

in full for their property, and the land resold to the Irish people. 3rd. In sections which are over-populated, emigration is the remedy proposed. Some years ago I was introduced by the hon. the Minister of Agriculture to an English gentleman, of the name of Tuke, who had given much attention to this subject. He had, I believe, been Commissioner for Mr. Gladstone for the sale of the glebe lands belonging to the Disestablished Church. He informed me that the lands had been sold in small parcels to the peasantry. I understood him to say that sales had been made to ten thousand people, and in every case the payments had been promptly met. The result was that some of the most disorderly districts in Ireland were converted into the most peaceable and law-abiding. His remedy for the existing evils was the elimination of the landlords, and the establishment of a peasant proprietary, self-rule and emigration from over-populated districts to Canada. He asked me as to the condition of the Irish people who settled in Canada. I was happy to be able to inform him that they were just as happy, contented, prosperous and loyal as any other portion of Her Majesty's subjects. That the Irish people were men of marked ability, energy and enterprise. They had secured by their sterling qualities some of the finest positions in the country. They have become Ministers of the Crown, Members of Parliament, Judges, eminent Lawyers, Wardens and Mayors, and are prominent as successful agriculturists. These men were succeeded by another class of emigrants, the survivors of the Irish famine. These also have been successful under discouraging circumstances. I recollect a visit I made to a newly-settled township. Our meeting was in the open air, in the very heart of the forest. I was much struck by the appearance of the settlers as they came to the place of meeting; some were suffering with fever and privation, and were most unhappy. They looked as if they had escaped from some beleaguered city, where plague, pestilence and famine had done their deadly work. They were imbued with an awful hatred of the English name, and every man had his tale of wrong, oppression, misrule and outrage, to tell. A few years after I revisited this scene; it was transformed as if by magic. The dauntless valor, the patient perseverance of the exiles had done their work. The forest had been replaced by broad fields covered with waving grain. The tall pines had given place to pleasant farm-houses. The pallid looks and wasted forms had been replaced by the hues of health and the strength of manhood.