing their money for the purpose, have founded a reformatory school, they may apply to the government, represented by the Chief Secretary for Ireland, who is to send an inspector. An inspector is not yet appointed for this purpose—Captain Crofton, a man who has done infinite service in other departments of this work of humanity (hear, hear), having taken upon himself, gratuitously, up to the present time, the duties of inspection. The inspector examines the school, examines the buildings, sees their adaptability or insufficiency for the purpose contemplated, and if he reports that the place is sufficient, and suited for that purpose, it then becomes a Reformatory School under the authority of government. When so much is accomplished, there are certain powers given to grand juries of counties and counties of towns in Ireland, to afford certain aids out of the public funds towards the institution. I need not trouble you much upon that point, because, for the present, we have nothing to do with it. But when the school has been sanctioned this then occurs. A child under sixteen years of age brought before a court of competent criminal jurisdiction, and convicted of a criminal offence, may be sent, having suffered imprisonment for a period of fourteen days, at the will of the judge or court, to the reformatory for a period ranging from one to five years, in order that his condition of morals and character may be improved (hear, hear.) It is provided, and the provision is exceedingly important, that no offender shall be liable to be sent to any reformatory school save one under the exclusive management of persons of his own religious persuasion (cheers)—a provision to which I shall advert in a few words just now, but, which, in passing, I may say, lies at the very foundation of the usefulness of this act of parliament (hear, hear.) When the child is sent to the school he is, as I have said, to be kept there for a period of one, two, three, four, or five years, as the case may be; unless, in the mean time, he improves to such an extent, and the managers of the school are enabled to obtain for him such employment, that it may become judicious to send him out of the school to earn his bread amongst honest people; and if that occur, it is

competent to the Chief Secretary, upon the representation of the committee, to shorten, at any time, the period of his detention, and allow him to go at large. Another most important provision to which I think it necessary to call your attention is this—that when, by voluntary efforts, a reformatory school has been put in action by the subscriptions of people, who agree amongst themselves to do it, a power is given to the Commissioners of the Treasury to allow such sum as they may think desirable for the care and maintenance of the children committed to that reformatory—a provision of a most important character, as I shall show you just now, with reference to the pecuniary interest of the ratepayers of the community. That being so, another provision made by the act of parliament is this—if a child is sent to a reformatory school, and if the parent of the child is competent to pay anything towards his maintenance, it is provided, by the 15th. section, that that parent may be compelled to pay for that object any sum not exceeding five shillings a week. That is a most valuable provision with reference to the working of the Act. I do not think it important to communicate anything more to you with reference to the machinery under which our institution is to work. It is not necessary to say to you, whether you regard the necessities of society or the moral and social results which may and must arise from the operation of that machinery, that it is of the greatest possible public importance. I have a number of statistical details before me, showing most distinctly that in this city of Dublin there are, year after year, hundreds of juvenile offenders convicted under 16 years of age, as to the majority of whom it may fairly be said, that if they were not sent to corrupting prisons they might become as honest as any other people in the whole community (cheers).

It is further apparent from those statistics, with which I shall not now trouble you, and from the report read by my friend Father Lynch, that these unhappy children are sent to jail not once or twice, but in many cases five, ten, and twenty times—aye 100 times. Hundreds of times children under 16 years of age have been sent to jail, and discharged from jail, and the hundredth time they were infinitely worse than before they went to jail at all. No man acquainted with the working of criminal courts in Ireland and England has any doubt of this—that in spite of the improvements to which I have pointed in our common jails—and they are great and blessed in their operation, so far as juvenile offenders are concerned—these common jails, up to the present hour, are hotbeds of corruption and mere schools of crime (cries of hear, hear.) And when a little child who has fallen from virtue, perhaps from thoughtless folly, perhaps from want, perhaps from the gross misconduct of his parents, for which he is not responsible—when he is sent into a gaol he goes

there, not to learn morality, not to be instructed in religion, but to herd with those who have been contaminated already, and whose greatest delight will be to contaminate him (cries of hear, hear.) And so deeply have I, in my own individual person, been impressed by this state of things, that when, in my judicial position, it has been my duty to deal with juvenile criminals, time after time I have thought it right, and within my competency, rather to refuse to punish them at all than to send them to prisons where they must be corrupted and debased (cheers.) But that is a thing which cannot go on to any extent, because the example of unpunished crime would induce others to become criminal (hear.) What is the alternative? The alternative is this. Continue your jail system, continue the contamination, the destruction in body and soul of the youth of the country—or establish Reformatory Institutions, in which they will be restored to virtue, to society and to God (cheers.) I am informed that when it has been stated in the newspapers that some of your excellent city magistrates have sent children to reformatory schools for three or four years, there has been some feeling of dissatisfaction, and it has been asked, why should they be incarcerated such a length of time for a small offence? They are not sent there by way of punishment, but because it is ascertained, by those who understand the working of criminal jurisprudence, that short imprisonments are of no value; and that, in order to found a real character for virtue and morality, you must make the detention in the institution, to which the convict is consigned, long and continuous enough to create good habits in substitution for the bad (cheers.) Therefore, let no humane and good man feel any objection whatever to those institutions upon that account, especially when he remembers that so soon as the managers of a reformatory school discover that the child is fit to go to honest labour, and so soon as they can find honest labour for him, he may leave the school, whatever may have been the period originally fixed for his continuance there (cheers.) A word upon another and highly important point. The act of parliament provides that each child shall be committed to a reformatory under the control of persons exclusively of his own religion (loud cheers.) This I say, is a most important provision. A child living in a reformatory institution must live there as in a family. Thus it is in Mettray, to which I have already called your attention. The result is, that if you do not bring religion to bear on the family the improvement of the children is impossible (cheers.) It is plainly vain, with reference to the criminal, whether young or old, to attempt his reformation unless through the divine influence of our religion (cheers;) and the influence of religion cannot be brought to bear, in all its saving and controlling power, unless the teacher shall inculcate his own without the disturbing interference of any

other. This is one of the matters which should especially commend these institutions to the people of this country, because they secure a perfect freedom from all apprehension of improper meddling with the faith of the children. And now we can look each other in the face—Protestant and Catholic—and wish each other God speed in a work which, whether done for Catholics or Protestants, must be done honestly and fairly—the Catholic protecting and advancing his co-religionists—the Protestant protecting and advancing his—and all promoting, so far as they can, the common interests of humanity in their common country (loud cheers.) I shall only say further, with reference to the principle of Parental Responsibility adopted by this Act, that it will operate beneficially in Ireland (hear, hear.) A great number of the parents of our criminal children are extremely poor. Many of those children are orphans. In such cases, of course, this principle will not operate at all, but it will operate most usefully wherever the parent has the power to pay. I am told that in High Park, in which there are a number of girls, at least half of their parents are capable of contributing to their support.—The result of compelling that contribution will be two-fold. First, it will relieve the government of the country, and the honest people of the country, who are taxed for the maintenance of institutions of this kind, by compelling the parents to pay for the neglect of their duty; and next, when they thus contribute towards the support of their children, there will be a moral reaction on themselves, and they will be taught a lesson which, as to the other members of their families, at least, may induce them to conduct themselves in such a way, that those members will not become inmates of prisons or reformatories (applause.) These are some of the reasons why the people should support the movement we are here to advocate.

Another word, and an important one, because it touches your personal interest. So far, I have been appealing to your religion and your humanity; but I have now to appeal to your mere selfishness—to your regard for your own advantage, (hear, hear). Criminal children are numerous in Ireland—criminal children are numerous in England; and in England some calculations have been made, as to the loss to society from the depredations of such children. It is stated, in a document of authority, which I hold in my hand, that in Liverpool alone, there are one thousand two hundred and seventy thieves, whose residences are known to the police, and whose plunder is estimated at not less than 200,000*l.* a year; and, on one occasion, the Liverpool municipal council came to this very startling conclusion, as the result of an inquiry, that, in a single twelvemonth, the thieves of Liverpool robbed the honest people to the amount of 700,000*l.* I don't mean to say that Irish thieves are so prosperous, (laughter), nor do I mean to say that the honest people in Ireland suffer so much,—but I do mean to

say this, that, so far as the pecuniary interests of this metropolis are concerned, the thieves of the city deprive the citizens of a great deal of property; and if you can, by supporting an institution, such as that which we have established, turn the immoral and vicious to virtuous courses, to that extent, you save your own pockets and advance your own material well-being, (cheers). But there is more than that. I have told you that the criminal children in Dublin, and throughout Ireland, are continually going back to jail, five, ten, twenty times, as the case may be. Criminal children, like other children, consume something in the way of eatables and drinkables, and a great deal of money is required to maintain them, and maintain those who superintend the prisons in which they are confined. And, accordingly, our criminal jurisprudence, in its action, is very expensive indeed, and every criminal child sent back to prison some twenty or forty times becomes, in the long run, a very great burden to the country (applause). Now, observe that, by taking advantage of this reformatory act, you can keep those children out of the common gaols, and you will thus preserve the community—the honest working community—from serious loss; because if you will make an effort, generously, liberally, and manfully, in the first instance, to establish on a good foundation, and with good permanent means, such an institution as that at Glencree, the future burden in reference to that reformatory, or any other, for the care and maintenance of its inmates, will fall substantially on the Consolidated Fund, on the general funds of the empire, and not on the funds of your locality (applause). These are the reasons I submit to you, as sensible men, to induce you to exertion in this good cause. It is your duty to make that exertion, having regard to the moral and religious obligations which press upon you (hear); and it is equally incumbent on you to do so if you wish, merely, to serve your own substantial interests (cheers). Most fortunately, in Dublin, we have already this act in most efficient operation, as you have heard in relation to Glencree, and, as I shall tell you, in relation to other places (applause). We have attached to the reformatory at Golden-bridge, a female reformatory, under the same admirable management, which, I say again, has made that institution, in my judgment, without example in its success throughout the civilized world (cheers); and you have, in addition, a female reformatory, at High Park, working with excellent effect up to the present time. As to Glencree, there may be, and have been, some objections to the particular position of it; but, by adopting that position, we have been able at once to do what will not be accomplished, in other parts of Ireland, for many months, perhaps, in some districts, for years. We have been able to possess ourselves of a great establishment, which, I believe, originally cost the government 10,000*l.*, for almost nothing.

The devoted men who have undertaken this great work have acted in a spirit, which should commend them to the best regards of all our countrymen (cheers). They have undertaken their task—to them, indeed, a labour of love—with undoubting confidence in the Irish people (hear, hear, and cheers). They did not wait until funds had been collected; they abandoned their existing institution and went to Glencree, although the means remain to be procured which will enable them to establish it as it should be established—and they have acted thus in a generous hope, that the Irish people will do what they have ever done in the cause of religion and humanity (loud cheers); and I pledge myself for you to them that they will not be disappointed (cheers). Another word; this is substantially a meeting of the Catholics of Dublin, though I am happy and proud to see some of my Protestant friends about me, (cheers). But, as I have said, this of necessity is a Catholic Meeting. The Protestants of Dublin, I rejoice to tell you, have established a Protestant Reformatory for females, and are establishing one for males, but the Glencree Reformatory is a Catholic institution (cheers). I am speaking mainly to Catholics, and may I not say this: that if there rest on any other class of the people of this country a duty—a responsibility, with reference to their co-religionists, to carry into effect this salutary act, that duty and that responsibility press with infinitely greater force upon the Catholics of Ireland (cheers). And why do I say this? Because the masses of the people are Catholics—because the masses of the people are poor—because crime is, of necessity, to a large extent associated with poverty—and because our Catholic criminal children must far outnumber those of any other community. Therefore, we have cast on us a special difficulty and responsibility, and therefore, also, a special duty. But we have also special advantages—We have, a people ductile, manageable, impressible—open to all the influences of kindness—to all the influences of our religion, beyond, I will say, any other people on the face of God's earth (loud cheers). I do believe, in my soul, that in no country of Europe could this great experiment be undertaken with higher hopes of success—of triumphant success—than in moral and religious Ireland. I say, further, that we, as Catholics, have special advantages counterbalancing our special difficulty and responsibility; because we have the benefit of that wonderful moral machinery which has been created by the church of our fathers, worked by the brotherhoods and sisterhoods which have been evolved from age to age in the bosom of that church, and labour in the spirit of self-sacrifice without any selfish views—without any personal ambition, or hope of worldly honor or reward—and whose members will toil for us with unbought devotion—with devotion and success which no gold could buy (loud cheers).

Only one word more: I know the people I address, and I have entire assurance that they will nobly answer our appeal, not merely for all the reasons I have urged, or any reasons, and they are many, of a like character, which might be pressed upon them; but because, doing their duty to themselves and to their country, they will feel that duty sanctified by their obedience, in the doing of it, to Him who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven" (applause). Those words have echoed through the ages, touching the hearts of men with something of the tenderness of the Divine Humanity. Be sure, my friends, they were not spoken only of the children of the great ones of the world, who have been dandled in the lap of luxury, who never lacked a meal in the day, or a soft bed at night, or the watchful care of a fond and religious parent. They were spoken by Him who, though He was indeed "holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners,"—for sinners was born into the earth—and lived, and laboured, and died for them,—and if of those little ones there is a class more dear than another to His sacred heart, it does not exclude the children of sorrow and of shame—the victims of neglect and misfortune—the orphan and the outcast—for whom, under His providence, you may accomplish salvation of soul and body—for time and for eternity (loud applause).

I beg, in concluding, to move the following resolution:—

"Resolved—That reformatory schools, proved to be so valuable in France, Belgium, America, England, and Scotland, are required in Ireland; and that advantage should be taken of all the assistance afforded to the Irish reformatory schools' act for the establishment of such institutions amongst us."

Mr. Sergeant Deasy, M.P., came forward to second the resolution, and was received with loud applause. He said he addressed the meeting under considerable disadvantage, after the eloquent speech of his friend Mr. O'Hagan, to whom the public were so much indebted for the interest he had taken, not only in the question of reformatories, but in all questions concerning the welfare of Ireland (applause). At the same time, he had saved him (Sergeant Deasy) a great deal of trouble, and, perhaps, the audience, a good deal of time, by releasing him from the obligation of entering at large into the discussion of the important question before them. He did think, however, that he would be inadequately discharging the duty confided to him by the committee, if he confined himself to the merely formal seconding of the resolution. It was now five years since the legislature of Protestant England, imitating the example which had been so long and unavailingly set in Catholic France, Belgium, and

Italy, gave a legislative sanction to the benevolent efforts of those enlightened men and women who had been striving to give to their own country the benefits which they saw were experienced by other countries from institutions such as that at Mettray. Amongst the names pre-eminently were those of Matthew Davenport Hill, and Mary Carpenter. The reformatory act was first passed for England, a similar one was passed for Scotland; but the legislature considered it too hazardous an experiment to introduce a similar measure for Ireland. It was apprehended that society in Ireland was too much convulsed by religious strife—that the public mind was too nervous and sensitive on the subject of proselytism—and that, therefore, it would be impossible to introduce the reformatory measure with practical beneficial results. He (Sergeant Deasy) thought that so far as they had gone they had proof, and the farther they went the greater would be the proof, that their fears were groundless. The act had now been in operation in Ireland: it received the approbation alike of Catholic and Protestant, and had received practical testimony from both by the establishment of a Catholic, and, he was glad to say, also a Protestant reformatory (applause). During the interval of five years, previous to the introduction of the measure for Ireland, the Inspectors-General of Prisons in this country had repeatedly called attention to the necessity for it. The admirable efforts of the Directors of Convict Prisons, in reference to the establishments at Smithfield and Golden-bridge, and the great success which attended them, impressed upon the public mind the conviction that still greater success in reforming criminals would be achieved in dealing with the tender minds of children. The first practical step taken, he was happy to say, was in his own county. A large sum was collected in Cork, to which both Protestants and Catholics subscribed; but without the sanction of the legislature it was impossible to achieve practical results. Having been furnished with a draft of the bill by Mr. Murray, he (Sergeant Deasy) was entrusted with the task of passing it through parliament. At first he scarcely hoped to succeed. He was met in front by some of the Tories, and, in flank, by some of his own friends; and there were peculiar difficulties in the way of passing a private bill. At length he did succeed in carrying the measure; and, he was bound to say, that he received considerable assistance in doing so from Lord Naas, who, without committing the government, certainly, as far as he could without taking that step, co-operated with him (Sergeant Deasy) in passing the bill. The bill had now become the law. The foundation had been laid, but the superstructure remained to be erected on it (applause). Some of his friends complained that he did not introduce into the act provisions similar to those existing in England—provisions enabling public funds to be applied to the founding of

these institutions. He was not in fault. He did introduce these provisions, but they were so strenuously opposed that he found it was impossible to pass them, and he was, therefore, obliged to exclude them. He repeated that no fault in the matter lay upon him, and the matter complained of might hereafter be remedied (hear, hear).

It was also complained that he excluded the corporations of Belfast and Derry from the provisions of the Bill. That was an entire misapprehension. He gave to the grand juries and the bodies exercising the powers of grand juries, the power of entering into contracts for the maintenance of juvenile criminals in reformatory institutions; but the only corporations possessing fiscal powers were the grand juries of Dublin, Limerick, and Cork. In consequence of that, the corporations of Derry and Belfast, as well as those of Waterford and Kilkenny, were necessarily excluded from the bill. Passing from these explanations, he now came to the main object of their meeting that day. It was of the most paramount importance that the measure enacted, that the reformatory institutions should be essentially and exclusively Catholic, and essentially and exclusively Protestant (hear, hear.) The most learned advocates of mixed education should admit that their principles would be altogether inapplicable to reformatories. It was only by steeping the youthful offender in the religious element that he could be ultimately subdued, and for this it was essential that they should have the co-operation of men working not for hire—not for any earthly reward—but from duty, and a hope of obtaining in another world that reward which they must necessarily fail to receive here. One of these men the meeting had seen and heard that day; and the present meeting had been convened for the purpose of enabling them to have a wider scope, and to exercise their benevolent exertions over a larger surface. He had no doubt that the means would be given for that purpose. He trusted they would obtain even the few thousands to which his Rev. friend (Mr. Lynch) had alluded. The Rev. gentleman was, perhaps, a little too sanguine, but he had known even more sanguine anticipations realised from earnest appeals to the Irish people. He might appeal to their self interest, but it was said that they were not a calculating people. He might tell them, as his learned friend (Mr. O'Hagan), who had had so much experience on the subject, had told them, how much their pecuniary interest might be advanced by rescuing juvenile offenders, and preventing them from ripening into hardened criminality, but he preferred to appeal to their sense of justice, of humanity, and of religion. Appealing to those feelings, he asked them by every means in their power to co-operate in rescuing from a career of crime those who have as yet but taken the first step in its downward path;—to bring back into society those who

might become outcasts and enemies—to bring back, above all, into the fold of the Church, those who were at present excluded from it, but who he trusted would, through means of these institutions, be speedily and permanently restored (loud applause.)

Mr. Richard Kelly, T.C., proposed the next resolution—viz:—

“Resolved—That St. Kevin’s Reformatory School for Catholic Boys is worthy of our support, and that we pledge ourselves to aid it to the fullest extent of our power.”

The Very Rev. Dr. O’Connell, who, on coming forward, was loudly cheered, seconded the resolution, by which he said the meeting was pledged to use every exertion to carry out the good work in which they had that day engaged. He was quite sure that there was no one present who would not cordially co-operate in that work, and that they would obtain from the country at large that general support to which an institution of so much value and importance was entitled.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The Rev. Mr. Cooke, Order of Oblates, Inchicore, came forward amidst cheers, to propose the next resolution; to the effect that collectors should be appointed by the committee, as might be deemed advisable, for the purpose of raising funds to place the Catholic Reformatory in a prosperous position. From the warm reception which they had given to the various speakers, he felt quite sure that they would heartily co-operate to carry out that resolution. A great work had been originated in the establishment of these reformatories. A great principle had been put forward and recognised, not only by private individuals but by the state at large, and that great principle was that the reformation of the culprit was chiefly the work of religion. If this work were confined simply to the regulation of the external conduct of men, the state, with the vast means at its disposal, would be able to carry it out without assistance from any other quarter. But the work of reformation went to the heart. The heart must be influenced, the convictions controlled, hope awakened, and the conscience lightened of its burden, and this could be done by religion alone (hear, hear). If the state wisely supported this act for juvenile reformatories because of the advantage likely to accrue to society at large—if citizens supported it because of its importance to each as a citizen, so the Christian, the Catholic, and the Irishman should support it for higher motives still. It was a great religious question; and it was in that light he wished to present it to them, for he knew that what was said on that occasion would be carried throughout the land on the wings of the press, and that many would read the proceedings of that day with joyful hearts. Men would say that if this reformatory institution had

existed years ago, much evil and suffering would have been prevented, and many a parent would feel that his boy who now pined in gaol or lingered out his life as an exile in a foreign land, or who had perished on the scaffold, would have been preserved from crime and punishment had such an institution as this existed some years ago. The impulse communicated from that place would go through the land and stir many hearts with joy, with hope, and with exultation. Had he not seen it himself? Had he not heard from the lips of parents, whose children were admitted to reformatories, this consoling reflection, that they trusted to see their children returning to them, no longer the poor, degraded culprits, with the finger of scorn pointed at them, but with intellects cultivated and hearts enlarged by virtue (applause).

He rejoiced then at the recognition of the great principle that the reformation of the culprit belonged to religion. He felt it to be his duty to bear testimony to the zeal of those Catholic gentlemen who had worked so earnestly to establish this reformatory. It would be invidious to mention their names; they were now present who had worked day and night in the good cause, and God was cognizant to the fact (cheers). As a Catholic priest he felt himself bound to bear homage to the rectitude of view taken by the statesmen who had given their sanction to this law. It was only right to return thanks to the rulers of the state when they had acted wisely and generously on this subject. It depended now on the people whether they would carry out this institution with vigour and energy, or allow it to die a lingering death. The spirit manifested that day, showed that they were resolved to sustain the institution and place it in a position to confer much benefit on the country. He called on them, therefore, to co-operate zealously in the good work. He called on the poor man to contribute his penny, and on the rich man to contribute his pound. He felt sure that from one class of the community to which public attention was now much directed—he referred to the Young Men's Societies—they would receive much valuable support. Those young men had attended the meeting in considerable numbers, doubtless at much personal inconvenience, and he thanked them for their presence. He trusted they would take up the movement, and themselves become collectors, going about, from door to door, soliciting the aid of the rich and of the poor in this work of mercy and of religion (loud applause).

The Very Rev. Dr. Spratt seconded the resolution—He observed that the greatest confidence might be placed in the benevolence and charity of the citizens of Dublin, and he was sure they would take a lively interest in this important question. He might promise on the part of the Dublin Catholic Young Men's Society, that they also would do their duty (loud cheers).

The resolution was then put and adopted.

The Right Hon. Richard More O'Ferrall, D.L., M.P., came forward, and was received with loud cheers. He said he regretted he had not the good fortune to be present when the statement was read by Father Lynch; but from what he had heard said by some of the speakers, he understood that statement had placed before them the circumstances connected with the founding of the Reformatory, and had announced its commencement. For many years he had felt, and felt strongly, the great benefit reformatory institutions would be to this country, and knowing the good they had done in other countries, he rejoiced that their operation had commenced in Ireland (cheers). It was important to give them full and substantial support—important to the rich, for the protection of their property, and important to the poor, for the preservation of their children (hear). He had no doubt that this great work of charity would be taken up as it deserved, and as every work of charity was always taken up in Dublin, with zeal, by both rich and poor (hear, hear). He had great pleasure in moving that the report read by Father Lynch, and of the proceedings of that meeting, be printed and circulated at the expense of the society.

Captain Esmond, M.P., was received with loud cheers. He said he had been asked to second the resolution just proposed, and he did so with very great pleasure. It was not his intention to detain them with anything like a speech, even if he were prepared to do so. He believed the speeches they had already heard proved that whenever Catholic interest, or the Catholic cause, was in any way at stake, if the people were ready—as they always were—to respond to the call, they had also advocates able and willing to plead that cause (loud cheers). They had now the power given them by the legislature of providing the means of rescuing young Catholic criminals from the paths of vice and infamy. It was, therefore, not for them to deliberate whether they could do so or not (hear, hear). They were bound to do it, and he was quite certain every person would contribute according to his or her means (cheers.) He hailed as a happy augury the name of the place where the Reformatory was established, “Glencree,” which he believed meant “Glen of the heart” (loud cheers). And he was quite certain the heart of every one who desired the welfare of Ireland would be found with the undertaking, and that ere long, in many other glens of this land, similar institutions would spring up (loud cheers).

The resolution was put and carried.

Mr. D. M'Dermott, J.P., in coming forward to move the next resolution, said the explanations which had been given by his distinguished friend, Mr. O'Hagan, had saved all who followed him from going into particulars with respect to the carrying out the details of the undertaking. He was but a short time holding the official position he was honoured

with in this city, when it struck him with astonishment how long they were without the assistance of such an institution as St. Kevin's, so well calculated to repress crime, and to promote the future virtue and happiness of the unfortunate young persons who, from time to time, were brought before the criminal tribunals of the city. He saw no benefit result from sending young persons to jail, for he knew them come again and again before the bench charged with the repetition of offences similar to those for which they were first committed to prison (hear, hear.) They were but strengthened in vice and trained in the arts of crime by being sent to jails, from their association with old and hardened offenders, and from the absence of any means for their reformation (hear, hear.) Such being the case, he sincerely hoped, for the sake of the good of the whole community, and indeed he confidently expected, after the statements they had heard that day, that all would liberally and cheerfully contribute to secure from present ruin and future misery the unfortunate young persons whose case had been advocated that day (cheers.) He had to move that the subscription list be read.

The Very Rev. Monsignor Yore, D.D., P.P., V.G., was greeted with enthusiastic applause on rising to second the resolution. He said he felt great happiness to take any part, however humble, in the most important proceedings of that important meeting, from which he anticipated great benefits to the cause in which they were all so much interested. He seconded the resolution, that the subscription list be read.

The resolution was put and carried.

Mr. P. J. Murray read the list of subscriptions amid loud applause. Amongst those on the platform who subscribed were the Right Hon. R. M. O'Farrell, £25, (cheers) ; Messrs M'Swiney, Delany, and Co., £25, (cheers ;) Dr. Gray, £5, (cheers ;) Mr. M'Vey, T.C., £5. &c.

The Rev. Father Anderdon, in moving that Sir E. M'Donnel should leave the chair, and that the Very Rev. Dr. Yore should be called thereto, observed that he had listened with delight to the eloquent speeches which had been delivered. The time of words had passed, and the time of work was about to commence ; and he trusted that they would all resolve to do what in them lay to carry out the great work of the Glencree Reformatory (cheers.)

The Very Rev. Dr. O'Connell seconded the resolution, and announced the subscriptions of the Rev. Messrs Murphy and Irwin, of the Metropolitan Church.

The Very Rev. Dr. Yore having taken the chair, was about to speak, when a voice in the body of the meeting said—Ten shillings from a lady in the gallery, gentlemen (cheers and laughter.)

The Very Rev. Dr. Yore said he would be happy to remain there until night with such pleasing interruptions, (laughter.) The Very Rev. gentlemen said that the labours of the respected gentlemen who

had worked so long and so well in bringing the great project to its present position, would, he was confident, continue their exertions with undiminished zeal (cheers). He asked the meeting to pass a vote of thanks to Sir E. M'Donnel for his conduct that day, and for his great exertions on all occasions in forwarding the great cause. (cheers).

The vote of thanks having been passed by acclamation, Sir E. M'Donnel briefly expressed his thanks, after which the meeting separated.

ST. KEVIN'S REFORMATORY SCHOOL, GLENCREE,
FOR CATHOLIC BOYS.

UNDER 21 & 22 VIC., CAP. 103.

COMMITTEE.

His Grace The Archbishop.	Sir Edward M'Donnel.
Very Rev. Monsignor Yore, D.D., P.P., V.G.	H. G. Hughes, Esq., Q.C.
Very Rev. Canon O'Connell, D.D., P.P.	David Lynch, Esq., Q.C.
Very Rev. Father Cook, O.M.I.	Hugh O'Callaghan, Esq., D.L.
Very Rev. Canon Grimley.	Thomas O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Rev. Dr. Murray.	V. O'B. O'Connor, Esq., D.L.
Right Hon. The Chief Baron.	John Lentaigne, Esq., D.L.
Hon. Thomas Preston, D.L.	Charles Bianconi, Esq., J.P.
Charles Langdale, Esq., Junr.	Michael Errington, Esq.
Rt. Hon. R. M. O'Ferrall, D.L., M. P.	George G. Place, Esq., J.P.
Rt. Hon. J.D. Fitzgerald, Q.C., M. P.	Peter Aungier, Esq., J.P.
Laur. Waldron, Esq., D.L., M.P.	Daniel M'Dermott, Esq., J.P.
Mr. Sergeant Deasy, M.P.	James O'Ferrall, Esq.
Mr. Sergeant Howley.	Gerald Tench, Esq., J.P.
J. R. Corballis, Esq., Q.C.	Edward O'Ferrall, Esq.
	Alderman John Campbell
	Patrick Sweetman, Esq.
	Patrick Joseph Murray, Esq.

In the last Session of Parliament a Statute was passed, the importance of which it is impossible to over-estimate,—The Act to promote and regulate Reformatory Schools for Juvenile Offenders in Ireland. The end proposed by the Act is, that young persons who may have fallen into crime may be reformed by good instruction and good example, instead of being exposed to the contamination of the gaol, by which the unhappy children were too often ruined in soul and body.

All judges and magistrates are now empowered to send every offender under sixteen years of age, who has been convicted before them, to a Reformatory Institution for any period not exceeding five years. And it is expressly provided, that no child shall be sent to any Reformatory, except one under the exclusive management of persons of the same religious persuasion as himself.

Every Catholic Child, therefore, who comes within the scope of this excellent enactment, must be sent to a Catholic Reformatory, and can be sent to no other.

But at the same time, the State has abstained from attempting to found any such Institutions. That has been left to the voluntary efforts of each religious denomination, for it is clear they will be much more heartily and efficiently worked in that way than if they were the creatures of the State.

It is then left to Catholic Charity to provide the means of redeeming and reforming so many poor Catholic children, and to that un-failing Charity the Committee confidentially appeal.

A Reformatory for Male Children has been founded at GLEN-CREE BARRACKS, about ten miles from Dublin. The present necessity for the speedy completion of this Reformatory is most forcibly proved by the fact that, in the year 1858, the number of male offenders, whose ages did not exceed sixteen years, convicted in Dublin alone, and who might have been sent to a Reformatory, amounted to over FIVE HUNDRED.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS TO JUNE 1ST, 1859.

	Annual Subscriptions.	Donations.
His Grace the Archbishop	£2 0 0	£50 0 0
The Right Hon. the Chief Baron	2 0 0	50 0 0
Very Rev. Monsignor Yore	2 0 0	25 0 0
Hon. Mr. Justice O'Brien	2 0 0	25 0 0
Sir Edward M'Donnel	2 0 0	25 0 0
John Lentaigne, Esq., J. P.	2 0 0	25 0 0
Thomas Laffan Kelly, Esq.	2 0 0	25 0 0
V. O'B. O'Connor, Esq., D.L.	2 0 0	25 0 0
Charles Bianconi, Esq., J.P.	2 0 0	25 0 0
Thomas O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.	2 0 0	25 0 0
Richard Kelly, Esq., T.C.	2 0 0	25 0 0
James Murphy, Esq., Mount Merrion	2 0 0	25 0 0
Stephen Grehan, Esq. ... ..	...	25 0 0
Patrick Joseph Murray, Esq.	2 0 0	25 0 0
Right Hon. R. M. O'Ferrall, D.L., M.P. ... ..	...	25 0 0
Messrs. M'Sweeny, Delany, & Co. ... ..	...	25 0 0
Charles Putland, Esq. ... ..	...	20 0 0
Michael Errington, Esq.	2 0 0	20 0 0
Hugh O'Callaghan, Esq., D.L. ... ..	...	20 0 0
Edward O'Ferrall, Esq. ... ..	...	20 0 0

	Annual Subscriptions.	Donations.
Right Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald, Q.C., M.P.	£2 0 0	£10 0 0
James O'Ferrall, Esq.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Mr. Sergeant Deasy, M. P.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Henry George Hughes, Esq., Q. C. ...	2 0 0	10 0 0
George G. Place, Esq., J.P.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Anthony S. Hussey, Esq., D.L.	2 0 0	10 0 0
John Campbell Esq., Alderman	2 0 0	10 0 0
David Lynch, Esq., Q.C.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Mr. Sergeant Howley	2 0 0	10 0 0
John Gaynor, Esq., J. P.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Peter Aungier, Esq., J. P.	2 0 0	10 0 0
David Sherlock, Esq., Q. C.	2 0 0	10 0 0
John Sweetman, Esq.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Peter Grehan, Esq.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Gerald Tench, Esq.	2 0 0	10 0 0
Messrs. Todd, Burns, & Co. ... ..	...	10 0 0
Right Hon. Maziere Brady ... ..	...	10 0 0
A Lady, per Very Rev. Canon M'Cabe, P. P. ...	...	10 0 0
Laurence Waldron, Esq., D.L., M.P. ...	2 0 0	10 0 0
Patrick Sweetman, Esq. ... ..	...	10 0 0
J. R. Corballis, Esq., Q.C. ... ..	...	10 0 0
Very Rev. Canon O'Connell, D.D., P.P.	2 0 0	5 0 0
Michael Cahill, Esq.	2 0 0	5 0 0
Michael Merriman, Esq. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Thomas Drury, Esq., J. P. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Daniel M'Dermott, Esq., J.P. ... ..	...	5 0 0
George Grehan, Esq. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Joseph Woodlock, Esq. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Charles Cobbe, Esq., J.P. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Edward M'Vey, T.C. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Hon. Thomas Preston, D.L. ... ..	...	5 0 0
Messrs. Egan, High-street ... ..	...	5 0 0
Dr. Gray ... ..	...	5 0 0
John Bagwell, Esq., D.L., M.P. ... ..	...	5 0 0
N. J. Lalor, Esq., T.C. ... ..	...	5 0 0
James Gaynor, Esq. ... ..	...	3 0 0
Joseph Lalor, M.D.	2 0 0	3 0 0
Rev. Mr. Collier, Rathmines ... ..	...	2 0 0
Stephen Simpson, Esq.	1 0 0	2 0 0
Patrick Daniel, Esq.	1 0 0	2 0 0
Thomas Daniel, Esq.	1 0 0	2 0 0
James Fagan, Esq., J. P.	2 0 0	...
Messrs. Browne & Nolan	1 0 0	2 0 0
Per Sir Edward M'Donnel ... ..	...	2 0 0
G. Brennan, Esq., London ... ..	...	2 0 0
Thomas Brangan, Esq.	1 0 0	2 0 0
E. Cane, Esq., St. Wolstan's, Celbridge	..	2 0 0
Thomas M'Evoy, Esq.	1 0 0	2 0 0
W. J. Fitzpatrick, Esq. ... ..	...	2 0 0
Rev. J. P. Farrell ... ..	...	2 0 0
John J. Clarke, Esq. ... ..	...	2 0 0

	Annual Subscriptions.	Donations.
Rev. Dr. Murray	...	£1 0 0
Very Rev. Canon Grimley	...	1 0 0
Very Rev. Dr. Spratt	...	1 0 0
James M. Kirwan, Esq., M.D., City Coroner	...	1 0 0
Rev. P. M'Cabe, Dalkey	...	1 0 0
Arthur Marlow	0 10 0	1 0 0
Mrs. Hayes, Kingstown	...	1 0 0
William Hayes, Esq., Kingstown	...	1 0 0
Anonymous, Drogheda	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Fitzgerald	...	1 0 0
G. F. Bromhead, Esq., Bristol	...	1 0 0
James W. Kavanagh, Esq.	...	1 0 0
Rev. Mr. Murphy, Marlborough-street	...	1 0 0
Rev. Mr. Irwin, Do.	...	1 0 0
P. J. Keenan, Esq., Chief Inspector of Nat. Schools.	...	1 0 0
Mr. Geoghegan, per Richard Kelly, Esq.	...	1 0 0
Captain Dillon, Sandymount Park	...	1 0 0
Mr. Geraghty Bray,	...	1 0 0
Mrs. Edwards	...	1 0 0
Mrs Frayne,	...	1 0 0
Miss Dowling	...	1 0 0
Rev. John Greene,, P.P.	...	1 0 0
Rev. P. Segrave, C.C.	...	1 0 0
Rev. Thomas Dwyer, C.C., Enniskerry	...	1 0 0
John Fitzgerald, Esq.	...	1 0 0
Rev. Mr. Mulhall,	...	1 0 0
William Gernon, Esq.	...	1 0 0
E. W. O'Mahony, Esq.	...	1 0 0
Henry Bussell, Esq.	...	1 0 0
Goodwin, Son and Nethercott	...	1 0 0
William Graham, Esq.	...	0 10 0
A Lady	...	0 10 0
Rev. Mr. Feeny, Denmark-street	...	0 10 0
Rev. M. Fegan, P.P.	...	0 10 0
Mrs. Casey, 33, Great Britain-street, six dozen tin cups		
Mr. W. B. Kelly, 8, Grafton street, the Committee Rooms, free of any charge, as long as the Committee require them.		

Further Subscription and Donations will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Treasurers, the Very Rev. Monsignor YORE, D.D., P.P., V.G.; SIR EDWARD M'DONNEL, J.P.; V. O'B. O'CONNOR, Esq., D.L.; MICHAEL ERRINGTON, Esq.; JAMES O'FERRALL, Esq; by PATRICK JOSEPH MURRAY, Esq., 1, Upper Pembroke-street Honorary Secretary by the Hibernian Bank; or by Mr. B. O'TOOLE, Assistant Secretary, at the Office of the Catholic Reformatory Committee, 8, Grafton-street.

Office hours, THREE till FIVE.

The Committee meet every THURSDAY, at their Rooms, 8, Grafton-street, at THREE o'clock.

Number	Name	Amount
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

The following is a list of the names of the members of the House of Representatives, as they appear in the roll call, with the amount of their salaries, as shown in the accompanying table.

The names of the members are arranged in alphabetical order, and the amount of their salaries is given in dollars and cents.

The total amount of the salaries of the members of the House of Representatives is \$1,000,000.00.