

THE SITUATION IN GREAT BRITAIN

Considered and Criticized by John Morley—War Past and War Threatened

London, Jan. 18.—Mr. Morley, M.P., visited the Montrose Burghs, visited his constituency to-day and addressed two meetings in Arbroath. In the afternoon within the public hall he was presented by the Corporation with the freedom of the burgh in recognition of his eminent literary and public services, and to mark the warm appreciation by the community of the honor done to them in his having inscribed to them his "Life of Gladstone."

Mr. Morley, having been presented with the burgh ticket, enclosed in a silver casket, and having added his name to the burgh roll of the ancient and Royal burgh, said nothing could give him more satisfaction than to know that he had been able to present a picture of Mr. Gladstone showing that he was a whole man from the beginning to the end of his career, that one set of principles animated him from first to last, and that one set of objects prompted actions which were the least favourably understood by many of the people of this country.

In the evening Mr. Morley addressed a meeting of his constituents. Provost Grant presided. Mr. Morley, who was received with loud cheers, said: We see to-day a Government which, instead of having a commander and officers and a crew on a great battleship—we see the Admiral with a set of scratch officers on a raft (laughter). To anybody who follows affairs in the Far East and who knows and can trace out all the possibilities of a vast and dangerous conflagration to the nations of the earth, how they may take fire from a conflagration springing from places far nearer home than Japan or China—I say that no man who feels all the anxieties which such a prospect must inspire could be glad to find that the affairs of his country are in charge of men on a raft (laughter). I am a little dismayed when I find a great organ of opinion in this country, I won't say encouraging, but certainly

NOT DISCOURAGING, JAPAN from entering into what must be not only for her, not only for Russia, but for other countries, including ourselves, most serious action. I trust the admirable language of the Czar of Russia, when he said the other day, "I am for peace"—the language of the autocrat—will find an echo in the language of the oldest and greatest democracy in Europe, namely, our own (cheers). I cannot find myself standing here without remembering

ing the country (cheers). The man I don't understand is the statesman who neither will remain quiet on the land on which this country has prospered, who won't adventure forth into the uncharted ocean with the daring of the navigator, but who invites his party and the country, which is more important, on to neither land nor sea, but on to quaking bog (loud cheers). When the time of trial does really commence, it won't be the first time that the head of a Government has been deceived by the voice of organizations. I have only too good reason to remember that (laughter). In the year 1886 the organization went with us in favour of

THE GREAT IRISH QUESTION, but the country two of three months after showed they were not for the organizations and were not with us, but that they were dead against us, and so I suspect the country will show now (cheers). There was an election the other day (cheers) in the Cathedral city of Norwich, and I am sure you all turned with expectancy to the surprising result of that election (cheers). Now, these electors, both the Prime Minister and Mr. Chamberlain had sent what were called watchwords (laughter). Balfour said, "Your watchwords are union reform." Chamberlain said, "More employment for the masses and closer union with the Empire." Well, but

THESE NORWICH ELECTORS were rude enough by a majority of 4,000 to vote both against union and reform and more employment for the masses, although I suppose a proportion of these voters were what are called masses. That was all rejected. They were told Liberal prodromance—which they know is coming (laughter)—is the death-blow to the Empire. By a majority of four thousand they dealt that death-blow to the Empire without a pang (laughter), and they feel apparently that the Empire would be just as safe in the hands—shall I say of Lord Spencer and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and those whom these two distinguished and faithful men (cheers) have gathered round them—quite as safe as in the hands of the heroes of the War Commission Report (great laughter). I say

TO RAISE THE PRICE OF FOOD is dangerous, impolitic and inhuman (cheers). I do not believe, moreover, in this country, our position being what it is, so complex, you can touch either preferential charges or retaliation or protection without raising the price of food, and without raising the cost of living. They say wages will go up. Well, I doubt very much whether they will. Supposing wages do go up, and the cost of living has been increased, how will the rise in wages make up for the increased cost of living to clerks, to ministers of religion, to shopkeepers, to doctors, to people living on small investments? They will suffer without compensation. This policy will fetter enterprise; it will loosen the foundation of the majestic and mighty structure of British credit; and much worse—worst of all—it is setting a bad example, a pernicious example to countries that have already gone on the wrong track and were showing some signs of reverting to the right track, and that we of this Empire, in the world, who have taught foreign countries our representative system, who have taught foreign countries to imitate even the very rules of our great National Assembly who have taught the blessings of religious freedom, and who have shown by our example and our position at this moment the advantage and the blessings of commercial freedom—that we should set this example, a bad example, for one, in what ever a position I may be, will resist to the utmost of my power (loud and continued cheering, amid which Mr. Morley resumed his seat, having spoken 75 minutes).

A vote of "No confidence" in the Government, and of thanks to Mr. Morley, was adopted.

Emigration of Catholic Children to Canada

His Lordship Dr. Hiley, Bishop of Birmingham, has received a report from Father Hudson, of Colerhill, who has just returned to Birmingham after enquiring into the emigration of Catholic children to Canada, together with a supplementary report on the Catholic children emigrated by Mr. J. T. Middlemore, M.P. In the course of the report Fr. Hudson states: During the three weeks I was in Canada I was able to visit, in their own homes, a large number of Catholic emigrated children, scattered over the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, and was thus able to gain a very fair insight into the life and prospects of the children. I was also able to obtain interviews with several of the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of the different provinces, and with many of the parish priests, and found them all most sympathetic; also with several prominent officials connected with the Government Immigration Department.

As a result of my visit I am quite convinced of the great advantages to our children of emigration to Canada. They go to a country that is mostly Catholic, where the standard of morals and temperance is much higher than in England; they are withdrawn from the temptations of city life; they live an open-air life and grow up strong and healthy men and women; they lose all trace of the slums and take their place side by side with Canadian children; they are treated by their employers with kindness, often with a real devotion; they can always find good work and receive good wages; and when they reach the age of 18, with one or two hundred dollars in hand, they can take up

A FREE GRANT OF 100 ACRES. of land in Manitoba, the richest and most fertile province of the Dominion. The children themselves are happy and contented; they look healthy and well fed; they are well clothed, and their comfort is amply considered; they like their work, and speak with affection of their employers; they have no desire to return to England. The great majority of the children are doing well. This is the statement of most of the clergy, of the Government officials, of the visitors of the children, and of the employers. It is borne out by my own experience. Out of the hundred or so children I was able to visit I only found one who was unsatisfactory—a girl who is now in a Good Shepherd Convent. In many instances the success of the children has induced their friends to follow them out; while

THE DEMAND FOR CHILDREN still increases—an eloquent proof of the satisfaction which the children already sent out have given. But it is not every child who will succeed in Canada, nor will all succeed as they should unless their progress is fostered by the Emigration Society that sends them out. There are three conditions of success: 1. Careful selection. 2. Careful placing. 3. Religious visiting.

During this year, the first of its existence, one Catholic Emigration Society has sent out 215 children. This is not too many for one agent to visit. But as the number grows a second or even a third visitor will become necessary. I would suggest that the country be divided into districts, and that each year the visitors change their districts; this would add variety to the work, encourage a spirit of healthy emulation among the visitors, and check on the work, and give to the visitor the opportunity of comparing each year their reports on the children.

There remains the question of organization. There are two Catholic Emigration Societies in England—the Canadian Catholic Emigration Society and the Catholic Emigrating Association. Each society sends out about 200 children yearly. The Canadian Catholic Emigration Society has a receiving Home at Ottawa; the Catholic Emigrating Association one at Montreal. Both work for the same object and on similar lines, but have necessarily different staffs. It is earnestly to be hoped in the interests of the children, that the

TWO SOCIETIES WILL UNITE so as to form one Catholic Emigration Society for the whole of England. Negotiations are being conducted at present with this object; we sincerely pray that they may be successful, and that in the strength and efficiency that spring from unity, the work of Catholic child emigration may leave nothing to be desired. In the

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