

hand that, in his agony of remorse, seemed to him indeed an angel's, and bent his head over it with sobs that shook his frame, and cried that strong men seldom utter.

lightful oyster suppers, where Butler sang his best songs and Lover told his drollest stories! Free of the theatre, when Calcraft ruled the boards, it sometimes fell to my lot to write the critiques. I was on good terms with the sock and buskin, but more particularly with those whose privileged vanity had just reason, to be gratified in more ways than one whenever it came to their turn.

the then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. A testimonial to Browne from his native place, the Queen's County, enabled him to emigrate to the United States, where, far from the turmoil of Irish politics, he lived prosperously and died happily. He is reported to have said on leaving the shores of Ireland, "It will all come around yet—a free religion in a free State—all that I have fought and suffered for, though I shall not live to see it."

Dominion is prosperous there is no room to doubt. As the people advanced in political knowledge, so did they progress in commercial prosperity; as they widened the basis of the constitution, and obtained Home Rule, so did they as surely pave the way for a brilliant and successful future. When the Act of Confederation took place in 1867, neither Canada, nor any portion of it, was as prosperous as it is to-day. Readers of the press will remember the hostility which that act evoked. Like all great reforms, the Act of 1867 was bitterly assailed, and it might be instructive to test how far the predictions of its enemies have been fulfilled. If there is no lesson to be learned by the Irish Home Rulers, from the contest for, and the subsequent success of the Act which gave the full measure of Home Rule to British North America. By that act a number of provinces were confederated under one head, called the Parliament of the Dominion, and the opponents of the movement loudly proclaimed the difficulty which would arise in attempting to define what belonged to the Dominion and what belonged to the Provinces. It was said that this alone would lead to endless wrangling, and that the Provincial Legislatures and the Dominion Parliament would be in a constant state of political hostility. First, there was the consideration—What were Imperial affairs, as understood by her Majesty's ministers? Then there was the question—What were the affairs over which the Dominion should have authority? And lastly came the moot question—What is to be left for the Provincial Legislature? But this was not all! The opponents of the scheme of confederation made capital of the likelihood of a Conservative Government, directing the affairs of a province, a Liberal Government guiding the destinies of the Dominion at large, and perhaps a Radical Ministry seated on the Government benches in Westminster Hall. Here was abundant speculative argument for the enemies of Home Rule for Canada, and well and earnestly did they play their weapons against the friends of the Act of Confederation. But the Act became law in spite of all opposition, and has been now eight years upon its trial, and with what result? Was there much difficulty in defining what were "Imperial affairs," what were "Dominion affairs," and what were "the affairs of the provinces?" Did the question seriously block legislation for a day; or was it not settled, amicably and speedily, to the satisfaction of all? In such a settlement re-adjustments may from time to time prove necessary, but all the difficulties which were predicted, all the dangers which were apprehended, vanished under the experience of a single trial, and eight years of Home Rule in Canada has refuted the theories preconceived, and as its enemies thought, pre-established against it. At the present moment the system of legislation which was pronounced dangerous "difficult," if not "impossible," is in harmonious working order, for we find a Conservative Government in the Province of Quebec, a Liberal administration from the Dominion in General, and another Conservative Government guiding the policy of the empire at large. But what does all this prove? It proves that the only two arguments adduced by the Prime Minister against granting Home Rule for Ireland, have been solved by the Canadians, and that a system of Government almost analogous to that which Ireland now demands exists, and that, too, under the administration of a Ministry that pronounced the system "absurd" and "impossible." It proves also that many Englishmen—unfortunately too many—have a laughing devil in their thoughts when they speak of Ireland, and that Fact, Right, and Honor are sacrificed to expediency and so called British interests. I am conscious that there are many Englishmen to whom this is not applicable—I meet such every day around me—and they are, I am glad to say, daily on the increase; but I am equally conscious that there are others, aye, and a majority, too, who regard Ireland and everything Irish with feelings of antipathy, and whose only intelligible opposition to the Home Rule movement is that it is Irish. Or can it be that English statesmen confess that what has been done by Canadians cannot be done by the Imperial Parliament—the inheritors of the genius of Alfred, of Edward—the possessors of the Roman code—and the builders of a Constitution which its friends claim to be the most perfect that the world has ever seen? Yet, with all this, I suppose we will still be told "that it is impossible to define what are Imperial affairs and what are Irish affairs;" and that a Conservative Government in Dublin would be constantly clashing with any Liberal Government in London, and so on to the end of the chapter. I may be told, however, that the Home Rule party does not claim such a system of Government as Canada exercises in the Dominion Parliament, nor as the Provincial Legislatures exercise in the provinces. This is true, but it in no way interferes with the broad fact that the authority of the Imperial, Dominion, and Provincial Legislatures has been accurately and satisfactorily defined, and that a Conservative administration in the one has been found by experience to be consistent with harmony, law, and a Liberal administration in the other. The thesis is clear, and the result has been satisfactorily obtained. But the successful working of the Act of 1867 not only furnishes the Home Rule party in Ireland with substantial political arguments in favor of their demand, but it furnishes also an evidence of financial success and commercial prosperity in the Dominion, which forces one to believe with Swift that no nation can prosper where the laws are not made in harmony with the genius and the industry of its inhabitants. Since the passing of the Act of Confederation, Canada in every way advanced. From returns just published by the Minister of Finance, I find that the debt of Canada is £24,000,000, or £6 per head, the whole of which has been incurred for legitimate objects of public utility—railways, canals, light-houses, volunteers, &c. The result of this expenditure has been "a steady advance in population and trade." Let us take three years out of the eight that has passed since the Act of Confederation came into operation, and we shall see how far Home Rule has contributed to the prosperity of the Dominion. I find that the aggregate trade of Canada—exports and imports—were: For the year ending 30th June, 1868. £26,923,428 " " " 1871. 34,986,235 (estimated) 1875. 44,000,000 So much for eight years of Home Rule in Canada. The advance is marvellous in so short a time, and if continued for two years, the export and import trade of Canada will have doubled after ten years' experience of Legislative Independence. It must be remembered, too, that the depression of trade in the United States must have seriously affected Canada, or else the export and import trade might have been doubled now. But economy has not been disregarded. With all the money spent by the Dominion in developing the resources of the country—every year since 1867 has shown a balance at the banker's, and during the eight years that have passed, £2,442,111 has been placed to the credit of her account. And what is the result of all this? What is the condition of Canada to-day, and what are the prospects of her future? The Government is about to improve the communications from Lake Superior to the ocean. It has undertaken works of communication with the North-West territory and the Pacific Railway; and such works of general interest as will open out the country and develop its trade. The public credit is good—so good, indeed, that her Majesty's Minister—the minister that refuses to give men a few thousand pounds to advance the interests of their fisheries—the ministers who "circumnavigated the Shannon on outside cars"—but who spent no money on its improvement—the minister who refused the loan of £500,000 to the citizens of

Dublin, yet for Home Ruled Canada wont guarantee a loan for £8,460,000, the engagements of which Canada punctually met, "without," in the wording of the official document, "any advance whatever from the Imperial Treasury." If deposits in savings banks are any evidence of a people's prosperity, then Canada furnishes the remarkable illustration of having more than tripled such deposits from 1867 to 1875, the former year the sum deposited was £1,240,069, in the latter it was £3,754,820. What is the cause of this? There is but one answer—Home Rule. But I may add one fact more—a fact which should exercise some influence upon the Irish people at home, and spur them to increased efforts—and that is, that the Canadians are in favor of Home Rule for Ireland. As for the Irish people with whom I came in contact—and as far as I could hear, except indeed, where they are blinded by a plous zeal of Orange Rowdyism, the decaying spirit of which occasionally flickers into life, under the fear of a "Popish plot," and the inspiration of Kentish fire and "unlimited sack." The rest of the people of Canada are I have reason to believe, favorable to the Home Rule cause, for they do not belong to that class of "corrupted freemen who are worse than slaves."

I am, obediently yours, M. W. KIRWAN, Gen. Sec. Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain. 24th Nov., 1875.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.

On the 18th ult., a deputation waited on the Rev. Father Hardy, P.P., at his residence, Mountain Lodge, Newry, and presented him with a purse containing upwards of eighty sovereigns, subscribed by the people of Dundalk as a testimonial to the Rev. gentleman on his appointment to the parish of Upper Killeavy.

A serious fire broke out recently in one of the wards of the Christian Brothers' Schools, Portlanning. The fire was first discovered by one of the Brothers, who at once raised an alarm, and although every possible aid was rendered by the inhabitants of the town and the Constabulary, it could not be got under till property, including a valuable harmonium, to the amount of close on £100 was destroyed. The solemn ceremony of profession took place in the chapel of the convent of our Lady of Mercy, Dundalk, on the 17th ult. The young ladies who received the black veil from his Grace the Primate were—Della Clara Mary Josephine, daughter of the late John McGough, Esq., Priorland House, in religion Sister Mary Columba; and Kate, daughter of the late John Malone, Esq., Hainstown, in religion Sister Mary Regis.

James Murphy, Esq., J.P., died on the 19th ult. at Ringmahon Castle, aged 78 years. His remains were interred on the 22nd ult. in the ancient family vault at Carrigrohane. The funeral was attended by the Archbishop of Cashel, the Bishop of Cork, a great number of clergy, and by a concourse of citizens of all ranks and persuasions that testified the extent of the esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held by the entire community. The mourning procession extended considerably over a mile. All who took part in the procession wore caps, and shutters were up on most of the shops along the route.

A breach of promise of marriage case was heard on the 22nd ultimo, before the Master of the Queen's Bench. The plaintiff, Anne Sheehan, was the daughter of a Tipperary farmer, and the defendant, Patrick Young, a widower, aged forty-three years, who had returned from Australia and purchased a farm. He had got the license for the marriage, but instead of going to the church at the appointed time, he mounted his horse and rode away from the neighborhood altogether, leaving the priest and the plaintiff waiting for him, and two days afterwards he married another girl, named Stapleton, who had a fortune, Miss Sheehan having none. The jury awarded £150 damages, and costs.

On the 17th ult., an old woman, about ninety years of age, named Ellen Cronin, dropped suddenly dead in the street at Kinsale fair. The deceased, whose family hold a farm at Bogstown, about seven miles from Kinsale, left home in the morning in company with her son, who had a horse and cart, for the purpose of transacting some business at the fair, and while standing by the horse, at the top of Cramer's street, the animal started off, and, although not receiving the slightest injury, her nerves got such a shock that she fell on the ground and died without a struggle.

A new Roman Catholic Institute has been established in Limerick, the first meeting in connection with which was held in the Council Chamber on the 22nd ult., when addresses were delivered by Father O'Dwyer, the originator of the society, and Mr. O'Shaughnessy, M.P., the President. The latter dwelt at considerable length upon the functions, moral and educational, the institute is intended to discharge, and acknowledged the cordial support it had received from the citizens of all classes and creeds. A large number of members were enrolled. The committee of the institute have obtained formal possession of the fine premises in Brunswick street, formerly occupied as the National Bank, and last as the Munster Bank, from the governors of which the society have purchased the fee-simple of the house.

On the 20th ult., the substantial edifice which constituted the Dunfanaghy marketplace and courthouse, together with about £700 worth of flax, the property of several flax buyers, which had been weighed and stored therein, were destroyed by fire. There is no certainty of how the fire originated, but it is thought it must have been caused by some person incautiously lighting or smoking his pipe amongst the flax on the basement floor, where the fire was first noticed. The edifice, which stood isolated on a square of the town, and within about twenty feet of the quay, was erected by Alexander J. B. Stewart, Esq., J.P., father of the present proprietor of the same name, in 1845. The courthouse and magistrates' room occupied the second story. Nothing now remains but the walls, which seem almost uninjured. The damage done to the building is estimated at about £400. The Municipal elections for the city of Dublin took place on the 23rd ult. In twelve of the fifteen wards for which elections took place the outgoing councillors were re-elected without opposition. In the North City Ward Mr. Lawlor, the former Conservative Councillor for the ward, did not come forward to seek re-election. Mr. Ignatius J. Kennedy was elected without opposition in that gentleman's place. Two wards only were the scenes of contested elections—the Rotundo and the North Dock-Wards. In the Rotundo Mr. Wallis, Conservative, was opposed by Mr. E. Dwyer Gray. The election created the greatest excitement, and the poll was a remarkably full one, 225 votes having been given for Gray, and 112 for Wallis. In the North Dock-Ward, Mr. Meagher, the outgoing Liberal Councillor, was assailed by Mr. Carolan, the Conservative candidate. At the close of the poll the voting stood as follows:—Meagher, 252; Carolan, 86. A statement having been made some time ago that there was an LL.D. in an inn at the Newcastle West-Workhouse, a gentleman, resident in the county visited that institution recently, and found the inmate, Matthew Collins, an LL.D. of Trinity College, Dublin, First Science Sizar, Lloyd Exhibitioner, Senior Moderator, and Gold Medalist in Mathematics and Physics of the British Association

SOME IRISH WITS AND WRITERS OF THE LAST GENERATION.

In the Gentleman's Magazine of December last, certain reminiscences therein detailed, under the head of "Dublin Political Satire and Satiirists," have opened up some of the by-gones connected with Dublin life some forty years ago, to which time and change, and death have lent a melancholy interest. Among the many that have passed away since those days, when mirth and festivity reached their highest pitch of enjoyment through the exuberant combination of rich humor, high culture, and talents of singular variety and scope, is Samuel Lover.

Of these dozen contributors but three are now alive—O'Callaghan, Jones and Sheehan. "The sinews of war," he tells us, "were supplied by a distiller (now many years dead) of one of the Leinster counties—if my own memory is correct, it was Cassidy, of Monasterevan"—and by a young Protestant gentleman, still living, a justice of the peace of another county. The latter had a distinguished career in Trinity College, and had just been called to the Irish Bar—a profession, however, which he never followed, having inherited a handsome fortune as well as an ancestral taste for field sports and the genial pursuits of a country gentleman. He was the author of two of its best chapters: Lover's illustration of the former was his chief d'œuvre.

Of turning truth to lies, and white to black." But it may be just as well to remember that Canada, with a population of 4,000,000 souls, has territory of 4,000,000 of square miles, running from Cape Gaspe to the Rocky Mountains, and from the St. Lawrence and Ashburton Line, beyond that frigid region over which the Hudson Bay Company once ruled with almost dictatorial sway. The Irish population in Canada is estimated at a little more than half a million, or one to every eight. In some localities, however, the proportion varies, as for instance, in the commercial capital of the Dominion—Montreal—where the Irish people compose more than one-fourth of the people, or 35,000 Irish to 130,000 in all. To say that the Irish people in Canada hold positions of social, political and commercial importance, equal to their neighbors of any other nationality, is but to express the simplest of truisms, which is evidenced in their every day life. Montreal, for instance, is the only town—out of Ireland—which has a daily paper devoted to the interests of the Irish national cause. Many of the public functionaries are Irishmen, while the first mercantile firms in the city are either partly or wholly owned by men of Irish birth. Like Caen in France, Montreal might be called the "City of the Churches," from the number and beauty of its ecclesiastical buildings, and Catholics take particular pride in the splendid edifices which meet one on almost every turn in the city. At Quebec and Ottawa, the condition of the Irish people is somewhat the same, and indeed all over the Dominion their position is such as will cause the casual visitor, like myself, to experience emotional pride, at the social position, the political power, and the commercial success which appear to have so largely attended their efforts. It is no speculative theory to claim that this half million of Irish people must have done much to bring about the present prosperity of the Dominion at large; for no matter what may be the causes of the late depression in trade, that the

HOME RULE IN CANADA. To the Editor of the United Irishman. DEAR SIR,—I have just returned from a short tour through Canada, and although I was compelled to view the political institutions of the Dominion—like its scenic beauties—with panoramic rapidity, yet I tried to read as I ran, and endeavored to pick up "unconsidered trifles" on my way. It would be impertinence of me if I attempted to speak, with authoritative air, of the confederated provinces, having no data but what I picked up during my hurried run. If the impressions I retain of Canada be not correct, they are at least free from prejudice, and like Coleridge's watch—are always ready to be put in order, when some one more experienced than myself, and with a better political chronometer, shall tell me the time of day. I do not intend to give a geographical survey of the Dominion, or to occupy your columns with lines of statistics, which, it has been so well said, can be made prove anything, for, in the hands of an able manipulator, figures appear to have the "Unholy knack Of turning truth to lies, and white to black."

Grant, heaven! I may see, ere my own days are done! A monument rise o'er my country's own soil! And oh! proudest task, be it mine to indite The long-delayed tribute a freeman must write Till then shall its theme in my heart deeply dwell—So, peace to thy slumbers—dear shade, fare thee well! "He was cut off, poor fellow, just as he was beginning to emerge into professional eminence. We were both the friends and literary associates of the late Baron Hughes, who perpetrated poetry in his early days. "Robert Knox, who afterwards edited the Morning Herald, and Stirling Coyne, who also held a high position on our Metropolitan Press, and produced a number of successful dramas, were not over three-and-twenty. Maurice O'Connell might have been from four to five-and-twenty. Brown was about forty-five. Lover, whose birth his biographer states to have taken place the year before the Irish Rebellion, would have been about five or six and thirty, Dominick Ronayne, a barrister of the Munster Circuit, and member for a South-east borough, whose poetic satires on public abuses and characters, identified therewith, under the signature of 'Figaro in Dublin,' were in many instances superior to Churchill or Gifford, was a middle aged man, George Dunbar—nom de plume 'Nebula'—the most sparkling and classic writer of English prose in any publication of his time in either country, was about three-and-twenty. He had previously a distinguished career in Trinity College Dublin. Clarence Mangan, who signed his own initials to his articles in prose and verse, began his erratic literary career in the Comet long before he contributed to the Dublin University Magazine. He was one of the Comet's merry youngsters. Of the twelve names above mentioned five were Protestants, namely—Browne, Lover, Knox, Coyne, and Dunbar. The last-mentioned joined the Saint Simonians in Paris in after years. Six were Catholics—Ronayne, Maurice O'Connell, John O'Callaghan, Hugo N. Jones, Kennedy and Sheehan. Mangan's religion was undemonstrative; but he wound up, however, like a true Celt, dying a sincere Christian and a good Catholic."