# Ireland's National League.

By "CRUX."

in a sense, the privileges holiday seasons. During past couple of weeks I have left the beaten track and have made a couple of pleasant excursions into the more flowery domain who tries to use it? of poetry. Nor am I altogether to blame. If friends will seek information on special topics, and if I happen to be able to furnish that information, I see no reason why should not do so. Well; the holidays are over, and I am back again at my task. I set out with the purpose of impressing upon the readers the importance of the Gaelic tongue and of the great revival movement that has recently sprung into life To do so I was obliged to dip into archaeology, architecture, church music, and a number of other themes: but they all tend toward the end, again I have been obliged to quote at length from several eminent authors; but in so doing I felt that I was attaining a two-fold object-the illustration of my own plan, and the reproduction of much that has been either forgotten or lected, and that deserves to live This week I am obliged to furnish another link to my chain by borrowing from the works of one better able to deal with such subjects than I am. Consequently, I do not hesitate to here introduce an essay, written sixty years ago, by Thomas tional Language." In fact he wrote "Men are ever valued most for

peculiar and original qualities. who can only talk commonplace, and act according to routine little weight. To speak, look, and do what your own soul from its depths orders you, are credentials of greatness which all men understand and acknowledge. Such a man's dictum has more influence than the reaplace man. He fills his circle with He is firm, accurate, and daring. Such men are the pioneers of civlization, and the rulers of the human heart.
"Why should not nations be judged

Is not a full indulgence of its natural tendencies essential to a peodress, language, and constitution of Russia, or Italy, or Norway, or America, and you instantly stunt and distort the whole mind of either peo-

'The language, which grows with a people, is conformed to their organs, descriptive of their climate constitution and manners, mingled inseparably with their history and their soil, fitted beyond any other language to express their prevalent ughts in the most natural and efficient way.

"To impose another language on tory adrift among the accidents of translation-'tis to tear their identity from all places-'tis to substitute arbitrary signs for picturesque and suggestive names-'tis to cut off the entail of feeling, and separate e people from their forefathers by deep gulf,—'tis to corrupt their very organs, and abridge their power of expression. The language of a nation's youth is the only easy and full speech for its manhood and for its cradle goes, itself craves a tomb.

What business has Russia for the rippling language of Italy or India? plea, from the pen of one of How could a Greek distort his ormost gifted Irishmen that ever on the sides of Hymetus, or the | well as of cl Celt to abandon his beautiful tongue otherwise have the opportunity docile and spirited as an Arab, reading it.

HAVE allowed myself to enjoy, 'sweet as music, strong as the in a sense, the privileges of wave'—is it befitting in him to abandon this wild liquid speech for the mongrel of a hundred breeds called English, which, powerful though

"We lately met a glorious thought in the "Triads of Mochmed," Islanded in one of the Welsh codes ly the Record Commission: 'There are thice things without which there country-common language, common judicature, and cotillage without these a country cannot sup-port itself in peace and social

"A people without a language of its own is only half a nation. A ra tion should guard its language more than its territories-'tis a surer har rier, and more important frontier than fortress or river. And in good times it has ever been thought Who had dared to propose the adop tion of Persian or Egyptian in Greece-how had Pericles thundered at the barbarian? How had Cate scourged from the forum him who would have given the Attic Gaelic speech to men of Rome? Had Pyrrhus quelled Italy, or Xerres subdued Greece for a time long enough to impose new languages where had been the literature which gives a pedigree to human genius? Even liberty recovered had been sickly and insecure without the language with which it had hunted the woods, worshipped at the fmitstrewn altar, debated on the council-hill, and shouted in the battle charge.

sians, which describes-

'Language linked to liberty.'

To lose your native tongue, learn that of an alien, is the worst badge of conquest-it is the chair of the soul. To have lost entirely fetter has worn through. So long speech, he could hope to resume his land from the Norman; now, if he is to be free and locally governed, he must build himself a new home. There is hope for Scotland- strong hope for Wales-sure hope for Hung ary. The speech of the alien is no universal in the one; is gallantly held at bay in the other; is nearly expelled from the third.

'How unnatural-how corrupting are of Celtic blood, to speak a medley of Teutonic dialects. If we add the Celtic Scots, who came back here from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries, and the Celtic Welsh, who colonized many parts of Wexford and other Leinster to the Celts who never left Ireland probably five-sixths, or more are Celts."

I will hear lay aside this essay for the present issue. Next week I will have to take a few more extracts from its spirited pages, which up directly to the movement in favor of a revival of the Gaelic tongue that is in activity to-day. I may have my prejudices and predilections as have all men in some degree, but I do not believe that they have ever blinded me to the merits or demerit of any written work. Certainly it is without any bias, favorable or otherwise, that I consider this eloquent most gifted Irishmen that ever lived, gans and his soul to speak Dutch a model of English composition, as beach of Salamis, or on the waste quently am glad of the opportunity where once was Sparta? And is it of placing it, even in part, before a befitting the fiery, delicate-organed larger circle of readers than might

### An American Correspondent On the Irish Question

That the land problem is upon the eve of a satisfactory solution there is little reason to doubt. But the other question—Home Rule—remains to be disposed of. It is clearly the intention of the present ministry to grant Home Rule in some form. The statement range in a Cabinet rem

has no other meaning. At present the Cabinet is understood to be divided on this question. Some favor full Home Rule, with a new Irish Parlia ment at Dublin. Others are for a makeshift, such as provincial councils, or handling Irish legislation over to a standing committee composed of all the Irish members at Westminster.

The impartial student of Irish affairs and Irish character can come te no other conclusion than that the first of these methods would be the first of these methods would be the best. It is the only thing that will satisfy the aspirations of the people, and as Mr. Bryce has said, the main thing now is to give Ireland what Ireland wants, not what some Eng-lishmen think she ought to have. Among the Irish people the demand for a distinct Irish nationality has survived through all the go

tions. For a time it was a demand for separation, for independence; that has now virtually disappeared, but the desire for a distinct nationality within the empire is as strong as it ever was. To do anything less than satisfy this aspiration would be a great mistake, would lead to further agitation and friction.

It is a great thing that the British Government has at last recogniz-

ish Government has at last rec ed the truth that "you can't make Englishmen out of Irishmen." Too much effort has already been put forth in that quest of the impossi-Britons, and they will be the better to manage their own affairs in their ernments than is absolutely necesernments than is absolute and sary for imperial purposes. The imshould, of course, retain control of the customs, the post and the tele graph. But beyond a few such vious reservations it should all else in the hands of an Irish Par liament, sitting in historic College The ultimate power of en forcing social order would naturally rest in the Imperial authority, upon the principle of the American stitution, wherein the federal authority guarantees in each state a re iltimate authority is rarely called into activity by emergencies in America; with Ireland born again, living a new life, with a sound and political system, it would rarely or never need to be exerted here.

No one whose opinions are worth much seems now to think would be any danger either to social order or Imperial unity in setting up an Irish Parliament. The Irish pe ple, like any other people of active minds, need participation in national affairs; they need the stim ulus of political activity, of parties questions, discussions. Mr. Bryce told me his opinion, that the more Irish activities were diverted to their own affairs and away from England and English affairs, the better Brit ons they would be. Fox well expressed the same idea more than a hundred years ago: "I would have the Irish Government regulated by notions and Irish prejudices and I firmly believe, according to an Irish expression, the more she is un der Irish Government the more sh will be bound to English interests. Nor should we forget Grattan's celebrated remark: "If the ocean forbad separation, the sea denied union."

With an Irish Government respon sible to the people of Ireland the English Parliament, the moral support of the country would be summoned round the laws, courts, the police, the administra That support is now wholly acking. Laws are obeyed through fear alone, not through respect. The courts are not trusted, the executive is hated, its police instruments despised. Such a state of things is imply intolerable in a free country and among a people who have th suffrage and the intelligence to use it .- Walter Wellman, in the Chicago

## St. Ann's Parish.

Last Wednesday a concert was give en in St. Ann's Hall to the sub scribers of the "Annals of St. Ann de Beaupre," in St. Ann's parish The hall was crowded to the doors At the close of the evening Rev. Father Fortier, C.SS.R., addressed few words of sincere thanks to the performers, who were kind enough to

The programme was as follows:-Camp," arranged by Mr. R. J. Hiller, introducing competition drill and salute to the flag, and selections by Messrs. W. Murphy, E. Jackson and A. Jones; Irish jig, by Mr. Lyons, also a specialty dance, by Miss Josie Harrington, concluding with a fancy drill.

SECOND PART.-Band; song, Miss SECOND PART.—Band; song, Miss Rosie O'Brien; violin and plans duet, by Miss McDermott and Miss Comman: song, Mrs. Moore; song, Miss Broderick; Irish jig, Mr. McDonald; song, Miss Gertie O'Brien; cornet solo, Mr. McDermott; recitation, Mr. J. Kennedy. Band.

THIRD PART .- "The Humors of the Strike," a farce in one ect, der the direction of Mr. J. Kenn

## Sphinx Disappearing.

A couple of weeks ago we referred to the departure of Mr. Dugald Mac donald for Egypt. The purpose ments and construction of the Pyra mids, especially the great pyramic attempt more mixing of the two gov- ine the famed Sphinx. It is probably high time for Mr. Macdonald to go to Egypt if he wishes to see the Sphinx as it has been for over four thousand years. Judging from the climatic changes and their effects on this, as well as on other Egyptian monuments, it may be quite possible that the close of the century we are now commencing will witness a great deterioration even in the pyramids The 'London News' has an admirable little article on this subject. the reproduction of which cannot fail to interest many. It is thus English organ expresses itself:-

> The marvelous way in which preserved in Egypt is due chiefly to its rainless climate. For ages regions of the Lower Nile were watered solely by the river, and beyone the limits of its annual overflow the ground was perfectly dry. The tins left by Napoleon's army lay on the for nearly a century, bright and unrusted.

> But the climate of Egypt is gradually changing. Extensive tree planting has gone on for a long past, and irrigation works have pro duced moist and fertile land formerly stretched the barren desert Thus rain is gradually being attracted, and while a few years ago shower was a novelty, there are nov considerable falls of rain. The effect is seen in the crumbling

> the Great Pyramid. This vast monu ment is 1721 feet in length, and 56 feet high, hewn out of a projecting spur of the rock which rises out o the sand. The head is sculptured and represents a woman in the old Egyptian headdress, the body being that of a lion, formed by the natu ral reef of porphyry, with addition of masonry to complete the shape For more than a generation ment has been more or less de faced owing largely to the attentions of early tourists and the nose has long been absent. But now the rain is beginning to assist in destroying the Sphinx. The wet softens the surface of the stone, and fierce sandstorms then grind the outer surface

The Great Sphinx is not the only one of its kind, numerous specimens great and small, having been found among the remains of Egyptian, Assyrian, and Grecian art. Egyptian Sphinxes were wingless, like that of Gizeh, but there were many others which had wings. Some the heads were female, bearded, and there were Sphinxe with the head of a hawk or a man, From the earliest times there has been speculation as to the meaning of this curious symbolic figure. The name "Sphinx" was given to it by the Greeks, and means literally "The Strangler." From the fact thae Sphinxes appear commonly on antreading on or carrying away a man be seen there when the session begins. A familiar figure has gone in body and man's head have been held to symbolize the combination of strength and intellect in some divinces. The seen there when the session begins. A familiar figure has gone in the person of the late Sir John Bourinot, Clerk of the House. His conspicuous place will be occupied by taken as denoting the resurrection. A chapel and altar found early in A chapel and attar found early in the last century in front of the Great Sphinx would suggest that the figure represented an ancient deity. The Greeks, while continuing to re-

a story with regard to it, which was evidently only a poetical fable, and showed that the real meaning of the figure was lost. The story was that on a rocky mountain near Thebes dwelt a creature with the face of a virgin, the body of a lion, the wings virgin, the body of a lion, the wings of a bird, and the tail of a serpent, which had been given a riddle by the Huses, and had power to destroy and devour mankind till the riddle was solved. Every traveller failing to solve the riddle was devoured, and this was the riddle: "What creature is that come on four less at day.

centuries a favorite subject of art, and is found on coins, in relief sculp-tures, and as a decoration of arms and furniture.

(From our own Correspondent.)

As the session approaches the Cap-

ital commences to put on an

Ottawa, Jan. 7.

pearance of expectancy, if not of activity. However, the lateness considerable disappointment. well known that Ottawa, or at least must make preparations for the sea a few depend upon the influx strangers for their yearly harvest. Hotels, boarding houses, retail dealers, and so forth, miss very much when the winter goes past any session. This year it would an before the month of March, or, at earliest, the last week of February. Without a doubt, unless the unex pected occurs, this will mean a ses of the proposed legislation be carried through there is no telling when the prorogation may take place. Just consider eight-five notices of private Bills, so far, and of these over the one-half affecting the railways of Canada; then the Grand Trunk's gigantic transcontinental schemesubject of itself for untold debate. Of the public measures to be brought down, the redistribution of seats is one calculated to occupy the House for a very extended period, while the in a ferment such as the past two sessions have not known. In fact, there is a programme already pre-pared that would suffice for two ordinary sessions. It has been the opinion of some people here that the Parliament at the end of the next session; but there is not much reliance to placed in such rumors-the are always prevalent before the third and fourth sessions of every Parlia ment. Of course, this is matter Premier and his colleagues, and they are not likely to either consult the Opposition, or the Opposition's convenience in like matters.

to the Capital. With the exception of the brief time last fall, when he was here during the Tarte difficulty we might say that Sir Wilfrid has session. It is, however, with great pleasure that all have noticed the improvement in his physical condi tion, brought about by his sojourn in the South. Political opponents as well as political friends wish the Premier well, and every person felt depressed, some months his appearance indicated anything but good health. And he needed the rest, for, to all appearances, he has

ifested in the Senate vacancies and the probable nominees to fill them. cient tombs, and are represented as It is wonderful how many members of the Upper House have disappearor child, there seems some reason to ed from that arena within the past n the conspicuous place will be occupied by Yarmouth, N.S., had a seat in the House for several years past. Another shifting of places will be noticed when the recently apnointed Minister of Marine and Fisheries—Hon. Mr. Prefontaine—takes the seat occupied last year by Hon. Mr. Tarte, ex-Minister of Public Works.

The mention of Mr. Tarte's mane The mention of Mr. Tarte's rame brings forcibly to mind the ever increasing importance that is given to the press, by both political parties. The recent incidents in Montreal, brought to light by the publication of the correspondence between Mr. Tarte and leading members of the Liberal Party, anent the control of "La Patrie," would indicate that the pen is still looked upon as mighty, and that the politician feels that he cannot safely enter the lists unless he be armed with a journalistic sword and shield.

We have an example in the retirement of the editor of the "Globe" to

day. Then, with extre day. Then, with extreme partyism, the rigidity of political patronage is gradually vanishing. There now seems to be a constantly increasing Impression, amongst our public men, that special qualifications and a;tiare more important in a candidate for appointment to of any party services could ever give

The municipal elections here have a first time in the history of Ottawa ond term by acclamation. Last year here was no opponent to Mayor Cooke, and this year he has again been raised to the civic chair without any opposition. In the aldermanic contests there were a few surprises, and one of the most remarkable and most regrettable was the defeat of Mr. Emanuel Tasse. The council as it now stands consists of three Irish Catholics, six French. Canadians, one Jew, and fourteen English-speaking Protestants.

It was with deep regret that the citizens of Ottawa, and, I am sure, the Irish Catholics of the Dominion, came to Hon. John Costigan, in the premature death of his eldest son, Mr. John Ryan Costigan, K.C. twenty years he has been a resident deceased had been complaining, but nothing serious was anticipated. On Tuesday evening last, before retiring he called in a physician, and having consulted with him, proceed rest for the night. Just as he seatexpired. Heart disease is the cause ascribed. Mr. Costigan leaves a young widow and three children to deplore his early death. On Wedsday Hon. John Costigan, father of the deceased, and his daughter, Mrs. W. Armstrong, left for Calgary to attend the funeral

has just expired, and especially durhas had more than its proportionate share of sudden deaths. In truth it is wonderfully how many familiar figures have vanished from the figures have vanished from the streets of the Capital. It is my belief that the person who, ten short years ago, was acquainted with the two-thirds of those who come here for the meeting of Parliament, would ot recognize the one-sixth of those who will be here next session. might truly repeat an expression Archbishop Duhamel-"the world is improving, but man is deteriorat-"-at least he is disappearing.

The Root of Most Troubles That Afflict Mankind.

Bad blood is the mother of fifty iseases. It causes disease wherever your body is weakest. Perhaps you suffer from pimples, pale cheeks indigestion, neuralgia, rheumatism or general decline. In each case the gestion, cause is the same-bad blood. Strike at once at the root of the trouble by renewing and enriching blood supply with Dr. Williams' Pills. Every dose helps to give you new, rich, red blood that will carry healing to every part of your body Among the thousands who have proved the truth of these statements is Mr. Neil H. McDonald, Estmere, believe that the figure was first intended as a symbol of death, but

there explanations have been given
which may hold good of Sphinxes

to defrom that arena within the past is increased in the figure was first intended as a symbol of death, but
of Commons has also lost a number
of its members, and new faces will
be seen there when the session beto defrom that arena within the past is mr. Neil H. McDonald, Estmere,
N.B., who says:—"I have found Dr.
Williams' Pink Pills all that is run down, my appetite was poor and I suffered much from severe head-aches. Doctors' medicine gave me no I suffered much from severe head-aches. Doctors' medicine gave me no relief so I decided to try Dr. Wil-liams' Pink Pills. A few boxes have restored me to good health and made me feel like a new man." Give the pills a fair trial, and yeu will find pills a fair trial, and you will find new health and strength. Don't take a substitute or anything else said to be 'just as good.' See that the full name 'Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People' is printed on the wrapper around the box. Sold by all druggists or sent by mail, post paid, at 50c a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, by writing direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Directory United Iris

CHRISTMAS.-The ing of the Irish Land held at the Mansion I recently, the following The Earl of Dunraver John Redmond, M.P.; Mayo, P.C.; Mr. Willia P.; Colonel Hutcheson Colonel Nugent Everar Captain Shawe-Taylor

forward suggestions for embodying the amended the meeting held on Sa
"Messrs. John Roche Monahan, and M. Garrio by the eleven o'clock tr in custody from Roscon lamore Jail, to underg tences passed on them

the Coercion Court. 'I

large number of people

form seeing the prisoner force of police was in a from a Dublin daily pa 22nd December, are bea cal of the state of affai

at this Christmas of 19 On the one hand we s of the most strenuous p ed in the great Nationa struggle of the last two meeting day after day consultation as to the n means of ending at once time the warfare between island since the time of

liar spectacle—the cartin English jails of some of

RETURN OF MR. DAV

ong the passengers on bo nard Line steamer Umbri rived at Queenstown o was Mr. Michael Davitt, turned from the United S having successfully compl sion to enlist the suppor pathy of the American pe Irish cause. The Umbria the coast early in the m enced in the Atlantic for week, she was not signal Old Head of Kinsale till o'clock, and it was eight fore she reached the mou harbor. Mr. Davitt, who had made on board of the was loudly cheered by ma He was met on the tender utation from the Cork Bra United Irish League, cons the City High Sheriff (Mr. T.C.,) Messrs. J. G. Cros Forde, hon-secretary; W. ran, J. Corcoran, R. Hen C. Queenstown; J. Corone and a number of other crowd had assembled at water quay, and as Mr. D the High Sheriff came ash siastic cheers were given which they suitably ack and Mr. Davitt, replying

High Sheriff were again lo

words of welcome conveyed in Gaelic, returned thanks

On reaching the station, in

very large and enthusiast was gathered, Mr. Davitt

The address of welcome gratulation was then pres Mr. Davitt from the Cork the United Irish League. The City High Sheriff, him, said:—Mr. Davitt, it great pleasure, on behalf tionalists of Cork, and, I of the South of Ireland ge bid you welcome on you home after having accomposition with your colle of the most successful miss interests of Irish Nationa has taken place for ma

(cheers).

Mr. J. C. Fords, hon, so Cork branch, then read the Mr. Davitt, who was louded, said in reply:—Mr. Hig and gentlemen of the Cork the United Irish League don't know how to thank ficiently for the high compilator paid me in sedemine.