

left practically only a remnant of the race at home. On this St. Patrick's Day when we are anxious to banish all trace of bitterness, it is not for me to refer to the causes why Ireland is the only country in this Empire in which men and women have been forced to leave their homes, it is sufficient for us to know that our people have gone, and surely, it is no sign of good government that they have gone. Our consolation is in the fact that they have prospered wherever they have gone. Some races would have been exterminated long ago had they had the experience which has been ours, but not so with our people.

In every part of this Empire the Irish are influential and strong. (Applause.)

Millions All United.

If our to-morrow is to be as glorious as we confidently believe, it will be largely because the scattered seed of the Irish race has taken root and is furnishing comfort and help to those who are left. And if, on this St. Patrick's Day, we are more jubilant than ever before, if our cause stands, as it does, in the foremost, occupying a preeminently strong position it is largely because—and how we thank you for it, because you in Canada, our kin in the United States and in Australia, our people throughout the world, have stood behind those in Parliament and enabled them to say “We are making our claim, not for a remnant of our race, but backed by, the sympathy, the support and the hearts of millions of our race, in every part of the world.” (Applause).

Nationalists Wonderful Boast.

I have been for thirty-one years a humble member of the great party which Parnell organized. In that time we have had severe experiences, and prolonged struggles, but it surely is a privilege for me to be able to say that, as St. Patrick's Day has succeeded St. Patrick's Day, we always have been able to mark some improvement in our country. Thirty-one years ago the condition of Ireland was deplorable, from every point of view. The people were handicapped and penalized in every direction wherever we looked. When Parnell and Davitt took up the great