

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,
KINGSCOURT, CO. CAVAN.

[DEC. 1. 1872. VOL. XIV. No. 311.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE IRISH BUILDER.

SIR,—I request permission to make a few observations in reply to a correspondent, signing himself "Jean De Vey," whose notice of this building appears in your issue of the 15th inst.

Referring to "the defects in the workmanship," and his "wonder" that I would let them "pass," I have only to remark that I have not taken the building off the contractors' hands, nor have I accepted it, in any way, as complete according to contract. The "here and there traces of haste or carelessness" are easily accounted for, in the fact that we were much hurried at the last moment to have the church ready for the opening ceremonial, and, in consequence, some things had to be put temporarily out of hands, whilst others, as the paring of the springer stones of the arches, &c., had to be deferred.

I discredit entirely the statement of your correspondent, that the gable of the south transept "batters." The arguments he uses in support of this idea, fortunately for the sake of truth and justice, carry with them their own refutation. First, because it is impossible to "sight" this gable with that of the south porch, so as to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the plumbing, owing to the planes of the gables being on different lines, and the projections of the buttresses interfering; second, because the "vertical joints of the slates" have nothing whatever to do in determining the question, nor would they be affected by the gable, inasmuch as the parapet rising above the slating line with its projecting coping converging to the apex intervenes, and cuts off the possibility of viewing them relatively; and, thirdly, be-

cause the batter alluded to exists only in the imagination of your correspondent. The observation with respect to the projection of the eave gutters, I dismiss as unworthy of my notice.

In conclusion, I have to apologise for occupying so much of your valuable space, but it is necessary to correct mis-statements such as these, the result of want of knowledge of the subject treated upon, and dictated by motives which are gravely suspicious.

WILLIAM HAGUE, Architect.

44 Westland-row, 27th Nov., 1872.

[We have thus freely allowed Mr. Hague space for the ventilation of his observations in reply to "Jean de Vey." We would ask what means the following in the above communication—"I have not taken the building off the contractors' hands, nor have I accepted it, in any way, as complete according to contract"? We had no reason originally to doubt the correctness of our correspondent when writing about this building; and perhaps it yet remains to be shown that "discredit" should be attached to him for saying that the south transept "batters." If he has exhibited a "want of knowledge" in this matter, he must try and do better in future.—ED. I. B.]

CIVIC LYRICS.—No. XXV.

THE PEOPLE'S PARK.

Air—Off She Goes.

A.D. 1999.

There's land to let for the poor and rich—
A slice cut off from the city's ditch.
As money is scarce, there's need to job;
Who will bid for this precious "slob"?
In Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Nine
The city perhaps will see some sign;
And folks may ask, by way of a lark,
When will they open the People's Park?

The Committees One and Two and Three,
Where will they or their Chairmen be?
The Puddle will then have ceased to run,
And the Liffey dried up beneath the sun.
The oozy bed of the Irish Styx
Will show a harvest of bristling bricks.
"The lot to be let"—God save the mark!—
With plenty more in the People's Park.

Lands for sale there will not be a bit,
And Committees then will cease to sit.
The Mayor will pledge his sword and mace,
And die, the last of the Jobbing race!
In Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Nine
There is sure to be some startling sign.
No lamps will be needed after dark,
And cows will graze in the People's Park!

The coming time, whenever it comes,
Will find us rid of our city slums;
And men who have done this good by stealth
Will all have died with the Board of Health.
The Town Clerk and Borough Engineer
And the Law Agents will disappear!
The dogs will live on Peruvian bark,
And the swans will sing in the People's Park!

Our beautiful New Main Drainage Scheme,
In days to come, will go by steam;
Hydraulic pressure will work so high,
Our Waterworks will be in the sky!
In Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Nine,
Look out, ratepayers, for a sign!
Fountains will play by electric spark,
To water the streets in the People's Park!

Oh! how will we build a monument
To Corporate chiefs of good intent,
Who spent their lives for the public good,
In turnip squeezing, to make new blood,
And growing melons on Crab Lake Strand
To nourish the poor in Mudfoundland?
Raise a turnstile high, to mark
Their patriot graves in the People's Park!

CIVIS.

See OVER.

H = "Opening of New Ch. at Kyp." The NATION,
--- to take place tomorrow. Aug 24. 1872
• Laying of Foundation stone
The NATION. July 17. 1869.