

slowly, deliberately, and with little fire; his language is simple and as free as possible from long and useless phrases. But his words are well chosen and serve to make the most difficult subjects clear and easy of comprehension. He does not possess the boyish enthusiasm of Tait, yet he seems to be as successful as the latter in imparting to his hearers a love for work. No idler can listen to him long.

The career of Helmholtz has been quiet and uneventful. His days have been days of work "from his youth up," his whole life a steady devotion to the cause of science. He takes no part in politics; he never ascends the platform except to speak upon scientific subjects; he never writes except to proclaim some new theory. After spending twenty years as professor of physiology in the Universities of Königsberg, Bonn and Heidelberg, he was called to Berlin in 1871, as the successor of Gustave Magnus, professor of physics. This place he retains to the present day. He still labors diligently and hard. He is not content with his works on "The Conservation of Force," "The Handbook of Physiological Optics," his celebrated *Tonempfindungen*, and the discovery of the ophthalmoscope, but, although he has attained "life's Biblical limit," he still looks forward, it is said, to further discoveries.

The German is nothing if not profound even in the matter of making jokes. Occasionally, however, we hear of one whose lighter vein we can all appreciate. At the dinner given in Heidelberg in honor of Helmholtz's call to Berlin, Professor Kirchhoff delivered the formal address and wished him long life and prosperity. "Ah!" exclaimed Professor Bunsen at the time, "the fame of Helmholtz is assured. When even the Kirchhoff wishes him long life, he is certain of immortality." And so he is.

X.

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

DANIEL O'CONNELL was born in the year 1775. He came from a line which traced its descent from the early Irish chiefs. Being a Celt, the treatment of his native people by the Saxons was thoroughly impressed upon his youthful mind, and he grew up with a feeling toward them not far removed from hatred. When very young he attended a school at Cork, and, later on received additional education at the English College of St. Omer and the French College at Donar. At these seats of learning his uncommon abilities became a subject of comment among his instructors. He remained in France long enough to witness the beginning of the French revolution, and when that revolution verged toward its height, he escaped to his native land. In the year 1794 he began the study of law, and in 1798