

confers no exceptional privileges upon any particular denomination, I hold to be incontrovertible. Is there, then, anything in it which should give umbrage to us as Protestants? Is it not rather as Protestants that we ought especially to welcome it? We claim, and justly, to have been the pioneers of toleration. Let us not persist in a policy so perilously suggestive of intolerance." Mark how strongly he declares that the granting of the privileges of a university to the people of Ireland, those people who have been denied everything that modern civilization boasts of by the merciless English invaders, "confers no exceptional privileges." He might have added, with much more truth, that it does not confer even a tithe of what is owed. Then he says Protestants "have been the pioneers of toleration." It would be interesting to learn what the Protestants ever *tolerated* in Ireland. Doubtless Mr. Balfour regards the destruction of the Irish nation, the subjection of the Irish people to poverty, and the ruination of the Irish country as a sort of toleration—a bare toleration of the Irishman's right to live, a tolerant exemption from extermination. We are inclined to think that the First Lord of the Treasury, as a wily politician, is attempting to smooth over the Nonconformist objection by a vague insinuation that the proposed university will not be so very Catholic after all, and that they might show a little generosity to grant it. We would much prefer to see the Irish people obtain their rights on a straightforward platform of justice, rather than on any such principles as these.

Within three days one chief magistrate of the French
The French Republic ceased to be a factor in the affairs of men,
Presidency. and another took up the burden of his office. Notwithstanding that the wisdom of haste is ever questionable, all true lovers of independence and republican institutions will trust that the haste in this instance will not have ill effects. We, at this distance can scarcely realize what heavy responsibility is involved in the Presidency of France. If we could we might be able to account reasonably for the sudden demise of Felix Faure. As it is, we cannot do so. And we doubt if there are many persons, even in close relations at Paris, who can do it. For who can tell how the present condition of the Third Republic, with all its internal dissensions, civil and military, a veritable cauldron of