

The Old Year's Remembrance.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

The Old Year lay on his death-bed lone. And ere he died he spoke to me, Low and solemn in tone. Mournfully reproachful. The fading eyes in his snow-white head. Shone bright the while his lids beneath. These were the words the old Year said: I shall never forget them while I breathe;

The Land Agitation

Mr. Parnell's First Speech in America to a Vast Audience.

STATE OF IRELAND.

What Must be Done that the Irish People May be Saved!

MR. DILLON'S SPEECH.

[From the New York Star.]

As Mr. Parnell stepped forward to the front of the platform, and waited for the cheers with which he was received to subside, his mother and sisters, accompanied by a number of ladies, took seats which had been reserved for them in the centre of the hall. He said:—

plause.) These funds will be kept entirely distinct, so that the donors will be afforded the opportunity of doing as they please in the matter. It has been suggested by a very influential paper in this city that we ought to devote our attention only to the relief of distress (hisses), and that we should only join the committee which has been proposed for the New York Herald (hisses) for the relief of distressed Irish landlords and the British Government in general. (Great laughter.) But if we accepted the very good advice that has been so charitably extended to us in the shape of words within the last few days, I am afraid we should incur the imputation of putting the cart before the horse.

is centred upon Ireland, and very shortly the merits of our question will be known in all parts. We have saved the lives of the landlords and we have saved the lives of the people. (Applause.) Now I do not wish, in fact it would be impossible for me, in the presence of this immense multitude, to go into many details. I can only speak very generally in reference to many branches of this great question; but if asked, "What do you propose?" I may state, generally, that we propose to make the occupiers of the soil its owners. (Great applause.) We wish, we wish to do this with as little injury to what may be considered to be vested interests as possible. No physical violence, no unconstitutional action is contemplated; but in my judgment, what—(Two words lost in the tumult.) As I have repeatedly said, American public opinion is one of our greatest weapons, and the landlords themselves, by invoking that public opinion, have shown the very high value that they place upon it. I feel that this is a very great compliment to you, that the proud British aristocracy should humble itself and appear as supplicants before this great democracy. (Cheers, applause and whistles.) And they put forward a gentleman (Mr. Kavanagh)—hisses—a man of signal ability, to plead their cause. And I will do him the justice to say that he has been the very best advocate that the circumstances admitted.

that land is raised in respect to the tenants' improvement. Speaking in his "Realities of Irish Life," at page 63, of the barony of Farran in the county of Monaghan, over which he was their agent, Mr. French tells us that in the year 1808 this whole barony was rented for the yearly sum of £250. What do you suppose is the rental of that barony to-day? The rental of that barony to-day is something like £80,000, and the added value from £250 to £80,000 has been the work of the tenants. Not anything that the landlord has done has added one penny in value to this property. He has tilled not, neither has he sown, and is now in receipt of £80,000 out of a property which in 250 years has been raised by the exertions of these poor people from the value of £250 to £80,000. Mr. French admits that this was done by the exertions of the tenants and not those of the landlords, for he says at page 60: "It was during this period that the native inhabitants, few or some of whom were even displaced by the aristocratic owners of the soil, increased and multiplied to a great extent, and that the waste and wild lands were fenced and enclosed and ultimately converted into the cultivation to meet the wants of this rapidly increasing population, so that in the year 1843, only seventy-four years after the estimated value of the year 1760, the rental of the estate was raised to upward of £10,000, while the inhabitants had increased so that by the census of '41 the population amounted to upwards of 44,000 souls."

peal of the Irish landlords to public opinion in America. In Ireland, he said, they made no appeal because they have force at their back. In closing, Mr. Dillon illustrated the pitiable condition of the Irish peasantry and workingmen—men, he claimed, who work in the shops for eight cents a day, and in some cases fall dead in the streets returning from their labor.

Fermoy came, and I was never served with a notice to quit before this one. His Lordship—That is all you have to say. The Prisoner—That is all, and that was the provocation that made me do it, thrown out homeless on the world by Lord Fermoy when he came there. My father's advice to me was to hold possession of the place. I tell you says he. His Lordship—The less you say about that part of the story the better. The Prisoner—Very well, my lord. His Lordship, on sentencing the prisoner, said the assault was a most atrocious one, and he was not certain that Counsel for the Crown should not have indicted him for felony. Under the statute the prisoner could be sentenced to five years' penal servitude, and the offence was a most serious one to commit in the open face of day, in the streets of this peaceable city of Limerick. The prisoner and Lord Fermoy should be thankful to Almighty God that the blow was not followed with fatal effects. To mark his disapproval of the offence—and except in the way that disapproval affected the moral sense of the community, it would be of no avail to the prisoner if a severe punishment was not imposed—he should pass a heavy sentence. The prisoner should be sent into penal servitude for a period of five years, and his lordship hoped the sentence would be a lesson to O'Shea and other people who wish to redress wrongs, whether real or imaginary, in such a way as the present one was sought to be redressed.—Cork Herald.