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A MEMORABLE DIVISION.

Scene in the House of Commons when the Government Was Beaten.

A Parliamentary correspondent, describing the scene in the House of Commons after the recent division which resulted in a Government defeat, says: It was apparent when the House filed for the division that there was an exceptionally large muster on the Liberal side, although while the debate was proceeding the Opposition benches had been no fuller than usual. As the division proceeded there were evidences of growing excitement, the members on both sides returning to their places in the House instead of going out, as they almost invariably do after the last division of the night. The Ministerial whips came in before the whips of the Irish party, who were telling for the motion for the reduction of the Land Commission vote. There was instantaneously an outburst of cheering on the Opposition benches, but it was as quickly checked, members evidently fearing that they had been too precipitate. But immediately after an Irish member rushed in from the Opposition lobby, shouting "The Government is defeated!" and there was at once a terrific cheer. Then, as the tellers advanced to the table to announce the figures and the Clerk handed the paper to Sir Thomas Esmonde, thus denoting that he was the winning teller, the whole Opposition and Irish Party rose in their places and rent the air with a perfect tornado of cheering, waving of hats, handkerchiefs and papers, while Sir Thomas Esmonde, with Captain Doney, Ian by his side, both of them smiling cheerfully, stood with the two defeated and palpably dejected Ministerial tellers, waiting for the storm to subside before formally declaring the numbers. There they stood while the members on the Opposition benches exhausted themselves in manifestations of delight, while Ministers, one and all, looking ghastly and desperately perturbed, sat with folded arms, trying to appear unconcerned. Mr. Balfour was not in his place, but as the demonstration continued he was forced to come from his room, and his appearance was the signal for a fresh and more furious burst of cheering, directed especially at him. He walked with slow, dramatic steps to his seat, carefully arranged the tails of his coat, and threw himself back on the bench, but the face he turned to the House was distorted with excitement and anger. Poor Sir Acland Hood sat next him, deeply studying the notice paper, a pathetic figure; while Mr. Arthur Lyttelton and Mr. Auston Chamberlain, confronted with the possibility of ejection from office, were pitifully overwrought and dejected. At last there was silence, and Sir Thomas Esmonde, in a clear, steady voice, read out the figures—199 for the reduction, and 196 against—a near thing, but the balance was stopped against the Government, which is the important matter. Again there was a roar of cheers, and cries of "Balfour! Balfour!" "Resign! resign!" rang out in the midst of the din. Mr. Balfour, however, showed no intention of rising; and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, uproariously cheered, asked whether he had any statement to make in view of what had just happened. Mr. Balfour rose slowly, while his followers cheered him in a faint-hearted way, and he said that if he had any statement to make he could not make it on that occasion. His followers and his colleagues who evidently expected that he would have stated at once that he intended to ignore the vote just given, looked anxious at this announcement. Mr. Redmond then rose—his voice was hoarse after his speech in the afternoon—and at once put the situation before the House with his usual force. He pointed out that the vote just given had followed almost a day after the Prime Minister had specially summoned his followers to improve them to ensure him against defeat in the House of Commons. For over two years, said Mr. Redmond, amid enthusiastic cheers, the country on every opportunity afforded it had

THE FRENCH "SEPARATION" CAMPAIGN.

The following article on the so-called Separation Bill, which was passed by the French Chamber of Deputies recently, is from the Saturday Review, of London, July 8:

On Monday at midnight—the hour of crime—the French Parliament voted the text of the Revised Bill for the separation of the churches from the State—whereby the Republic lightly endorsed an act of the weightiest consequence, not only to France herself, but also to the rest of Europe. It would, however, be premature to say that the Bill is "passed," or that the separation is accomplished: for it will have to go before the Senate, where its passage may be obstructed for a very long time, during which the general election (which is within sight) may overthrow the whole scheme, since it is not as popular as the Socialists, Radicals, Atheists, and their chief organ, La Lanterne, intend the uninitiated to believe. Four million eight hundred and seventy-two thousand persons, all of them over twenty-one years of age, have already signed a petition against the Bill; and, as Le Temps observes, the Catholics may, in due course, turn the scale at the future election, and a Moderate, if not exactly a Catholic, majority replace the present anticlerical Bloc. Once returned to even a modified degree of power, the Opposition might follow the methods of M. Combes' all-too-famous majority, as hidden by its leaders, and with surprising results.

But we will for the sake of argument consider the Bill as passed, and the churches as absolutely separated from the State, as M. Aristide Briand or even M. Combes would desire; what then? The Church will not be killed by this measure, and the "human conscience," to quote M. Bienvenc Martin, will not therefore be any the more "emancipated." Unfortunately French Socialism, by allying itself with atheism, has sown noxious weeds in its own political garden, and anti-clericalism is beginning to prove an undesirable growth even to an ultra-Radical Republic. When, a fortnight ago, France suddenly realized that she was within sight of a war with her ancient foe on the other side of the Rhine, a thrill of terror passed over the land at the mere thought that whilst engrossed in the specious work of dechristianizing the nation and hustling monks and nuns up and down the country, the politicians in power had demoralized the army, neglected the navy, and left the frontiers almost unprotected. Things have quieted down since then, but, none the less, there is a feeling of unrest abroad which makes thinking people dread the passage of a law that may eventually lead to internal divisions and disorders even more serious than those which agitate France at the present time. True, the Bill as it stands has been considerably modified in a liberal sense, and there now appears little danger of the cathedrals and churches being seized and converted into music halls and meeting houses, and even the religious processions are not to be abolished. But the bishops and priests will be subjected to a very strict police supervision; the laws admirably framed to silence them, should they say a word likely to offend their Prefect or their Mayor, are already existent. La Lanterne intimates that "it only accepts the Bill as it stands as a preliminary; we must silence the priests, and prevent them, even in their pulpits, from infusing any more of the virus of religion into the minds of the people for if we do not kill the Church, the Church will kill the Republic." Evidently La Lanterne sees a rock ahead which the over-zealous Deputies who sit on the Left and the Extreme Left have overlooked. Surely when the clergy are no longer paid by the State and have to pay the same taxes as other citizens, it would be monstrous to prevent their freely expressing their political opinions however opposed these may be to those of the majority temporarily

BELGIUM AND IRELAND.

The recent pilgrimage to Fontenoy has brought Belgium prominently before the minds of Irishmen, says one of the pilgrims in the Dublin Freeman's Journal. Such a visit as that which has just been paid has a two-fold value: It is valuable because it reminds Irishmen of a glorious episode in the country's history, and, therefore, helps to cultivate that pride in our country's past which is one of the most precious of a nation's possessions. But it has a more practical and immediate value as regards our present and our future. Belgium bears many resemblances to Ireland: It is a small country; it is a predominantly, nay, an almost exclusively, Catholic country; it is a country which, though it has manufacturing, relies chiefly on its agriculture for the support of its population; its agriculture is carried on on a similar scale to that on which it is, or might be, carried on in Ireland. The tillage of Belgium bears no resemblance to that of the vast wheat-growing plains of America; it is a country of small farms; machinery is not, and, indeed, could not be employed to work the land; it is cultivated by hand labor. With what wonderful care and with what extraordinary success this kind of cultivation is carried on those who have just visited Belgium can testify. In the district round Fontenoy the houses are clustered thick all along our route; we were hardly ever out of sight of them, and the space between Tournai and Antoin seemed almost like a continuous street. And their number is not more remarkable than their cleanliness and tidiness, and the air of prosperity which manifests itself everywhere. Equally remarkable is the thrift which shows itself in the arrangement of the fields. No hedges, or fences, or stone walls; no corners cut off by subdivision, as in Ireland; no entile (with few exceptions), grazing in the fields, for all the cattle in Belgium are stall-fed. In fact, not an inch of ground seems to be wasted anywhere; and while the diversity of an Irish landscape certainly makes it more picturesque, still man does not live by the landscape, and we may be sometimes excused for wishing that, without sacrificing any of our poetry, we had a little more prosperity. Belgium, of course, enjoys many advantages which Ireland does not yet possess. She has a peasant proprietary; she is without, so far as can be discovered, anything in the nature of an idle class; and she has self-government. We may hope that the time is not far distant when every inch of the soil of Ireland will be owned by the people of Ireland, and when such a thing as a class living in idleness on the produce of the labor of others will no longer exist within our shores. The attainment of self-government may be longer deferred, but its advent is none the less certain. Then, and then only, will Ireland have a perfectly free hand to do what Belgium has been enabled to do, and there can surely be no doubt that we have the capacity to do it. But even under our present conditions much can be done. We cannot fold our hands and wait till the millennium dawns. The work of building a nation must go on here and now. And, therefore, it seems to me that Ireland has many lessons to learn from Belgium, and that the application of methods such as are followed in this and in other Continental countries may do much to stop the ruinous flow of emigration, which is Ireland's greatest danger to-day. It would seem, then, of the utmost importance to bring Irishmen to a larger extent than has yet been done into touch with Continental life. Such an excursion as that to Fontenoy might be profitably organized every year, for there are many places of Irish interest in France and in other countries on the Continent which would well repay a visit. Our agricultural experts, too, might do more in the way of visiting Continental countries and studying the methods practiced there. Such study might be especially valuable in regard to the question of transit. The State-owned railways of Bel-

ENGLAND'S IRISH POLICY.

It is difficult for an outsider to understand England's policy in Ireland. A few recent happenings illustrate that fact. On May 20 a dinner was given in Dublin by Irish Tories in honor of Mr. Long, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant. The Duke of Abercorn, who presided, introduced Mr. Long "as a statesman who was among them to protect the liberties and property of the peaceful and loyal population, and to put down the conspiracies of the disloyal population." In the Duke's opinion, no improvement in the country could be effected "until ordinary liberty and order were secured." The Chief Secretary, in a lengthy speech, covering more than three columns of the daily newspapers, declared that he "coincided with the Duke's opinion." He scored the Earl of Dufferin's project of "Devolution" as quasi-self-government, veiled Home Rule, and accused the Earl of "drifting down that road which others before him have followed who have begun their downward career by the policy of surrender to the forces of disorder." His whole speech is of like tone. If one were to judge from these utterances, Ireland must be seething in conspiracy and crime. But, on the other hand, some startling facts arrest our judgment. Within the month immediately preceding the Duke's Chief Secretary's speech the county court judges for Sligo, Kerry and Westmeath, whose jurisdiction practically corresponds to superior judges in Massachusetts, were each presented with white gloves by the sheriff, a symbol that the criminal docket was blank; that there were no criminals to be tried. And four days after the Tory banquet in Dublin, on Wednesday, May 24, the county court judge for Louth, W. H. Kisby, was presented by the sub-sheriff with a pair of white gloves, emblematic of the crimeless condition of that county. Judge Kisby, acknowledging the presentation, said from the bench that "over and over again, sometimes for three and sometimes for four sessions of the year," he was presented with white gloves, a fact which spoke well of the people of the county. No criminal docket in at least four Irish counties within a month makes a curious contrast to the Duke's and Chief Secretary's deliveries.—Boston Transcript.

PASSING OF THE WINE CELLAR.

(From the London Express.)

One of the leading wine merchants in Pall Mall told an Express representative that the keeping of a wine cellar was a declining fashion. "No longer is it considered essential to the dignity and good name of the country squire or the owner of a mansion to have a good wine cellar," he said. "Our men frequently find the bins quite empty. "Flats and the camera are among the minor contributory causes of this new feature of the mansion wine bin. A person living in a flat is obliged to order a little at a time, and families living in mansions often find that the cellar makes an excellent dark-room. "At the bottom of it all, however, lies the great fact that the 'two bottle' man is nearly extinct, and that the great bulk of the community are far more temperate than ever before." The national drink bill has fallen during the last five years by no less than £16,940,002.

A FAMOUS IRISH WOMAN IN LONDON.

The typical representative of modern education for women in the British Islands is an Irish woman, Dr. Sophie Bryant, successor to the late lamented Miss Buss, a famous educational pioneer, as principal of the North London Collegiate School for Girls, perhaps the chief establishment of its kind in England. Dr. Bryant is by birth a Dublin woman, the daughter of the late Rev. W. A. Willock, D.D., Fellow of Trinity College. She had the good fortune to have a father who was keenly interested in education, and who was, what is even now rare in Ireland, a man who raised no barrier of sex in educational matters, and treated boys and girls alike as human souls deserving and worthy of sound knowledge. The fact of little Sophie being a girl was never considered an obstacle to participation in the mathematical studies of her brother, or in philosophy, in both of which subjects she excelled. She says herself: "It had never been suggested to me in my life that I had not an equal birthright to knowledge with my brother. Hence it happened most naturally that I was an early candidate for the Senior Local Examination, out of which came my acquaintance with Miss Buss." At the time she first met Miss Buss, Mrs. Bryant was already a widow. She married Dr. William Hicks Bryant, of Plymouth, at nineteen, and lost her husband by death within a year, when she resumed her work as a student. "The girl whose chief subject is mathematics," as Miss Buss designated her, when she first attracted that lady's attention in 1879, took second place in honors at the London Matriculation. She graduated B.A. in 1881, taking first place in the First Class in the Moral Science Honors list, and a Second Class in Mathematics. In 1884 she took her degree of D.Sc., Doctor of Science, of the London University, being the first woman to attain this distinction.—Charlotte O'Connor Eccles, in Donahoe's for August.

FATHER SLOAN ON TEMPERANCE

In St. Bridget's Church, Ottawa, on Sunday, last, Very Rev. Canon Sloan, in announcing the re-organization of the Father Mathew Temperance Society, urged the mothers and daughters of the parish to do their utmost toward strengthening the society by encouraging the men and boys to join and continue in it. His remarks were strongly worded, and he laid particular emphasis on the fact that intemperance is the curse not only of the world in general, but of the Irish race especially.

THE STATE-OWNED RAILWAYS OF BELGIUM.

The State-owned railways of Belgium are extraordinarily cheap in their rates both for passenger traffic and for the conveyance of agricultural produce. And it is certain that transit in Ireland must be cheapened if Irish producers are to be given a fair chance. The contrast between the cheapness and efficiency of Belgian railways and the ruinous competition and high rates that exist at home is a strong argument for the nationalization of Irish railways. Belgium, with an area one-third that of Ireland, supports a population of over 7,000,000. It is the most thickly peopled and the most rapidly increasing country in Europe. What might not Ireland do if her resources were properly developed?

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