

forward to declare those statements iniquitous. Twice the juries disagreed, and twice Mr. Duffy was sent back to prison, where he remained for several months. At length, when peril seemed past, and it became apparent that his health was breaking down, he was enlarged.

The *Nation* re-appeared on September 1, 1849, and the editor, not recanting any of his past doctrines, adapted his views to changed circumstances. The development of industrial resources engaged his attention. "The Irish Alliance" was formed, and the Land Question which had always been cared for, soon came to the front. The Encumbered Estates' Court had been established simultaneously with the new *Nation*, and there grew up plans for making an Irish plantation by means of an Irish proprietary. The Conference held in Dublin, in 1852, between northern and southern Tenant-Leaguers, gave great hopes of a happier future, and these seemed confirmed by the foundation of an Independent Opposition party in Parliament. How those expectations were destroyed by the bankruptcy of Sudleir and the defection of his associates is a fact too recent to require note. Mr. Duffy, at last, despairing of his country under such circumstances, resigned his post as representative in 1855, saying, "I have determined to retire from the office to which your favour has elected me, and, until better times arise, from all share and responsibility in the public affairs of Ireland. The Irish party is reduced to a handful; the popular organisation is deserted by those who created it. Till all those things be changed there appears to me to be no more hope for Ireland than of a corpse on a dissecting table. Quitting public life, I will, at the same time, quit my country. I cannot look in calm inaction at her ruin."

Mr. Duffy, on leaving Ireland, became a resident in the colony of Victoria. His career there has been one of extraordinary brilliancy. A born leader of men, he, from the hour of his appearance in the Victoria Parliament, was one of the chiefs of that assembly. Twice he ruled the great colony of Victoria as Prime Minister. His *regime* was on both occasions subjected to those attacks which are one of the conditions of party politics. But even his foes acknowledge the magnitude of his services, while observers in England have not hesitated to pronounce him the first great statesman of Australian history. A short time since his last Administration succumbed to the attacks of adversaries, but he was consoled by the sympathy of the best and ablest men in Australia. Her Majesty re-

cognized his labors and services by conferring on him the rank of a Knight of the Order of SS. Michael and George. He also enjoys a pension of £2,000 a-year as an ex-Minister. In a word, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy has vindicated under Australian suns the singular capacity for Government innate in the Irish heart. When in '66 Mr. Duffy, after a period of ten years, revisited these countries he met in London a Canadian Minister in the person of his former colleague, Thomas D'Arcy McGee. Welcomed in Dublin by a public banquet, at which presided his friend, John B. Dillon, and in Monaghan by another, at which the bishop presided, he could review a fair past, but saw little change in the questions he had urged. The schools of Monaghan had grown into a college, the chapel into a cathedral, the thirty-ninth edition of the "Ballad Poetry" was rededicated to a Catholic Lord Chancellor; but the Land question, to which he had devoted so many years, which in Australia he had so successfully settled in a few, had nothing advanced. Returning home once more, after an absence almost as long, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy will find the Church Establishment a thing of the past, and a stride made towards the settlement of the Land question. He will also find that under a new name and altered circumstances the good old cause of Irish Liberty is still afoot. In the days of his boyhood the people of Ireland marched on to the watchword of Repeal. To-day Home Rule has taken its place, but though the names differ, the principle is the same. The altered aspect of affairs must give him pleasure, for, if report speaks true, neither time, nor fame, nor rank, nor honors have weaned by a hair's breadth from its devotion to Ireland the loyal heart of Charles Gavan Duffy.—*Dublin Freeman*.

#### SIR JOHN GRAY, M. P.

There are few men of our time who have for so long a period filled so prominent a position and played so active a part in Irish politics as Sir John Gray. His career began forty-three years ago in the Repeal Association, and it was gratifying to see him, in the same cause, in the front rank of the Home Rule Conference. Sir John Gray was born in the town of Claremorris more than half a century ago. At an early age he became a medical student, and even before he won his full diploma as an M.D., the bent of his tastes and inclinations were clearly towards literature and the press. Indeed, like some of the most honored and eminent men of the age,