

HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

London's Great Meeting—Enthusiasm and Unity.

Bishop Walsh Endorses the Movement.

Speeches by Rev. Father Flannery, Hon. David Mills and Ex-Mayor Campbell.

A mass meeting of citizens was held on Monday night in the City Hall for the purpose of hearing a discussion of the question of Home Rule for Ireland. It was called under the auspices of the Irish National League branch society established here. The building was crowded to the doors and both galleries were packed with attentive listeners.

All classes of the people of the city were represented. There were seated upon the platform Messrs. J. J. Gibbons, President; Dr. Hanover, secretary; Thos. Coffey, Hon. D. Mills, Rev. Father Flannery, of St. Thomas; Rev. Father Coffey, Rev. Father Dunphy, ex-Mayor Campbell, J. P. O'Byrne, T. E. O'Callaghan and Thos. O'Brien.

MR. J. J. GIBBONS, the president, in opening the meeting expressed the great pleasure he felt at the immense attendance. He believed there was some misconception of the objects of the association, and he wished first to correct that impression. They were not meeting there to sow dissension among their fellow-citizens, nor to plot treason against the mother country.

The secretary, Dr. Hanover, read several communications: The Palace, London, Nov. 9, 1885. DEAR SIR:—I regret that it will not be in my power to assist at the meeting of this evening, but it may be of interest to you and others to know that I am in entire accord and sympathy with the purpose of the meeting.

What, then, are the present wants of Ireland? What the remedy for her political ailments? "I venture to think that Home Rule, such as we enjoy here in Canada, is what Ireland wants to make her a prosperous and contented country. Every free people ought to have the right to manage their own affairs, and to make the laws that govern them.

Herein I enclose my mite towards the Irish Parliamentary fund, and I remain, dear sir, yours respectfully, JOHN WALSH, Bishop of London.

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future, the friends of Ireland may reasonably hope, now that the leading statesmen of the Empire of both political parties concede that a liberal scheme in the direction indicated is one that demands the early attention of the Imperial Parliament."

Rev. Father Flannery, on coming forward, was received with loud cheers. He said he felt highly honored in being called upon to propose the resolution which he now held in his hand. He considered it a great privilege that it was in his power to help in any way the cause of his suffering fellow-countrymen in Ireland, and to strengthen the hands of the leader who had done so much to lift up the name of Ireland and add to the greatness of the British Empire.

That this meeting heartily endorses the sentiments conveyed to the foot of the throne by the address to Her Majesty, proposed on the 20th of April, 1882, by the Hon. John Costigan, M.P., Minister of Inland Revenue and member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, and that day unanimously adopted by the Commons House of Parliament of this Dominion, in which address the Parliament of Canada affirmed (1) that it had observed with feelings of profound regret and concern, the distress and discontent which prevailed in Ireland;

That the Irish in Canada were among the most loyal, most prosperous, and most contented of its people; (2) that the Dominion of Canada while offering the greatest advantages and attractions to the immigrant does not receive that proportion of emigration from Ireland which might reasonably be expected, owing in a great measure to feelings of estrangement existing in the minds of so many Irishmen towards the Imperial Government;

That adhering to and reaffirming the sentiments of this address this meeting while firmly opposed to any movement looking to the disintegration of the British Empire, extends an expression of hearty sympathy to the Irish people in their legitimate efforts and struggles to secure for their country the inestimable blessings of local self-government.

When Mr. C. Stewart Parnell's name first appeared among the advanced nationalists in the British House of Commons, when he was represented as an indefatigable and incorrigible obstructionist, I had, like hundreds of others, my misgivings as to the sincerity of his motives and the wisdom of his course as an Irish representative.

What, then, are the present wants of Ireland? What the remedy for her political ailments? "I venture to think that Home Rule, such as we enjoy here in Canada, is what Ireland wants to make her a prosperous and contented country. Every free people ought to have the right to manage their own affairs, and to make the laws that govern them.

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cheers). Parnell's first great achievement was his banding together of 600,000 tenant farmers in one solid phalanx of passive resistance. His advice to them was to hold a firm grip of the land, to retain possession of their houses until they were pulled down over their heads, and to hold on to the land until they were driven off it at the point of the bayonet.

Millions of pounds sterling were thus saved to the tenant farmers of Ireland at a period of unusual hardship and distress, and the gaunt spectre of famine was laid which threatened Ireland with a renewal of the horrors experienced in 1847 and 1848 (cheers).

People born and educated in this country can form no idea of the hardships, the sufferings, the social ruin and desolation endured for centuries by the farming classes in Ireland. You could understand them, perchance, if every farmer in Canada were obliged to pay from five dollars to twenty dollars per acre for the land he cultivates. I ask you, how could our yeomen of Ontario ever afford to clothe, feed and educate their children on such conditions?

But what is the penance for all these evils, where is the remedy? The late Mr. Isaac Butt, a son of a Protestant rector in Donegal, found it in two words—Home Rule. He found a responsive echo in every Irish heart—Home Rule (cheers).

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Ireland—there are no boards of school trustees. Everything is managed from a government board in Dublin, which board is composed mainly of Scotchmen and Englishmen. And a measure of pro-claimations from the Lord Lieutenant has all the force of a ukase issued by the Czar of Russia.

There is a semblance of liberty granted the people, however, in being allowed to elect their poor law guardians. But every J. P., almost every estate gentleman in the country, is an ex-officio guardian. The guardians appointed by the people attend to all the hard work and drudgery of the house, but every time a test vote is called for—when an appointment has to be made—the ex-officio guardians all crowd in and outvote the men elected by the people.

But it would be an utter impossibility for me to enumerate even a part of the sore grievances and hardships and heart-burnings the Irish people have to put up with; and which no other people in the face of God's earth would endure with such hopeful patience or Christian equanimity. To help redress all these wrongs, to help bind all these festering wounds, to aid in averting these national calamities, these periodical famines which recur every ten or fifteen years with such unerring certainty, the National League has been established. We are here to-night to sustain it, and we are invited to form part, and join in this grand movement that now extends from New York to San Francisco, and that embraces all the liberty-loving people that live on this great continent of America.

Oh, what a glorious day for Ireland when the victory shall be declared, as declared it must be ere long. All hail the English government to stay its hand and let up on Ireland. Not only must we raise our voice, but it becomes our duty to open our purse-strings and contribute our mite to help swell that splendid fund now speeding across the Atlantic wave—that it may enable Parnell to meet his opponents on every vantage ground they may assume.

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out that Scotland was contented under the present system, and therefore it was asserted that it was the fault of the people and not of the system. He claimed that when the people of Scotland labored under the same disabilities they were just as discontented as the people of Ireland now were, and he believed that if the people of Scotland had labored under the same disabilities as the people of Ireland they would today have had the same result.

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(Cheers). He asked them how an Englishman or a Welshman could be expected to know what the people of Ireland wanted. Take an illustration. He was a Scotchman and had been brought up on porridge to a great degree. Now he would not like an Englishman to come into his house and say: "Here, you can't have porridge any more; you must eat roast beef." (Laughter.) He would like it still less if an Irishman tried to force butter-milk and potatoes down his throat—(increased laughter)—and he'd give a Dutchman to understand that he was going to be master in his own house if he tried to make him eat sauerkraut. (Uproarious laughter.) This, he said, was precisely what was being done in Ireland. The Englishmen and the Scotchmen were making the Irishmen swallow whatever suited them. He concluded by again stating that he was in favor of local self-government for Ireland.

THE CONCLUSION. Rev. Father Coffey then moved, and Dr. Hanover seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers of the evening, Father Flannery, Hon. David Mills and Mr. John Campbell. Carried unanimously.

Father Flannery said he was proud of the honor they did him, and was only sorry he could not have done better for them. Still his friend, Mr. Mills, had gone into the historical part of the question very fully and ably, and they must all feel deeply grateful to him for the interesting information they had gained. He thought also they must, like himself, have admired the open spoken and fearless language of Mr. Campbell. He wished every Scotchman in Canada would give Mr. Campbell. (Laughter.) He hoped they would show their sympathy practically as well as by words.

At the conclusion of the meeting the subscription list was very materially increased.

The following are the sums already received: Bishop Walsh, \$300; Peter Meulders, \$200; J. Patterson, M.P., \$100; John O'Gorman, \$100; Wm. R. Meredith, \$100; Michael Durkin, \$100; Father Connolly, \$100; P. Boyle, \$100; S. R. Brown, \$100; M. O'Mara, Jr., \$100; J. J. Bin, \$100; John Connolly, \$100; J. Gibbons, \$100; J. Sullivan, \$100; Father Coffey, \$100; A. O'Meara, \$100; F. E. O'Callaghan, \$100; J. B. Ryan, \$100; M. F. O'Mara, \$100; T. J. O'Meara, \$100; P. Cook, \$100; John O'Donnell, \$100; M. M. Rogers, \$100; Dr. Hanover, \$100; C. J. Laughlin, \$100; Thos. Coffey, \$100; P. Grace, \$100; Rev. Jas. Walsh, \$100; A. Friend, \$100; Wm. L. Dunphy, \$100; John Carey, \$100; P. Kelly, \$100; Dan. O'Donnell, \$100; Denis Leahy, \$100; John Connell, \$100; Daniel Collins, \$100; Mrs. E. O'Brien, \$100; John M. Kearney, \$100; Jas. Hevey, \$100; A. Friend, \$100; Martin Durkin, \$100; A. Friend, \$100.

After mass on All Souls Day the Irish farmers of St. Patrick's Parish, Biddulph, Ontario, assembled at the Separate School house near the church to manifest in a substantial manner their sympathy and love for the dear old land of their fathers. Resolutions were prepared without delay, when Father Connolly, P. P., who was present at the meeting, was duly moved and seconded to the Chair by Messrs. Patrick Nangle and Martin Collinson. Mr. Patrick Breen was unanimously chosen secretary to the meeting, and Mr. Martin Collinson, J. P., Treasurer, when the following resolution was moved by Mr. Edward McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. John Barry.

1. That we Irishmen and descendants of Irishmen of St. Patrick's Parish, Biddulph, in public meeting, assembled hereby transmit our most hearty congratulations to the people of Ireland on their grand manifestations of fidelity and loyalty to the National Party of Ireland under the leadership of that distinguished Irishman and statesman, Charles S. Parnell. Carried with the utmost enthusiasm.

2. Moved by Mr. David McIlhargy and seconded by Mr. John McIlhargy, sen., that in proof of the sincerity of our desire for the happiness and prosperity of the Irish people at home a subscription list be now opened whereby material and moral aid may be given the Parliamentary Party to achieve in a constitutional manner a National Parliament for Ireland such as we ourselves have the happiness to enjoy in this Dominion of Canada; the most prosperous colony in the British Empire. Carried unanimously.

3. Moved by Mr. Martin McLaughlin, and seconded by Mr. James Kinella, that we cannot but view with horror and indignation the infamy and cruelty of those Irish landlords who, notwithstanding seasons of depression and bad crops, nevertheless ruthlessly exact the last farthing from their unfortunate tenants, with the alternative of being hurled from their homes to find no other shelter than that afforded by the blue vault of heaven or the demoralizing roof of the poor house. Carried unanimously.

Afterwards Mr. Edward Bowers was moved to the second chair, when a vote of thanks was duly proposed and seconded to the Rev. Chairman, Father Connolly, for his conduct in the chair, as well as for the deep interest he took in the meeting. Then Mr. Collinson, treasurer, had his hands full with tens and fives and twos, and so on. Let it suffice to say that the good Irishmen of Biddulph are second to none in their love for old Ireland, which will be seen when all the returns are in. God save Ireland.

Correspondence of the Catholic Record. FROM BIDDULPH. After mass on All Souls Day the Irish farmers of St. Patrick's Parish, Biddulph, Ontario, assembled at the Separate School house near the church to manifest in a substantial manner their sympathy and love for the dear old land of their fathers. Resolutions were prepared without delay, when Father Connolly, P. P., who was present at the meeting, was duly moved and seconded to the Chair by Messrs. Patrick Nangle and Martin Collinson. Mr. Patrick Breen was unanimously chosen secretary to the meeting, and Mr. Martin Collinson, J. P., Treasurer, when the following resolution was moved by Mr. Edward McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. John Barry. 1. That we Irishmen and descendants of Irishmen of St. Patrick's Parish, Biddulph, in public meeting, assembled hereby transmit our most hearty congratulations to the people of Ireland on their grand manifestations of fidelity and loyalty to the National Party of Ireland under the leadership of that distinguished Irishman and statesman, Charles S. Parnell. Carried with the utmost enthusiasm. 2. Moved by Mr. David McIlhargy and seconded by Mr. John McIlhargy, sen., that in proof of the sincerity of our desire for the happiness and prosperity of the Irish people at home a subscription list be now opened whereby material and moral aid may be given the Parliamentary Party to achieve in a constitutional manner a National Parliament for Ireland such as we ourselves have the happiness to enjoy in this Dominion of Canada; the most prosperous colony in the British Empire. Carried unanimously. 3. Moved by Mr. Martin McLaughlin, and seconded by Mr. James Kinella, that we cannot but view with horror and indignation the infamy and cruelty of those Irish landlords who, notwithstanding seasons of depression and bad crops, nevertheless ruthlessly exact the last farthing from their unfortunate tenants, with the alternative of being hurled from their homes to find no other shelter than that afforded by the blue vault of heaven or the demoralizing roof of the poor house. Carried unanimously. Afterwards Mr. Edward Bowers was moved to the second chair, when a vote of thanks was duly proposed and seconded to the Rev. Chairman, Father Connolly, for his conduct in the chair, as well as for the deep interest he took in the meeting. Then Mr. Collinson, treasurer, had his hands full with tens and fives and twos, and so on. Let it suffice to say that the good Irishmen of Biddulph are second to none in their love for old Ireland, which will be seen when all the returns are in. God save Ireland. GRAND SACRED CONCERT. A grand sacred concert will be given in St. Peter's Cathedral on Friday evening, the 13th inst., under the direction of Dr. Carl Verinder. We predict a very large attendance. The admission is placed at the very reasonable figure of 25cts. Riel has been granted a further respite until the 16th inst. It is generally believed in official circles that this further respite was given to enable the condemned man to prepare for death, and that the sentence will undoubtedly be carried out on the date mentioned. CORRECTION.—In a recent issue we stated by mistake that a grand organ opening had taken place at Whitley. It should have read "Oshawa."