

count, and the surmises or assertions of Colonel Evarard. The fact of the murder, too, was stated by him. It may be thought that this statement is a truism. I believe it, nevertheless. A person was murdered, ergo some one must have murdered him, ergo the prisoner's previous good character was generally known, but there was no one to testify to it. The evidence of the new master had been against him, the boys were too young to speak for him with sufficient weight. If Ned was innocent, it was perhaps one of the most unfortunate complications of circumstances possible.

The jury retired, and people began to talk freely to each other, and calculate the possible verdict. Ned had again assumed his sullen and unconcerned look.

They came out, but it only was to ask the doctor a question—Was it possible that the rifle shot could have been fired from the hedge?

The doctor replied rather crossly, that it was not possible.

The jury went back to consult again. Half an hour passed.

Some of the people got tired and went away. After all, it was not a question of life and death to them. They might as well feel a general anxiety or kind interest in the decision for Ned's sake; but what was their anxiety or their interest to his!

The jury returned. It was now dark, but candles had been lighted all through the hall, and the sea of faces looked unearthly in their yellow light.

The foreman announced the verdict—"GUILTY OF WILFUL MURDER!"

The coroner expected it. He turned to Rushen:

"Ned Rushen, it is my duty to commit you to jail, to stand your trial at the next assizes for the awful murder of Lord Elm-dale. I have you anything to say?"

"Nothing, sir, except that I am innocent—so help me God, and His Holy Mother!"

All the great people went home to dinner; all the poor people went home to their poor fare as served for their daily portion; but there were few who did not regret the verdict.

The jury had been indeed on the very point of giving an open verdict when some sensible person suggested that, as there was the least doubt, it was best to send Ned to jail. It was, he said, as if they were giving a verdict as assizes; he would have another chance. If he were guilty, it was well to secure him, or he might fly the country; if he were innocent, probably some evidence in his favor would turn up before then.

The rest of the jurors agreed, the idea appeared so excellent—at least, it seemed a safe and pleasant solution of a very unpleasant difficulty. They never thought of the terrible degradation to an innocent man to be condemned as guilty. They never thought of the blasting of his character for life, and the probable consequences for his future—worse, far worse, if he were innocent, than if he were guilty.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF CRIME.

I think Edward is right, Mary. It would be better for us to leave this; in fact, as you know, the place is his, and as he has determined to go abroad, we cannot remain here without his consent: we have hardly a choice.

Lady Elm-dale was much changed since that day of sorrow,—still more so since the December night when she had welcomed her boys with all a mother's love and all a mother's pride. There were silver threads now in the little braid of hair which showed under the edge of her cap of widowhood, and you could see the blue veins, like a network of enamel, in her thin, transparent hands.

It was the first week in February. The day was dark and cold; but the actual severity of winter had passed away, though fires were still a necessity rather than a luxury—to the rich, at least.

"I suppose, mamma, if we must, we must," replied Mary Elm-dale, who did not appear to take any very warm interest in the matter.

Elm-dale Castle had never been a home to her. True, she was born there, and she had spent her babyhood and early childhood there; but she was not so young to school in England, that the hundred anxieties of tenderness and love which depend upon the earliest trifles, and insensibly form that link, or rather those links of attachment which bind the young to whatever place they call home, had no existence for her. She had for her mother a very ladylike, and very proper affection, but there was nothing very demonstrative about it. Indeed, any strong demonstrations of affection would have been considered unbecoming and unfashionable in the establishment in which she received her educational training, and such moral instruction as was supposed to befit her future position in life.

The mother did not perceive the want of childlike love in her daughter; she certainly did not cultivate it. Possibly, if the girl had manifested it sooner, she would have repressed it unconsciously. The affection of the twins had satisfied her, but now it was all changed. She wanted a daughter's love, but now that she desired it, and craved for it in her dire affliction, she found it did not exist,—at least in the degree which could have afforded her any comfort.

Edward went his own way, as he always had done, but now more so than ever. Some angry words had passed between him and his mother after the trial, when he announced his determination to go abroad, perhaps for years. He could not stay, he would not stay in Ireland; he hated the place. Perhaps he might be shot himself next.

He was his own master; and when Lady Elm-dale found that gentle expostulation was useless, she held her peace—the wisest proceeding under the circumstances; but she had persuaded him to remain at least a few weeks, and he consented, though with difficulty. That morning at breakfast he had told her, in no very gentle language, that he would leave Elm-dale that day week, and she supposed she would prefer leaving also, as it would be necessary to shut up the greater part of the castle. He had already made his arrangements.

"When do you wish me to leave, Edward?"

"The young man had not said, in so many words, that his mother must go elsewhere, but she quite understood him, and he intended she should."

"Well, mother, of course I do not wish to turn you out," he replied, with some attempt at ordinary courtesy at least; "but I have everything arranged. Barnes will stay here in charge of this place, and I suppose you and Mary can pack up in a few days—that is, if you wish to go elsewhere."

"I wish to go! I knew perfectly his mother wished nothing of the kind; but, like many another self-deceiver, he tried to persuade himself that her expulsion was not at all his doing."

"The truth is," he continued, perceiving that his mother was grave and silent, "the assizes come on immediately, and I must be clear out of the country; for I would rather shoot myself than give evidence in the case again."

Lady Elm-dale had no particular fear of his carrying out this threat, but she saw at once

that it would be desirable for all the family to be away at such a time, and she said so.

"Certainly, Edward; I think you are right. I can be prepared in a few days, and I suppose you would like a few days to yourself here after we have left."

He said a day would do. Everything was arranged, and he seemed much relieved that his mother took his proposal so quietly.

She asked him if he intended to take a servant with him. He replied that those Irish fellows were such confounded talkers, he wished to get away from every one who knew anything about—the place. He would engage a servant when he arrived in Paris, a foreigner would suit him best; and then Lady Elm-dale rose and went to her daughter, seeking unconsciously for sympathy and support, and not finding it.

Mary Elm-dale was a fair sight for any mother's eye. A delicate maiden, delicate almost to paleness; and yet, as in sometimes the case where appearances are thus, not in such very bad health as might have been supposed from her frail looks.

The poor girl had received a fearful shock at her father's death, and had for several weeks been in a precarious state; but Dr. Kelly was kind and skillful, her mother was an excellent nurse, her own maid, Rose, a good attendant, and she had youth on her side, and that buoyancy of spirit which is rarely indeed crushed down in early life.

She was lying now, more from habitual indolence than from necessity, on a sofa in her mother's dressing room; and, as I have said, she was as fair a sight as you could see. The rich crimson velvet of the cushions on which she lay relieved the long white Cashmere dressing robe in which she was wrapped. A broad blue sash fastened it round her waist, and a narrow blue band fastened it at the throat, chosen in the days, not so long ago, when the girl took pleasure in bright colors, and, with rare taste, knew how to select and harmonize them. The ribbons had not been changed for black ones. The maid thought they became Miss Elm-dale so well, she was determined not to alter the old arrangement without a special order. Her mother perhaps agreed with the maid—at least, she said nothing. Mary had not thought of the matter at all. She was one of those who like to be tastefully arrayed, who take pains to array themselves tastefully, and yet who do not give over-much consideration to the vanities of dress. It was an instinct of her refined nature, rather than an effort of a frivolous mind.

Freddy was in the room. The twins seemed to avoid their mother by mutual consent and this could scarcely be otherwise; but they avoided each other. When their mother began to notice this, it seemed very unaccountable, but nevertheless it was true.

The boy was half sitting, half leaning against his sister's sofa, and just as Lady Elm-dale entered he exclaimed, "O Mary, how pretty you look!" Her very long, golden colored hair, free from the trammels of art, had been left to stray at its own sweet will in natural waves of glittering sheen far below her waist. She had caught the uncombed mass in her left hand, and thrown it back with the careless grace so perfectly natural to her, as she half raised herself on the sofa to examine some of Freddy's treasures, which he had brought to show her, some shells he had gathered the day before on the beach at Dalkey.

The hair had fallen partly over her right shoulder, and partly in rich folds over her right arm. Her clear bright eyes were raised, in asking a question, to her brother's face, and he thought for the moment he had never seen eyes so beautiful. The trace of delicacy remained, perhaps always would remain, in the transparent skin, with just a flush of color, enough to say that there was some still left for summer airs to call forth more vividly. Her lips, apart, were asking the question by their very expression, as much as by the words which came forth from these open portals of human intercourse.

It was no wonder that Freddy had exclaimed, "O Mary, how pretty you look!" "Where is Harry?" inquired Lady Elm-dale. "I don't know, mother," the boy replied, still remaining where he knelt. "I seldom see him now," he added, with something as like a sigh as a boy could utter.

Lady Elm-dale did not press the matter further. She could not understand Harry's present mood, but she thought it best to leave him to himself.

She supposed the shock of his father's death had reacted upon a very sensitive nature, and that in time he would be her own bright boy again.

There was silence for some moments' space. Freddy had ceased his conversation when his mother came into the room—not from any dislike to continuing it when she was present, but from a sense, which he always felt now, that any cheerful talking was incongruous when she was listening.

Mary Elm-dale was wishing she might return to school again, but she knew it was not possible, for she had taken final leave of her mother and her young companions before Christmas. She was wondering where her mother would take her, and if they really should leave Elm-dale in a few days. Freddy was thinking how pleasant it would be to go back to college, and hoping Harry would get all right again when he was with the boys. Lady Elm-dale was musing sadly upon Edward's future, and wishing she had made home pleasanter to him in past times, wishing she had taken some pains to have him married; and then she thought of Ellie McCarthy, and wondered whether it would have been better if he had been allowed to take his own way in this affair; but her natural good sense convinced her, after a short reflection, that such a marriage would only have increased the miseries and complications of the family. However good the girl might have been, she could not have had the influence over him that an educated lady might have possessed.

Lady Elm-dale's maid came to the door at this moment, and broke the reveries of the three dreamers.

"A note, my lady. It's Colonel Evarard's servant has brought it, and he waits for an answer."

It was simply a request that, if Lady Elm-dale would be disengaged between 12 and 1 o'clock, she would favor Colonel Evarard with a private interview. He added a request that she would not give herself the trouble to write; he had sent his own servant, and a verbal message would be quite sufficient.

Lady Elm-dale knew the man. "Oh, yes, Rose," she replied, after hastily glancing at the contents of the note. "Tell Thomas I can see his master at any time he finds it convenient to call. I shall not leave the house to-day."

The Colonel arrived, with that military precision which he loved to practice and to enforce, at the exact hour which he had named. There was precision in his manner, in his words, in his very habits. Surely this was not the fashion in which a girl like Mary Elm-dale was to be wooed and won.

Her mother had observed her color deepen when she handed her the note, and suggested that the Colonel had perhaps some important business to speak of, and under any circumstances she should be glad to see him before she left Elm-dale.

Mary said nothing, but Lady Elm-dale thought a good deal.

"I have done myself the honor to call upon you, Lady Elm-dale, and to appoint an hour, that I might see you alone, and without interruption."

Lady Elm-dale could only bow a reply. What was the object of this carefully-worded speech?

Colonel Evarard, however, did not appear to require any encouragement to proceed, and perhaps did not expect it, for he continued—"I heard quite accidentally yesterday, or to be more exact—and I am a great advocate for precision, even in words—I became aware, through a most fortunate circumstance, that your son was going to leave Ireland immediately; and I came to solicit"—he paused, and looked at Lady Elm-dale as if he could read in her expressive face what she might think of his proposal—"to solicit your interference in the cause of justice."

Lady Elm-dale, being thoroughly trained in all the requirements of polite society, a very principal part of which consists in making no undue manifestation of feeling, did not start and utter an exclamation audibly. But she did start mentally, and she did make an exclamation to herself. In reply to Colonel Evarard, she could only bow once more.

(To be continued.)

A WORTHY TESTIMONIAL

TO THE ZEAL OF REV. FATHER STANTON BY THE CATHOLICS OF WESTPORT AND BEDFORD.

On Sunday last the Catholics of Westport and Bedford testified in a singular manner their respect and esteem for the Rev. M. J. Stanton, who has recently been appointed pastor of Smith's Falls. The addresses presented speak eloquently of the place which Father Stanton has won in the hearts of his people. Immediately after Mass this popular and beloved clergyman received and replied to two addresses, one on behalf of the congregation, read by Mr. John Whelan, and that on behalf of the Children of the Mission by Miss Jane O'Hara.

In the former address the Catholics of Westport and Bedford, after expressing their deep regret at the appointment of their pastor to Smith Falls, go on to say that, "in your removal from Westport, to assume the charge with which our beloved and distinguished bishop has entrusted you, we cannot help feeling that keen pang of sorrow which invariably accompanies the parting from us of one whom we have learned to esteem and love, and who, like you, has proved to be a steadfast, generous friend, the kind, solicitous father. In you we readily saw the qualities that, in every clime and country and circumstance, characterize the true shepherd."

During the years you have been with us the work you have undertaken and successfully carried out called for administrative ability of no common order, for unquenchable zeal, for unflinching energy. The stately tower and spire of the handsome Westport and Bedford church, as the results of one of his fine buildings erected, as the result of a great measure of the other, speak and will ever continue to speak of your unselfish devotion to our interests; and, long after the memory of the work and anxiety they cost will have faded away, the fulfillment of that noble and holy purpose which has called them into being, will, we are convinced, be the best and brightest reward to which you could look forward, as it will rebound to the greater glory of God and His Church.

In asking your acceptance of the accompanying purse, we trust that you will not regard its contents as anything more than the feeble and inadequate expression of the good will, the grateful feelings, the affectionate wishes that go along with it.

This address was signed on behalf of the Catholics of the mission of Westport and Bedford by Messrs. J. Whelan, Wm. Bird, Jas. H. Martin, Westport; Messrs. Andrew McCann, Michael McCann, Sr., James Bennett, Thomas Lynch, James Kane, James Speagle, North Crosby, members of the church committee.

In the address of the children they gave expression to the sorrow which filled their hearts at losing such a true and loving father, and referred to the holy precepts inculcated into them in preparing for their holy Communion and Confirmation. In conclusion they requested the Reverend Father to accept the assurance that, though absent from them, they would never forget him in their prayers, which, with their best wishes, would follow him to his new home and expressed the hope that God would grant him many long and happy years and bless him with success in all his undertakings. The address was signed on behalf of the children of the mission of Westport and Bedford by Messrs. O'Hara, Minnie, Donnelly, Minnie, McCann, Bird, Bird, James Kelly, James Donnelly, James Murphy and Willie Bird.

To this address Rev. Father Stanton made a touching and affectionate reply, assuring the children that although absent from them, everything concerning them would always have a special interest for him and command his services.

In reply to the address from the congregation, Rev. Father Stanton said:

THE REPLY OF FATHER STANTON. Gentlemen of the Church Committee, and Dear Friends,—I beg to tender you my heartfelt and grateful thanks for the exceedingly kind, if not flattering, address with which you have presented me, and for the generous gift accompanying it.

The pain of parting from old friends—from those whom we have learned to love and in whose welfare we have come to feel an intimate and abiding interest—is a subject which, under any circumstances, saddens and grieves, and it is in my case so keen that I know you will readily believe when I tell you it is an ordeal which robs me of what power of expression I may have to acknowledge, as I should, the kindness I have experienced in these past eleven years from you.

You speak of the completion of your beautiful church and the erection of the two other buildings during the years I have been with you. Necessity, duty, zeal for the greater honor and glory of God, alike demanded the accomplishment of this work. It was done for no personal or egotistical end. On this, possibly the last occasion on which I shall address you as your pastor, I beg to make the acknowledgment, the deserved and grateful acknowledgment, that my own efforts would have been powerless had I not had, under God, the unstinted help and unquestioning confidence of the many of you who have worked with me from the inception to the completion of every undertaking in which priest and people could co-operate.

The assurance that your prayers will follow me to my new field of labor gives me hope and gladness. I now thank you again for your beautiful address and testimonial, and bid you one and all a heartfelt, an affectionate, a grateful farewell, in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass you may well rest assured I shall not forget to remember you. I bid you now, dear, obedient children, "good bye."

Father Stanton left for Smith's Falls yesterday to assume charge of his new mission. During his incumbency at Westport he won the respect and esteem of all classes.

A MAN OF GREAT ENERGY.

There is no priest in the diocese, or in the

province, who has labored more zealously than Rev. Fr. Stanton for the advancement of his church's interests. Fr. Stanton's influence has not been confined to his own people; of Protestants he has been highly esteemed for his many good qualities of head and heart. During his residence in Westport covering a period of eleven years, he has brought about a number of valuable improvements, having expended on his church, in the erection of tower, spire, vestry, convent and school, nearly \$20,000. This large sum was raised principally by bazaars—two realizing \$4,400 and \$3,000 respectively—by picnics and subscriptions. We can quite understand why the people deplore the removal of such a man, but it is in accordance with a duty which he, as a faithful pastor, cannot question. His appointment to Smith's Falls is a testimony in itself of the appreciation by the bishop of his labors in the past. A wider sphere of usefulness has been opened up to him, and in the future we may expect to hear of his continued usefulness and success.

THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

THE LIBT.-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

TORONTO, March 25.—Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: In relieving you from your responsibility as a legislative assembly for another year, I desire to express my appreciation of the able manner in which you have discharged your duties and the earnestness with which you addressed yourselves to the various measures which I promised to submit to you at the opening of the session. Besides a large amount of private bill legislation, you have passed useful measures on important subjects not, I think, surpassed in variety in any former session of the legislature of the province. I have given my assent with great satisfaction to the bill respecting agriculture and arts in which the legislation of former years is simplified, improved and consolidated. The provision for appointing an advisory board of experienced farmers to assist in the management of the agricultural and experimental farm will, I have no doubt, strengthen public confidence in the management of this institution and promote its efficiency and usefulness. By the measure for the settlement of the Rainy River district, another step has been taken to find homes for many of our people, who might otherwise be induced to settle on the prairies of the Western States. I am glad to learn that the fertility of the district thus opened up compares favorably with the lands in the older portions of the province. I cordially approve of your legislation for the prevention of contagious diseases. I attribute our immunity from smallpox during the past year in a large degree to the wholesome measures of a former session. The increased powers now given to municipalities, with respect to vaccination and otherwise, will further aid in preserving the public health and in enforcing such precautionary measures as experience has shown to be necessary in dealing with all forms of epidemic diseases. The act by which workmen may receive compensation for injuries suffered through the negligence or default of their employers will, I am confident, prove a great boon to those whose occupations are attended with great personal risk. The security which the same measure affords to their families will doubtless relieve many who would otherwise be exposed to great suffering and privation. By your amendments to the Franchise act many persons whose avocations require them to be absent from their homes for several months at a time will be enabled to vote at the polls, whilst the facilities afforded to workmen to poll their votes by the extension of the noon recess to 2 hours will enable them to discharge an important duty to the State without inconvenience to themselves or their employers. I was glad to concur in the bill further improving the license laws. The sale of liquor by unlicensed houses and the too frequent violation of the laws against selling intoxicating drinks on Sunday have led, in many cases, to crimes and excesses, which all good citizens deeply deplore. I sincerely trust that the stringent provisions of the new act will mitigate these evils and array the moral forces of society on the side of law and order. The consolidation of the several acts passed during former years respecting separate schools and the improvements which you have introduced will, I am sure, be of service to the children of our school system. The value of mechanics' institutes in providing facilities for mental improvement to many whose resources would not admit of any expenditure upon books and magazines has been recognized in England and Canada as an important factor in the education of the people. I am glad that you have passed further legislation for their improvement and that in conjunction therewith you have also increased the facilities for the establishment of evening classes for the study of art and industrial drawing. I have had pleasure in assenting to the bill abolishing to a large extent the old distinction between real and personal estate and to the bill further simplifying the laws respecting the transfer of property. I was glad also to assent to the Statute Law Amendment Act, by which you have made many important improvements in the Statutes of the Province in view of the new consolidation now in preparation of the whole body of statutory law. I have assented with pleasure to the bill containing provisions needed in the interest of private owners whose property is required in order to carry out the patriotic object of permanently securing the Falls of Niagara, that grandest of natural wonders, committed by Providence to our care. I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the public service; they will be expended with all the economy consistent with the public requirements.

You hardly realize that it is medicine when taking Carter's Little Liver Pills they are very small; no bad effects; all troubles from torpid liver are relieved by their use.

A DUEL ON A BATTLEFIELD. LONDON, March 25.—A remarkable duel was fought on the battlefield of Waterloo to-day, the contestants being Mms. Valayre, a native of France, and Miss Shelby, an American. The duel was the result of a dispute on the native merits of French and American female doctors. After a stormy altercation between the disputants, Mms. Valayre threw her glove in Miss Shelby's face and a duel was forthwith arranged. The weapons were swords. Miss Shelby was slightly wounded on one arm. The four seconds were Americans. The latter expressed themselves as satisfied that the duel had been conducted fairly and that France's honor had been avenged.

There are in twenty-two states of our Union 308,478 more women than men. Dakota has 29,415 more men than women.

FUTURE OF THE LIBERALS.

CABLE LETTER BY HENRY LA-BOUCHERE.

His Views on British Legislation, Home Rule for Ireland and Democracy.

LONDON, March 23.—The vote upon my resolution declaring hereditary principles inconsistent with representative government really gives no adequate measure of the strength of Radical party feeling against the House of Lords. This feeling is much more intense and widespread than was shown by the division in the House of Commons last week. I estimate that between 250 and 260 votes might be obtained for any resolution against hereditary legislators. Perhaps this might not express the private views of all members of the House. In the present Parliament considerable energies have been directed towards the House of Lords. This is due to our having in the main adopted the one member system and equal electoral districts. Formerly when there were two or three members for each of the larger towns or for a county, electors troubled themselves very little as to how their representatives voted, provided they were party men and supported the Conservative or Liberal Administration, as the case might be, but now they look after their members far more closely, and take stock of their votes and speeches. Most of the Moderate Liberal electors have gone over to the Conservatives, so that the Radicals have now complete control of the Liberal party. The great bulk of those Radical regard hereditary legislators as the principle of legislation by inheritance with about one name among savages. No doubt many of the Moderate members hope to be made peers, or baronets, or knights, or are influenced by the social aspect of questions, and fancy as they have aristocratic leanings they will in the end come to be regarded as aristocrats themselves. When, therefore, any such question is brought forward they seek all possible excuses to avoid voting. Some say for example, that if the decision had been taken a half hour later they would complain of the matter having been treated flippantly; in fact, if the matter had been treated seriously they would complain of it having been treated too seriously.

What I said in debate last week, however, is strictly correct—that with the exception of half dozen constituencies which return Liberal members I would engage to call a meeting in any Liberal constituency and to carry the resolution I proposed in the House of Commons whether the sitting member was in favor of it or not. There is a good deal of difference of opinion as to whether there should be one or two chambers, and this is the reason why the resolution was rather against the hereditary principle than against the upper chamber itself, so that the question might remain an open one, whether having got rid of her hereditary legislators, we should be satisfied with one chamber or proceed to form a second one. I may tell you that myself am not in favor of a second chamber. Where there are two chambers there are perpetual disputes. One chamber is absolutely subordinated to the other and is consequently useless. Thus in the United States all power is in the hands of the Senate. This must always follow when the best men in the lower are taken to the upper when they have proved themselves possessed of ability. I have frequently listened to debates in the American Senate, and it seemed to me the most practical and the most wisely conducted. The debates in the House of Representatives are not on an equality with those in our House of Commons.

But now let us go to the progress of democracy in England. It is absurd to suppose you can give almost universal suffrage and make nearly equal electoral districts without increasing the strength of the democracy. In no election we have had in England have the people taken such an active part as they did in the last. We won the country owing to Mr. Chamberlain's programs of three acres and a cow, and further, we swept our heretics out of the Liberal ranks. We lost the country because the Liberal candidates stuck to Mr. Gladstone's programme which was not nearly so democratic as that of Mr. Chamberlain. One of the chief reasons, however, why the Liberal party is not fully up to democratic policy is that the machine is still in the hands of the moderate Liberals. They were few in number in the House of Commons, but they were able men and clever administrators, and they always managed to get about half the Cabinet seats among them. The composition of Commons is not what I should wish. There is already a considerable number of members who will always vote as the whips order. They go out to dine and spend the evening, and knowing when a division takes place, they come down to vote without having heard a word of the debate, or else they sit in the coffee or smoking room and wait for the coming of the whips. This will alter in time when the triumph of democracy is certain. It is by no means impossible that the Conservatives will win at the next general election, and it must never be forgotten there are vast numbers of Conservatives in the country. Why I say that the triumph of democracy is certain is that, thanks to the direct action and influence of the constituent, all Liberals henceforward will have to be democratic. The moderate Liberal is almost extinct. Henceforth, he will have to choose between Conservatism and Radicalism or quit public life. Large numbers will join the Tory party because they will not like to quit public life.

In the present parliament the only man having influence is Mr. Gladstone. As for his colleagues, with the exception of Mr. Chamberlain, no one cares about them except what their opinions may be. It is known that most of them have intrigued to force Mr. Gladstone into retirement, and they have been strongly opposed to any scheme of Home Rule for Ireland. They took office because they preferred place and salary to being left out in the cold. Sir Henry James and Lord Hartington are more respected politicians than are the colleagues of Mr. Gladstone, who being tempted, fell. I except Mr. Chamberlain, who is thoroughly democratic. I may almost say revolutionist. He is unfortunately opposed to Home Rule, which I fear will create schism among the democracy. It will, however, be healed and Mr. Chamberlain will lead the democracy when Mr. Gladstone retires from public life. I suppose in the end the anti-democratic party will consist of the Conservatives with Hartington, Goschen, James and moderate Liberals; Salisbury, as you know, has offered to serve under Lord Hartington and a coalition between the Conservatives and Moderate Liberals seems inevitable. The coalition is delayed only because the Conservatives don't like to call themselves moderate Liberals, and vice versa moderate Liberals do not like to call themselves Conservatives. They will in the end I have no doubt discover some name for what we may call for sake of a term the Loyalists. I know as a fact Mr. Gladstone is himself strongly in favor of the measure for Ireland which will put an end to landlordism and give that country full

control of all her local matters. It is a curious fact that with the exception of John Morley, the greatest supporters in the Cabinet are two Peers—Lord Ripon and Earl Spencer. Lord Spencer says there are only two modes of dealing with Ireland, either by coercion or by concession. He tried coercion and failed. He wanted to continue it, but his colleagues did not support him nor did the Conservatives. He regards coercion I may tell you as now impossible, and is frankly ready to adopt the alternative course of concession. Mr. Gladstone, I have found good reasons for stating, will deal with the whole subject at once. He will have two bills, one a land bill, and the other a home rule bill which he will bring together. The machinery involved in the land bill will become inoperative, should the home rule bill fail to become a law. He will adopt the plan of a separate Parliament for Ireland and the guarantee for unity of the Empire. The Irish will have the police under their own control, but the military forces will remain under the Imperial control. The Irish Nation will have to pay its quota in the Imperial Treasury, but it is not yet decided whether the Irish members will sit in Parliament during the Imperial session. Of course if they do not they never could be called upon to pay their quota. Mr. Gladstone, if I may tell you, will be strictly responsible for those two measures. He is working night and day at them and receives very little assistance except on matters of minor detail. Of course he consults the law officers as to terms or clauses, but in finally settling them he has his way and in this manner the measure develops every day.

Mr. Morley thinks it is impossible to say whether the measure will pass the Commons. I was talking to Sir Henry James yesterday and he told me they could rely upon the other Whig members who would vote against home rule, but I am not so certain that eighty-six of them will vote against the bill because some of them know that if they do vote against it they will be opposed by Gladstonian candidates and between a Gladstonian candidate and a Conservative they would go to the wall. It is very improbable that there will be many defections among the Radicals. If the bill passes the Commons and is thrown out in the Lords Mr. Gladstone will not dissolve the House of Lords, he holds the doctrine that the House of Lords ought not to be dissolved. He will bring the bill in again at the autumn session, and if he is thrown out again by the Lords he will introduce it next year. By that time he thinks the Lords will yield, but if they don't, I suppose he will modify his views as to their power to provoke dissolution, and will dissolve. Should the bill be thrown out in the Commons he will make immediate appeal to the country. One of the weakest points in Mr. Gladstone's position is that he is seventy-six years old. Were he fifty-six instead he would be certain to carry any measure he might bring forward with regard to Ireland. When Mr. Gladstone brings in his measure it is pretty certain Mr. Trevelyan will resign. It is possible that Mr. Chamberlain will also resign, but if he does so he will injure himself very much and will separate himself from the Liberals.

HENRY LABOUCHE.

GLADSTONE'S IRISH POLICY

TO BE ANNOUNCED TO THE COMMONS ON APRIL 25TH—THE PREMIER'S ILLNESS—THE RADICAL POLICY.

LONDON, March 25.—The Premier's unfortunate illness at this critical juncture is regarded as a political misfortune. Mr. Gladstone decided to have the programme for the next session of the House of Commons this evening carried out by Sir William Vernon Harcourt. Mr. Gladstone had hoped to the very last to keep his appointment, but when the hour for opening of Parliament arrived, Sir Andrew Clark, his chief physician, found that the patient's condition was such that exposure would be dangerous. Mr. Gladstone caught cold last night while riding to Lord Wolverson's residence at Wimbledon. This morning he suffered from hoarseness and chills, which increased as the day progressed. His physicians say there is nothing dangerous in the Premier's case so long as he is not subjected to exposure. They manifest no anxiety about the case.

The Cabinet meeting to-morrow will be of paramount importance, and it is deemed absolutely essential that Mr. Gladstone should be present. For this reason alone, if there was no other, Sir Andrew Clark would under no circumstances permit his patient to expose himself to-day.

THE DATE FIXED.

Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt in the Commons this evening announced that Mr. Gladstone would state his Irish policy to the House on April 25th. Continuing, the chancellor said that the budget would be introduced sometime within the first two weeks of April. Mr. Gladstone, he said, hoped to be able to present during to-morrow's session of the house

HURCHILL AND SMITH.

LONDON, March 25.—The rumor that a quarrel existed between Lord Randolph Churchill and Hon. W. H. Smith, both of whom were members of Lord Salisbury's Cabinet, is confirmed. The quarrel originated in a speech made by Mr. Smith, in which he spoke in favor of Mr. Gladstone's scheme of buying out the landlords of Ireland, and urged a fair support of the proposal. This provoked Churchill beyond self constraint. He declared that the Conservatives would remain perpetually out of power, and be condemned to everlasting opposition if such a policy as Mr. Smith's should prevail in the organization. He described the policy as one of "pottering potterology." Lord Salisbury being absent, Viscount Cranbrook has assumed the task of attempting to effect a reconciliation between the two leaders.

LONDON, March 25.—The Liberal members of Parliament for the counties having written to Mr. Gladstone to urge the importance of reform of the land, election and railway rate laws, the Premier has replied that he is sanguine that the subject will receive early attention.

LONDON, March 26.—A report is current that Mr. Chamberlain will formally retire from the Cabinet to-day, and that he will state his reasons for so doing in Parliament on Monday.

NERVOUS DEBILITATED MEN. You are allowed a free trial of thirty days of the use of Dr. Dry's Celebrated Voltaic Belt with Electric Suspensory Appliances, for the speedy relief and permanent cure of Nervous Debility, loss of Vitality and Manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also, for many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk is incurred. Illustrated pamphlet, with full information, etc., mailed free by addressing Voltaic Belt Co., Marshall, Mich. G.

A Californian Chinaman recently ran away with another Chinaman's wife, and, to throw the pursuers off the trail, took her aboard a steamerboat rolled up in a lot of blankets, carrying her on his shoulder.