FRIDAY DECEMBER 20.3

IRISH NEWS.

MR. PARNELL, M. P., IN KERRY.

[From our Irish exchanges of Nov. 23.] TRALEE, Saturday, Nov. 16, 1878.

in the North.

laborers, sir?

(Che ers.)

power at the present time-Voice-Look at the Galtees.

To-day Mr. C. S. Parnell addressed an exceedingly large meeting of the Kerry Tenants' Defence Association, at their own invitation, upon the land question. The room was crowded, and the proceedings from beginning to end were vehemently enthusiastic. Mr. Thomas G. Pierce, president of the association, occupied the chair.

The chairman having, in the name of the associatian, welcomed Mr. Parnell to Kerry, Mr. T. Rourke, T. C., said this meeting had been specially convened for the pnrpose of hearing Mr. Parnell, tom ensured to tenants in the North. (Cheers.) It ensured rather more- it ensured fixity of tenure-(cheers)—which was not ensured by the Ulster cus-tom, for the Ulster landlord could still eject his tenant, although he would have to pay the equiva-lent of his tenant-right. But the land bill of Mr. Butt would prevent the landlord from ejecting any tenant as long as that tenant continued to pay a fair rent, that rent to be ascertained by a fair arbitration. (Cheers.) Mr. O'Connor Power, and Mr. Ferguson, of Glasgow, upon the land question and upon any other questions outside the land question. (Cheers.) They were aware that since Mr. Parnell had entered Parliament he had advocoted every measure calculated to benefit every section and class of the Irish people, whether it was a question of the condition of the agricultural laborers, of tenant right, or of national independence. (Cheers.) They did not forget also that he was the descendant of the illustrious Irishman who, when asked to betray the trust reposed in him and to deliver over the Irish people to English misgovernment, spurned the bribe that was offered him, and was one of the 115 who clung to the legislative independence of Ireland to the last. (Cheers.) The protest against that union had never since ceased. At one time that protest was made in open rebellion hy the brave Robert Emmet. (Cheers.) In '48 again they tried physical force. In 1865 and 1867 the Fenians protested in their own way against the union, and they were here to-day, the descendants of those men, advocating the cause of these tenant-farmers, but advocating also the cause of legislative independence. (Cheers.) He reviewed the history of the Home-Rule movement and of the last National Conference, where he heard Mr. Parnell, Mr. O'Connor Power, and Mr. Ferguson make speeches that did honor to them as Irishmen, and proceeded to say he believed they could not do their association a greater honor than by inviting Mr. Parnell among them. He believed Mr. Parnell was not the obstructionist he was painted by Mr. Butt and others-(cheers)-but he believed he was determined to force his way against even the bayonets of England if necessary for the independence of his native land. (Loud cheers.) This association had been for some time called by the hostile press a "whitewashing club"-(hear, hear, and laughter)-but he believed they had put forward resolutions from time to time that were refreshing and invigorating to public spirit, and declared that, however long or short this association lived, it would always advocate the cause of the people and legislative independence. (Cheers.)

The chairman said it was now his right and his pleasing duty to introduce to them the gentleman who had paid Kerry the compliment of visiting who had paid Kerry the companient of visual them. (Cheers and cries of "He is welcome.") He was heartily welcome to Kerry, and he wished to mercy that they could see more of Mr. Parnell's spirit in Kerry. (Cheers.) He knew himself that even officers of this association had tried to whitewash political renegades-(groans-wretches that ought to be kicked out of this very room. (Cheers, laughter, and cries of "Oh! that is a fact.")

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

have existed in any district should be legalized and should have all the force and sanction of law. They would then see that there was very considerable dif-ficulty in extending the Ulster custom to the rest of Ireland, because in order to have the custom sanc-tioned they must have the custom proved to have

A Voice-We would not to see sold argument for that. [Laughter and cries of "Audience."] Mr. Power-Steady, boys. Order. A Voice-Mick, do you mind the borough and we'll take care of the county. [Laughter.] Mr. Parnell-They must recollect that the circum-

Ireland, because in order to have the custom sanc-tioned they must have the custom proved to have been in existence, and though the custom existed in the North it did not now exist in the other parts of Ireland. Mr. Gladstone's act laid down no defini-tion whatever of that custom, but simply said what-ever custom existed should be legalized, and in the absence of such definition all they could do was to seek in other ways than the extension of the Ulster custom for the establishment throughout the rest of Ireland of something which should be equivalent to that custom which obtained upon the best estates in the North. stances attending the representation of Ireland in the House of Commons were rather of a peculiar character. They had now in power a Conservative Government, with a majority such as no Govern-ment ever had before—a majority that would walk into whatever lobby they were bidden like sheep, without a murmur, and without enquiring or earing whether they were doing right or wrong. [Hear, hear.] That was the party the Irish representatives had to contend with. They had to contend with A Voice-will you expound your views upon the laborers, sir? Chairman—Shut up, I tell you. [Laughter.] Mr. Parnell—It was guided by these considerations that the various tenant-right clubs through the South and West came to the conclusion that they would adopt the principles laid down in Mr. Butt's land bill of 1876. This land bill practically ensured to every Irish tenant-farmer all that the Ulster cus-ture covered to tenants in the North. (Cheers.) It some four hundred men in the House of Commons who are determined to do wrong to this country, and who would resist to the very last any efforts or

exertions to make them do what was right. A Voice-It is well known they will give u tom ensured to tenants in the North. (Cheers.) It nothing.

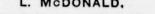
Chairmar.—Hold your tongue, sir. Mr. Parnell—That was a position that the Irish epresentatives had never been called on to face berepresentatives had never been called on to have be-fore now. In the past they had the Whig in office. The Whigs would have been very pliable, and he had no doubt could have been easily forced to yield the full measure of justice to Ireland if they had an the full measure of justice to Irelrad if they had an honest representation, but they had now a Con-servative Government that would yield to nothing but force or coercion. [Hear, hear.] Now, it was for Irishmen to consider how they could make them yield--[cheers]-to consider some plan by which, after having drawn up a bill and brought it before the House of Commons--after their best men, Mr. Butt and others, had made these speeches which they knew so well how to make-- and after all these things had failed it was their duty to see what they could do to show the Government the necessity of dealing with these Irish questions, and of graupoling Mr. Parnell-They would observe that any such system as that necessarily introduced a principle of partnership into the relation of landlord and tenant. He was one of those who thought that the landlord system was an artificial system; that it was not a system which was calculated for the good of the country as a whole—(hear, hear)—that it was not a country as a whole—(hear, hear)—that it was not a system which permitted the cultivation of the land to the best advantage, or one which would allow of the production of the largest amount of food from the smallest area. (Applause.) At the same time they had this landloid system existing in Ireland and in England—about the only two countries in the world where it did exist—(hear, hear)—and he dealing with these Irish questions, and of grappling with them, and of settling them. [Cheers.]

A Voice—Long may you live. Mr. Parnell—This was the point of divergence be-tween what was called the active, or what some people called the obstructionist — [laughter and cheers]—section of the Irish members, and that lar-ger section of the Irish members, having brought thought they were bound to make the best of it. (Hear, hear.) The law gave those landlords extentheir bill forward and made eloquent speeches up Another Voice—Aren't you a landlord yourself ? Another—He is, and a good one. Mr. Parnell—And unless they went in for a re-volution he confessed he did not see how they were going to bring about a radical reform of the system of land tenure in this country. For his own part, done everything an Irish representative ought to do. After all this was done, on the contrary, the active section said, "our work is now really only commen-ing, for we have got that to do to which we can going to bring about a radical reform of the system of land tenure in this country. For his own part, therefore, he was disposed to devote his energies to endeavouring to obtain a settlement on the basis laid down by Mr. Butt's Fixity of Tenure Bill as introduced in 1876. [Cheers.] If after a time they found that by the extension of the principles of the Bright clauses of the Land Act [and he might tell worthily devote our energies—first to find out how we can best attack the Government and force them we can best attack the Government and force them to consider our demands, and having found that out to act upon it." [Cheers.] Of cousse this was not the place to go into details upon the subject of Parliamentary action; but these wore the principles which should underlie Parliamentary action in the present condition of politics—principles which the Irish people approve of—principles which, he wished to say in all humility, he had endeavoured to study and erry, out in the House of Commons [Lond them that he hoped for very important results from the committee of the House of Commons which sat the committee of the House of Commons which sat last session upon this question or the Bright clauses] —if after a time by extending that principle they found they could enable all the tenants of proper-ties which came for sale into the Landed Estates Court to purchase their holdings they might be pre-paring the way perhaps some day for a radical alter-ation of the land system, and for the establishment of what he believed to be the true system of land to say in all huminity, he had endeavoiried to study and errry out in the House of Commons [Loud cheers.] In short, the active section thought that by representing some of the spirit of our people at home—by feeling as they knew their constituents, the noble people of Ireland, felt, insisting that those ation of the land system, and for the establishment of what he believed to be the true system of land tenure—the proprietorship of the soil by the people who cultivated it. [Loud cheering.] But until that time came, if it ever did come—and there was no reason why they should not all work to bring it about—[cheers]—until then it was their bounden duty to amend Mr. Gladstone's Land Act, either by bringing in a surfamentary bill such as Mr. Butty Irish questions should occupy a foremost position whether the English Government or the English House of Commons liked it or not-(cheers)-by House of Commons liked it or not—(cheers)—by devoting all their energies to putting them forward —they would show the House of Commons and the world that they felt the burning necessity of settling these questions—that they felt the sufferings of their people at home who were daily driven off the land or oppressed while they remained in it—that they felt the sufferings of the poor Irish tenant-farmer who was unable to meet a daily-increasing west and who saw, nothing but ruin and the road bringing in a suplementary bill such as Mr. Butt's, or by an amendment of the act itself; and he coned he doubted that it could ever be amended in ressent ne doubted that h could ever be amended in such a way as to satisfy the requirements of fixity of tenure at fair rents until the time came when perhaps a radical change might be made. (Cheers.] It was their duty in the meantime to do all in their tarmer who was unable to meet a daily-increasing rent, and who saw nothing but ruin and the road staring him in the face—(cheers)—that they felt the sufferings of the poor laborer who famished, per-haps, on eight or nine shillings a week, simply be-cause the farmer, owing to high rents and grasping landlords, was unable to pay more. If their mempower-and they could do this-to prevent the evic-Another—He's right. Chairmon—MI I can tell you is that either I work be a member here or The O'Donoghne will be kicked out of the room. (Applause and langh-ter.) Mr. Parnell, M. P., on rising to speak was greeted with enthusian. He need not say that he folt very much indebted to the Kerry Tenart Defence As-sociation for the opportunity they had given him endbresing so large and inducatid a meeting of the tenant-farmers of Kerry. (Cheers, and criss "You're welcome.") Mr. Parnell—for ur room was larger you would have more. Mr. Parnell—for the observation that Mr. O'Roures and labors of such men as his late exteemed friends to have have and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to have have and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to have have and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to have have and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to have hear and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to have hear and guidance of such men as bis state exteemed friends to allow the good landlord. He handlords. We do say the have ought to have hear and men good andlord set were the men and the or set is the reare many good landlord. He handlords were have hear and the trains of the tenant's soil shall be its and his child ren's for all time, that as long as the tenant pays a fair rent, whether ascertainal by adjuttion, as long as he tenant pays a ther need this important juncture in Irish affairs and here on the hald ords many bis due to mout allow the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the right of bequating that farm to its child have the result of the many so have and in the result of the solution. The farmer have no more talk of antagoonism between theme. A bers felt all this in their hearts and showed it in In the work they were doing and beheved that they were really in earnest and were on the right track, for goodness' sake send them some help, for a few men could not go on for ever as they had been do-ing. [Cheers.] He looked forward with dismay to another six years in the House of Commons like the



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A Voice—Don't go into that. Another—He's right. Chairman --All I can tell you is that either I won't be a member here or The O'Donoghue will be kicked out of the room. (Applause and haugh-Ir. Parnell, M. P. on vitice

connecting link between the new and the old—(hear, hear)—who would have been at hand to restrain too much impetuosity, and to encourage, to excite, and spur forward those who were too much disposed to lag behind. (Hear, hear) He had felt the want of such men. It was Joseph Ronayne who first of all urged upon him over and over again to undertaken—[cheers]—but it was not until after the grave had closed over him that he [Mr. Parnell] recollected his teaching, and, seeing that there was really a necessity for action to lift up the country from the despair that seemed to have fallen upon it, he took upon himself the re-sponsibility—young as he was, and comparatively unknown as that time he was to his countrymen— to initiate a course of action which, he was confi-dent, if it was followed with proper spirit by the country, must have important results in securing blessings for this their own native country of Ire-land. [Cheers.] He knew they would not expect from him a learned discourse upon the land ques-tion of those principles of land reform which each of them knew perfectly well all about they would furn to another quarter : but before he went to that part of his subject which had for him the greeter



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