

affection and the strength of her will the following farewell letter which she addressed to the Irish people would do it:

"It is now four months since I appealed to the English nation for aid to avert the famine threatening those parts of Ireland which, in consequence of the bad season, had suffered the almost entire destruction of their crops and turf. The answer to my appeal came at once in the immediate remittance of large sums of money, including contributions from Her Majesty the Queen, the royal family, the Lord Mayor of London and the mayors and public bodies of the great cities from every part of England. High and low, rich and poor, old and young, all hastened to send me subscriptions, accompanied by expressions of the deepest sympathy, pity and sorrow. While the poor Irish were in their dire need England did not hesitate a moment. The stream of charity flowed on uninterruptedly. I have received a sum of about £112,000, and I have thus been enabled, with the assistance of my committee, to supply food, clothes and potato seed to those districts which were most in want. There remains an unexpended balance of nearly £15,000, which I propose to leave in good hands, to be appropriated among the most destitute until the next harvest, which will, I trust, with God's providence, bring you plenty, and prosperity. I wish to explain this to you, in order that you should know that England loves Ireland and is ever ready to help her in her hour of need."

Those who imagined that the change of Government in England meant the destruction of great and glorious Jingoism, and a poor nerveless, supine policy of shopkeeping, must be rapidly undergoing a change of mind—if they have ears to hear and eyes to see. Evidently Mr. Gladstone means not exactly "gunpowder and glory," but business at home and abroad. Only a few weeks have elapsed since the Earl of Beaconsfield was dismissed from office by the nation, and already the Liberals have taken in hand the work of Government most vigorously. Austria, feeling aggrieved at Mr. Gladstone's strong language in denunciation of her aggressive tyranny, intimated a desire to receive some words in explanation, or modification, from the newly-elected Prime Minister of Great Britain, but got for answer that he had spoken only what he understood to be the policy of Austria, and if she has changed her policy he is glad, but intends to see to it that Austria is held to the letter of the Treaty of Berlin, and will require the ultimate evacuation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. That was the only apology Austria got, and it could hardly have been satisfactory, whatever the Tory Press may attempt to make out of it.

Matters must go hard with Turkey during the next few years. Already the Sublime Porte is ignominiously bankrupt, and its prospects are anything but hopeful. Mr. Goschen replaces Mr. Layard, and will talk to that piece of imbecile corruption, the Sultan, in a very different manner from that to which he has grown accustomed. He will have to keep his promises and carry out internal reforms; he will have to rule with at least a show of justice, and abandon the slave trade, and govern his greedy, lustful pashas, and reduce his harems, in order to reduce his extravagance—that is to say, Turkey will have to reform itself out of Europe, if not out of existence.

The following items are from the London *World* :—

"House o' Commons best club in London?" said Sir Charles Jingo. "Possibly at one time. But now they're such a rowdy set, that I really think I shall take my name off." His constituents, however, saved him that trouble, for they took it off for him."

"Two of the most remarkable Irish elections were those in Roscommon and Sligo. In the former county the O'Connor Don, a wealthy, generous, and intellectual local landed proprietor, was ousted by a comparative stranger, Mr. J. J. O'Kelly, formerly of the *Herald*, who happened to travel from the United States in the same steamer as Mr. Parnell. Mr. O'Kelly, who will be a bone in the new O'Connell's tail, is worthy of a better fate. He is a sturdy young gentleman of good manners and education, considerable pluck, and a large experience of the world. He has roamed on the plains with the United States troops, and enjoyed the happiness of having been arrested by the Spaniards as a suspected *filibustero*, and having escaped a firing-party by a 'shave' in Cuba a few years ago. He is nephew to John Lalor, the sculptor, who is to be accredited with one of the groups at the base of the Albert Monument in Hyde Park. In Sligo, the Hon. King-Harman, whom all his neighbours freely admit to be a 'very good sort,' has to give way to one Mr. Sexton, a sub-editor on a Dublin weekly paper. As Mr. Sexton is an *employé* of Mr. A. M. Sullivan's brother, a new M. P. for Westmeath, and Mr. A. M. Sullivan publicly declared that he could not sit for the same county as Mr. Philip Callan, it is likely Mr. Sexton will have gracefully to retire in Mr. A. M. Sullivan's favour."

"A certain noble lord, whose name shall be unmentioned, went over to Galway the other day with designs upon the borough. To conciliate the sober-minded he paraded the town with a monster silver temperance medal, assertively displayed on his manly breast. 'God help us!' cried the fish-wives of the Claddagh, 'what an abs-tay-mious gintleman he must be!' But the conducting agent of one of the candidates had in his pocket a report of the appearance of a certain noble lord, for drunkenness and unparliamentary language and conduct, before a Westminster police-court, and asked him how he thought it would look in large type as an election poster. His lordship did not offer himself for the borough."

A remarkable thing about the late English elections is that not a single Roman Catholic has been returned to Parliament. And yet the religious question was nowhere raised; Jews were elected; the literary secularist, John Morley, was not challenged as to his religious creed; Bradlaugh, the avowed infidel, carried Northampton—to say nothing of Labouchere and several others who at least think freely. Probably the general absence of Catholics from the English majority has no significance, but it is peculiar.

Another new feature in those elections was the decisive evidence given that the people are no longer under the dominance of the mysterious "we" in newspaper leading articles. An age of common sense has dawned. They have learnt that "we" may and generally does mean an obscure journalist who has little or no influence in either public or private society. "We" had its day, and almost every writer used it; but at last men of character and ability began to separate themselves from the crowd of irresponsible newspaper writers and to use the first personal pronoun; then we had the ludicrous sight of Gladstone and such men writing "I," and Lawson of the *Telegraph* and such men writing themselves down as "we," and the people said, this imposition shall rule us no longer, the editorial "we" is a pretence. I hope that idea will spread far abroad and obtain an influence in Canada.

A correspondent sends me the following :—

SIR,—I venture to think that those brilliant and agreeable compliments paid to one another by our enlightened representatives at the close of the session would have been sweetened considerably if the members could have congratulated themselves as a body upon having done something for the public safety in connection with the railways. What is wanted is now pretty generally understood by this time, and would be fully determined if we could have discussion in Parliament. We wait session after session for this, while the people perish—not in multitudes; but a high-toned government should be jealous of every life. It is only that sad "previous question" that is troubling the country. "Shall we trouble ourselves about it?" We cannot blame our legislators very violently. The outside pressure is not yet of a very compulsory character—and the advertising journals nearly everywhere are not unacquainted with the reason why. We have to except the *Globe* and the *Witness*. Anyhow, these accidents are continually occurring. Writers for the press are bound to retain their equanimity, and the body of the people care nothing for their own safety or that of their fellows until it comes home to them in the shape of a father, wife or brother. If Sir John was too much occupied, Mr. Trow might have put the House in remembrance—for he has taken some little interest in the question. The three principal heads of requirement are :—

1. The abolition or adjustment of level crossings.
2. Provision for the safety of the brakemen, both in applying brakes and coupling cars.
3. Penalties for getting on or off trains while in motion.

There are other points deserving notice, but these are the principal.

It bodes well for San Francisco that Kearney is in jail and Mayor Kallach indicted upon the gravest charges. The people have recovered their senses, and vulgar, violent sedition is doomed. Kallach owes his present position to his good fortune in getting shot, but he appears to be unfit to fill any position which demands even a modicum of personal integrity. If the charges preferred against him are true, he has been guilty of receiving payment from at least five persons as a reward for appointing them under the city government. And still worse, the indictment states that he has been guilty of the vilest possible treachery against the peace and order of the city he is sworn to protect. The citizens of San Francisco have an opportunity now for clearing themselves from the ill fame which has so long attached to them.

EDITOR.