THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

THE LAND LEAGUE.

SPORT FREE

Important and Enthusiastic Meeting of the Montreal Branch and Sympathisers, in Nordheimer's Hall - Ireland's Demands Justified - Calumnies Contradicted - Indisputable Facts and Figures-Sympathy Assuming a Substantial Form.

One of the largest and most intelligent of audiences ever held within the walls of Nordbeimer's Hal; assembled Thursday night in and er to a call for a mass meeting, issued by the Montr at branch of the Itt-b Land Lengue. Not only was the lody of the fall filled, but even the -tarways leading to an from it were crowded by those auxious to sbow train sympathy with the great agitation in Ireland, which is now shaking the decayer root of British misgovernment in that unhappy country. A neculiar tenture of the meeting was that, in the demeanour of those who composed it, there was an absence of overflowing enthusiasm, but its place was supplied by an extrestness so profound as to make itse f apparent to the most unobservant. Of course the points made by each speaker were beartily applanded, but the audience was content to mark its approval without wasting unnecessary time in doing so.

Mr. PATRICK CARROLL, President of the local branes of the Land League, occupied the chair, and on the platform with him were the gentlemen who proposed to move and second the various resolutions.

The Chairman, Mr. P. CARROLL, then briefly explained the of jeet of the meeting. He said that the local branch of the Irish National Land League had required their presence in that hall to night, in older to lay down the position in which Ireland stood at present, to relate to them the story of her struggles for her just rights in the past and at the present time, when he hoped that everyone irrespective of creed or nationality would assist her sons who were so strenuous ly working at home for that end, in the best way in their power. It was for this purpose that they had been called together. Mr. Carroll, in a few pointed words referred to the oppressed situation of the Irish tenant farmer, and expressed the opinion that they had submitted to their yoke too long already, in which sentiment he was seconded by the audience, who heartily applauded his words, He concluded his speech by condemning the system which left so fertile and beautiful a country at the mercy of a few. After reminding his listeners that he would leave the subject to be discussed by the other speakers who were to follow him, he sat down amidst appluuse. Mr. C. J. Doberty moved, seconded by Mr.

J. P. Whelan, the following resolution:-Resolved.—That the people of Canada cannot witness in silence the agitation now going on in another portion of the British Empire, and that this meeting, speaking for a portion at least of that people, hereby declares its entire sympathy with the struggle for land reform in Ireland, and its earnest desire to further in every legitimate panner the success of the efforts of Mr. Parnell and

proud to say Canada is, a land whose soil her people own, whose Laws her people make. In support of this resolution he said :- Mr President and Gentlemen,-The question we are assembled to consider is one, which I teel confident, every man in this audience has carefully studied, and made it a duty to thoroughly understand, one on which in in-truction or enlightenment. Your readiness to do what your study of the question has satisfied you is your duty, to do it you who are Irishmen by birth, or like myself, Irishmen by descent, to insinuate such a doubt would be worse than an insult; it would be a deliberate accusation of forgetfulness of the old Motherland, of deserting her in her day of dire distress. You have come here this evening to do your duty and continue in it, till, in the words of the resolution. I have the honor of proposing for your adoption, Ireland he what we are proud to say Canada is, a land whose soil her people own, whose laws her people make. (Applause) To the people of Canada, it seems to me, the agitation now taking place in Ireland cannot be without interest. We have in this country succeeded in abolishing the "seigneurs," which was the mild form in which we were afflicted with the terrible malady that has brought Ireland to the position she now occupies. We did this, and yet no one talked

about Communism, and the Canadian who wanted his title to his land commuted was not paraded before the world in the guise of a partisan of the revolution in its worst aspects, an enemy of society, and a man who, like the unjust Judge in the Scriptures, neither "feared God nor regarded man," If suci, talk had been indulged in we would have smiled at it as being too absurd to call for any answer. And yet that is very much the tone in which it is very much the fashion to speak of Mr. Parnell and his associates. (Applause.) We are every day regaled with editorials bemoaning the fact that the red spectre of Socialism is stalking abroad in Ireland, or informed by veracious correspondents that some Louise Michel or other reputable partisan of the French Commune is coming over to Ireland, to take most powerful armies are helpless—they ena hand in the agitation. It is this style of argument, if it can be so called, that we in Canada should devote ourselves to break down. The great question of land reform itself is in safe hands at home; the men who have it in charge have said and can say all

from doing, and not upon the greater or less persistency with which they are abused. Let it be our task, I say, to fight the spirit that of communism, socialism, &c., or if it be very liberal, indeed, disposes of the actual Irish crisis by telling us that Mr. Parnell has succeeded in raising an Irieh row. Let it be our effort to induce honest minds to discuss this

and more than all that we can say in support

of it. Let the task be ours, the Canadian

question not as an Irish question, but as of statesmanship is to do justice to all, and the broad on stion between right striving to gather strength to assert itself on one side that the resolute Parnell and his associates and wrong bulstered up by might on the are devoting all their energies. They are other. Let us endeavor above all to get rid asking nothing unreasonable, they are only of the idea that there in an Irish side and an saking England to so amend her laws as to English side to the question. There is neither the one nor the other. There is the right side and the wrong side-neither more nor less. (Applause) When this question which the soil was held for the hen fit of those will be treated simply as a problem of political economy, then, there can be but one solution. of it—the answer given by the great political

economist, John S nact Mill, the answer

given a similar question by the Stein laws in

Prussis, the answer given by the prosperity

that reigns, and the industry that character-

Canada. If the Learne can schieve that here they will have won over to our side the entire Cauadian people, and when they will have done that-when through their efforts the people of Canada, as a whole, shall be willing to join in a re olution such as I am going to propose to you this evening, then the Cauadian League will have done not a little to advance the cause of land reform, will have expressed its sympathy in a practical and useful way with the labors of Mr. Parcell-(applause) — an expression of sympathy which, joined with that other expression of sympathy which originates in the heart, but comes directly from the pocket, is all that we can do for the cause of the old land. We are watching the great struggle to-day with hearts pulpitating with alternate hope

soil are its owners.

(Applause.)

winters has been able to chill. (Applause) Mr. J D. Purcell moved the second reso ution, which was seconded by Mr. Buchanan. It ran as follows: - "That in the opinion of this meeting the chief obstacle to Ireland's prosperity is her land system, which conduces to absenteeism, rack-renting and monopoly of the soil by a few great proprietors at the expense of the immense majority of the people; that Paq isment should by equitable gislation enable the people, upon mir compensation to the present holders, to become the proprieiers of the soil as was done here in Canada by the abolition of all Seigniorial rights, which at most were but a shadow in principle and practice as compared to the iniquitous land system of Ireland."

Mr. PURCELL, speaking in support of this esolution, said :-MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,-If any proof were wanting to show the vast importance of that great movement which at the present moment is agitating Ireland, and which for some time past has been attracting the attention of the whole civilized world towards that country, such poof is amply furnished by the fact that not only throughout England and Scotland but at a distance of thousands of miles throughout the length and breadth of the adjoining Republic, meettings such as this, me-tings expressive of spinpathy and support have and are laily being held. Leland is admittedly one of the most fertile countries in the world, and she produces, (as O'Connell used to declare and prove by statistics) enough in one as ri-

cultural season to support the entire population during five, and yet when not with standing absolute starvation, and your countrymen reduced, through no fault of their own, to the humiliating condition of dependents on the charity of the world for the merest neces. saries of life, there must be something radically wrong. As you know, there are at the present moment in Ireland some 600,000 families representing a population of 3.000,000 dependent on some 10,0.0 landlords, and paying, at the lowest figure, an annual rental of \$60,000,000, the greater portion of which by far is spent outhis associates, to make Ireland what we are side of the country. Now, gentlemen, when we look into the matter seriously, coolly, impartially, critically, what do we find? We find that under the peculiar working of the existing land system these 3 000,000, more than half the population of Ireland, are utterly deprived of all hope of ever being even able to do more than merely exist. We find them obliged to pay such exorbiconsequence I cannot hope to give you either | tant rents for lands-of which they are justly the true owners-(for it is a matter of history that the sole title of Irish landlordism is founded on confiscation), that they are utterly earnestly and energetically, to walk featlessly debarred from all prospect of future wealth in the path that duty points out, I will not and affluence. This, certainly is had enough. in-ult you by asserting. For one finds no | but the situation becomes much more grave need of asserting what one feels there is no | when we remember the uncertainty of tenure, possibility of doubting. To those among t that at any time at the expiration of six months the tenant may have his rental raised or may receive notice to quit and, that in such an event, if the tenant has made any improvements on the land he is allowed nothing for them. Under such a system the tenant is utterly deprived of all prospects of prosperity and happiness, of all incentive to exertion or industry, for he has no stake in the country, for the country's welfare is not his welfare. It is clear, that for a people so situated as the Irish the future is most gloomy, or rather for a people so situated there can be no future unless a radical change is made, and gentlemen, judging by present appearances, that radical change is about to take place. (Applause.) As you all know, repeated efforts have been made in the past to put an end to the evils which were desolating Ireland, for the Irish were never a people who could tamely tolerate insult and Indirectly these efforts were destined to be of great service to the common cause, to the great cause, for they demonstrated clearly to the world at large that the discontent throughout Ireland was universal; they at. tracted the attention of the world to the surprising fact, that a whole nation had somehow or another been for centuries treated with the most shameful injustice, and that the people chaffing under their fetters were rising in their manhood and demanding those rights, which man, as a man, has a right to expect and demand from his fellow-man: they served to enlist on the side of Ireland. that least harmful, physically speaking, but that at the same time the most powerful of weapons, against which in these modern times the strongest parties are weak and the listed on the side of Ireland the public opinion of the world. (Great applause.) There was a time when it was the fashion to smile or to shrug the shoulder when the Irish question was men. tioned and the opinion was even freely expressed that Ireland could not be happy unless she had a grievance, but gentlemen, people's, as a fair-minded people desirous of | that time has happily passed away, such false examining both sides of every question, of ideas have given away before the increasing appreciating men for what they do or refrain intelligence of the masses, who are the power in every country and the world is now, not onlyaware that Ireland has for centuries suffered substantial wrongs, but is determined that taboos this Irish question, that abuses the full reparation must be made, that strict, and men who have started the agitation, and who impartial justice must be meted out. (Apare carrying it on, shrugs its shoulders, talks | plause.) It is this fact then which has given rise to the widely apread connection that at length the Irish question is approaching solution—that we are nearer now to the great

consumation than we ever were before. It is

a recognized principle; that the highest duty

it is to have this principle put into operation

enable those who till the roll to become the

owners thereof on payment of its full value.

The state abolished the old land tenure by

who cultivated it, and allowed the usurpation

of the rights of the cultivators by the land-

lords, they are only saking the state to undo

what the state has done. This they have a

pertect right to ask, and the instice of their

demand was expressly admitted by Mr. Glad-

stone in a speed at Edinburgh, when he said mes the people in all those countries of the "that if it to for the welfare of the commun- called O'Connell a winody villain" in "

titled to buy out the landed proprietors." Let One would imagine from the opposition that us, then, use every effort to place this question before the Land League in is made, and the outcry that has been raised, that the demands of the Land League are entirely novel, and yet they are only asking that which has already been granted in France, Prussis, Bulgium, Holland, Switzerland, Norway and even in despotic Russia, in all of which countries the change has been admittedly beneficial, and surely it cannot for one moment be prefended that what has been beneficial for those countries, will prove detrimental to Ireland? Canada too at one time had its system of landlordism-the s-igneurial tenure. In early times the French Government conceded large tracts of the condition that they should induce emigration to this country. It would take too long to enter into the details of this system. but I may briefly say, that noder this system the habitant was absolute owner of the soil. and fear, whose triumph we trust to hail at the only tax on him being a sum of four no distant day, with all that Celtic enthus cents per sere, which he had to pay to the iasm that not even a long series of Canadian Seigneur. Four cents per acre, gentlemen. Compare this with the heavy rental which the poor trish people have to pay, and it would seem that the Canadian furmer had little to complain of. And yet there seems something in the very air of this free country which makes any kind of despotism intolerable, and the result was an agitation began which increased in strength during sixty years, and finally after bringing the country to the very verge of revolution, culminated in the abolition of Seigneurial tenure in 1854. What Canada then obtained is what Parnell is now seeking to obtain for Ireland. The justice and right of Ireland's demands were so clear and undeniable that they could not entirely be overlooked and the result was that some years ago a weak altempts at legislation was made. By the land act of 1870, the right of the tenant to own the soil he cultivated was recognized, and it was provided that the Government might advance two thirds of the purchase money to tenants who desired to purchase the land they tilled. This at the time was spoken of as a wonderful piece of Legislation, and yet this great promised boon to the Irish people, which was to console them for all their woes, had the great and sole virtue of heing use ess, it was a mockery, it was a cruel delusion, for though it provided that the tenaat might pay, it did not compel the landlord to sell. What use then was this permission, as the land could not be bought? It was against the interest of the landlord to sell, and as he refused to do so the tenant had no means to compel him to do so, and hence the legislation was a failure. In Prussia, this we see her periodically reduced to and in much abused and benighted and uncivilized Russia, they knew how to do things better. When the landlords refused to sell, they were forcibly expropriated, and the world did not then turn up its eyes in holy horror at the injustice of the proceeding. Parnell is accused by the English Press of being an impractical and a visionary! Well, a work is judged by its effects, and when we consider that the results of his agitation first shewed themselves in the substantial reduction of rents in some parts, that they are to be seen in the continued spread of the Land League principles throughout the land, until the present dead-lock between landlord and tenant was brought about when we consider that the British Government has at length been brought to seriously consider the land question, and that this great revolution has been legally, constitutionally, and peacefully effected, I think that if this be impractical there is very little virtue in being practical; if this is impractical, if this be visionary, then, in the same of common sense, let us all be impractical, let us all be visionary! And now, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, in presenting this resolution, I would say in conclusion, that when we remember how our countrymen have distinguished themselves and reflected honor, glory and renown on the Irish name in France, Spain, Austria, and in nearly every country in Europe in the past, and as they have also done in the great Republic to the south of us and in the British possessions in Iudia in the present day, it becomes our solemn, our imperative duty to do our utmost to give them an opportunity of achieving in their native land, in dear old Ireland, what they have proved themselves so capable of doing abroad. This duty the Irish Land League of Montreal has recognized, and in its patriotic endeavours in this cause, in its expressed intention of founding branch leagues throughout the country it has engaged in a noble mission, which entitles it to the hearty support and co-operation not

> Canada. The third resolution, moved by Mr. J. C. Fleming and seconded by Mr. Michael Donovan, ran as follows:-

only of Irishmen, but of all lovers of true and

untrammelled liberty in this Dominion of

"That we view with regret the false and malicious reports concerning the Land League, which appear in Canadian papers, filtered through laudlord sources, and copied from English journals hostile to the agitation, that we pronounce those reports to be false and unauthenticated, most of them being vile and calumnious and fabricated with the object of throwing odium on the cause of the struggling tenant farmers of Ireland, and

affording a pretext for coercion. Mr. FLEMING said :- The resolution which I propose is one of the greatest importance, for the reason that the press reflects public opinion, and public opinion it is which rules the world. The press is the historian of current events, and the people, without newspapers are handicapped. We hear now-adays of the names of any amount of Roman heroes who warred against the Carthagenians. but we hear nothing of their opponents. The names of Regulus, Scipio, Africanus, and a hundred other Romans, with whose achievements every school boy is acquainted, we hear of every day, but we know only the names of two or three Carthagenians. The Romans suppressed the public opinion of Carthage, just as the British suppressed the public opinion of Zululand, and hence we hear a good deal of the officerand soldiers who received honors and emolu ments at the Cape for their bravery, but will the world ever hear of the deeds of Cetewayo's warriors, or learn to propounce their names? No, for they had no newspapers, no publi opinion which could travel through the vorid, and tell of their wrongs. (Applause) The Irish are fortunately better off in the respect; to ough still, of course, behind Imperial England. Her voice is, however, hearoccasionally, and the leaders of her national movement, by which I mean the Lang League, are fully alive to the value of the good opinion of the neighboring nations, so much so that some of thera-and there ar brilliant men among those leaders-some c them write letters to the French, German and Italian newspapers in defence of the canse. Our Canadian papers take their oniions wholesale from such bitterly anti Jil journals as the Loud in Times, Standard. Te graph and Saturday Review, which, I hardly say, are owned by men who are bemselves landed proprietors, though it n st said of them that no matter what movels going on in Ireland, they are naturally

posed to it simply because it is Irish. To

O'Hagan they unanimously termed a "frothy them quite austerly that they can have all of its degraded but forced condition of penury agitator who would yet be hanged" (laughter.) I have read of an English editor who, when asked for copy by the printers devil exclaimed, "oh, don't bother me, tell then to out in crime in Ireland, another murder in Tipuerary." (Great laughter.) And this is how the English manufacture Irish news for the civilized people of the world. It is no later than to day that an instance of this kind of thing came under my notice. A cablegram which appeared in the morning papers said that Mr. Castan surrendered himself for sedicious language used in connection with the Land League. Now, most of inland to the leading men of this country on | the League, and that what he did actually surrender himself for was to receive sentence for gross libel against A. M. Sultivan, M.P. for Meath. (Cheers.) The people of Canada, generally, are not so much interested in Ireland as we are and they accept this lie as truth. But that is nothing. We could let Callan pass if the cable did not inform us daily of numberless atrocities perpetrated in Ireland, until we come to wonder how it is that half the people have not been murdered, and how it is that the Empress of Austria dares to spend a few months in Ireland for enjoyment and recreation. (Cheers.) Murderal We hear of mucders by the thousand, but, unfortunately, we are not furnished with names, and so when the muil arrives we fly to find out the details. But, alas! no details are given for obvious reasons; the murders are absent (great laughter), but when they have a name how they hug it, and multiply it, and ring the changes on it ad nau eum. Why, I can count the names of the men assarsinated in Ireland since the land agitation commenced on the fingers of my right hand. They are Lord Mountmorris, Messrs. Feerick, Wheeler and Boyd. There is another I believe which I cannot now recall, but when we come to see that within the past year over seven hundred murders, including cases of infanticide, bare been ret from London and vicinity you been reported will excuse me for forgetting a pame. (Cheers) to sustain her and upon her children's About four years ago, when I was on the children, she calls upon the democracy every-Ottawa Times, there was an English friend of mine, also connected with the paper, with whom I used have many an argument on the Irish question. He was an intelligent man in most respects, but was lamentably ignorant of, not only the history but the geography of Ireland. Well, one day he turned rather fiercely upon me and said: "Oh, von Irish are a singular people, you are never satisfied; when you had a Parliament of your own you tribute to their chiefs or seigneurs, but it was the Irish people, and that whatever be the not in the power of the chief to disposess one result of their trials, we arge upon the people of of them under any circumstances. But I Ireland to continue the present agitation, and humanity, which chiefly meant inhospitality and people."

could not keep it; your leaders, Brian Born and Henry Grattan went and sold it to Castlereach for money and titles, and now you want it back again." As you may easily suppose I was a little surprised at this strange line of argument, and I could only conclude that he had been reading of Irish history lately and got things considerably mixed, the wonder being that he did not also charge Nora Creina or Colleen Dhas Scrutin Amon with selling the Irish Parliament to Castlereagh. (Laughter) Under the Brehon laws, which were in force in Ireland for more than two thousand years, there was no place for landlordism. The people owned the soil though they paid make a mistake; he cou'd dispossess or evict a tenant for one thing, that is, a crime against to strangers. When the English obtained a tooting and commenced their series of confiscation they had a fine ercuse, indeed, one excuse is as good as another to those who have the will and the power to do wrong They had the excuse that neither the chiefs nor their septs could produce a title to property. The Irish landfords have peculiar stand by, to applaud, and to support. And ideas of property. One of them-a great these two features are the coercion of Ireland lord, writing of late to the Chicago Times - and the persecution of the Irish leaders. I

as absurd a doctrine as can possibly be tyranny, and it has conduced to the most conceived. Why, there is no analogy be- galling acts of cruelty on the part of the govtween the merchant who, by his industry, builds up a fortune, and the landlord who inminding the fact that the ancestor obtained statement. What they will tell us of their it by fraud or violence. The merchant creates his capital, but does the landlord create land? He might just as well lay claim to absolute property in light and air as to absolute property in land, which John | forevermore and find its grave amid Stuart Mill and the greatest political economists of the age assert does not and cannot justice. (Applause). England in the past exist. It is well for humanity that the ocean has too often trampled on the flesh and bones measurement or we should hear of waterlords as well as land ords. (Cheers.) Now, appear in their most absurd light, let us carry them to their legitimate extent. We know that there are five millions of kingdom. We know further, for the Gov-292 of these proprietors hold more than 5,000,000 of land in fee simple, or considerably over one-third of the whole country. New, let us suppose, that which is by no means impossible, let us suppose that these 292 proprietors bought out the balance of

f less than three hundred men, most of whom would be absenteds, owning a whole country, and having a legal right, under the present system, of dispossessing five or six millions of people as they have heretofore dispossessed half the number and ent them to the grave or to the attermost ends of the earth. (Cheers) It must be confessed that it is not easy for an Irishman to keep his temper when reading the great English dailies and their servile imitators here in Canada upon Irish affairs,

but one grows accustomed to it after awhile and to their pandering to the vilest passions of their ignorant readers, and one reads their effusions with all the more equanimity when e knows that the great mass of the English semple are willing to do what is just when such enlightened papers and perendicals as the Pall Mall Gazette, the Keho, the Statist the Vineteenth Century, and the Contemporary 'eview lay the truth before them, and when uch illustrious men as Bright and Chamberain tell them the truth about Ireland. When rest crisis arrives it is the valu, the shallow and the ignorant who first find tongue and soulge in rhodomontale (applause) The dritish Jingos, for instances. Men of inteligence wait for time to daliberate and then

sives, and it is the men of intelligence who * speaking now. The Jingos are illogical by tase they are blinded by prejudices. a cannot take the insiliord property from em, they exclaim, forgetting all the time at the thing is done in Eucland almost very day. The Jingues are also strangely consistent. When the Irish resort to conwrongs that fell nation is us as one man, it is trusting that iracy and talk of plosics force as a means

neak out calmly and honestly. The

leltish Jingos have nearly exhausted them-

they legitimately demand by constitutional agitation, but when they agitat the Jingoes shout for coercion, martial law, and indulga in all worts of truculent language, going so far at times as to taunt the Irish with cowardica because they do not take the field and fight for woat they demand. (Shame). They know right well that the Irish are and have been for two centuries an unarmed prople, and yet those gentry throw themselves iuto a warlike attitude and say come ou i: you dare. It is like challenging a man out to fight whose arms are tied behind his hack. And yet those same Jingces arrogate to themselves the virtue of fair play and call it neculiarly a national attribute which folows the sun and the tap of the drum round the British world. They did not speak in this manner to the Irish Volunteers of 1782. but gave them what they so haughtily demunded, did the ancestors of those same British Jingos. Now, Parnell might say in retort, von contend you are lovers of fair play, and you ask us to fight. Well, then, prove your love of fair play, give us, or lead us, two or three handred thousand Snyder rifles, a few hundred Armstrong guns, remounts for a division of cavalry, and three months for discipline, and then challenge us to the tented field. (Great cheers) But, gentlemen, there is little use of speaking of physi at force at the present juncture, the and Tory families and their tools and adhermere especially, as the Irish people are working out salvation on moral force lines. (Applanse.) The spectacle now exhibited in Ireland is one of the sublimest ever witnessed in this world, and calls for the applause and assistance of all lovers of treedom, irrespec tion of creed or nationality. The people are opposing a passive resistance to the monstrosity called landlordism, and although thiattitude they have assumed entails upon them an immense amount of suffering, they are united and resolved to persevere until justice is done them. I reland needs sympathy and assistance in her life and death struggle, and she calls upon her children throughout the world where, she appeals to humanity at large, if not for material aid and comfort, at least for its good opinion in the struggle she has engaged in gainst desperate odds, a struggle for social regeneration, a struggle for political life, a struggle for national existence, a struggle which must end either in the extinction of an ancient and gallant nation, or the annihilation of the most grinding tyranny that has ever wrought suffering and sorrow upon the surface of a beautiful but unfortunate coun-

try. (Loud Cheers). At the conclusion of Mr. Fleming's speech Mr. H. J. Cloran advanced and read the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. G. M. Harrington :-

"That an attempt by the British Government to crush out by coercion the Land Agitation would be a weak yielding to a spirit of panic, and of hate which has too often guided its action, and would comed the people of Ireland to lay aside peaceful agitation and have recourse to conspiracy; that the prosecution of the Irish leaders is an unjust and unfair means employed to stifle the voice of we pledge ourselves to sustain, by every means in our power, the cause of both leaders

Mr. CLORAN addressed the meeting in the following terms :--GENTLEMEN - The resolution which has been placed in my hands, and which I have the bonor of proposing, bears strongly upon two of the prominent features of the great agitation which we are here this evening to and the mere fact of his defending himself in | shall confine myself to the discussion of these an American paper teaches us that he fully two points. In the first place, would the realizes the force of public opinion abroad - English Government be justified in introsave that his ancestors went to Ireland with | ducing coercive measures to suppress the Henry the Second and took possession of agitation? I answer no! and my answer is certain lands which are as much his based on three reasons: B-cause coercion, as property as the capital of the manufac- exercised by the British in Ireland, has al-Now this, gentlemen, is about ways been allied with a fierce spirit of erning classes towards the suffering people. We, of the rising generation, need but quesherits an estate from his ancestors, never tion our fathers as to the correctness of this bitter experience, the history of Ireland will tell you during long and dreary centuries. It is time, therefore, that English coercion in Ireland should cease the execuations of all lovers of humanity and ebbs and flows and does not admit of specific of our forfathers. She has done so with cowardly impunity, but that day has gone by Enough of hanging has been done in the gentlemen, to make the landlords' claims past, already too much buckshot has pierced the breasts of Irish mothers and children. Let not the English Government brutalize itself any longer in the face of freepeople in Ireland who do not own a rood of dom and civilization by showing the iron and in the island, and we also know that less | hand of tyranny. Another reason why Engthan 10,000 men are proprietors of the whole | land should avoid the coercive measures, is, that the present condition of Ireland does rnment returns furnish the information, that i not justify such an extreme and bitter course. You have already heard from the speakers that have preceded me, what the real con-

dition of Ireland is. It is not one of crime as Dublin Castie and the press would make the world believe, and which no wellwisher of his country would like to see exist. the 10,000, and we should behold the spectacle It is not one of conspiracy, or armed revolution to the throne, (which is a matter now entering into the arena of discussion). (Applause.) No, the peace of Ireland has never been se profound, for never has the secret of peace, "harmony among the people," been so universal in their ranks. And what have become of these diabolical appeals to set class against class and creed against creed; they have failed of their fracticidal purpose, and the unwilling cable flashes the news that the Orange and Green are no longer inimical colors, but that they both wave on each side of the Land League Sanner. Thus is it evident that the condition of Ireland, now less than ever, requires coarcive legislation. And what is more it would be dangerous and unwise to repeat the experiment; and this is the taird reason for England to be cautious in dealing ou; coercion to Ireland. (Applause.) Her diplomatio naval manosuvres in the East have not brought about a very brilliant result, and all her efforts to coerce the Sultan, to redress the grievances of his subjects have been more or less abortive. Now coercion in Ireland might meet with like obstinacy and resistance. and perhaps produce a more disastrous result. (Applause) The people of Ireland are colling out in a calm and serious tone for the redress of wrongs, of cousiderable magnitude, and of quite long standing, and which cannot be eclipsed by those of the Turk. But, strange to say, Bugland's auxiety for the welfers of the "Duke of Rutland lowned six. Seventy Mohammadan is converted into hostility to, " members were returned by thirty ave places

and worse than s avery. They call upon the government to enable them to emerge from their state of oppression; if the government wants to show any good-will, it can belp them but it no encouragement is giver, the people will only have to apply the remerly with their own bands. Then there will commence a violent arrnggle. There is no use hiding the fact; the fiery activity and the just grounds of the agitation in Ireland cannot be ended or wiped out with bayonets or buckshot. Where the spirit of a whole nation is burning with the same fever, where the eyes of the people are fixed on one object, where the hearts of all heat in sympathy and pulson, as in Ireland, it is clear that coercion is not the agency which will secure submission to arbitrary decrees. Its introduction into Ireland will produce, as Parnell stated in his famous Waterford speech, effects which may prove detrimental to the interests of the Kingdom. (Applause)

The fifth resolution was moved by Mr. F. A. Quinn and seconded by Mr. WM Connor: " That up to the per od of the Reform Bill the people of Eugland had practically no voice in the government of their country, and to this cause we attribute the atrocious legislation which was enacted against Ireland in the name of England; that the people of England were governed by the great Whig eats, who alone profited by the injustice of the law; that the people of England are, in consequence, not responsible for the injquitous rule of the Castle and the Lord Lieutenant in Ireland; that they suffer equally with the Irish people from the injustice of the law, and are equally interested in rendering the land system of Great Britain similar to that of every other civilized country in the world."

Mr. Quinn, in supporting the resolution. waid :-

The history of the English Government in Ireland is a dreadfu! history of religious persecutions, ot frightful crue ties in peace and warrare, of the proscription of a whole race, of the supression of every liberty and right dear to the human heart. England today is ashamed of the oreadful spectacle which her ancestry have given to the world, not one of her statesmen in our time dates to justify their deeds ther greatest writers in speaking of these dark pages in her history, expressed themselves in words which an frishman and Catholic would bardly venture to use. The English people are not responsible, the English people themselves were victims, in a lesser degree, fortunately for them, of the same men and the same powers, whose hand lay so heavily upon the people of Ireland. The great families, Whig and Tory, the nobles and statesmen, the favorites of the courts, the followers of Cromwell, who at different times governed England and Iralend, were alone guilty of those crimes. To them were given high stations, immense salaries and enormous pensione. If the lands were to be confiscated among them were divided the spoils; if to effect such confisientions it became necessary to good the people and their leaders into a rebellion, theirs was the task to do so, and theirs the reward. With their wealth and power, they even found instruments as remorseless as themselves ; with their wealth and power, they even found venal pens to spread calumnies throughout England, to exaggerate the reprisals which a maddened people might wreck upon its oppressors, and to inventuew crimes, new rebellions when the interest of their employers required such use of their talents. With lavish prodigality, they divided among their hirelings and adherents, soldiers and writers, men of the lowest justincts and men of gentle blood, the spoils which they had robbed from the Irish people, but always retaining for themselves a hundredfold of what they distributed. (Apole land was always supposed to be governed by a Parliament, but what was that Parliament? Was it a Parlament of the people? No! emphatically no! The people of England had neither voice nor veto in electing its members. The members were the mere nominees of the great houses and of the wealthy; they were the creatures and the slaves of the privileged clarges, and when these classes did not name them they had the power to control them by terror or by the most shameless corruption. Up to the time of the Reform Bill Parliamentary government in England was a delusion, a mockery and a snare. To prove it I will not trust to my own words, but I will repeat the statements and conclusions of a writer whose words will have more weight than any of mine with our fellow-citizens of other creeds and races, to whose spirit of fair play and to whose judgment we wish to submit the case of Ireland. (Applause.) I honestly believe in the truth of the propositions contained in the resolution. I wish that you gentlemen and those who may read my speech,—should it receive the honor of being reported may be brought seriously and carefully to examine into its truth. I have not attempted, nor would I attempt even did I have the power, by any outburst of eloquence to gain your sympathies or theirs. I appeal to resson and calm judgment; it is with facts and arguments that I wish to deal. Were I to convince those of the English people who may now be within hearing of my voice, or who may read my speech, that in withhelding sympathy from the Irish people, they are supporting a system which is odious to the whole world, which was erected by their own enemies, I would, I think, he fully doing my duty, to the cause of the loved land of our fathers. (Applause.) What then were the position and powers of the English people in the matter of Parliamentary representation and Parliamentary power." What is true of England, was also true of Ireland in that respect. Our answer we will find in the very able and valuable History of the XIX Contury, written by Robert Mackensie, Chapter II.:-

" In 1791 Sir James Mackintosh, urging the claim of the people to a share in their wwn government, went so far as to say that while the grievnaces of England did not yet justify a change by violence, they were in rapid progress to that state in which they would both justify and produce it. A very general concurrence of opinion warranted the hope that some beneficial change in the representative system could not long be delayed. The need, in truth, was very urgent. The people of England had little influence and no authority over their government. It was said they lived under a representative system, but the system kad become so corrupt there was scarcely & shred of honest representation left in it. Two thirds of the House of Commons were appointed by peers, or other influential persons. Every great nobleman bad s number of seats at his undirectioned disposal. The Duke of Norkfolk owned eleven members; Lord Lonadale owned pine; the wards, that of the Irish. Such perversion of " where there were scarcely any victors at all. to ling has long been one of the anomalies of " Old Sirum had two menthers, but untine the English character, and vannted fair play. I solitary inhabitant; Gation enjoyed the It must not, however, he allowed to stand in " services of two members, while her electors