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IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The Debate on the Address of Congratulation to the Queen on the Occasion of the Diamond Jubilee.

Ireland's Voice in the Proceedings—Messrs. Dillon and Redmond Deliver Spirited Speeches.

We take the following report of the speeches made in the British House of Commons on the occasion of the debate, that an address of congratulation be presented to the Queen in connection with the celebration of her Diamond Jubilee, from The Dublin Nation:

MR. BALFOUR'S SPEECH. Mr. A. J. Balfour, received with cheers from both sides of the House, rose to move that an address of congratulation be presented to the Queen. He said—I think it will be admitted that but very few words are required from me to justify the motion of which notice appears upon the paper.

(Cheers.) It is because she has shared our triumphs; it is because she has been throughout ANIMATED AND INSPIRED BY OUR NATIONAL IDEAS, that this nation and this House unite to do her honor.

SIR WM. HARCOURT'S ADDRESS. Sir William Harcourt, also received with cheers from both sides of the House, seconded the motion. He said: I can hope to add but little to the eloquent and graceful terms in which the right hon. gentleman, the Leader of the House, has introduced this question.

REFORMS, SOCIAL, POLITICAL, FINANCIAL COMMERCIAL. and there was great need in those days of such reforms. It is only those who can personally recollect what was the condition of the Isle in this country sixty years ago that can realize the enormous progress and improvements which have been made in the condition of the Isle.

SINCE HER MAJESTY ASCENDED THE THRONE. The discussion of the characteristics of the Victorian epoch has occupied enough perhaps of the public attention, and has been made the theme of a sufficient number of speeches and addresses.

EVERY CONTINENT IN THE GLOBE, not all of our blood or of our language but all agreed in the spirit of devotion to the Sovereign of these realms—if that be the case, as undoubtedly it was the case, we may be quite sure that such feelings have not been stirred by an abstraction that there is at the bottom of all this personal devotion something which rightly has called that devotion into existence.

bore the fruits of self-government and of self-reliance. (Ironical Nationalist cheers.) But over this memorable growth of our race and of our Empire there has presided for two generations of men one figure which has presented to the world the British name with a noble simplicity of greatness which has not been known before, and which will live for ever in the records of this country.

APPEALED TO THE HEART OF THE NATION, and I think the right hon. gentleman will say it is the heart of the nation still more than its pride that speaks today, and addresses Queen Victoria in the 60th year of her reign.

PROSPERITY AND FREEDOM HAVE BEEN A CLOSED BOOK. and much as I personally dislike uttering any jarring note which may be looked upon by even some friends of Ireland as ungracious and ill-timed, as I feel bound in the interest of truth to say here that while your country and your Empire are to-day engaged in jubilation—proud, prosperous, and free—that at this moment Ireland stands at your door in poverty and subjection, sullen and disaffected, and in no mood whatever to celebrate with you these great blessings which, scattered with a free hand broadcast throughout your Empire, have been denied to her.

DEGRADATION AND RUIN OF OUR COUNTRY, to lick the hand which has chastised us and put a collar round our necks and to thank Her Majesty because in her reign an act has been passed which places for ever so far as this House is concerned all the fundamental liberties of a free people at the absolute mercy of a Lord Lieutenant.

MR. JOHN REDMOND'S SPIRITED REMARKS. He said: "I rise to reduce to action the sentiments the hon. member has just given utterance to (laughter). With a great many of the benefits which have accrued to the people of this Empire generally during the sixty years of this reign I certainly have no fault whatever to find.

THE RESULT OF THE VOTE. The House then divided, and there voted: For the amendment..... 7 Against..... 433 Majority..... 429 The result was received with cheers and laughter.

out by the hon. gentleman who preceded me, there has been a Coercion Act of some kind or another passed for Ireland in every one of the sixty years reign. There have been during this period a number of unsuccessful insurrections, and your prisons have never for one single moment, and they are not to-day, without Irish political prisoners within their walls.

HER INDUSTRIES ARE DEAD, killed by the legislation of this Parliament; her population has diminished by one-half; chronic famine has haunted the whole of her western sea coast and one terrible visitation swept millions of her people out of existence.

REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE COLONIES, and while the people of Great Britain had had their popular rights and liberties extended from year to year and from day to day, Ireland has been constantly subjected to exceptional and oppressive legislation. As has been pointed

Nationalist Benches, he said he should ask hon. members who opposed the motion to stand up in their places, whereupon the Nationalist members as a body stood up amid cheers and laughter.

The Speaker then named the tellers in the ordinary way, and there voted: For the motion..... 411 Against..... 41 Majority..... 300

MGR. MERRY DEL VAL TO HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP LANGEVIN.

The following circular letter of His Excellency Mgr. Merry del Val has been given to the press for publication:

OTTAWA, July 3, 1897. MONSEIGNEUR—On the eve of my departure from Canada for the Eternal City, where I hope shortly to deposit in the hands of His Holiness the result of my investigations, I take the liberty to address a few words to Your Grace, as being the bishop immediately interested in the question which brought me here, and through you to all the Catholics of the country.