

## THE SECOND READING.

## DEBATE RESUMED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Ulster's Latest Break—Balfour and Churchill—Davitt Attacked by Lord Cranbourne—A Strange Apology.

The debate on the second reading of the Home Rule bill began in real earnest the first of the week. All plans for the battle have been mapped out in advance. The Opposition intends to expend all its energies to keep the debate running the whole week and throw the second reading over to Thursday, the 20th, or even to Friday, the 21st. The Government will resist this as vigorously as it can, and strive to secure a reading by Friday next. The Opposition has arranged a terrifyingly long string of orators, big and little, to follow one another in order to kill time. The Government is doing its best to persuade its followers not to talk at all, inasmuch as the sole point at issue is whether the minority later in the session shall have a few days, more or less, in which to deal with other legislation. This impending struggle cannot but seem to sensible observers a wanton and rather a silly waste of time and ammunition. It has, however, one aspect which deserves a harsher epithet. The entire question whether the Government or the Opposition shall win next Friday rests in the hands of the speaker. His decision, whether there has been sufficient debate or not, is final and not to be questioned. The Opposition are at no pains to conceal their reliance on him to

## PLAY THE PARTISAN

in their interest. Gladstonians try somewhat feebly to profess a confidence that he is capable of taking a non-partisan view and defeating his own party's plans for the sake of his position in the eyes of posterity.

The foregoing is from a special letter to the Republic dated London, April 12, 1893. Last week we referred to the grand speech by Gladstone, and gave a sketch of the addresses delivered by Messrs Chamberlain, McCarthy and Redmond. Resuming the thread of the debate we find that Sir George Trevelyan, secretary for Scotland, made an elaborate defence of the bill. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and Mr. Chamberlain, he said, had admitted that, had the bill contained a guarantee of the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, they would have accepted it. But all guarantees formerly asked by the Opposition had been conceded. Sir George taunted Mr. Chamberlain with inconsistency, and charged the Conservatives with practising now all the arts of obstruction which they had found so obnoxious when used by the Nationalists. He denounced the Ulster programme. The leading Conservative statesman, he said, were indulging a prospective justification of civil war in Ireland. Such intemperate speeches as were made daily with the approval of the Opposition leaders could not fail to produce violent displays of fanaticism. Every year that passed before the settlement of the question was a year lost in a vain attempt to avert the measure, which would surely be passed under one Government or another.

Ashmead Bartlett, Conservative, denied that the general election was contested on the Home Rule issue, and prophesied that the bill would be rejected.

In the House on Tuesday Ashmead Bartlett, Conservative, made a speech against the Home Rule bill.

Michael Davitt made a forcible speech in favor of the measure. He said the bill would be accepted by 13,000,000 of the Irish race as a pact of peace to be honorably observed. He had changed his opinion since 1889, and now strongly supported the retention of

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in the Imperial Parliament. The bill was a compromise, and not the result of a revolution, and, therefore, the friends of peace in Ireland and England took it as containing all the conditions of lasting union.

The Irish, Mr. Davitt continued, did not wish Home Rule to cost the British Parliament a single penny, and they would not shirk their fair share of imperial expenditures. In regard to the landlord and the propertied classes, surely the Nationalists, who were desirous of making Ireland prosperous under self-

government, could be trusted not to perpetuate an injustice upon any class whose ruin would involve the ruin of the country.

Mr. Davitt added that he had little love for the Irish landlords, but he was certain that the Nationalists would weigh carefully every measure affecting the land.

## CALLED DAVITT A MURDERER

London, April 14.—In the House of Commons to-day upon the resumption of the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule bill the Right Hon. H. Campbell-Bannerman, secretary of state for war, replied to statements that had been made by the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman said that the duty of preserving national order in Ireland under a home rule administration would rest upon the Irish executive. If the civil force should at any time prove inadequate requisition could be made upon the military to preserve order at the discretion of the viceroy.

Here interrupted Mr. Balfour asked: "Would the viceroy be under the orders of the Irish Government in giving the troops?"

Mr. Campbell-Bannerman replied: "The viceroy would act under the advice of the Irish Government, but he would be entitled to exercise his discretion as to whether the application for troops was frivolous or unreasonable."

Mr. Gladstone intimated a desire to close the debate on the second reading of the bill on Tuesday next.

Mr. Balfour protested against such an early termination of the discussion, and suggested Friday next as a reasonable date for closing the debate.

Home Secretary Asquith delivered an earnest address on behalf of the bill, which was listened to with considerable interest.

While Mr. Asquith was commenting upon the conversion to constitutional home rule of Michael Davitt, "once a conspirator and rebel," a dozen or more Irish members, suddenly rising, called the Speaker's attention to an epithet used by Lord Cranbourne. Daniel Gilly, who was allowed to speak for his colleagues, in passionate tones charged Lord Cranbourne with calling Michael Davitt a murderer. Amidst cries of "withdraw," "apologize," etc., the Speaker rose and called for order. If the expression was used, he said, it must be withdrawn by the gentleman who used it.

Lord Cranbourne thereupon made an old apology: "I said nothing," he said, "but what was true. I quite admit that the expression escaped me but it was not intended for the ear of the House."

Mr. Asquith, continuing, evoked an outburst of Irish cheers by remarking that the incident that had just occurred showed how scanty was the knowledge of Irish history and Irish leaders possessed by some members of the Opposition.

## AN ABLE LECTURE

Before the Mount St. Louis Literary Union.

On Sunday evening last Professor McKay lectured before the Mount St. Louis Literary Union. After a brief introduction by the President, Mr. Ohas. Hart, the lecturer announced his subject:—"The age in which we live." The lecture, though of a serious nature absorbed the whole attention of the students, who listened with the greatest interest. Such an able essay on contemporary history could not fail to leave a most favorable impression on the minds of young men so susceptible of fine influences. At the close, Mr. Rignold O'Neill proposed a vote of thanks to the learned gentleman for his eloquent, interesting and instructive lecture, which was heartily responded to by the audience. Mr. McKay responded in a most feeling manner. We give below a synopsis of the lecture, which speaks for itself.

In dealing with the subject the lecturer took a fulcrum whereon the lever of his theme rested: that fulcrum was "thought." He proceeded to point out how, from a thought, everything that has appeared to astonish the world, whether in the realm of science or not, arose. He followed the march of invention and the progressive development of the outcome of thoughts. The wonder-

ful machinery of this age,—the extraordinary improvements in the modes of communication between country and country,—the astounding rapidity with which ideas are conveyed from immense distances,—the wonderful discoveries in geology, astronomy, mechanics, and in all the applied sciences and arts,—all these he pointed out as the outcome of human thought. Then, to draw practical lessons from all he had said, he showed how the development of thought was the duty of teachers. He illustrated his meaning by instancing the magnificent institution in which he spoke. It was a thought, well conceived and properly applied, that gave rise to the splendid structure of the college, which, in its turn, became the workshop in which noble thoughts were to be fabricated, and from which must spring great and beneficial results. The lecture lasted over an hour and was a most learned treatise upon a subject at once deep and practical. The publication of such a lecture could not fail to be productive of immense good. The effort was highly appreciated, as it so well deserved.

## FOUR PER CENT LAGER.

Or Joe Tompkins' Temperance Spree.

(Written for the TRUE WITNESS by a particular friend of the paper.)

Joe Tompkins was a sober man  
As you would wish to find,  
He never drank intoxicants,  
They were not to his mind,  
Of brandy, whiskey, gin and wine  
He had a wholesome dread,  
And beer and porter he eschewed  
For fear they'd reach his head.

His path through life was strictly straight,  
Till in a moment dark,  
A friend said unto him, "let's go  
"And visit Sobber Park."  
It was on Sunday afternoon,  
And Joe agreed to go,  
"Not being," as he said, "against  
"A strictly moral show."

They reached the park, the day was warm,  
Soon Joe became quite dry,  
And went in company with his friend  
A temperance drink to buy,  
A gorgeous placard caught his eye,  
It read in letters pink:  
"Cool lager beer for five cents here,  
"The latest temperance drink."

Quoth Tompkins, "let us try it,"  
And his friend did not say nay,  
But to a glass and snatched his lips  
(He drank it every day,  
Joe Tompkins thought it tasted good,  
Then thought he'd have some more,  
He felt more lively than he'd done  
In all his life before.

He took another glass or two,  
His spirits rose on high,  
He stood upon his head to see  
If he could kick the sky;  
His friend tried hard to lead him home,  
Quoth Joe, "go way, you're drunk,  
"I'm ashamed of you, hic, there's a tree,  
"Go'n lean against the trunk."

His friend retired, and Joe alone,  
His zig-zag footsteps bent  
In search of fun and frolic,  
To the "shooting gallery" tent,  
He'd always been "a daisy shot,"  
He told them there with glee,  
And nearly shot the keeper of  
The shooting gallery.

He next essayed the masher's part,  
And winked at all the girls,  
He told them they were daisies, and  
He much admired their curls;  
He kissed the girl who sold him fruit,  
He shouted "Whoop, hooray,"  
He stood a waiter on his head  
And beat him with his tray.

He chased the newsboys round the park,  
He wanted them to know  
He was something of a sprinter,  
As he would quickly show,  
Four guardians of the peace appeared,  
They quickly pulled Joe in,  
He said he'd take them one by one  
And roof each one with tin.

A night within the cells he spent,  
Next day with spirit sore,  
The Recorder he interviewed,  
Who did his case deplore,  
Says Joe "it was a temperance drink,  
"Your honor ought to know,  
"I was not drunk, I couldn't be,  
"You'll surely let me go."

"With causes I do not deal here,"  
His honor grimly says:  
"Effects are quite enough for me;  
"One dollar or eight days,"  
Joe paid the dollar and went home  
A sadder, wiser man;  
But temperance lager after this  
With doubtful eyes he'll scan.

## Presentation.

Mr. John McNally, book-keeper for Messrs. Thomas May & Co., importers, who, after twenty years of service, terminated his connection with the firm, was the recipient on Wednesday evening of a very handsome cabinet of cutlery and a beautiful diamond ring, presented him by his colleagues as a mark of esteem; also a cheque for a considerable amount from the firm, as a mark of appreciation of the manner in which he had performed his duties. Mr. McNally, in a few well-chosen words, thanked the donors, and regretted having to sever his long and pleasurable connection with his fellow-employees and the firm.

## IRISH NEWS.

A new set of Stations of the Cross has been hung in the church at Carrigaline.

The Very Rev. John Canon Monahan, D.D., V.G. of Banagher and Cloghan, has been appointed Dean of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise.

R. Morrissey, Nationalist, and Alderman Redmond, Redmonite, have been chosen to the Town Ward, Division of the Waterford Board of Poor Law Guardians.

Sir Thomas Eamonde, M.P., has been informed by the Postmaster General that the Post Office authorities have agreed to his proposal for the opening of a telegraph office at Ballydavid.

At a meeting of Catholics held at Limerick on Sunday, March 18, under the presidency of Hon. Gaston Monsell, it was decided to establish a local Catholic Unionist Association.

Dr. E. J. Burke, of Dublin, who has been appointed to the Indian Medical Service, was presented with a beautifully illuminated address on March 24 by his fellow-members of the Catholic University School of Medicine.

Archbishop Walsh, of Dublin, has sent to Mr. John Dillon, M.P., a cheque for £302 9s. for the Evicted Tenants' Fund. It came from the Very Rev. Michael McCabe, V.G., of Woonsocket, R.I., and Messrs. James Murray and James W. Smythe.

The children of the convent schools, Castlebar, presented an address of welcome to the Rev. P. Lyons, their pastor, on his return from Rome. The address was read by Miss Mary Ellen Sheridan, daughter of Mr. M. Sheridan, of the Mayo Examiner, Castlebar.

A large farmyard and threshing mill at Baldonal, Clondalkin, the property of Mr. Grierson, was completely wrecked by fire on March 20. The farm buildings and mill were almost entirely destroyed, and the other damage done was considerable. Two horses were burned.

In the elections for Poor Law Guardians in Cockatown on March 23 Mr. John Reid, a Protestant Home Ruler, who had represented one of the two divisions for the past sixteen years, was defeated through the landlords and Orange factions, each of whose candidates was returned.

The Dominican Fathers of Holy Cross Church, Sligo, are trying to raise funds to restore the old cloisters in Abbey Street, which have been for many years in a state of ruin and decay. The Dominicans once flourished in Derry Colmbkille, where was the parent house of the order.

Mr. Henry Brennan, Nationalist, has been returned as a Poor Law Guardian of the North Clifney division of the Sligo Union. He is the secretary of the Clifney branch of the Irish National Federation, and has been an active worker in the National ranks since the days of the Land League.

On Thursday evening, March 23, under the presidency of the Earl of Albemarle, the London Royal Humane Society's gold medal for distinguished gallantry was bestowed, out of five Ulster medallists, upon Thomas McDermott, a native of Derry, of the Swallow, for saving the lives of two shipmates who were attacked by a large shark off the southeast of Zanzibar on September 9.

Several meetings were held in Belfast, on March 24, to protest against the Home Rule Bill. The most important was that of the committee of the Unitarian and non-subscribing body, who met in the Central Hall. A series of resolutions were adopted calling upon the Nonconformists and Protestants of England to support the Unitarians, who had always been on the side of religious liberty, in their hostility to Home Rule, on the ground that the bill would result in placing the Roman Catholic hierarchy in the ascendancy.

A manifesto has been issued to the Royal Irish Constabulary by the "members" of the Provisional Committee who met at Belfast on March 20, calling upon them "to organize in face of the threatened danger of Home Rule, despite all disciplinary rules in the Constabulary Code to the contrary." The constables are exhorted not to allow the possibility of their being "bossed" in the future by the village ruffian and the professional agitator, but to be true to themselves, for were they not 12,000 of the best men the Empire could produce, and were they not in possession? The manifesto is not signed.

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