## Speech.

g of the present sessh Parliament the J. Balfour, declined e demand of the or an opportunity to ant situation in their where the constitud, and several memnt have been imprilabor for denoun-of misrule which exthe land. Mr. Balannounce that, in Education Bill, one which the House l upon to consider nstruction of a rail-This brought forth Mr. T. P. O'Connor, that as the Govern d the voice of the Ireland, at least in urt of appeal their be heard.

le an ironical speech led news recently al-y. He said he rose of saying a few bject of the Uganda laughter). Speakof Uganda (renewed shed to thank the a great measure of which he was sure a to Kerry and balm (laughter), namely, penditure on that ge amount of public taking up the time th regard to a pro scription. We could ing the Government al to spend time and inhabitants of that lected island. (Loud da was a place been foremost in his wed laughter). They it up to love and l it was now a conthat long-neglected at length have won pprobation of the of England to such he was prepared, at stringency, and when ill for England was a passion, to give that country the a large portion of House of Commons There must be some flattering attention

it was a perfectly 7. (Loud laughter). administration was the most pure-souled the British Empire aw and order there regularity of which ample in this count was that the Brit-curned aside from ich as the affairs of gland, of Scotland, d devoted itself with e interests of the afflicted area. at w as the right hon-n opposite was to me Minister, he had to the Empire at ld redound through ough Canada and land and kingdom, sorbed by England however much this ht have its hands a nigger, a painted then roaming in the had a tear for you (loud laughter), and rosity he would be beal to the Chancelquer to pour out the i for the benefit of nd dejected savage. abers had long glotuction of their own ause where, in lre-thin the walls of an --could they imagine cedness, such altruown country was illing and throbbing emotion as to turn mplate the condition of Uganda? (Laughwas that in future he had always fut of Commons would ng ethereal and enwould by would go back to try with these gloriprinciples that Ker-glected, Connaught ng, but at least that eye and a watchiul people of Uganda.

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"True Witness."

sight in the demon of drink in America beg- the fruits of his mission; but just tutions of charity, are filled with the When Almighty God un-folds His Roll of Honor, in highest place thereon will be found, not the mighty warriors whose laurels are reddened with innocent blood; not the kings of the earth whose thrones are builded on the bones of murdered men; not they who have been the cynosure of men's eyes be cause of their skill, or gifts, or amassed wealth; but in first place, in golden letters, will be recorded the names of those who have helped

SATURDAY, NOV 15, 1903.

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their fellowmen; who have reached down and lifted up the lowly; who have brought peace and happiness into the world; who have taught men how to lead better lives, how to reverence themselves. Among these heroes of God, in highest place, in most brilliant letters, stands the name of Theobald Mathew.

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There is no need, I am sure, for ne to go into details in speaking of the life of Father Mathew. They are familiar to you all. You know it was not until his forty-eighth year, the twenty-fifth of his priesthood, that he began his great work of preaching total abstinence from strong drink. But all those years were an unconscious preparation for his work; throughout each of them God was framing and shaping his life and character for the destiny in store for him. Father Mathew was gifted with a tender heart, easily moved at sight of suffering; with a generous purse, that was ever ready ies of others. His zeal in his priest- | of the worst sort preaching an in nation of zealous priests. His un- tin watched Father Mathew. which he often entered at five priest would be to them in o'clock in the morning-had drawn to him sinners and saints alike. His ligion from the bulk of the people heroic labors during the cholera who most needed the reform. Again plague of 1832 had won for him the and again he besought Father Matesteem and admiration of all sorts hew to join with them in the crusand conditions of men. The success of the industrial schools, founded and maintained by his personal efknown throughout the land. So, when the psychological moment arrived, when God called him to his great work, he was well equipped to be a leader of men. Here was he knew, too, that if his preaching no raw recruit seeking experience in a new field: no ambitious man desiring reputation and emolument. Father Mathew's reputation was already established; he was ripe in years, rich in experiences; his work was to be among the lowly of the lowly, and no material reward could be hoped for in compensation. Selfless and self-sacrificing he had al-

that holy things mean nothing to those whose spiritual sense is dulled by the effects of strong drink. Moderation? Moderation would be absurd advice to give to a nation his own wonderful personal magnetthat can be moderate in nothing. The light was just beginning The light was just beginning to min the solution of the pilgrimage. All day and far into the night he was besieged by anx-

FATHER THEOBALD MATHEW. 

Father Mathew shared his work in the poor-house was a certain , Villiam Martin, a member of the Society of Friends. This man, with some others, had long been engaged in preaching and practising total abstinence from strong drink. Heartbreaking failure had attended their efforts to spread the movement They and the few converts they had to empty itself to relieve the miser- made were looked upon as eccentrics ly duties had made him marked in a same gospel. With envious eyes Mar-He tiring work in the confessional - knew what a tower or strength the 1842 the number increased to 4,000,their work, for they were separated by reade and yet he hesitated! Day after day, week after week, and through many weary months, the zealous forts, had caused his name to be priest tortured his soul, seeking an answer to his question. His own common sense told him that the only effective remedy against the evil were to be effective he would have to lead the way, that he would nave to practise what he preached. The words of William Martin haunted him: "O Theobald Mathew, thou him: month good with these lead the way, that he would have to people!"

ways been, and so when he saw the life we are struck with wonder that he wited so long. As a priest he had been familiar, as all priests are, with the ruin and misery, that fol-low in the school room in Cove low in the school room in Cove had seen the need of a remedy and so when he saw the had seen familiar, as all priests are, with the ruin and misery that fol-low in the school room in Cove had seen the need of a remedy and so when he saw the had seen the need so long. As a priest he had been familiar, as all priests are, with the ruin and misery that fol-low in the school room in Cove had seen the need of a remedy as had been familiar, as all priests are, street-against the granite wall of public opinion; against the might and strength of the liquor-traffic that was wound and twined about the heart of the ecclesiastical and social and civil life of the nation; a-gainst the interests of his own family: against the host of friends who had been his help in other good works,-against all these, for the love of God and his fellowman, the die was cast i 'Here goes, in the name of God.'' said Father Mathew, and he signed the total ab-stinence pledge! That he acted in God's name, and that God was with him, the success of his mission abundantly proves.

how could religion be utilized in re-gard to men and women steeped in drunkenness? Ah! he knew too well furnished himf with a wealth or texts his strong richt arm He came For furnished him with a wealth or vexts his strong right arm. He came. For -yea, they that heard him were themselves texts-for impressing his teachings. His reputation and posi- ing his saving crusade. He administion added weight to his words, and ism made converts of all who heard to him. Cove street became a place of

ious proselytes who wished to take the pledge, and reluctant victims were dragged there by solicitous friends for the same purpose. Throughout the city meetings were held, and with such success that in three months 25,000 persons had pledged themselves; in six months the number reached 121,000, while in December, at the end of the year, 156,000 men and women had ranged themselves under the banner of total abstinence. The effect of this army of the reformed was soon apparent in the numbers of well and comfortably dressed men and women and children that filled the streets of the city. Workmen went about their labors undeterred by the periodic spree, tradesmen rejoiced, and the traffickers in strong drink saw their occupation fast going from them. The reports of this wonderful change soon spread throughout Ireland, and Mathew was besought from all quarters to come and preach his doctrine here, and preach it there. Then began that astonishing crusade that has excited the wonder of all times, and that reads like fiction. To the North, to the South, to the East. and to the-West went this great Apostle of temperance. Everywhere was he received with ovation by all classes and by members of all ominations Everywhere men and women flocked to listen to the

persuasive eloquence of his earnest words, and with such effect that the uccess of the movement became a national one. In 1840, 2,000,000 persons pledged themselves, and in 000-that is to say, one-half the population of Ireland!

No wonder Father Mathew was regarded as a saint, and that the people brought their sick to him to be healed! Whether or not we wish to admit that the cures which followed his blessings were or were not mir acles (he himself constantly protested that he had no healing power), there were the open, evident, palpable miracles that cannot be gainsaid. What greater miracle can be wrought than the transformation of a sot and brute into a respectable and self-respecting citizen? Or the miracles Father Mathew wrought, through his total abstinence pledge, so frequently that they became com

proved by the substantial, practical change in the lives of those who pledged themselves. The result of on rocky ground, and having no this change was soon apparent in the increased prosperity of the country. In 1840 the excise duty on spirits in Ireland had been reduced one million pounds stterling (\$5,-000,000); while in 1843 the quantity of liquor on which duty was paid was one-half that on which duty of the many. Mathew's work did not had been paid in 1839. On the other hand, in the same year the customs receipts on tea and sugar increased ten per cent. In 1840, in the House of Lords, the Marquis of Westmeath sked a question concerning a proclamation published by the the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in which it was stated that "His Excellency pears willing and grateful testimony to the benefit which the temperand to the benefit which the tearbernice pledge has conferred upon Ireland, in the improved habits of the peo-ple and the diminution of outrage." This statement called forth the highst praise of Father Mathew and his work from those who loved him not, r his people.

more than two years he ' travelled from city to city in our land preachtered the pledge to 600,000 persons. Everywhere was he greeted as public benefactor he was. Both branches of Congress gave him the liberty of the House, a privilege he shared with Lafayette, the only two aliens who were ever so honored.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

WANTED--A FATHER MATHEW FOR TO-DAY.

In 1851 Father Mathew returned to Ireland. But he went back there a broken-down man. His robust health had at last given way before the superhuman tax he had imposed on it. The remaining five years his life were spent in futile efforts to regain his strength. Desultory speeches were made, the pledge was administered to those who sought him; but he was spent. The crath that came to this great Apostle of temperance on the 8th of December. 1856, was the death of a martyr. and he went to the reward that God holds for His saints.

The physical collapse of Father Mathew was not due, however, to bodily ailments alone; weariness o soul and keen mental anxiety had much to do with it. Like all great men, he had enemies. Like all refer mers, he was thoroughly hated; and as his reform struck at the sensual gratification of men and at the financial interests of a great power he was hated with intensest hatred. Malicious calumnies were circulated about him. He was reputed to have grown wealthy from the sale of temperance medals; and when he was arrested for debt, and it was shown that he had given away hundreds of thousands of these medals, that instead of gaining wealth he had actually impoverished himself, then the charge of improvidence was used as a weapon against him. It is due to his memory to state that, by means of the pension of fifteen hundred dollars a year granted him by the mediate followers. Public sentiment English Government in 1847, he was enabled to pay the debts he had contracted because of his munificent charity to the poor. The grant of this pension to Father Mathew 15 a crime. A man overcome by drink was an object of pity rather than a the one fair spot in the record of England's relations to Ireland! The sorb vast quantities of liquor was scandals against him were not, how-ever, the only things that wounded the heart of this zeasous . apostic. They who should have stood should- were destroyed, the innocent suffered er to shoulder with him in his battle against strong drink, either gave him but half-hearted encouragement they were unavoidable and unpreven-tible. Mathew changed all that. He or ranged themselves, openly or secretly, with his enemies. He lived to see his work almost undone by the terrible typhus fever plague of 45 and '46; and by the still more prevented by total abstinence. dreadful famine of the years that world is wiser to-day. 'The test followed. Then men and women, crazed by hunger and with no food to allay it, turned to strong drink Intoxication is no longer considered a necessary complement to hospital-ity. Business competition is so

ictical ber pledged most, indeed, did not who remain faithful. "And some fell up-drink is left far behind in the struct

mighty one, calling for all

as the unfruitful wind and wave results of drinking that was once sense shows

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is our times; but God is with us and we work. He was the Apostle preach- shall succeed. See the helps we have. Mathew died broken-hearted for lack of aid; in our day many of the brightest members of the hierarchy are with us in all their mighty power. Hundreds of the clergy are followers of Father Mathew in the paths of total abstinence. The younger clergy more than ever are devoted to this glorious cause, and thousands of earnest men and women are consecrated by the pledge of total abstinence to the movement. that did so much under Father Mathew's inspiration. Above all we have truth and sincerity, and the sympathy of all who wish well to their fellow-man. In union there is strength; hence by increasing the membership af our local societies we shall attain success.

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The time is ripe for a new crusade, the beginning of the twentieth century. Would to God another Mathew would rise up here in this fair land of America!

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In this country we spent two years ago for drink \$1,266,000,000. withdrawal of it ftom the liquor traffic would have decreased the expenses of our law courts, our prions, our insane asylums, our reformatories, our orphan asylums -would have made our country prosperous. Oh, what it would mean to the Church at large if we twelve million Catholics were total abstain-ers! What an influence on the life of our nation! What an object lesson to the rest of men! God grant that the day will soon dawn when Theobald Mathew from his home among the saints will look down upon us a sober nation!

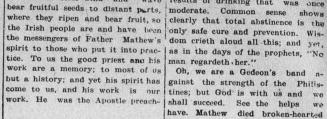
The time to start another Father Mathew crusade is at hand. Among all the temperance organizations outside the Church the work has been started. 5,000,000 pledges will be distributed this winter seeking signatures. On each of us rests the responsibility of doing something. With Father Mathew, let us say, "Here goes, in the name of God." With personal consecration let us go forth to battle.

"To the Church of God we look for deliverance.

"Most significant was the remark



67.44



FATHER MATHEW'S GRAVE

ing a new doctrine; we are the pro-

was the pioneer blazing the

and travelled highway!

fessed followers of that doctrine. He

through the rugged forests of pre-

judice and hate; we are the success

ors who must make the way a broad

What a glorious legacy is this mis-

sion that he has left to us? Though

earnest, yet our task is not so diffi-

cult as was his and that of his im-

has changed much since Mathew's

day; then drunkenness was condoned

as a fault rather than condemned as

mark of scorn. The ability to ab-

considered a commendable thing.

Men were ruined, lives were blasted,

the best qualities of soul and body

then as now; but all these were con-

sidered as accidental things and not

taught and proved that these

to be traced to drink; or if so, that

fortunes could be remedied, could be

world is wiser to-day. 'The test of a

man's intellect is no longer the

quantity of liquor he can consume.

our battle must be none the

way.

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The

had seen the need of a remedy, as others saw it; yet he, as well as they, hesitated to apply that rem-It is an awful commentary on edy. public sentiment of the times that such a man as Father Mathew was should have waited so long. He had been a priest for twenty years when the providence of God gave him as a duty the charge of the Public Alms-house in the city of Cork. Here he was face to face with the very flotsam and jetsam of lives wrecked by strong drink; hopes wrecked by strong drink ; hopes crushed, brightest intellects blotted erushed, brightest intellects blotted out; manly honor and womanly pur-ity dragged in the mire; rights of parents, rights of children, forgotten and neglected; marital rights made a moskery and a scorn! Father Mat-hew's tender heart was abounding in this asylum of wretchedness; he long-ed to be able to do something to re-lieve it, to prevent the broadcast will which he knew was repeating and continuing to work ruin in the lives of men and women in the world without.

Strong drink, he knew, sause of the misery with was in daily contact, and gain he asked himself who

wild-fire the intellige presd throughout the city that Faher Mathew had proclaimed himsel total abstainer, and had formed a I abstainer, and has former a shatinence society. Crowds to the meetings to see and or themselves. Though Mathew suitated, though he had crom-with fear of failure when he has needed yet when he had

The improved condition of Irel and attracted the attention of all Eu-rope. Men were amazed at the re-formation accomplished. From over the broad Atlantic came a cry as from Macedonia of old. The brave men and women who were fighting

moisture (when the enthusiasm passed) withered away." But, thank God! there was the "other some that fell upon good soil and brought forth fruit a hundred fold." The energy and zeal of the faithful the drink habit made easier. Neverones compensated for the defection theless our contest is a great and

die away! His mission never failed and never will fail! At times the strength. While brutal excesses are not so common, statistics show that spirit has burned low, but again and again in unexpected places it has the per capita consumption of strong drink has increased appallingly. flashed out in a mighty conflagrawalk through any populous portio tion that has purified the world. of the city will convince one that public opinion in the matter of cx-This spirit lives and will live whilst urns in man's breast love for his cess does not influence all classis Moderate drinking so-called is the fellow-man. Mathew gave an object-lesson to the world that can never euil of the day and the enemy upon which we should centre our forces. e forgotten. He taught the great Moderation spells excess, and the moderate drinker walks the slippery brink of the precipice, fettered by a habit that makes him helpices a-gainst a fall over the edge. Science

be forgotten. He taught the great lesson of self-control practically when he reclaimed a nation. Had they to whom Mathew looked for collaboration helped his work by or ganization, the history of total ab-stinence would have been a different story. He had no successor; no great man has successor or predeces-sor. Each man's work is unique. No Father Mathew did his work and did it; wall Whithersoever go the Utah. rainst a fail over the edge. Science, eaches us that the so-called moder ate drinker is absorbing poison into his system that renders his chanced his system that renders his chancer of recovery from any disease seven ty-five per cent. less than those o a non-alcoholic. Experience makes commonplace the misery and ruir and poverty that come from so-call ed moderation. Our jails and insum her matter whithersoever go the Irish, e goes the name of Father Mat-and all for which that honored is stands. They who spread his

gle of life. It is a survival of the fittest, and he is the fittest who has down us any day if they will, and they know it.' This declaration ought to have rung throughout the the use of his brains. Total abstinence as a necessary qualification. nation, like a blast from Gabriel's trumpet, summoning God's militant In so much is our opposition to osts to an immediate united and death struggle with the monster

our

tyrant.

"If Peter the Hermit could, eight centuries ago, by picturing what he saw in Jerusalem, have so stirred the multitudes of Europe that 000,000 persons, high and low, prince and peasant, marched in the irst crusade, and no less than 000,000 persons laid down their lives in that and the subsequent crusades, marching under the cross and shouting out their battle-cry, God wills it, God wills it!' not a knowledge of the facts, which all see and know, of the doings of strong drink, the evidences of which are to be found in the prison, the poor-house, hospital, asylum, police courts, and almost every home, stir our bearts to declare 'God wills it!' our bearts to declare 'God wills it! and enter upon a crusade agains this curse of the heme, the nation, and the Church, and defend the hu-man temples of the Holy Ghost a gainst a loe more bitter than a Sar-ucen or Turk?'--Rev. Joseph L. J. Kerling, in 'Temperance Truth.''