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God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—[BROWNING.]

London, Monday, April 10.

A LONDON ENCOUNTER.

That was an instructive encounter between the advocates of the saloon and the friends of local option in Trafalgar Square, London, on Saturday afternoon. What was expected to be a triumph for the liquor traffic turned out a victory for those who believe in curtailing the sale of intoxicants. The temperance people have generally adopted moral suasion and legislative enactment as their weapons, but their successful combat with London publicans and their friends shows that when occasion requires they have the physical stamina to more than hold their own. This point was conceded by Lord Wolseley after the first Red River Rebellion. He bore testimony to the excellent health and unexampled physical endurance which resulted from the enforcement of strictly total abstinence principles in his following during the long journey on foot through the wilderness intervening between Western Ontario and Winnipeg. Similar testimony comes from Arctic explorers, who invariably affirm that the man who leaves intoxicants alone can bear far greater cold and fatigue than his fellow who does not.

Latest Cablegrams.

The interest in the special cable letter of this week centers in the discussion of the Home Rule Bill in Parliament, in the mission of the Conservative leader to arouse dissatisfaction in Belfast, and in the continued alarming reports regarding the advance of the cholera. Only by the most rigid sanitary regulations will the authorities be able to prevent the spread of the plague. The discussion of the home rule measure, on its second reading, is expected to last all this week and perhaps part of the next. It is now believed that the bill will pass its second reading, getting past that stage where it was wrecked in 1886. The agitation against the measure is therefore intended for the future use of the Conservative leaders. They hope to see the bill thrown out by the House of Lords, as it no doubt will be, and then they expect to have another general election, but before then many things will happen.

The Agitation in Ireland.

A London cablegram says: Ulster has been bigger than all Ireland this week. Noise always was an important element in Irish politics, but it seems odd for the Tories to depend on it as the principal weapon in defeating the campaign against home rule. The idea appears to be that if the Conservative minority of north Ireland can outshoot the home rule majority, the fight will be won. Much of the din on last Tuesday came from hired Scotch and English lungs carried to Belfast for that purpose. There is no denying, however, that the demonstration was a big one in every sense of the word, and no denying, either, that it marked the opening of what will prove the bitterest political struggle this generation has seen in Great Britain.

The Opposition has decided the nature of the campaign, and there is reason for satisfaction with the decision. On both sides it is to be a square, open, savage, fight to the bitter end, even if that end be civil war. There will be no quarter and no compromise. The danger most feared by Mr. Gladstone has disappeared. There will be no attempt to weaken or divide his composite support by bargains and dissensions. The uncompromising front of the enemy has solidified the home rule ranks as nothing else could have done.

I was wrong last week in assuming that the Tory leaders would stop short of counselling actual armed rebellion against a Home Rule Government. They openly approve and encourage the preparations for war now in wide-spread evidence in the north of Ireland. There is no mistake in Mr. Balfour's language on the subject. They had to fight for their liberties before, he told his Belfast audience. He would not say that "what was justifiable against a tyrannical king might not under certain circumstances be justifiable against a tyrannical majority." There were many other words intended solely to inflame popular anger.

While preaching revolt the Tory leaders attack the Government because the authorities have met the preparations for rebellion by promptly enlarging the barracks at Belfast and making ready for the reception of large bodies of troops there. The authorities are remarkably inactive in dealing with almost open sedition. It is a matter of common knowledge that large bodies of men are drilling nightly under arms. I described last week a typical scene in one of the Belfast armories of the so-called loyalists. Here are a few extracts from the Telegraph's account of the rural features of the movement:

"We crossed a glade in the moonlight and

ascended a slope toward a row of trees. When we were within fifteen yards of them, out from the black shadow came with startling suddenness the stern command, 'Halt!' I instantly stopped, for I saw the glint of rifle barrels. Then came the question, 'Who goes there?' and I answered, 'Friends.' 'Advance and give the counter-sign,' 'Telling my companion to remain where he was, I walked forward to within three paces of the challenger, halted, and gave the password. 'Pass friends and all's well.' Keeping to the general direction at first given me, I held on through the wood toward a hedge. Again came the warning shout, 'Halt!' The previous simple and necessary ceremony was gone through. This sentry also was armed. Scarcely had we proceeded thirty paces when, being on the crest of a low ridge, there came from the valley below, in the familiar parade-ground tones, 'Front, turn, forward.' I counted the line and found that 120 stood in the ranks, so that with those keeping the ground, sentries and pickets, the estimate of 200 having mustered was, perhaps, not too high. Receiving permission, I walked down the lines. The men were full grown, robust fellows, just the kind of material that a month or two of service would shape into first-rate troops. It was almost midnight when the men were finally reformed in line. Their captain requested the popular local leader, who stood by, to say a few words. He began by addressing them as 'fellow loyalists,' and said their duty was terrible, but plain. It was to prevent at all hazards the common rule that must befall their country if the Union was dissolved and any attempt made to impose upon them the wrong of a parliament manned by Britain's hereditary enemies. 'We will shed our last drop of blood sooner than that,' said he.

"Yes, we will," shouted a score of men from the ranks, while I heard others cry 'Amen.'"

Except at Belfast the Tory plan of agitation during the Easter holidays has been a failure. Instead of lashing themselves into a frenzy, the people listen to the shrieks of warning from the leaders almost with indifference. The attempt to arouse any such feeling in England, Scotland, and Wales as exists in the north of Ireland will fail utterly. People are far more interested in the local veto bill.

The Struggle in Parliament.

Another London cable says: With Monday will begin the real general engagement over the Home Rule Bill, and toward the end of the week we may expect to see Parliament and the public lashed up to a pitch of angry excitement not hitherto reached. All plans for the battle have been obligingly mapped out in advance. The Opposition intends to expend all its energies to keep the debate running the whole week and throw the second reading over to Thursday, the 20th, or even to Friday the 21st. The Government will resist this as vigorously as it can and arrive to secure a reading by Friday next. The Opposition has arranged a terrifying long string of orators, big and little, to follow one another in order to kill time. The Government is doing its best to persuade its followers not to talk at all, inasmuch as the sole point at issue is whether the Ministry later in the session shall have a few days more or less in which to deal with other legislation and the Home Rule Bill has already been debated ad nauseam. This impending struggle cannot but seem to sensible observers a wretched waste of time and ammunition. It has, however, one aspect which deserves a harsher epithet. The entire question whether the Government or the Opposition shall win next Friday rests in the hands of the Speaker. His decision whether there has been sufficient debate or not final and not to be questioned. The Opposition are at no pains to conceal their reliance on him to play the partisan in their interest. The Gladstonians somewhat feebly profess a confidence that he is capable of taking a non-partisan view of debating hours and plans for the sake of his position in the eyes of posterity. Meanwhile the Speaker, like the Tar Baby in Uncle Remus' charming sketch, lies low and says nothing.

The Latest Royal Arrival.

There is a good deal of disappointment in one branch of the royal family because the second child of the Duchess of Fife is a girl. A son was fondly hoped for. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of York are still the only male heirs to the throne. The latter's betrothal to Princess May is not yet announced, although everybody expects the marriage to take place within a few weeks.

Ravages of Cholera.

If last year's devastation of the Great Death was not fresh in the public mind Europe would be already in cholera panic. The disease probably exists to-day in a larger number of towns than when the epidemic was at its height in Hamburg last September. The criminal policy of concealment is again being pursued in many places. The most outrageous instances are in towns of the northern coast of France, where it is known that nearly 100 deaths have occurred within a fortnight. Russia acknowledges several hundred deaths over her vast extent of territory, and we can only guess how far this is short of the truth. Strong appeals in the advertising columns of the St. Petersburg newspapers for the service of doctors in infected districts indicate how great is the emergency. Not a single medical or scientific death over her vast extent of territory, and we can only guess how far this is short of the truth. Strong appeals in the advertising columns of the St. Petersburg newspapers for the service of doctors in infected districts indicate how great is the emergency. Not a single medical or scientific death over her vast extent of territory, and we can only guess how far this is short of the truth. Strong appeals in the advertising columns of the St. Petersburg newspapers for the service of doctors in infected districts indicate how great is the emergency.

Cure of Consumption.

Prof. Koch's experiments with bacteriological remedies for consumption have almost reached a point where he can make a definite claim of results which were prematurely asserted three years ago. Prof. Scaglione, of Paris, quotes Dr. Koch as saying that the liquid which he had produced in his laboratory shows marvelous efficacy in overcoming tuberculosis. He administers the remedy by inhalation, not by injection, as in the case of the lymph, which gave him world-wide fame a few years ago.

Libels by Telephone

The fortunes of the telephonic newspaper of Budapest are full of difficulties. Several persons who complain of being telephonically libeled have brought suits against the projectors of the enterprise. Hungarian lawyers are now struggling with the problem whether libels by telephone are actionable. The Government also regards the enterprise with disfavor because of the difficulty of exercising the power of censorship scientifically. However, the scheme has been a complete success. They are now subscribers in every town in Hungary possessing the telephonic system. One trans-

mission enables every subscriber to hear the editorial voice with perfect ease. The electricians in charge say that if there were 500,000 subscribers scattered all over Europe each one would hear distinctly the voice of the editor in Budapest. Unfortunately the inventor of the system and founder of the enterprise, Theodore Puskas, died a fortnight ago. He was a real genius. He introduced the Telephone Exchange of Paris, and was well known to the electricians of the world. For a long time he was a disciple of Edison, at Menlo Park. His principal invention, of which the telephonic newspaper at Budapest was the first great application, was a device by means of which the human voice is carried over an unlimited number of circuits to all points of the compass. The newspaper is now being conducted by the inventor's brother.

A Dog Prevents a Tragedy.

The part which a dog took in preventing a tragedy at Leeds the other day deserves a prominent record. A ruffian, insane with jealousy, entrapped a woman in a room in a hotel, drew a razor, and tried to cut her throat. During the struggle a big black dog, which was asleep under the bed, sprang up and seized the fellow by the coat sleeve. He partially relaxed his hold of his victim to shake off the dog. The woman screamed, but could not escape before the assassin, releasing himself from the animal, attacked her again. The dog this time sprang at the fellow's throat and held him partly powerless till help arrived. The would-be murderer then used his weapon on himself and died a few minutes later.

The First Photograph.

The announcement has been made in the London newspapers this week that Sir William Herschell has lent for exhibition at Chicago the first photograph ever taken of the human countenance. It is the likeness of his sister, who still lives, taken by Prof. Draper on the roof of the New York University early in 1840, and its claim to priority has not heretofore been disputed, but various objections are now being taken. One man wrote to the newspapers yesterday asserting that Thomas Wedgwood, son of the famous potter, photographed people as far back as 1793, and another to-day disputes the assertion, contending that photography was discovered independently in England and France about the same time, viz., 1835. The latter gentleman, Mr. C. H. Talbot, has a small photograph, dated 1835, taken by his father in that year, but he concedes that Prof. Draper's picture may have been the first photographic portrait obtained.

Red Tape Extraordinary.

The absurdities of English officialdom were never more strikingly exhibited than in the half-column decree which appeared yesterday in the solemn pages of the London Gazette, the mouthpiece of royalty and other authority. The agricultural department with much verbiage authorizes the local authority for the county of Lancaster within fourteen days to kill three fox terrier dogs named respectively Badger, Spot and Jess, living somewhere near Boleley, said dogs being suspected animals under the rabies order, in witness whereof the board of agriculture have thereunto set their official seal this 6th day of April, 1893, and then follow the signature and seal.

"To the Bored."

A new field of usefulness for women is opened, according to an advertisement in to-day's papers, addressed "To the Bored." It set forth that "an entertaining, amusing girl of good position will cheer and enliven any lady or young person who may be dull or lonely or depressed, unique capabilities and the greatest benefit guaranteed to the low spirited."

The Queen's Books.

Mr. Holmes, the Queen's librarian at Windsor, has nearly completed an elaborate work on the rare bindings in the castle library, many of which are of great historical interest. The book will be illustrated by 150 photographs. The large and splendid collection of books, prints and engravings in the Windsor castle library was carefully arranged under the personal superintendence of Prince Albert, who found everything in the greatest confusion, and during the latter part of the reign of George III. and the reign of George IV. It is probable that many things were stolen out of the royal collections.

How Smallpox Spreads.

The unusual prevalence of smallpox at several places in England is accounted for by such incidents as one just reported from Burnley. It was found that the barkeeper at one of the principal hotels had been attending to his duties for several days while suffering from a fully developed case of the disease. Scores of cases occurred among the patrons of his bar.

Divorce in London.

The pending London divorce list is the largest on record. Two hundred and ninety-eight cases are on file for hearing at the session beginning on next Tuesday, and 122 are undetended.

A Tailor Travels as Baggage.

The Viennese tailor who has gained a notoriety by traveling about Europe as baggage in an especially constructed box, has just arrived at Copenhagen as a consignment from Christiania. When he emerged from his coffin-like receptacle the railroad officials promptly demanded a ticket in spite of his protests, and he was compelled to pay regular fare. He says he won't try it again on those terms.

Not According to Hoyle.

The reports from Rome indicate that the Vatican circles are quite scandalized by the disregard of the usual customs by the Princess of Wales and her suite on her recent visit to the Pope. The Princess of Wales wore a simple veil instead of a long black one, which is prescribed for all audiences with the Holy Father. The Princesses Maud and Victoria had traveling dresses on. The Duke of York wore a dark jacket and carried a stick, and Gen. Ellis wore a frock coat. For all audiences with the Pope the dress is strictly prescribed. For ladies, black dresses, with a long veil of the same color; for men, a dress suit, white tie and no gloves.

Fifty Thousand Dollars a Trip.

Although the Queen will have no rent to pay at Florence, as Lady Crawford has lent the Villa Palmieri to her Majesty, as she did in 1888, it is estimated that the continental trip of the court will involve an outlay of about £10,000 to her Majesty.

A Big Theatrical Report.

Mr. Irving's American tour is to commence at San Francisco in September, and it will last for eight months, during which time he will visit all the principal cities in the United States and Canada. Mr. Irving will take over the whole of the Lyceum company, and there will be 500

tons of heavy luggage, consisting of scenery, costumes and other properties.

"Strip, the Electrician."

The underground wire system in London owes its successful growth more to "Strip, the electrician," than to any other agency. Strip is not a man, but a tiny fox terrier, just big enough to crawl through wire conduits. She has been trained to lay wires by dragging them through pipes attached to her collar. Most of the underground wire laying of the last few months has been accomplished by her aid.

Big Price for Shooting.

Inquiries from America respecting the hiring of Scotch sporting estates for next season are said to be much less numerous than usual, but the agents believe that prices will be maintained. A good beginning has been made, at any rate, for the Duke of Sutherland is said to have let Dunrobin castle and the shootings attached to it for £7,000 for the season, which is about the highest price on record. The report that William Waldorf Astor is negotiating for the autumn use of a big Highland estate is said to be premature, but probably there is some foundation for it.

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