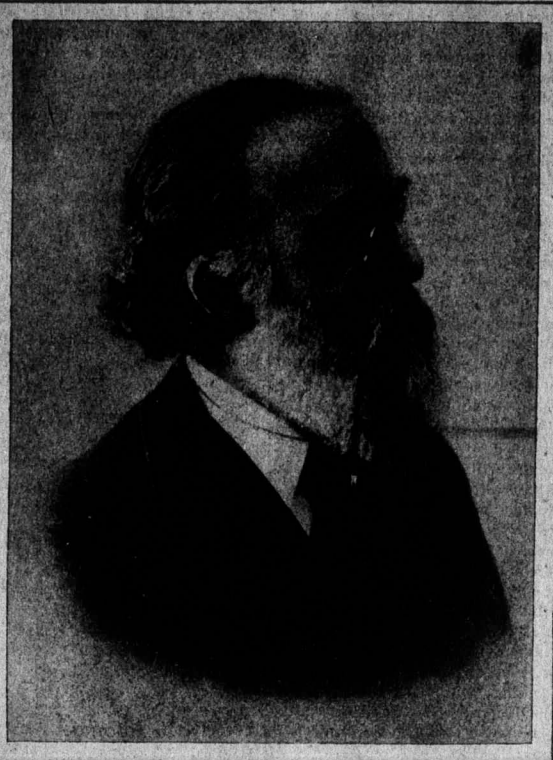


Ireland's Great Leader.

From "The Outlook" we take the following sketch, of Mr. John E. Redmond, from the pen of Ireland's grand old man in literature, Mr. Justin McCarthy. It runs as follows:—

John Edward Redmond is one of the leading men in the House of Commons just now. He is one of the very few really eloquent speakers of whom the House can boast. His is, indeed, of a kind but rarely

meaning in polished and well-balanced sentences, in brilliant phrasing, and with melodious utterance, then I have to admit that John Redmond is not, in his style of eloquence, quite up to the present fashion, and I can only say that it is so much the worse for the present fashion. It is quite certain that Redmond is accepted by the House of Commons in general as one of its most eloquent speakers and one of its ablest



MR. JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

heard in either House of Parliament during recent years. The ordinary style of debate in the House of Commons is becoming more and more of the merely conversational order, and even when the speaker is very much in earnest, even when he is carried away by the fervor of debate, his emotion is apt to express itself rather in an exaltation of the style. Among members of the House who may be still regarded as

party leaders.

Redmond has already been some twenty years in the House of Commons. He was very young when first chosen to represent an Irish constituency in the House. I have noticed that our biographical dictionaries of contemporary life do not agree as to the date of Redmond's birth. Some of the books set him down as born in 1851, while others give the year of his birth as

Redmond very well, and he was a man of the most courteous bearing and polished manners, a man of education and sagacity, who, whenever he spoke in debate, spoke well and to the point, and was highly esteemed by all parties in the House. John Redmond was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, studied for the law and was called to the bar, but did not practice in the profession. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1881, and became a member of that National party which had been formed not long before under the guidance of Charles Stewart Parnell. From the time when he first took part in a Parliamentary debate it was evident that John Redmond had inherited his father's graceful manner of speaking, and it was soon discovered that he possessed a faculty of genuine eloquence which had not been displayed by the elder Redmond. John Redmond had and still has a voice of remarkable strength, volume, and variety of intonation.

The House of Commons, as a whole has thoroughly recognized Redmond's position, influence and capacity. The Prime Minister has given many proofs of the importance which he attaches to Redmond's decisions and movements. The new leader of the Irish party has won a much higher rank as a Parliamentary debater than he ever had attained to in the days before he had become invested with a really grave responsibility. The newspaper critics on all sides of political life are agreed in describing him as one of the foremost living debaters. Indeed, there are but three or four men in the House of Commons who could possibly be compared with him for eloquence and skill in debate and there is a quality of grace and artistic form in his style of eloquence which often recalls the memories of brighter days when the art of oratory was still cultivated in Parliament. The success with which he has conducted the movements of his party has compelled Ministerialists and Opposition alike to take serious account of Redmond and his followers when the chances of any great political measure are under consideration. Only quite lately, during the passage of the education measure, he adopted a policy which at first greatly puzzled his opponents and at the last moment succeeded in impressing the Government and the Ministerial party generally with the conviction that Redmond understands when and how to strike a decisive blow.

Of course, we hear sometimes, and of late rather often, about differences in the Irish party itself, and about a threatened secession from John Redmond's leadership. The Tory papers in England and even some of the journals which are professionally Liberal, made eager use of this supposed dissension, and endeavored to persuade themselves and their readers that Redmond has not a full hold over his followers and over the Irish people. I may tell my American readers that they will do well not to attach the slightest importance to these stories about a threatened secession from the lately reunited Irish National party. In the first place, I never heard of any political party which did not incline in its ranks some men who could not always be reckoned on as amenable to the discipline which is found necessary in every political organization. There is a considerable number of Liberal members who cannot be counted on to follow at all times the guidance of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. There are many Ministerialists, and some of them very clever men, who have lately been proving that at times they would just as soon vote against Arthur Balfour as with him. But in regard to the Irish party and the members who do not always fall in with the wish of its leader, the actual facts are peculiar. The only members of the party who have lately been showing a tendency to mutiny are, with one exception, men of no account whatever in Ireland's political life. I do not wish to name any names, but I can state with deliberation that almost every one of the mutinous members just now is a man who has not the slightest chance of ever again being sent to represent an Irish constituency in the House of Commons. These men had long since forfeited the confidence of their constituents and their fellow-countrymen. They are perfectly aware of this fact; they know quite well that the next general election will see them put out of Parliamentary life, and in despair of reelection, they probably think that they might as well make the most of the opportunity for rendering themselves conspicuous for indulging in eccentricities which now can do them no further harm. It may be taken for granted that at the next general election the National constitution of Ireland will send to the House of Commons no men who are not prepared to work in complete union with the National party, and

to recognize the authority of the leader who has the confidence of his people. I do not care to waste many words on this subject, but I think it right to assure my American readers that they need not attach any serious importance to the doings of five or six men, most of whom are either mere "cranks" or are driven to desperation by disappointed personal ambition.

John Redmond has the confidence of his countrymen in England and Scotland, as well as in Ireland, and we have seen that within the last few months he has obtained full assurance that he enjoys the confidence of his countrymen in the United States, in Canada, and in Australia.

GOOD NIGHT, PAPA.

"Good night papa! good night papa!"
I hear it from the stairs,
I hear it in the hall outside,
I answer at my prayers;

I must respond or I shall hear
It laid ten times and more;
"Good night papa! good night papa!"
Repeated o'er and o'er.

Some years ago my little boy
Lay dying in his cot,
His little hand was caught in mine,
So feeble and so hot.

Good night pap, he whispered low,
And then he caught his breath
And looped for help I could not give
And then—Oh, cruel death.

Good-by papa, we're off to bed,
Good night mamma, good night,
How sweet to hear the little ones,
In parting from our sight.

How anxious is the mother dear,
If illness comes at night,
Good night mamma, I'm better now,
Good night my dear, good night.

Good night my only little lass,
Good night my little maid,
A kiss, oh, yes; you must have one,
Have I something, you said,

Oh, yes, to-morrow true! true! true!
You'll get it surely then,
"Good night papa! goodbye papa!"
"Oh, kiss me once again."

In after years how sweet to feel
You've cheered their infant days,
And made them feel your happiness
In various little ways.

And when they grow to men and maids
The echoes and refrain,
"Good night papa, good night mamma,"
Is sunshine midst the rain.

F. D. DALY.

How a Young Lawyer

Won a Big Fee.

Captain C. C. Calhoun, a young lawyer of Lexington, Ky., arrived at Frankfort, the state capital, a few days ago with a certified check on the United States treasury for \$1,323,999.35 in his pocket.

He got the money due the state for equipping soldiers in the civil war.

A year ago Captain Calhoun, a poor but bright young lawyer, appeared before Governor Beckham and said that much money was due to the State from the government. The Governor encouraged the young lawyer to this extent:

"All right, Calhoun; I'll appoint you to represent the State, and if you collect it you will get a fee of 10 per cent."

Young Calhoun was without funds, but he set to work at his task and spent months in Washington, looking through musty records of the civil war claims. After weeks of tedious work he secured facts and guides which proved that the Government did owe the Commonwealth of Kentucky the amount named. He then set out to have the claim allowed.

The proof was so clear that he succeeded in having the claim included in the general deficiency bill, which was passed by Congress and signed by the President, and Captain Calhoun's fee, which will be paid to him at once, will amount to \$132,399.35. Thus in one year he has made a small fortune.

A COLORED WOMAN'S REQUEST.

By the will of Miss Nancy Addison, an aged colored woman who died in Baltimore, Md., Feb. 8, the sum of about \$18,000 is left to the Oblate Sisters of Providence in that city.

The Czar And Liberty.

(By An Occasional Contributor.)

For ages the Czar of Russia seems to have been the generally accepted illustration of tyranny and autocratic power. When the spirit of liberty was abroad over the world and the democratic principle of government became the order of the day, in almost every land, when monarchies became constitutional instead of absolute, and Republics sprang up where monarchies and empires had been, alone, amidst all the changes and advances on the way popular freedom, Russia clung to her olden form of one man government, and the Czar remained the prototype of absolute power. It can be easily imagined what a surprise to the world, and above all to the people of Russia, the recent decree of the present "Autocrat of all the Russia's" must have been. The principal organs of the country are delighted with the freedom that is evidently going to extend to the press as well as to religious bodies. While it will be several months yet before the exact idea can be had of the practical significance of the reforms traced out in the decree of the Czar, the publication of the proclamation has been a source of great joy to the people all over the land, where ever the message of the Czar has penetrated. It is the sole topic of conversation in the homes of the people in the public houses, and on the streets of city and village, and while forecasts are greatly exaggerated, it is not too much to say that the Czar furnishes many more solid hopes and causes a greater joy in the country than has any political event, since the emancipation of the slaves in 1861.

To Exempt Workingmen's Wages From Seizure.

At a recent session of the Quebec Legislature Mr. Lacombe's Bill to exempt from seizure for debt, except for rent, the wages of all workmen under \$10 weekly was the subject of much discussion.

In explaining the object of his measure, the member for St. Mary's division, Montreal, remarked that it was just as much in the interests of the traders as the workingman. The present credit system was ruinous to both, as the creditor frequently purchased more than he really required, and when unable to pay, action was taken and he was called upon to foot a heavy bill for capital, interest and costs.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier remarked that the bill, like all others of a similar nature, he referred to the Committee on Legislation, but Dr. Lacombe objected, on the ground that with all the lawyers on that committee his bill could not be saved.

Mr. Prevost supported the bill, stating that it would be a benefit to both the trader and the workingman, as if wages under ten dollars could not be seized, traders would not give credit, while the buyer would pay for all he purchased.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier remarked that the Committee on Legislation was apparently not in favor with some of the members, but he could tell them that that was the proper place to study such bills, and all bills brought forward in the public interest were favorably reported. Besides, if a bill was thrown out by a committee, the promoter still had a right to bring it before the House on a motion.

Mr. Taschereau remarked that as the law stood to-day almost all the furniture in a workingman's house was exempt from seizure. He was against the bill, as he considered it against the interest of the working classes. It was a well known fact that in this city, for example, there are a number of laborers who obtain lots of work in the summer season, but who are not so successful in the winter, and have to depend on grocers, butchers and other traders to supply them with goods until the spring, when they return to work. At present these parties well know that when the laborer worked he would be paid, or if not a return would be put on his wages. But if the present bill was adopted, the poor workingman would have a hard time to get along in winter.

Dr. Lacombe knew numerous instances where the workingman had to pay considerable interest and costs on the capital, and it frequently happened that the employer discharged a man whose wages were under seizure.

Hon. Mr. Duffy stated that on principle he was in favor of the bill, as he was aware that there were a number of abuses in connection with seizure of salaries, and useless costs had to be paid, but he was of opinion that the bill should be limited to cases where the workingman purchased things which were absolutely necessary for a living. However, he was in favor of referring the bill to the Legislation Committee.

Hon. Mr. Parent remarked that if the principle of the bill was admitted as good, it could be just as well considered in committee of the whole and amendments made thereto if necessary.

Hon. Mr. Flynn stated that as to the merits of the bill he would prefer to discuss them before the Committee on Legislation or a special committee, in fact, he was of opinion that all these exemptions from seizures should be reconsidered, as he saw the difficulties arising daily in the courts in connection with seizures of wages or salaries. He had at one time favored certain exemptions, but now he was aware of certain difficulties caused in that respect. There were no doubt many cases of hardship, when seizures on salaries or wages were issued in the hands of employers. He did not understand why the promoter of the bill objected to his measure being referred to the Committee on Legislation.

Hon. Mr. Pelletier.—If ten dollars a week salaries of wages are exempt from seizure that will make an annual revenue of \$520 for the workingman which cannot be touched by his creditors. Now why should not the farmers be included in that exemption? According to this bill a workingman would pay or not just as he pleased and he did not see why farmers should not get the same protection, if such was to become law.

Mr. Roy (Montmagny) approved of Mr. Pelletier's remarks, and said that at first the Legislature had begun by exempting the seizure of workingmen's furniture, at least the better part of it, then the seizure of wages was limited to 1-5th, and now an attempt was made to exempt weekly salaries under ten dollars. The men, in most cases, who complain, were not the honest nor hardworking man, but these complaints were made by parties who only occasionally worked, and who, when they had money, refused to pay their debts.

After Dr. Bissonnette had spoken in favor of settlers getting the same favors as the workingman, the bill was read a second time.

Mr. Taschereau then moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Legislation, to which Dr. Lacombe and others objected. A division was taken on Mr. Taschereau's motion, was carried.

Death of an Irish Centenarian

There has just passed away in Bolton, Eng., a remarkable old woman, Mrs. Catherine Connolly, who had attained the age of 105 years. She was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, and came to Bolton many years ago, often relating to her friends that the trip across the Channel took no less than three days. She just remembered some of the tragic events of the rebellion of '98, including the hanging of men at their own doors, and had distinct recollections of the Battle of Waterloo, in which her father-in-law took part. She was married at St. Patrick's, Great Moor street, and for many years she and her husband resided in Davies street, where her husband died at the age of 73, some thirteen years ago. About three or four years ago she entered the workhouse, where she expired on Friday from senile decay. Deceased was possessed of a most cheerful disposition, and was a woman of wonderful vitality, retaining all her faculties up to the last.

There has probably not been an in-door cottage home throughout the length and breadth of Europe during the whole period of vital Christianity in which the imagined presence of the Madonna has not given sanction to the humblest duties and comfort to the poorest of the lives of woman; and every brightest and loftiest achievement of the arts and strength of husband has been fulfillment of the assured prophecy of the poor Irish little Maiden. "He that is mighty hath begotten me, and Holy is His Name."

The Legends Of St. Patrick

A SKETCH

OF THE

Apostle and His

(By a Regular Contributor.)

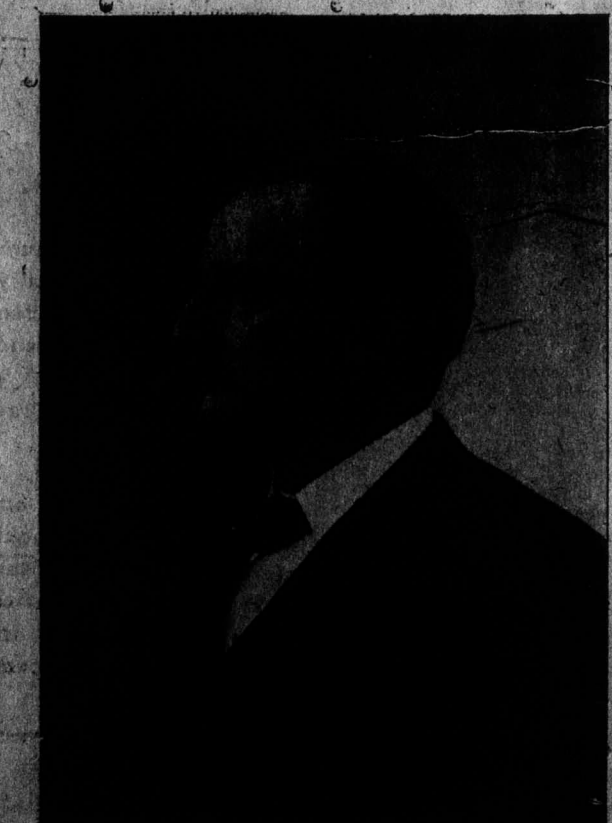
No matter how deeply inspired, how hopefully inspiring, how gravely important are the legends of Ireland's festival, in our day, still with an irresistible impulse back up the hills of time, and upon some lofty eminence, gone, loves to contemplate glorious era of Ireland's stages when the light of faith flashed upon the Island, the legends that are drawn from the more solid texture of history. On Tuesday last, Patrick was told, and the facts connected with his vision of Erin were revived and for the edification of all depicted in the day's celebration is only necessary to read of all that transpired, here where, to have a idea of with which every glory of has been preserved and which each cherished memory is each to the custody of the generations.

Turning, then, from the ever inspiring, details of a that is so magnificent, it is that is inappropriate to touch wonderful Legends of St. Patrick. Remember, however, that legend must be accepted in a sense from that of fact; these legends are historical looking the full confirmation calm history demands. Intense has Aubrey De Vere these legends, and the reading almost epic production is a education in Irish history. That completed that work, there is no more praiseworthy our language, and before to the public, as an heroic penned a preface that deserved repeated one every renewal 17th March. Consequently devote a column to that in-essay. It is thus De Vere.

"The ancient records of Ireland bound in legends respect greatest man and the greatest factor that ever trod her soil of these earlier are at more authentic and the nobility omitted to say that Aubrey was still a Protestant who wrote this composition.)

few have a character of the many are pathetic; some have found meaning under a disguise; but their predominant is their brightness and someness. A large tract history is dark; but the title Patrick, and the three which succeeded it, were he joy. That chronicle is a gratitude and hope, as best story of a nation's conversion Christianity, and in it the brook blend their care those of angels and men.

otherwise with the later legend. Oisian with Saint. A poet once remarked, writing the frescoes of Michael the Sistine Chapel, that they are always sad, while the legends of the Patrick the chief-loving old bard mournful, for his face is the past glories of his while the saint is always because his eyes are set on glory that has no end. "These legends are to be chiefly in answer, very and



MR. JOHN E. REDMOND, M. P.

Having a career before them. I do not think there are more than three or four who are capable of making a really eloquent speech—a speech which is worth hearing for its style and its language as well as for its information and its argument. John Redmond is one of these gifted few. Lloyd-George is another. I have heard some critics depreciate John Redmond's eloquence on the ground that it is rather old-fashioned. If it be old-fashioned to express one's

1850. I think I have good reason for knowing that the latter date is the correct one. Perhaps it ought to bring a sense of gratification to a public man when a dispute arises as to the date of his birth. It may give him a complacent reminder of the fact that certain critics disputed as to Homer's birthplace.

John Redmond comes of a good family, and his father was for a long time a member of the House of Commons. I can remember the day