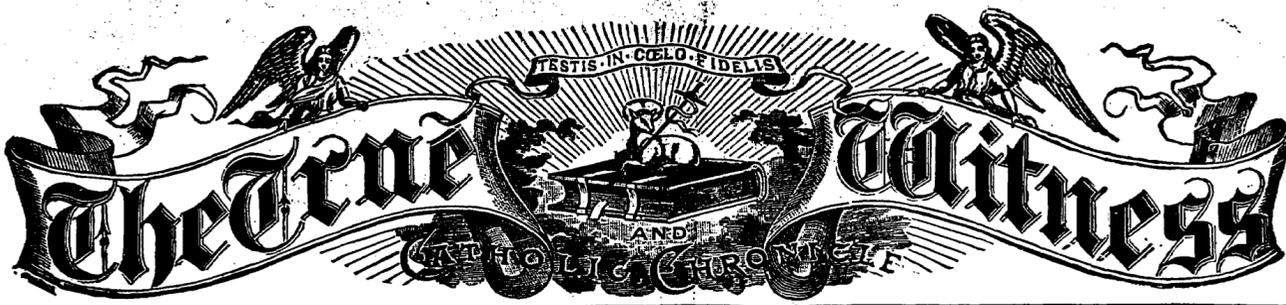


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# THE LEINSTER HALL CONVENTION

## Foreshadows a Peaceful Solution of Strife in the Irish Party.

### THE ALL-POWERFUL VOICE OF IRISHMEN IN FOREIGN LANDS EXERCISED A BENEFICIAL INFLUENCE.

The Patriotic Attitude and Splendid Sentiment of Unanimity Displayed by the Representatives of the Exiles—An Outline of the Stirring Speeches Delivered—Some of the Resolutions Adopted—Opinions Expressed by Mr. Dillon, M. P., and Delegates at the Close of the Proceedings—Other Interesting Features of the Great Gathering.

The Irish Race Convention, which closed its deliberations last week, was one of the most important gatherings in the history of the Irish people which has taken place during the present century. While a number of enthusiasts cherished the belief that the outcome of the convention would immediately result in uniting the different sections, the more sober-minded delegates, who gave the situation careful thought, rather inclined towards the view that it would take some time for the Healy and Redmond factions to realize the vast importance of considering the immense advantages and the great prestige which would be derived from co-operation with Irishmen in other parts of the world. The prevailing sentiment amongst the visiting delegates and the representatives of the Irish people on this continent was that unity must be secured in the Irish Parliamentary party at any cost, and that no man should stand in the way to attain that end. Bishop O'Donnell, who was elected Chairman of the Convention, spoke in that strain and was loudly cheered.

After welcoming the delegates from the United States and Canada, his lordship delivered an address pleading for unity. He referred to the publication, last June, of the report of the Commission on the Financial Relations of Ireland and Great Britain, which showed that Ireland was heavily overtaxed, and he said that this document proved how Ireland had been despoiled, and that this revelation of the Commission was sufficient to again bring forward the whole "Irish Question," and of itself alone justified the calling of the Convention. The report of the Commission showed that the increase of taxation in Ireland, between the years 1853 and 1860, was not justified by the existing circumstances. While the actual tax revenue of Ireland was about one-eleventh of that of Great Britain, the relative taxable capacity of Ireland, it was shown, does not exceed one-twentieth. Therefore it was evident that Ireland is now overtaxed \$13,750,000 annually. This showing, continued Bishop O'Donnell, is sufficient to crush all opposition to Home Rule.

Alluding to the disunion among the Irish National party, the Bishop said no man or set of men must put themselves in competition with the cause of Ireland. [This remark caused the delegates to cheer for five minutes.] The Bishop said he cared little which English party helped Ireland; but the Irish people should be independent of, and in opposition to, every party refusing them Home Rule. It was useless to talk strongly, unless they stood united behind their works; and he added—

"We must compass Irish liberty; and no power on earth can withstand the justice thereof."

This statement called forth another burst of cheering, which lasted for several minutes.

Letters were then read from Archbishop Walsh and Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, of New York. The statement of Dr. Emmet that "the man who is unwilling to accept an invitation to the peace convention is no true Irishman," was wildly applauded.

Mr. Alfred Webb, of Dublin, and Rev. Father Ryan of Toronto, moved a series of resolutions favoring the union of all National Irish parties, hailing with satisfaction the recent release of the Irish political prisoners, and declaring that the Irish Land Act could not be accepted as a final settlement of the Irish question.

Mr. Justin McCarthy spoke on the subject of the reunion of Irish parties, and in the course of his remarks said he believed that the assembling of this convention was the result of a general acceptance of the principle of the rule of the majority.

Dean Harris, of Toronto, said that the Canadian delegates attended the convention at a great personal sacrifice, and he appealed, in God's name, for unity, adding that when any section of the Irish press charged them with not representing anybody they "flung back their lies."

Dean Harris aroused an intense outbreak of enthusiasm when he said: "Men have said that they despaired for Ireland, but we in Canada have never despaired and will never do so as long as three Irishmen live."

Resolutions favoring a unity of the Irish Party was the occasion of bringing forth powerful and eloquent speeches from Mr. Blake, M. P., who spoke at great length and with more than usual vigor and force; from John Dillon, M. P., whose statement, that he was willing to retire for the cause of union, was greeted with the wildest cheering; also from Michael Davitt, T. P. O'Connor, and Rev. P. F. O'Donnell, of St. Mary's, of this city.

A resolution requesting information as to the disposition of the so-called "Paris Funds" over which there has been so much bitter controversy and legal complication for years, was withdrawn. These funds, which were banked in Paris, in the name of Charles Stewart Parnell, amounting to £40,000 (\$80,000), were, after a long litigation, following the death of Parnell, handed over to Justin McCarthy, M. P., the then Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, and it was said that £10,000 (\$20,000) of this amount was handed over to John Redmond, M. P., leader of the present so-called Parnellite branch of the Irish Party, with which to pay some heavy debts incurred after Mr. Parnell's demise, the balance to be used in the propagation of Nationalist principles in Ireland. The so-called McCarthyites, it was understood, were pledged to devote their share of the funds, £30,000 (\$150,000) to the relief of the evicted tenants.

Michael Davitt moved a resolution in favor of granting amnesty to all political prisoners, without distinction; and in so doing he strongly denounced the "system of semi-starvation" meted out to them, and compared the treatment of the Irish political prisoners with that of Dr. Jameson and his companions, undergoing terms of imprisonment for participation in the raid into the Transvaal.

The resolution, which was supported by Delegate O'Hara, of Baltimore, Md., and the Rev. Father Phillips, a Pennsylvania delegate, was unanimously adopted. Father Phillips, in the course of his remarks, urged that renewed efforts be made to reconcile those sections of the Irish party which were holding themselves aloof from the Convention, which, he said, would open its ranks to everyone who was willing to come in.

T. P. O'Connor, M. P., proposed the grateful thanks of the people of Ireland to the delegates from the United States and Canada amid tumultuous applause.

Several resolutions on the subject of land and taxation were amalgamated and unanimously adopted, as also were resolutions in favor of disseminating knowledge of Irish history, providing for the Irish language, and urging the purchase of articles of Irish manufacture; after which the Convention adjourned.

The foreign delegates issued the following joint declaration, in which they say:—"We deem it our duty to record our grateful appreciation of the courtesy and kindness with which we have been treated here. We came here without any bias toward any section and with a determination to form an independent opinion based upon our own observations. The delegates who were responsible for the arrangements for holding the convention scrupulously abstained from any attempts to influence our judgment. We have kept separate our own organization and asked nobody connected with the home movement to attend our conference. We are satisfied that the convention in its composition and character voiced the Irish national spirit. We watched the proceedings of the convention throughout and heard therein the fullest and freest possible discussion, and we were especially impressed with the unanimity that was displayed for genuine party unity, necessarily involving discipline and respect for the rule of the majority. We record our own entire belief in unity based upon the only foundation possible, submission to the majority, and we earnestly

call upon the people to stand together for the cause of unity and discipline in the Irish Party in Parliament. As citizens of countries engaging in free government we affirm that no other effective line is known than submission to the rule of the majority in political organizations. Upon returning to our home we shall convey to our people a sense of the magnitude, authority and order of the convention, and we pledge ourselves to give our unflinching support to the Irish Parliamentary party until self-government has been won for Ireland."

Hon. John Costigan, of Canada, speaking to a press representative, said: "The convention is an unquestioned success, and reflects credit upon the Irish at home and abroad. Irishmen and their descendants the world over will look back to it with pride. If there is not an absolute union of the Irish race to-day the foundation for a solid support of the Irish party has been well and truly laid. If the minority will be influenced by the solemn appeal of the convention to recognize the majority rule the aspirations of all Irishmen will soon be realized."

"The outcome of the convention will be of widespread influence for good in the United States," said Patrick Cox, of Rochester, N. Y. "As the Irish party is not composed of servant girls, as is commonly said, but of thinking men, the work of the convention is bound to result in lasting effect. If the Irish in Ireland doff their coats now and work in real earnest, they will receive strong backing in the United States, financial and otherwise. We have been surprised and delighted with what we have seen."

"At least 100 Parnellites and 150 Healyites have been present," said John Dillon. "Yet so impressed were they at the sincerity and unity of the delegates that none of them raised a voice of protest to deny or dispute anything. It is charged that the priests are against us; yet over 400 were present and were eager supporters. The success achieved far exceeds my most sanguine hopes. Regarding the future, I desire to say to the American people, in the most unmistakable way possible, that while I to-night, after the greatest success ever achieved for any Irish convention called as this has been, still uphold and repeat my offer to stand aside with Healy and Redmond, if they will come together and choose a leader for all of the Nationalists, yet if they are unwilling in the cause of Ireland to do this, then I will execute the mandate received from the convention and will fight for unity to the last gasp. We will have unity, even if we lose many members of the party and on unity we will go to the country. After such a demonstration as has just been concluded, I believe that we can sweep Ireland on this issue. I ask all firm friends of Ireland in the United States and Canada to support me in the same determined way as they will find I will work hereafter."

Mr. Moses Cornwall Travels Three Thousand Miles to Attend the Convention.

The first of the colonial delegates to arrive, says an exchange, was Mr. Moses Cornwall. He travelled seven thousand miles to give voice to the opinions of Kimberley Irishmen. Mr. Cornwall is a Dublin man by birth and is now one of the most prominent Irishmen in Kimberley. During the thirty-seven years in which he has battled with the ups and downs of colonial life he has never forgotten the old cause at home, as the substantial remittances sent through his agency for various national purposes sufficiently prove.

In conversation with a representative of the Evening Telegraph, Mr. Cornwall said that when he left Kimberley on June 30th for Ireland he was seen off from the railway station by all his fellow Irishmen, who came to wish him God-speed.

"The incomprehensible thing to us, and I fancy to all Irishmen who have sought out their destiny in other lands," said Mr. Cornwall, "is that Irishmen here at home should quarrel about non-essential matters that do not affect the national welfare; that the claims of country should be sacrificed to personal spleen is what they cannot understand."

"I think, too, that I may say the Irishmen of Kimberley have given plenty of proof of their devotion to Ireland. In '79 I was on a visit to Ireland, and when I got back to Kimberley we raised £1,200 for the Irish distress fund, and remitted it to Mr. Edmund Dwyer Gray, who was then Lord Mayor of Dublin. Since then we have sent home £800 for the Parnell Defence Fund, the Home Rule Fund, and the Evicted Tenants' Fund, and, in fact, we have never failed to assist the Irish movement by our sympathy and our purse whenever the occasion demanded."

"We would have done the same at the last general election were it not for the differences here in Ireland. Irishmen in the Cape refused to contribute as long as Irishmen at home were fighting between themselves, and instead of £200 was raised only £18 or £19."

"Irishmen at the Cape, as I might remark, are as free from religious as from political animosities. I am a Protestant myself, but we never stop to inquire a man's religion at the Cape. The last thing in the world I'd dream of is to ask a man's religion. I detest

THE IDEA OF RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY. Among my friends is Most Rev. Dr. Gaughan, the Bishop of Kimberley, who, unsolicited, sent me a letter of introduction to Mr. John Dillon. The fact is, we live out there as Christian

men, and have never a shadow of religious difference. Why, in the Parliament in which I sat, though the majority of the electorate is non-Catholic, two of the five members were Catholics, one of them being the Premier, Sir Thomas L'ingston."

"Yes," said Mr. Cornwall in reply to a question, "some of the best men we have at the Cape are Irishmen, and they all fill some of the principal legislative and judicial positions. They came here of their own free will, and are a credit to Ireland and the country of their adoption. One of the most respected men in South Africa, whose memory is revered, was Mr. Porter, who held the position of Attorney-General, the uncle of the present Master of the Rolls. Then there is our present Governor, Sir Hercules Robinson that was, Mr. Justice Fitzpatrick, Mr. Justice Dwyer; and at Natal the Chief Justice is a distinguished Irishman named Galloway."

The Irish National League of Great Britain held a meeting at Dublin and elected Patrick Aloysius McHugh, member of Parliament for the north division of Leitrim, a Dillonite, as Vice-Chairman, in the place of Timothy D. Sullivan, M. P., for West Donegal, whom as a Healyite the meeting refused to re-elect.

Mr. Dillon, addressing the meeting, said he would rather lead a party of fifty, the members of which were united, than one of 70 each member of which was flying at the throats of his fellow-members. The past of anyone coming into the party and promising to work faithfully in accord with it would be obliterated. Mr. Dillon said, but so long as he remained leader he should insist upon the members adhering to the old doctrine of party purity.

## THE RICHES OF THE OLD LAND.

### ITS INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

IRISH CROPS AND LIVE STOCK PRODUCTION ESTIMATED TO BE WORTH \$500,000,000—THE PROSPECTS OF BEING EQUAL TO GREEK AGAINST CONTINENTAL COMPETITION.

(From the New York Sun.)

It will be remembered that, at the close of the last session of Parliament but one, Mr. Horace Plunkett secured the appointment of a non-partisan committee, which during the recess was to investigate the agricultural and industrial capabilities of Ireland. We call the committee non-partisan because, although the anti-Parnellites declined to take part in the proposed inquiry, the Parnellites and Liberals, as well as the Conservative party, were represented on it. The report of the committee has been published, and in order to secure the adoption of its suggestions a movement has been started for the appointment of a Minister of Agriculture and Industry for Ireland who shall have at his disposal a fund drawn from the Imperial Exchequer for the development of Ireland's resources.

Although the anti-Parnellites preferred not to sanction the inquiry, believing that it should be deferred until Ireland had a government of her own, they acknowledge that the facts brought out by it are of great interest and value. There is no doubt that the committee evinced good sense in their investigations, indulging in no rainbow-chasing or computation of impossible but as yet unexplored sources of wealth. For the moment, therefore, they left unexamined the question whether Irish coal mines and iron mines can be profitably worked; they confined themselves to the industries which Ireland is now prosecuting and sought to discover how these might be prosecuted more successfully. Chief among them, of course, is agriculture, which, indeed, absorbs almost the whole of the energy and capital of the Irish people.

In their answer to the vital question whether Irish agriculture is capable of great improvement, the committee occupy a middle ground between the visionary calculations of some optimistic observers and what they deem the over-cautious estimate of students of the congested districts. Their encouraging conclusion is that the present value of Irish crops and live stock, which in 1894 was \$500,000,000, might by improved methods be doubled. This opinion is based upon the fact that, whereas the average yield of potatoes per acre in Continental countries is from fifteen to twenty tons, in Ireland it is only 2.6 tons. The condition of the flax, dairy, and pig-raising industries was next examined; and it is pointed out that for some time all of these have been declining. The diminution of the flax crop, which requires special technical knowledge, is attributed to a deficiency of skilled labor. In Holland and Belgium the requisite technical knowledge is imparted to the farmers by trained instructors, and the committee report that the only way to put Irish flax growers on a level with their foreign rivals is to follow this example. The experiment was tried in Ireland for some half dozen years preceding 1871, but it failed, apparently because ignorant home instructors were employed.

There is no doubt that Ireland ought to supply a large part of England's de-

mand for butter, bacon and eggs. England now annually imports from the Continent butter to the value of \$67,500,000 an amount of bacon worth \$55,000,000 and a quantity of eggs valued at almost \$20,000,000. Ireland could regain a large share of this trade, and perhaps might oust her Continental competitors if the quality of her butter were improved through the use of better machinery; if she would adopt new breeds of pigs and a more rational system of pig feeding; and if laborers' wives were taught to rear and keep better breeds of poultry, and to send eggs to market in better condition.

Another recommended means of increasing the resources of Ireland is the substitution of a dead meat for a live meat export trade. At present the living cattle are transported to England, which, of course, involves much needless waste. If the animals were killed in Ireland, not only would the loss of value in transit be saved, but all the industries connected with the slaughtering, including the Irish leather trade, would revive.

We come lastly to the fisheries, which within the last few decades have undergone a deplorable decline. Measures for their revival are suggested; but we repeat that, for the moment, the committee have laid most stress on what seems immediately practicable, to wit: the signal stimulation of agriculture, and the industries directly associated with it.

If it be true that with a little help from the imperial exchequer, the value of Irish crops and live stock might be increased by some 600 millions of dollars, no Irish patriot, whatever his political aims may be, can afford to repel such assistance.

## SOME SIGNS OF IRISH PROSPERITY.

The usual half-yearly Parliamentary paper just issued gives statistics showing that the deposits and cash balances in the Irish Joint Stock Bank, which, comparing June with June, had gradually increased from £29,223,000 in June, 1895, to £37,491,000 in the corresponding period of 1895, further rose to £38,758,000 in June of the present year, being the highest amount yet reached for June, and showing an increase of £1,267,000, or 3.3 per cent, as compared with the amount in the middle of last year, and an increase of 29,550,000, or 32.6 per cent, as compared with the amount in June, 1894. A review of the weekly trade returns of the Irish railways shows that the total receipts for the half-year are in excess of those for the first half of any previous year, and show an increase of £10,000 as compared with the first six months of last year, the receipts for which period were £31,203, or 2.0 per cent, above those for the first half of the year 1894. At the end of June of this year the estimated amount in the Post Office Savings Bank in Ireland stood at £5,919,000 as compared with £5,373,000 for the corresponding period of 1895, showing an increase of £546,000, following an increase of 550,000 in the twelve months ended with June, 1895, which increase is the largest in any year since the establishment of these institutions. The balance in the other savings banks in Ireland in June last amounted to £8,017,000, or £672,000 in excess of the balance in June, 1895, being £68,000 over the large increase for the year ended June, 1895, but £60,000 over the increase for the twelve months ending with June, 1894, which was equal to double the highest annual increase in any of the twenty years preceding.

## THE PILGRIMAGE TO LANORAIE AND ST. OURS.

The pilgrimage to Lanoraie and St. Ours, Sept. 7, under the auspices of St. Ann's Young Men's Society, was what might be justly styled a most successful affair. The beautiful and commodious steamer Berthier had been chartered for the occasion, and at 8.45 a. m. Monday morning she steamed away from the Jacques Cartier Wharf with a very large crowd of pilgrims on board, bent on paying homage at the shrine of the Sacred Heart and enjoying the beautiful and ever interesting scenery of the St. Lawrence and Richelieu rivers.

At 10.45 A. M. the pilgrims arrived at Lanoraie, and after assisting at Mass and hearing an eloquent instruction delivered by the Rev. Father Smith, they embarked again and continued their enjoyable trip. At 2.00 P. M. they arrived at St. Ours, where they assisted at solemn Benediction, after which they scattered themselves throughout the various streets and gathered impressions of "that picturesque little village on the Richelieu,"—some gathered flowers. At 3.45 P. M. they turned homeward, and arrived at Montreal at 9.30 P. M., thus closing the most enjoyable trip of the season.

## HOW TO KEEP THE EYES BRIGHT

Never rub your eyes nor allow your children to do so from their cradles. Veils are bad for the sight, especially those spotted or covered with a pattern; so each wear when you can, or wear the softest, clearest net when obliged to do so. Never read in bed or when lying on a sofa. Sit with your back to the light when engaged in reading or working. Pale blues or greens are the most restful wall papers for the eyes, whereas red is exceedingly fatiguing. Do not read, write, or work longer than two hours together without resting your eyes and closing them fully five minutes.

## THE DESTINY OF IRELAND.

### A STIRRING SPEECH BY WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

CANNONS AND COERCION LAWS CANNOT PUT DOWN THE IMMORTAL INSTINCT OF IRISH NATIONALITY—GLADSTONE'S HOME RULE MEASURE THE ONLY MEANS TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE.

Mr. William O'Brien, some days prior to the opening of the Dublin Convention, during the course of an able speech, made the following patriotic references to the present state of Ireland, as well as drew a picture of the future hopes and aspirations of Irishmen which, to say the least, will receive hearty approbation from the exiles in every land. There is a ring of enthusiasm in the delivery, and a measure of clear-sightedness manifested which must carry conviction with it.

"There is no disguising the fact that we have passed through and are passing through a period of deep depression for the Irish cause. But I ask you, are we the first men who have met rebuffs and disappointments in the Irish cause? Why, we ought to be ashamed of ourselves to compare our trumpery little troubles with those of the men who went before us in this light and who

NEVER GAVE UP THE SHIP.

Think of all the hundreds of years during which our forefathers had no more legal rights in this land of theirs than as many wild beasts in their caverns. They were forbidden to burn and forbidden to worship God in their own way, and to vote according to their conscience, and they were trampled down in every possible way. They were liable to be hunted at a moment's notice from the homes of their fathers without the slightest ceremony or without a farthing compensation the moment they encountered the frown of the agent or the bailiff, and they went through all this and still held a firm grip, and have fought on in this cause, and what is the consequence? What is the condition of the Irish cause today about which some faint-hearted people are wringing their hands? Let me recall for one moment how the position of the Irish people, but as it is in some respects, compares with their position in the old times. Today they have their fathers' free schools free, colleges free, and they have an acknowledged foothold on the soil of Ireland, a far superior foothold than the landlords have. No matter how the landlord may try for a moment to put back the clock, all the world knows, and it is completely recognized, that it is a mere question of time when the whole land of Ireland will belong to the people.

WITHOUT A BAILIFF OR A LANDLORD

even to darken their doors again. Again, they are free to give their votes now, thank God, in the secrecy of the ballot, and no man can make them afraid. They are free to elect an Irish party after their own hearts, and events have proved that that party has to be united to win every single item of the demands upon which the hearts of the Irish people are set. My friends, we sometimes forget, singularly forget, that it was only the other day that the supreme demand of the Irish nation, the demand for a national Parliament that would govern Ireland according to the wants and wishes of the people was conceded solemnly by the British House of Commons by a series of votes that can never be cancelled. It is a cause that has reached the summit of success, and some people ask us to despair, forsooth, because half a dozen men at the utmost choose to set up their own miserable, whatever it may be—ambition or temper—to set it up against the interests of a cause which involves the happiness of millions of people and the destinies of this old Gaelic race of ours. You need have no fear for Ireland; it is too big a feature in the world's history. The Irish race is too large a force amongst the races of the earth. It is far more powerful abroad, in the cities of England, and in the free land of the American republic and Canada and Australia and South Africa. No; believe you me, the Irish race have only to stretch forth their hands at the convention, and they will have the power not merely to frown down the petty ambition of men that would bring discord and disorganization into the Irish camp, but they will have the power to make it clear to England that while there is nothing in the world easier than to conciliate Ireland; that with all her ships and all her cannons, and all her coercion laws she will never put down the immortal instinct of Irish nationality, but that on this cause and race will go, whether as friends of England or as foes of England, whether in sunshine or in tempest, until we or those who come after us will have won the fullest measure of national self-government that Mr. Gladstone's bill proposed to give us."

Her eyes were red with weeping. "How can you be so cross when you promised always to think more of me than you did of yourself?" "Oh, that's easy enough," replied the unfeeling husband. "Since I married you I don't think very much of myself." New York Press.