

lies, under the system of local self-government, would be placed on their good behaviour, they would remember the concession of the Government of Ireland, when Lord Fitzwilliam was Viceroy, extended to the Catholics of that day, and they would, in return, extend to the Protestant minority corresponding blessings and advantages. Again, when these parties would be brought together in legislation, they would forget their difference, each would allow the other to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and all would unite shoulder to shoulder, mental capabilities to mental capabilities, for the purpose of developing the interest of the country, and thus they would combine to establish a condition of public affairs in consonance with the general interests of the country, making fair Ireland prosperous and happy. The hon. member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill) quoted the words of Judge Johnstone, of Cork: "We must give Ireland security," and he quoted them as an argument in favor of coercion. If Ireland gets security, then comes order, and when Ireland gets order, then comes peace, and when Ireland gets peace, then comes prosperity. Let us apply that axiom. Give Ireland security by allowing her to make her own laws, to control her own local affairs, to build her own railways, to manage everything pertaining to her own locality, and then comes order, and not until then; when order comes, then comes peace, and when peace comes all will be united for the purpose of making their country prosperous and happy. The day is not far distant when Ireland will begin to prosper. Do we expect the past to be wiped out the very moment Ireland gets Home Rule? Not at all. Suppose a person who has been sick of a fever becomes convalescent, he must still remain with traces of the sickness until he becomes restored to his former health and vigor. In his convalescence he is only ascending the ladder of health, which he will continue to ascend until he reaches the state of health and vigor. So, when Ireland obtains Home Rule, we must look for some disorder and want of harmony for a time; but all these conflicting elements will end by the people of all classes combining, and step by step the country will go on until she will have passed the final stage of convalescence and will stand forth prosperous and peaceful. It is said also that Home Rule will lead to the dismemberment of the Empire. That cry has been raised in our own country. In 1837, we were told that if we obtained responsible government, our connection with the Mother Country would cease; but the sequel has shown that responsible government did not, with us, lead to dismemberment. On the contrary, the bonds of affection and loyalty between the colonies and the Mother Country became strengthened. Again, in 1859, when we sought to have these Provinces confederated into one grand union, similar to that of to-day, what were we told by those who opposed that scheme? Ah, they said, the Reformers are taking another step to dismember the Empire. But the sequel has proved that Confederation did not lead to dismemberment, but to the binding together into one whole, the Empire and its Colonies, and in giving a strength and influence in the world. As the Colonies gain strength, influence and power, so were strength, influence and power added to the Empire. Again, when we agitated for the management of local interests in our western municipal government, we were told that we were seeking a republic. Again they said, these Reformers are trying to introduce a republican system; and their ulterior object is the dismemberment of the Empire. But, on the contrary, we became more loyal to the Crown, and loved, esteemed, and venerated our Queen more than ever before. We were told, two years ago, when the leader of the Opposition stood upon the floor of Parliament and asked that we should apply to the British Government for power to make our own commercial treaties with foreign powers, that to

do so would be disrespectful to the British Empire. Why, it would help the Empire, because it would add to the consolidation of the Empire, did we send our agents into foreign countries. In that way we enlarge our boundaries and increase our trade and commerce, we not only continue to be a portion of the Empire but we are at the same time extending the power and influence of the Empire, making the Empire stronger and helping to prevent disintegration and dismemberment. We are told that Ireland would separate from England. Grattan at one time, when discussing the question of the union of parliaments, said: "Looking across the St. George's Channel, it is too wide for union of parliaments, but, looking across the ocean, it is too wide for separation;" and this is just the position. Ireland cannot separate and conduct her Government with the same advantages she now obtains. Her market is in England. She sells her manufactured goods to England, she sends her linens there, she sends her cattle and the produce of her farms to England. It is a home market, and, if Ireland were separated from that country, would this trade be carried on so advantageously to the Irish people? No country is so advantageously situated for Ireland as England is. We were told to-day by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) that the exportation from Ireland to England amounted to something over £19,000,000 sterling. You will see what great interests are affected in connection with that, when I call your attention to the fact that out of exportations exceeding £19,500,000 to England, £10,617,000 sterling is paid by the tenants of Ireland into the pockets of the land owners of England. Over one half of the entire exports of Ireland passes into the hands of non resident land owners. This is another fact I desire to press upon this House and upon this country, that a large proportion of this £19,000,000, more than half consists of manufactured goods; and, when we consider that more than all the natural products of that land are required to pay the landlords for the use of the land, it must be a sad position for Ireland in this enlightened nineteenth century. We were also told that, by this agitation, Gladstone, the great leader of the Liberal party in England, had driven from his side no less than twelve of his most able and strong supporters. That is no argument against the agitation for Home Rule. When we were granted responsible government in this country, a large number of the party that gave it to us were opposed to its being granted to this country. Did that show that we were not entitled to the power we asked for to govern ourselves according to constitutional rules, and is that any reason why the Irish people should not ask for this power from the Government of England, simply because twelve of these men did not agree with Mr. Gladstone in his Irish Home Rule Bill? Allow me to point out another fact, which shows the hold that this question has taken upon the people of England. Gladstone went to the country not only with the influence and ability of these former followers of his against him, but with the influence of the aristocracy and the landed gentry, with all their millions of money, also on the other side. Notwithstanding all this, Mr. Gladstone went before the country and pleaded as no other living man could plead, for the Irish people, and what was the result? Out of 3,000,000 people who voted at that election, Mr. Gladstone's opponents had only a majority of 75,000 votes. Does not that show that this question has taken root in the English heart? The delay is only for a short time. No matter what we may do here, the time for Home Rule is not far in the future, and I hope Mr. Gladstone will live to see that day arrive and to see his noble efforts crowned with the fullest success. It is our duty, enjoying the privileges of constitutional government, enjoying full and ample scope to develop our own resources largely attending to our own trade interests, to give our sympathy and support, as far as resolutions of this kind can