The Herald.

VOL. II. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1866. NO. 25.

THE HERALD

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING,

BY

EDWARD REILLY,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR,

at his Office, corner of Kent and Prince Streets.

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ALMANACK FOR MARCH.

MOON'S PHASES.

Full Moon, 1st day, 7h. 40m., morning, W.N.W.
Last Quarter, 9th day, 11h. 40m., morning, W.
New Moon, 16th day, 5h. 24m., evening, W.
First Quarter, 23d day, 8h. 50m., morning, N.E.
Full Moon, 31st day, 0h. 19m., morning, S.

DAY MONTH.	DAY WEEK.	SUN rises	SUN sets	High Water	Moon rises.	Day's length.
		h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1	Thursday	6 43	5 43	even.	6 17	10 59
2	Friday	41	45	1 12	7 15	11 2
3	Saturday	39	46	1 51	8 13	5
4	Sunday	37	48	2 27	9 13	9
5	Monday	36	49	3 3	10 9	12
6	Tuesday	34	50	3 43	11 6	15
7	Wednesday	32	51	4 28	morn.	18
8	Thursday	31	52	5 16	0 20	21
9	Friday	30	53	6 8	0 54	23
10	Saturday	28	54	7 6	1 46	26
11	Sunday	26	55	8 7	2 35	29
12	Monday	23	57	9 7	3 20	34
13	Tuesday	19	58	10 5	4 2	39
14	Wednesday	17	59	10 58	4 39	42
15	Thursday	15	6 1	11 47	5 17	46
16	Friday	14	2	morn.	sets	48
17	Saturday	13	3	0 20	7 23	50
18	Sunday	11	4	1 21	8 37	53
19	Monday	9	5	2 8	9 48	56
20	Tuesday	7	6	2 54	10 59	59
21	Wednesday	5	7	3 47	11 59	12 2
22	Thursday	3	8	4 44	morn.	5
23	Friday	1	9	5 47	1 2	8
24	Saturday	59	11	6 51	1 54	11
25	Sunday	5 58	12	7 55	2 44	14
26	Monday	56	13	8 56	3 25	17
27	Tuesday	54	15	9 52	4 0	21
28	Wednesday	52	16	10 42	4 31	24
29	Thursday	50	17	11 26	5 2	27
30	Friday	48	19	11 54	rises	31
31	Saturday	45	21	even.	7 3	35

MR. WM. A. JOHNSTON,
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November 8 1865.—6m.

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EDWARD REILLY.
Herald Office, Kent Street,
December 6, 1865.

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Queen-street, Ch. Town, P. E. I., Jan. 4, 1866.

SUSPENSION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT IN IRELAND.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SATURDAY, February 17.

Mr. BRIGHT.—I do not wonder at the Irish members declining to make any observations to the house on this subject (no, no). My strong interest in the affairs of their country (ironical cheers) is for me a sufficient excuse for so doing. The Secretary of State, and the government of which he is a member, has called us together on an unusual day, at an unusual hour, to consider a proposition of the greatest magnitude, and which, we are informed, is one of extreme urgency (hear.) If it be so, I hope it will not be understood that we are here merely to carry out the behests of the administration; and that we are not to be permitted if we choose on this occasion to say something to mitigate the apparent harshness of the course the government feels itself compelled to pursue (cheers). It is now more than 22 years since I was first permitted to take my seat in the house. During that time I have, on many occasions, with great favour, been allowed to address it. I declare that in the whole of that period I have never risen to speak under so strong a feeling, as a member of this house, of shame and humiliation, as that with which I feel myself oppressed at this moment (hear). The Secretary of State (as the right hon. gentleman opposite has said) proposes to deprive no inconsiderable portion of the subjects of the Queen, our countrymen, within the United Kingdom, of the commonest, the most precious, and the most sacred right of the English constitution, the right to their personal freedom (cheers). From the statement of the Secretary of State, it is clear that this is not asked to be done, or required to be done, with reference to a small section of the Irish people. He has named great counties, wide districts, nay, whole provinces, over which undoubted disaffection has spread. He asks that five or six millions of the inhabitants of the United Kingdom should suffer the loss of that right of personal freedom which is guaranteed to all Her Majesty's subjects by the constitution of these realms (hear). Now, I do not believe that the Secretary of State has overstated his case for the purpose of inducing the house to consent to his proposition (hear). I believe that if the majority of the people of Ireland were counted fairly out, if they could have their will and the power, they would unmoor that Island from its fastenings in the deep, and move it at least 2000 miles to the West (cheers and murmurs of disapprobation). And I believe, further, that if by conspiracy, or insurrection, or by that open agitation to which alone I should ever give any favour or any countenance, they could shake off the authority—not so much of the English Crown, but of the Imperial parliament, they would do so (cheers from the Irish benches). The hon. member for Cork the other night referred to the character of the Irish people. He said, and I believe with truth, that there is no Christian nation, with which we are acquainted, in which crime of the ordinary character, as we reckon crime in this country, is so rare as amongst his countrymen. He might have said further, that there is no people (whatever they may be in their own country) so industrious in every other country but their own. He might have said more, that they are a people of a cheerful and joyous temperament, singularly grateful for kindness shown them (cheers), and that of all people of our race they are most filled with a sentiment of veneration (cheers) and yet with such materials, and such a people, after centuries of English government, and after 60 years of government [illegible] and anxious only to throw off the authority of the Crown and parliament of these realms (cheers). This is not a single occasion on which the malady has developed itself. It is merely an excess of the complaint of chronic insurrection from which Ireland has long suffered (cheers). Within the memory of the oldest member here similar statements have been repeatedly made, and on a former occasion, within my recollection, we had almost the same speech on the same subject, and I think from the same minister.

Sir G. GREY.—No.

Mr. BRIGHT.—The right hon. gentleman was, however, a member of the same government by whom it was made, and no doubt concurred in every word uttered by his colleague. Sixty years ago this house undertook the government of Ireland. I will say nothing as to the manner in which the task was brought upon us, except that it was by proceedings disgraceful and corrupt to the last degree (cheers). I will say nothing of the pretences by which it was brought about but this—the English people and Parliament, and the Irish people, too, were told that if once they could get rid of the Irish parliament, Irish faction would be dethroned for ever; and with an united parliament, we should become a more united, a stronger, and a more powerful people (hear). Now, during that 60 years—and I beg the attention of the right hon. gentleman who has just spoken—there were three considerable measures passed by this house in the interests of Ireland. One was the measure of 1829, for the emancipation of the Catholics, and to permit them to have seats in this house. But that measure, so just, so essential, and now so certain never to be recalled, was a measure passed in the face of great opposition, and only under the threatened danger of civil war (hear). The other two measures to which I refer are the measure for the relief of the poor, and the bill for the sale of encumbered estates; and these two measures were introduced into this house merely on the emergency of a famine more severe, I believe, than any that has ever desolated any Christian country of the world within the last 400 years. Now except on these emergencies—I appeal for the truth of the statement to every Irish member—I appeal to every English member, who has ever paid any attention to these matters—except in these emergencies that parliament has done nothing for the people of Ireland (hear, hear). Nay more; the complaints of their sufferings have been met often with denial, often with insults, and often with contempt (hear, hear), and within the last few years we have heard from this very Treasury Bench observations with regard to Ireland which no friend of Ireland or of England and no Minister of the Crown ought to have uttered with regard to that country (hear, hear). Twice within my parliamentary life these things have been done, or at least by the close of this day they will have been done; measures of repression—measures of suspension of the civil rights of the people—have been brought into parliament and passed with extreme unusual rapidity. Now I have not risen to blame the Secretary of State, or to blame his colleagues for their act of to-day (hear). There may be circumstances to justify a proposition of this kind, and I am not here to deny that those circumstances now exist (hear). But what I complain of is that there is no statesmanship in mere facts of force and acts of repression; and I say farther that, since I have come into parliament, I have not observed upon those Irish questions anything that approaches to the dignity of statesmanship (hear, hear). There has been an improved administration of Ireland—there have been Lord Lieutenants—there is one now who is probably in his heart of hearts as anxious to do justice to Ireland as any man can be [hear, hear.] We observe in the recent trials—I go into no details—we observe generally a better tone and temper than have ever before been witnessed under similar circumstances in Ireland [hear.] But if I go back to the Ministers who have filled the leading place in the councils of the Sovereign during the period I have been in this house—Sir Robert Peel first, then Lord John Russell, then Lord Derby, then Lord Aberdeen, then Lord Palmerston, then Lord Derby again, then Lord Palmerston again, and now Lord Russell—if we go through the list of these Ministers, I say that with regard to all of these—the dead and the living—there has not been an approach to anything that history will think it worth while to describe on the part of any one of them (hear, hear). There have been coercion bills in abundance, there have been arms' bills session after session, [hear, hear,] there have been lamentations like that of the right hon. gentleman, the member for Buckinghamshire to-day, that the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act to a certain extent was not made perpetual by a clause which he is sorry to find has been repealed, there have been acts for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, like that which we are now discussing; but there has been no statesmanship whatever. Why men the most clumsy, and most brutal, can do these things; but it requires a man of higher temper, of higher genius, and of a higher patriotism (hear, hear,) to deal with the affairs of Ireland. Now I should like to know whether the statesmen, who have held the highest offices in this country, have themselves comprehended the nature of the question. If they have not, they have been manifestly ignorant of what it was specially incumbent upon them to have known; and if they have comprehended it, and have not dealt with it, then I say that they have concealed that which they knew from the people, and that they have evaded the duty which they owed to their Sovereign [hear, hear.] I do not want to speak disrespectfully of men in office [hear and laughter.] That is not my custom in this house [renewed and long continued laughter.] I know something of the worrying labours to which they are subjected, and I know not how from day to day they bear the burden of the labour that is imposed upon them [hear, hear.] But still I lament that men should wear the garb—enjoy the emoluments—I had almost said usurp the dignities of statesmanship, and sink themselves merely into respectable and honorable administrators, when there is a whole nation under the sovereignty of the Queen calling for all their anxious thought and for the highest exercise of the highest qualities which the statesman can possess [hear, hear.] I should like to ask—I put the question to the Chancellor of the Exchequer—he is the only man of the present government that I have heard of late years who has spoken as if he comprehended this question, and who made a speech in the last session of parliament that was not without its influence both in Ireland and in England (hear, hear.) I should like to ask whether this Irish question is above the stature of himself and of his colleagues, because, if it be, then they should come down from the high places which they occupy, and try to learn the art of legislation and of government before they practice it (hear, hear.) Now, I believe myself that if we could divest ourselves of the feelings engendered by party strife (hear, hear) we might come to some better result. Take the Chancellor of the Exchequer (a laugh.) Is there in any legislative assembly in the world a man of more transcendent capacity, or, I say, of a more honest wish to do good to that country in which he occupies so conspicuous a place? (cheers.) Take the right hon. gentleman opposite, the leader of the Opposition (a laugh.) Is there in any legislative assembly in the world, at this moment, a man leading an Opposition of more genius for his position, or who has given proofs in every way except one, that proofs can be given, that he is competent for the highest duties of the highest offices of the state. Well, but these men, whom you who sit on this side, and you who sit upon that side, to so large an extent admire and follow—these men fight for office (hear, hear,) and the result is, that they are first on this side and then on the other side of the house (hear, hear.) But suppose it were possible for these men, with their intelligence and far-seeing vision, to examine this question thoroughly, and to say for once, whether is led to office and to a miserable notoriety, which men call fame, [illegible] "We will, if we can, keep you out of office or not." We will, if we can, make the people, and if possible will make Ireland a strength to the British Crown." If, putting aside the pride of party, and the gains of party, men of such intellect united for such a purpose, what would not be the result; but not so uniting they are like the captive Sampson in his toils, and the country and the world gain little from these faculties which God has given them for the benefit of the country and the world. The Secretary of State, and the right hon. gentleman even in the stronger language, has referred to the unhappy circumstances which exist. They have stated that much of that which exists has been brought there from the United States of America (hear, hear.) That is not a fact to console ourselves with, but only adds to the gravity and difficulty of this question. You may depend on it, that if the Irish in America, having left this country, and settled there with a strong hostility to us, they have had their reasons (hear, hear), and being there with that feeling of affection for their native country, which, in all other cases in which we are not concerned, we admire and reverence—if they interfere in Ireland and stir up the sedition which now exists—depend upon it that there is in the condition of Ireland a state of things which greatly favors their attempts. There can be no continued fire without fuel; and all the Irish in America, and all the citizens of America, united together, and with all their organization and all their list of officers, could not in England or Scotland raise the merest flame of sedition or insurrectionary movement. I want to know why this should be the case in Ireland? You say, as some people say in America and Jamaica when speaking of the blackman, that "Nothing can be made of the Irishman." Everything can be made of him in every country but his own (hear, hear). When he has passed through an American school as a child, in the second generation the Irish emigrant is as industrious, as frugal, as independent, and as loyal as any good citizen of the American Republic (hear, hear). Why is it not so in Ireland? I have asked that question before. It is a pertinent question and demands an answer. How is it that no Scotchman who leaves his country, and he is taunted and ridiculed for being so fond of leaving his native country for a better climate and a better soil (a laugh); how is it, I ask, that no Scotchman or Englishman who plants himself there, cherishes not the smallest hostility to the people or to the institutions, or the government of his native land? How is it that every Irishman who leaves his country and goes to the United States, immediately settles down, resolves to better his condition in life, but with a feeling of ineradicable hatred to the land and institutions of his birth? Is not that a question for English statesmanship? If the Secretary of State, since the last measure was brought in 18 years ago—if in the multiplicity of his duties he had time to consider this question, and possibly, instead of moving the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, he might have been rejoicing over the universal loyalty which prevails, not in Great Britain only, but throughout the whole population of Ireland, (hear, hear). I spent two autumns in Ireland in 1849 and 1852. Not long after that I made a speech in this house, which some people did not think far wide of the mark. I recommended the Ministers of that time to take an opportunity of having a session of the imperial parliament—to have so great questions connected with ordinary matters brought before us, but to keep parliament to the consideration of Irish questions only, and deal with those great matters which were a constant source of complaint, and I said that the session that was so devoted to such a necessary, holy work would stand forth in our future history as one of the noblest ever passed in the annals of the imperial parliament. A few days ago everybody in this house, with one or two exceptions, took the oath of allegiance at that table, binding members to the exercise of loyalty to the Throne; although I do not think that an oath generally binds men to be loyal if they are not loyal without it. I hold, sir, that in a country like this, loyalty consists as much in doing justice to the people as in guarding the Crown (hear.) And I believe no guardianship of the Crown can be so safe as that of which we have more in our day than our predecessors had, when the occupant of the Throne is respected, admired, and loved by the general people (hear.) How comes it, then, that the great statesmen I have named, and that all their colleagues, some as eminent as their leaders, have never tried what they could do to make the Queen as safe in the hearts of the people of Ireland, as she is in the hearts of England and of Scotland (hear.) Bear in mind that the Queen can do almost nothing in these matters. The Crown can take no direct part in the affairs of the country, cannot even select its Ministers. The Crown is helpless in these matters. The Queen who in all civilized nations of the world is looked upon as a model of a Sovereign, yet finds that her name and her fame are discredited and dishonored by circumstances such as those which have twice during her reign carried things to a crisis like that before us (hear.) There is, sir, an instructive anecdote connected with China (a laugh). An insurrection broke out in one of its provinces. The Emperor put down this insurrection; but he abased himself before his people, acknowledged his guilt, and humbled himself before those upon whom he had brought insurrection (hear). The Queen is not so responsible. She cannot humble herself; but I say that all the statesmen of the last sixty—of the last forty years are guilty, and ought to humble themselves before the people for their neglect. I have heard members in this house—I have seen much writing in newspapers—and I have heard speeches in which some of us who advocate a high morality in public affairs, are charged with disloyalty to the dynasty that rules in England. There is nothing more offensive than such assertions, nothing more unjust—nothing more utterly false. We who ask parliament to legislate for Ireland on the unchangeable principles of justice, are the true friends of the people, (no.) It is not in human nature to be content under a system of legislation, and under such instructions such as those which exists in Ireland. You may pass this bill and put the Home Secretary's 500 men in gaol. You may do all this. You may suppress the conspiracy and put down the insurrection, but the moment it is suppressed there will still remain the germs of these discontents from which will spring up hereafter another crop of disaffection and another harvest of misfortune; so that those who may be here 18 years hence will find another Ministry and another Secretary proposing another dose of the same poisonous medicine for Ireland (no no.) Now I say there is a mode of making the people of Ireland loyal. The parliament of England abolished the parliament of Ireland, and we are doubly bound to examine what measure we can adopt. I say the minister who occupies office merely to carry on the dull routine—who dares not go where he can speak and act freely—though he may have a high position, he cannot be considered as a statesman (hear, hear.) I shall not oppose the proposition of the right hon. gentleman. I presume the circumstances are such that the proposed course is perhaps the only merciful course for Ireland. I suppose it is not intended, when persons against whom there is just complaint are arrested, that more shall be done than the ordinary law permits, and that they will be brought to trial with all the advantages the ordinary law gives. I believe the right hon gentleman on that bench is as honestly disposed on this matter as he has ever been. I implore him to strike off the trammels of doubt and fear, and to say something that may be soothing, something that will give hope to the people of Ireland. I myself voted the other night with the hon. member for Tralee. We had a very small minority. I have often been in small minorities (a laugh.) The hon. member would have been content with a word of kindness, not for the conspirators, but for the people of Ireland. That word was not inserted in the Queen's Speech, and not a word was said by the Home Secretary to-day on that point. I hope if the Minister feels himself bound to suspend the common rights of freedom which persons in all nations sing as some hope that before long measures will be introduced which will tend to create the same loyal feeling in Ireland as that which exists in Great Britain, and which will wipe out from the reign of our Queen a blot which is scandalous to civilisation and to the people of this country [cheers.]

Alderman DILLON expressed his gratitude to Mr. Bright for one of the most generous, truest, and noblest utterances that he had ever listened to. He believed the hon. gentleman's speech would greatly increase the already deep attachment which was almost universally felt for him in Ireland. With regard to Fenianism he had not only no sympathy with, but had always been hostile to it, and at the last election had combatted and defeated it at the hustings. Fenianism had arisen from disaffection; and that disaffection had its cause in misgovernment. The laws of the Imperial Parliament had been made in the interests of a class and against the people, and whilst not desiring to offer a factious opposition he protested against the passing of the bill.

Mr. J. S. MILL generally concurred in the views enunciated by Mr Bright. The occasion was one for deep grief, shame, and humiliation. Ireland was regarded by foreign nations as the source not of the strength, but of the weakness of England; and when this bill was passed he hoped parliament would not go to sleep again for another 18 years, and rest upon the eternal *non possumus* as an answer to the complaints of her people.

Mr. MOORE opposed and Mr. CONOLLY supported the bill.

Sir J. GRAY defended the Roman Catholic priesthood from the aspersions cast upon them by Mr. Roebuck. The object of the Fenians had been the destruction of life and property, and the conspiracy had been denounced by the priests, who had throughout given their support to the cause of law and order.

The O'DONOGHUE was convinced that robbery and murder were not the motives which influenced the Fenian movement, and if government would declare that they would seriously investigate the causes of disaffection, he was satisfied that what the Fenians might think or do would be of no importance whatever. Coercion was not what Ireland required. It would create panic and intensify disaffection; and he believed that the ordinary constitutional powers at the disposal of the government, if placed in the hands of men of nerve and judgment, would be amply sufficient to meet any emergency that could arise.

After a few remarks from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house divided, when there appeared—

For introducing the bill	364
Against it	6
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The standing orders were then suspended, and the bill was read a first, second, and third time, and passed, and sent to the House of Lords.

A systematic robbery of the "poor boxes" in St. Mary's Catholic Church, in Buffalo, has been going on for an unkown period of time, until a few days since, when the manner of purloining the funds was discovered. The thief had a large hole made in the bottom of the boxes—pasted them over with white paper—and when he deemed the time come, when plenty of deposits had been made by the charitable people of the parish, went his rounds and emptied the boxes, pasting the holes, as before, after him for further business. It is supposed that the individual had been making out of the business between fifteen and twenty dollars a week.

At a speech at a Fenian meeting in New York, not long ago, a General of the Federal army said:—"Go in Finnegans, I am with you; and when you are all on board ship, sailing down New York bay, I will say again, go in Finnegans, I am with you, and when I think you are about landing in Ireland I will exclaim with all my heart—God help you.'