

REFORM IN IRELAND.

WHAT does Ireland need? Reform. When is reform needed? Now. Who can give it reform? The Irish people. How? By reforming themselves. Let the Irish drink less whiskey, use less tobacco, swear less, cultivate a forgiving spirit, act honorably towards their own countrymen, be true to themselves and the Empire, and soon the reform they need will emerge.

At present the average Nationalist is a hater of England. law, order and a broad and honorable manhood. The average Irishman of to-day cries aloud and excitedly for liberty, but would not let his neighbor live according to the dictates of his conscience. He is wonderfully religious, but not Christian. He cannot forgive. He does not love his enemies; and very little love or respect has he for his friend, Queen Victoria, for instance. In fact, he is bound to hate, drink, swear, fight, kill and rebel, while in the act of calling reverently upon his gods.

Let the Irish people look for local rule and soon they will have what they need. There can be no harm come either to Ireland or the Empire if a provincial form of government be granted to the Irish people. They should, perhaps, under present circumstances, be allowed a legislature similar in form to that of Ontario or Manitoba. Let Ireland stand as a province and have internal government, with proper limitations.

But what do the Nationalists want? Why, a king of their own, a policy of their own, a navy and army of their own. Poor, foolish patriots. They love the Emerald Isle, but would explode it with blind, unreasoning, animalistic love. A king, emperor, czar, sultan, president or pope for the Irish! A national existence. A plan of their own for about two years, and——? Yes, a mob, man and woman mob eruption.

Let the Nationalists and all Irishmen of sense quit their blathering and settle down to personal reform, for a few months even; then they will see that they are on the right road to universal improvement. As the Ontario man, or Highland