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perhaps, wonderful that such a statement should be accepted as true, because this monstrous fallacy that Ireland is governed by England has again and again found expression in the Press, not only in Ireland, but in England as well. But what is the fact? Ireland is governed by laws passed in an Imperial Parliament where Ireland has her legitimate voice, and often (because of the balance of parties) more than her legitimate influence. It follows that Ireland is no more governed by England than England is by Ireland.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

And what, it may be asked, is it that some would propose for the purpose of making Ireland a nation? What, for example, were the terms of the measure recently introduced into Parliament for this very purpose? That proposal would, as you know, have deprived us henceforward of any voice in the Imperial Parliament. The Government appointed by that Parliament to administer its laws would, so far as Ireland is concerned, be virtually a foreign Government. And yet to this Government would be entrusted the control of the Queen's forces.

A NATION WITHOUT AN ARMY.

Now, let us consider dispassionately what this means. It means that by this measure—designed, as it is said, to make a nation—we should be at once deprived of that prerogative of a nation which, in virtue of our imperial nationality, we have hitherto enjoyed—the possession and the disposal of an army to defend our shores. That army would no longer be ours. We should be expected to contribute towards its maintenance our money and our blood, and in return our English and Scotch neighbors might graciously send it over to protect us in time of need. But our relation to it as a nation would be gone for ever. That army would be sent over not merely to protect us, but to keep order in our land. And this would be done in pursuance of a measure which was intended to obviate the necessity of enforcing the law “under a foreign garb!” If we add to this the fact that, in accordance with the provisions of this measure, our Viceroy would be appointed, and a large portion of our taxes imposed, by this same foreign Government, surely we have before us, not the picture of an enfranchised people, but of a nation transformed into the position of a conquered and tributary province!

WHAT ARE THE GRIEVANCES?

“Fellow-countrymen!” we might well say in presence of such facts, are these the results which true patriotism should welcome? Is it not time to pause and ask whether this agitation is leading you, and whence it is derived? Has it sprung from yourselves, or is it the result of artificial pressure from without? If it be from yourselves what *are* the grievances under which you suffer, and which these changes would remove? In what respect is your liberty curtailed? What privileges enjoyed by Englishmen or Scotchmen are denied to you? You have been told that if Ireland had a separate Legislature you would be better off. Of course, if an Irish Parliament should allow you to obtain that which of right belongs to others, you might be better off as regards this world's wealth. But for the honor of our country and for your own good name such an idea ought not surely to be entertained. And if prosperity is