

Staunton, that in that year, the Irish surplus, carried off to the English Treasury, was £1,403,515.

Q. Why then have you made the average so low as one million per annum?

A. To avoid even the slightest ground of cavil. It is also to be kept in mind, that no country can expend the whole of its revenues within its own limits; some external expenditure is unavoidable; but in our case, that expenditure is exorbitant and ruinous.

Q. What was the result of General Dunne's committee?

A. Two things were demonstrated; first, the gross and oppressive injustice to which the Union has subjected Ireland in fiscal matters; second, that the English government regard the political incorporation of the countries by the Union, as a sufficient reason for perpetuating that injustice.

Q. What are the general reflections suggested by Irish history?

A. The most prominent modern facts are these:—that Ireland prospered to an astonishing extent during the existence of her free domestic parliament; that the thirty-nine years of imperial legislation that have followed its suppression are marked by the decay of the nation, the impoverishment of its people, inordinate taxation, famines aggravated by artificial poverty, fever resulting from famine, an enormous and unprecedented flight of millions of the Irish people from their native country, which the Union has effectually stripped of the means of supporting them; constant popular discontent; repeated suspensions of the Habeas Corpus Act; and inveterate hatred of the English government entertained by the Irish who have emigrated.

Q. To what do these facts all point?

A. To the utter incompetence of English legislation to secure prosperity or content in Ireland, and the consequent need of a home parliament to take charge of Irish interests. The past and the present alike demonstrate the necessity of our legislative independence, of a free constitution in connection with the crown of Great Britain; a constitution from which every scrap and trace of special privilege or special disability,

on account of religious belief, shall be utterly and for ever banished.

Q. You are then a loyal nationalist?

A. Yes; my principle is that of the Dungannon Volunteers—"We know our duty to our Sovereign, and are loyal; we also know our duty to ourselves, and are resolved to be free."

THE END.

#### F A C E T I A B .

A fop took arsenic for a cough, and the result was a coffin.

MATRIMONY.—"Joe, what in the world put matrimony into your head?"—"Well, the fact is, Tom, I was getting short of shirts."

Lawyer:—"How do you identify this handkerchief?" Witness:—"By its general appearance, and the fact that I have others like it." Lawyer:—"That's no proof, for I have one just like it in my pocket." Witness:—"I don't doubt it. I had more than one of the same sort stolen."

NOT TO BLAME.—A Scotch clergyman was seen by a neighbour trudging homo on Monday morning with a stout cod he had just bought, and was accosted with—"Mr. Duncan, did you know that that fish was caught on Sunday?"—The minister, in his characteristic bluntness, replied—"Well, well, the fish is not to blame for that, my man."

A MAN recently broke off a marriage because the lady did not possess good conversational powers. A cynical friend, commenting on the fact, says, "He should have married her and refused her a new bonnet, and then he would have discovered her conversational powers."

A WOMAN'S QUESTION.—She was ironing when her eister came in with the news that an uncle was dead.—"Dead!" she gasped, nearly dropping the iron from her hand. Her face was very pale, as was that of her sister, as they both stood there looking at each other with that awe-struck expression which a death leaves upon the faces of the living. "Dead!" she repeated, in a faltering voice. "It doesn't seem possible." It is so sudden, so unexpected, so dreadful, that I can scarcely realize it. What are you going to wear?"