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ATTRIBUTE TO MR. BLAKE

NO IRISH PATRIOT HAS DONE NOBLER THINGS FOR ERIN THAN HE.

Freeman's Journal of Dublin Eulogizes His Recent Self-Sacrifice to Cause He Has at Heart—Former Canadian Statesman Always Gave His Compatriots Moderate and Sane Advice—Persistent Patriotism.

The Freeman's Journal of Dublin, in its issue of May 30th, says: "In the County of Longford we have evidence, the practical experience through many years, of what a faithful and devoted representative like Mr. Blake can become to his people, and how strong their attachment can, in the course of time, be to him. Mr. Blake's position in the Irish national movement is unique. He had been known in Ireland, no doubt, as a powerful Canadian friend of Home Rule before he actually joined the Parliamentary party; but it may be said that when he was first elected for Longford he was a stranger to his people. The people of Longford, however, soon found out the calibre of the man they had their representative. He had been leader of the Liberal party in the great Dominion of Canada, but, as a member of the Irish Parliamentary party, he observed the rules of discipline which made that party so powerful in Parliament with as strict punctiliousness as the strictest recruit to its ranks. Through his experience, might have feared making some mistake that would have brought down on him the censures of his leaders. That was the first characteristic of Mr. Blake that appealed to the people of Longford, and to the people of Ireland. From the first he was prepared to shoulder his musket and to march in the ranks, if need be. He came into the fight, in fact, not for glory or gain, but for the deep and profound love he bears the country from which his forbears came. It was not in the nature of things, however, that a man of his commanding ability and long political experience should fail to influence profoundly the counsels of the party. From the beginning his advice was sought; it was always moderate and sane, but always firm and definite. He went through many miserable years with as quiet and firm a determination to see the Irish cause triumphant as if no catastrophe had ever occurred, hoping all ways that the dark days would soon pass. They did, and at last, and found the member for Longford still at his post, still giving to the benefit of the Irish cause in the English Parliament the weight of his influence and individuality. This persistence of patriotism was the second feature in the character of Mr. Blake that appealed to Longford and to Ireland. He had put his hand to the plough, and there was no turning back. And now he gives the final proof of his devotion to Ireland. In his speech yesterday to his constituents he referred to his recent illness, to the fact that the home of his children and his grandchildren is four thousand miles away across the ocean, to old age creeping in on him, 'I have been convinced at last,' he said, 'that I can no longer do all the work that I used to be able to do, and that I have got to give up some of my work, and the choice was before me, therefore, whether I would give up the professional work with which I had been connected for nearly fifty years, or the representation of this constituency. I have decided to give up the one and to stick to the other so long as you want me to stick to you; and, therefore, although with lessened energies, yet with a more concentrated use of those energies for the Irish cause, I hope, as soon as arrangements can be made, and in the course of the next year, to give my single attention to those concerns which you entrust me to represent.' This is a decision the self-sacrifice of which only those who understand the professional position of Mr. Blake can appreciate. From time to time Irish patriots have given up much for the love of Irish liberty, but never, we believe, has any Irish patriot, considering all the circumstances, short of giving up his life, done a nobler thing than this. Mr. Blake, a man who might to-day have been Prime Minister of Canada, gives up entirely a great legal position and large income rather than resign from the ranks of the little army that he rightly believes is keeping, through every criticism and every discouragement, the flag of Irish nationality flying. The people of Longford should be proud, indeed, to have such a member. Mr. Blake's speech to his constituents covered the whole field of Irish affairs as they are at the present time. He dealt at some length with the question of land purchase, showing why it is that Mr. Wyndham's act has not been the success it might have been. First, the Government refused, and still refuses, the necessary amendments demanded by the National Convention. Secondly, the landlord has attempted to play the part of Shylock. 'What the landlord,' he says, 'has been attempting to do is to obtain all the advantage gained by the use of British credit—this money being lent at a moderate rate of interest—as well as all the advantage of the bonus, and to suggest to you to take upon yourselves for the whole of your own lives, and for the lives of the children who live after you, certain fixed burdens as to which you will have an inexorable creditor, the Government of the country, whom you will have to pay to the day, and as to which the credit of all your local funds is charged for the default of anyone amongst you, so that the country, the locality and your neighbors go bail for the defaulters. They want to get all the benefit of that as well. You have therefore a long day to look forward to, and you have to make your bargain a fair and liberal bargain, but a bargain made with due regard to the inexorable nature of it, the length of its term, to the circumstances of agriculture, present and future, and to the consideration of whether it affords you a reasonable chance of seeing in your own day, if you are very young, or seeing, at any rate, daylight for those who come after you. Now, that is a question which is to be disposed of by yourselves, and there is nobody better able when the position is set before them to judge of it than the farmers of the land, but you must never forget that you have always at your back the old safeguard, unsatisfactory as it is, of the judicial rent. You are not shut up to buy on any terms the landlord demands, and to hold your hand many other by the best way, and to demand a second term rent may often be the best way of making a tolerable bargain.' It is to be hoped that the farmers of Ireland will ponder these wise words. Mr. Blake had also some timely remarks to make on the question of the redistribution of grazing lands, on that of the laborers and the town tenants, and his references to Sir Horace Plunkett's schemes for doing away with the necessity for Home Rule will perhaps repay perusal as much as any other part of the long address. The speech is worth studying from beginning to end. It is the pronouncement of a statesman and a patriot, of a man to whom Ireland owes a deep debt of gratitude for wise advice in moments of crisis, and for an unsurpassable devotion to her ideals through all vicissitudes.

THE PLAINS OF ABRAHAM.

Major Woods' Description of the Battle in His Recent Book.

In his recent work, "The Fight for Canada," Major William Woods, of the 8th Royal Rifles, Canadian Militia, secretary Quebec branch of the Navy League, president Literary and Historical Society, Quebec, thus describes the Battle of the Plains: "The bad example of the Canadians was precisely followed by the French, and a scattered fire broke out at some two hundred paces. It was a hurried, nervous, and undisciplined attempt to shake the British at long range before closing in on them for the final charge. And it was all in vain. There stood the long, straight, two-deep line, with shoulder arms—a steadfast, living wall of red, flashing defiance from its steel-pointed crest of bayonets—majestically silent, yet eagerly waiting to seize the long-suspended charge, to fight it out fairly, hand to hand, on equal terms, and in the open field. Closer and closer came the densely massed attacking line of battle, its officers leading it on with the utmost gallantry to the very last; but with its far right and left both meeting away as the Canadians sought their familiar brushwood cover and its French battalions themselves breaking it asunder as they instinctively bore outwards from the centre to save their desperate flank from the overlap of fire and steel. And soon even these tried veterans lost heart a little when they began to near the narrow forty paces where they had to meet that silently expectant line in the death-grapple which was to decide the fate of half America. They still came on, however; though now their thronged white ranks only surged forward a few steps at a time and broke again and again in wild bursts of impetuous and smoky-like baffled waves off a reprotected shore. And as they came, Wolfe's straining eye was measuring every pace of the fast closing interval—a hundred—seventy-five—fifty—forty—'Fire!'—and the first volley thundered from the Grenadiers, being instantly followed by another one from each battalion all down the British line. So perfectly delivered were these famous volleys that they sounded like single discharges of artillery, and so truly aimed that the whole front rank of the enemy went down, almost to a man, before their terrific storm of bullets.

Mastodon Found in Ice.

James H. Startman, popularly known as 'Slim,' who, with Joe Oates, Neudorf to Neudorf, recently found a search on the Koyukuk for Mida Creek, affirms with great deliberation that, in a sort of ice cave, about five miles from the Koyukuk River, a huge mastodon rests enshrouded in a sheet of ice. The natives alleged that he accompanied a number of natives to the cave, and while he did not obtain the exact dimensions of the huge beast, he convinced himself that the extinct animal was there in a good state of preservation. Startman's story is confirmed by Oates, who states that the natives of a village about 400 miles above the Koyukuk's mouth, showed him a lot of mastodon's hair, about five inches long, coarse in fibre and brownish in color. The natives alleged that it was found in the cave, and through an ice-coat of three or four feet thick, the monster of primeval ages could be seen.

Sowing the Seed.

The colporteurs of the Upper Canada Tract Society during May sold 1,774 copies of Scriptures and religious books on their many journeys throughout Ontario.

The Sailors' Rest, or "Snug Harbor," is now fully open for the sailors in Kingston, and will be a great boon to such men. Hearty thanks were received by the directors at a recent meeting in Toronto from Central China for the annual grant of \$500, which keeps 70 native Christian Chinese colporteurs at work in the great Province of Hunan and Hupeh.

Last year these men sold no less than 328,000 Chinese books of many kinds, and 4,000 copies of the Scriptures, with \$1,000 French versions of the Word of God. Well might the Rev. Dr. John say at the late annual meeting in Hankow, "Our best thanks are due to the Religious Tract Society of Upper Canada for its valuable help."

"It is strange that the people of his time did not pay more attention to Noah's warning." "Perhaps they had had experience with weather prophets."

CAN'T SAY ENOUGH IN THEIR FAVOR

Why Miss Gusty V. Campbell Recommends Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets to all her Friends who have Stomach Troubles.

"I cannot say enough in favor of Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets," so says Miss Gusty V. Campbell, Little Shippegan, Gloucester, Co. N. B. Of course Miss Campbell has reasons for making a statement like this and here they are: "I suffered from Dyspepsia for two months and was always getting worse till advertisements led me to use Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. One box cured me and I can honestly recommend them to anyone suffering from Dyspepsia. The moral of this is that if you take your stomach trouble before it gets too firm a grip it is easily cured by Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. One box cured Miss Campbell. But as in Miss Campbell's case, stomach trouble if neglected always grows worse, in its worst stages it takes time to cure it. But Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets will do it."

THE DEAR CHILDREN.

Some of the Funny Things They Do and Say in British Schools.

Of an equally unexpected nature was an answer which a teacher received from a lad during a lesson on "Moses and the burning bush." The master asked: "What was it that Moses had to do when standing before the burning bush?" "Take off his shoes," replied one scholar. "And after that?" "Oh," replied the next lad, "take off his stockings and warm his feet!"

In a lesson on the prodigal son, a schoolmistress got a very amusing answer in connection with the surly conduct of the righteous brother who had never gone astray. "How did the envious brother behave while the prodigal was being feasted inside their father's house?" the lady asked. "He wouldn't go into the party," replied one mite of a girl, "but stopped outside and peeped through the letterbox to see what was going on."

The following anecdotes seem to show that teachers nowadays have special difficulties with Bible subjects. A diocesan inspector in the course of his examination asked the question: "How is the date of Good Friday determined?" Presently one boy answered: "It is the date when Christmas day happens to fall on a Friday."

"No, next boy," said the inspector. "It is the day when Jesus was born and children are good," was the reply. In connection with this same day, too, another inspector had occasion to ask the question: "What is the date of Good Friday?"

"Why do bakers place a cross on the buns that are to be eaten on Good Friday?"

And one business-like lad replied: "So that he'll know his own buns again if any boy steals them!"

During a lesson on the origin of Palm Sunday, a lady teacher asked her class of boys and girls: "What was the people's idea in scattering palm branches in the road?"

And one lad, who evidently considered the question quite easy, replied: "So as to trip the donkey up, ma'am!"

Another inspector got a still more extraordinary piece of information from a school lad during an examination in French grammar. "How is it that the French have not a possessive case?" he asked. "The French would have possession if they could, sir," answered the lad, jumbling up his grammar and history together, "but the Germans won't let them!"

Had Greatness Thrust Upon Him.

A recent issue of The London Star had the following: Capt. E. T. Troubridge, R.N., late Naval Attaché at Tokio, a relative of Sir T. H. C. Troubridge, and a descendant of the gallant admiral who distinguished himself so highly at the battle of St. Vincent, is in the category of those who have greatness thrust upon them. In the morning paper of the 4th June, a report from the New York correspondent of a London paper was telegraphed from St. Petersburg, in which it was stated that: "Capt. Troubridge is responsible for Admiral Togo's successes, having planned the night attack on Port Arthur, and being present at it in person."

In view of the possibility that misunderstanding may be caused were this statement to remain uncontradicted, Capt. Troubridge writes to The Times from an address no further east than Chelsea, to say: "I was not responsible for Admiral Togo's successes; I did not plan the night attack on Port Arthur, and I was not present at it in person." This is fairly categorical and conclusive.

Destructive Ivy.

A striking lesson as to the destructive effects of the unchecked growth of ivy can now be seen a few miles to the north of London. A fine old parish church has been wrecked by this green parasite, which has been too long encouraged from a false idea of picturesque beauty—the old Essex church of All Saints, Chingford. Last February, in the midst of bleak, windy weather, a crash came; the whole roof of the nave and south aisle collapsed in a complete wreck, shaking and imperilling the walls, which are bound speedily to follow.—Athensum.

Minard's Liniment—Lumberman's Friend.

SALVATION OF IRELAND

NEW MOVEMENT WHICH HAS SENSE OF INTERDEPENDENCE.

Within the Past Fifteen Years Politics Has Become More Practical, Religion Has Become More Tolerant, and Education Is Being Seriously Grappled With—Has Touched Secret Chord of Irish Nationality.

(By Sir Gilbert Parker.)

Within the last decade in Ireland politics has shown an inclination to be practical, religion has become more tolerant, the question of education is at last being seriously and anxiously grappled with, and a new sense of the interdependence of all sections, creeds, interests and parties in Ireland is by way of being evolved.

Nevertheless to a detached observer it could not but be plain the politics, religion and the various systems of education in their respective influences upon the people had missed to a large extent the effect upon character which it was their national office to produce. Something new and different was palpably required, not to act independently of other forces, but to concentrate and supplement them, and it was in the deep conviction that the Irish character only needed the right appeal in order to put forth a great recuperative vitality that some fifteen years ago Sir Horace Plunkett launched his movement of organized self help entitled the Irish Agricultural Organization Society.

That society has grown until it now embraces over 8,000 branches and nearly half a million persons; its co-operative creameries, dairies, poultry societies, agricultural banks and home industries societies have spread all over the island. With the admirable assistance and stimulus of the Gaelic League it has touched the secret chord of Irish nationality, strengthened the backbone and increased the prosperity of the Irish peasant; it is insulating the thrift, responsibility and businesslike habits, it is founding libraries, reviving the rural arts and handicrafts and bringing back to the countryside something of the old Irish joyousness; its success and Sir Horace Plunkett's determination led to the recent committee and the creation of the new Government department of agriculture and technical instruction, and by mitigating the asperities of politics it fostered that spirit of moderation and compromise which alone made the Land Act possible.

What is the secret of its success? It will be found to lie in its happy conjunction of economic fact and national sentiment.

The form the new movement should take was from its beginning prescribed by that characteristic of the Irish people which he was the first to merely to appreciate, but to utilize—their clanishness. The Irish have the associative qualities; then, said Sir Horace Plunkett in effect, let them associate. The Irish problem is primarily an agricultural problem; then let them associate in agriculture—the sphere of all others, as Italy, Denmark and indeed, most European countries have shown, where the co-operative principle is of peculiar value.

Such was the central idea of the reformer's policy—profound in its practical simplicity, and above all, in its consonance with the inherited traditions of the people. Once let this idea fill the national mind and the centre of Irish interests is insensibly shifted from Westminster to Ireland, for the self help movement opens up outside of religion and politics a sphere of action where the country may exercise a new independence.

It is an effort to expand the sentiment of nationality outside the domain of party controversies, a conscious attempt of the Irish to develop a civilization of their own.

In places, literally as well as figuratively, the recreation of Ireland in Irish hands. Overriding sectional, religious and political divisions, it shakes for unity in the solution of problems in which all Irishmen will in time realize that they have a common interest. Constructive, human and patriotic, it is the happiest omen which this generation has witnessed of an Ireland that all true nationalists desire, an Ireland responsible and enterprising, occupied less with the abstractions and more with the humdrum realities of existence.

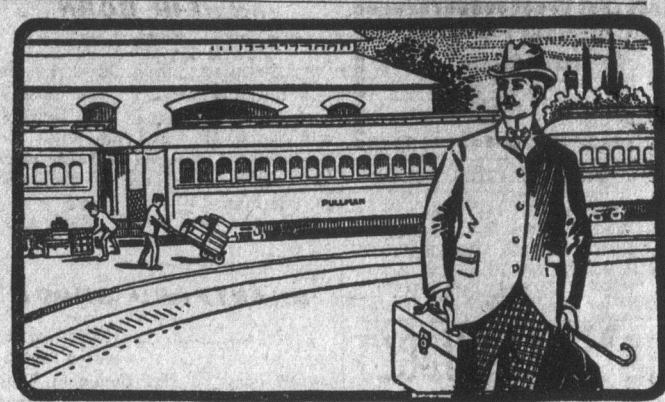
In short, we desire a prosperous but none the less a distinctively Irish Ireland.

Insect Resembles a Flower.

Living specimens of a queer insect have lately been shown in Cambridge, England. They were brought from Rangoon, by Captain C. E. Williams. The insect is a species of mantis, and its body and legs are both shaped and colored to resemble a beautiful flower. It feeds on butterflies, and while it is lying in wait for them under a spray of leaves it looks exactly like a blue blossom with a black spot in the centre resembling the tube of a corolla. The back part of its body is drawn out into a long green stalk. The resemblance to a flower is perfect, and butterflies and other insects light on it in search of nectar and are immediately seized by its fatal claws.

Keep the Pullets.

The advantages of retaining the early pullets for fall and winter egg production have been repeatedly stated. Early pullets will lay in their first year five times as many eggs as old hens. The cost of feed will be practically the same for the pullets as for the hens. The profit from the pullets will be correspondingly greater. The most promising utility-type pullets, should be selected in July, fed liberally so that early winter laying may be encouraged, and later on placed in comfortable winter quarters. Transferring mature pullets to a strange pen defers egg production.



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