

THE IRISH CAUSE.

FOR AND AGAINST IRISH HOME RULE.

Chief Secretary Morley Has Many Problems to Face.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—The points of the probable Irish Home Rule Bill, Gladstone's health, Chief Secretary Morley's experiments at local self-government in Ireland, his efforts for the destitute tenants and unemployed poor, generally, are some of the questions interesting Ireland's friends in and out of that unhappy country.

There are no new developments in the Dublin dynamite case. Chief Magistrate O'Donnell opened an inquiry on the 5th inst., under the Explosive Act regarding them. Newspaper representatives and the public were excluded from the examination, as the detectives who witnessed the explosion were first called upon to give evidence.

THE EVICTED TENANTS' COMMISSION.

The Evicted Tenants' Commission resumed its session Jan. 4, Sir James Mathew presiding.

John Dillon made an earnest plea in behalf of the reinstatement of evicted tenants, and he produced statistics showing the number of good settlements made through the Plan of Campaign between the landlords and tenants.

Even upon the Oldbert estate settlements have been come to, and there is a prospect that all the evicted tenants will be reinstated.

Nevertheless, Dillon informed the commission there were thousands of evicted tenants whose condition was so pitiable and desperate that it constituted a menace to the public peace, and he urgently advised that measures be adopted for their relief, both on the ground of humanity and publicly security.

Before the same commission, Mr. Dillon stated that the total amount received from all sources for the support of evicted tenants under the Plan of Campaign was £231,000.

FIVE POINTS OF THE PROBABLE HOME RULE BILL.

The journal, the Speaker, discusses in its latest issue five points of the probable Irish Home Rule Bill. It says that with regard to the land question, the bill will reserve to Parliament for a certain term the sole right of legislation.

Regarding the question of the retention of the Irish members at Westminster, it is not unlikely that the Government will meet the question by adopting Mr. Parnell's suggestion not to touch it until the question has been settled of the veto that might be placed on the Lord Lieutenant.

Appointing judges will be retained by the Government for the fixed time of five years, which term will be also fixed for the complete transformation of the police into a civil body.

It is hoped that England will deal liberally with Ireland, and thus contribute to the Irish revenue, as Ireland will have no power to impose protective duties.

The Speaker's article is believed to have been inspired by a member of the Government, or by some one near to Mr. Gladstone.

GLADSTONE DARED TO PRAISE AN AMERICAN BOOK.

Some time ago, Mr. Gladstone wrote a letter to Douglas Campbell, an American, praising Campbell's history of "The Puritan in Holland, England and America." In this volume the author disparages the Elizabethan era—an unpardonable sin in the eyes of the average Briton.

Prof. Goldwin Smith comes out in a vigorous protest against Gladstone, and says he is the friend of every country but his own.

The newspapers call him arrogant, insolent and a traitor, and say that his dislike of the British Empire is only excelled by his especial dislike for Englishmen proper. He himself is a Scotchman, and no Englishman has ever yet forgiven the criticism from that quarter. They announce plainly that he is the best-hated man in the country, and all because he said a kind word to an American who wrote the truth about England.

Nevertheless, Mr. Gladstone, according to the latest reports from Biarritz, is in excellent health, and consumed with desire for the Home Rule fight. The only fear of his friends, and one which is very real and ever present, is that the

Grand Old Man will defy his medical advisers and insist upon leading the House of Commons as fully as he did ten years ago, and thus wear himself out in the coming session.

THE OBSTRUCTIONS TO HOME RULE.

Labouchere has served notice upon the party that there are other reforms beside Irish reforms to be accomplished at this session, and that they will be pushed by the supporters of Gladstone.

"Home Rule is all right, and they will do their duty in this connection, he says, but it must not be pushed to the exclusion of such reforms as the new registration bill and the 'one-man one-vote' bill.

The day selected for the introduction of the Home Rule Bill has been fixed for February 6, which means that only four days will be allowed for the debate on the address.

Gladstone returns from Biarritz to-day, and the cabinet will meet to-morrow to resume the consideration of the bill. Every thing has practically been settled except the fixing of the amount of Ireland's contribution to the imperial revenue. The Irish party understands that failure is certain if they start burdened with heavy financial liabilities.

Gladstone recognizes this also, but it is difficult to see how the revenue can be cut down. If it is reduced it will be against Harcourt's earnest protest, who has certain large schemes of official reform in view. The lowering of the revenue from Ireland would be fatal to his plans.

WHAT CHIEF SECRETARY MORLEY IS TRYING TO DO.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien had a long interview with Mr. John Morley on Jan. 7. The object of the visit was to urge upon Mr. Morley the purchase of tracts of grazing land in Connaught as a solution of the difficult question that is presenting itself of caring for the unemployed in Dublin. They urged that these tracts of land should be secured by the Government, divided into small farms and then rented to tenants at fair rates. They claimed that this course would prevent laborers flocking to Dublin and would result in great benefit to the working classes. Mr. Morley listened attentively to the details of the project and promised that he would give it his close consideration.

On the same evening Mr. Morley made a speech that is noteworthy on account of its breathing of friendliness for the people of Ireland. In the course of his remarks he said that the Government was persuaded that migration was preferable to emigration, and that the Government would do its best to meet the wishes of the Irish, but he feared that it would be impossible to do anything in the matter during the coming session of Parliament.

Morley has introduced a remarkable innovation in the Government of Ireland by offering the appointment of Privy Counsellors to Justin McCarthy, the leading member of the Irish party. McCarthy has consistently declined.

It is rumored that the Royal Irish Constabulary are hereafter to wear no side arms, are to give up their bayonets and are to depend only upon a short club.

—The Pilot.

The Heroes of 1837-'38-'39.

On Saturday last a meeting of gentlemen who had been volunteers or members of the militia force in the Province of Lower Canada during the troubles of 1837-'38 and '39, was held at the office of Mr. J. H. Isaacson for the purpose of adopting steps to co-operate with similar movements now being adopted in various parts of Ontario and Quebec, the object of which is to obtain from the Imperial or Dominion Government some suitable recognition of the services rendered by them during that very critical period.

A committee was appointed to enter into correspondence and co-operate with Major R. R. McLennan, M. P. for Glengarry, who has recently published a pamphlet on the subject and who has in the course of his parliamentary duties taken a prominent part in the movement, and with others, with the view to secure immediate, prompt and united action.

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