

THE ENGLISH MINISTER'S PLEDGE FOR HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

[N. Y. Freeman's Journal]

Before the echoes of the general election pass away and the speeches of the opposing leaders are forgotten...

on the whole field of the Liberal policy was declared in the Albert Hall speech. This is the passage in which the Premier dealt with Ireland;

THE AFFAIRS OF IRELAND IN IRISH HANDS.

"So much for peace, so much for economy—the cardinal Liberal principles; and here is another—self-government and popular control, and we believe in the principle, not only on grounds of justice and on the grounds of effective administration, but on this other ground—that it exercises a wholesome influence on the character of the people who enjoy the privilege. This is the foundation of our educational policy—that the people of the district should control and manage the schools. It is the foundation of our licensing policy. But if we seek for illustrations, why do I not take the greatest, the most conspicuous instance of all—the crowning instance—what other policy than this is the foundation of our Irish policy—that those domestic affairs which concern the Irish people only, and not ourselves, should, as and when opportunity offers, be placed in their hands."

THE ONLY WAY OF HEALING THE EVILS OF IRELAND.

"The question of Ireland undoubtedly remains with us, and here, in my own constituency, I will take the opportunity of freely speaking my mind on that subject. The subject, however, is not new, nor is my opinion new. My opinion has long been known to you. It is that the only way of healing the evils of Ireland—removing the difficulties of her administration, of giving contentment and prosperity to her people, and of making her a strength instead of a weakness to the Empire, is that the Irish people should have the management of their own domestic affairs, and so far from this opinion fading and dwindling as the years pass, it is becoming stronger, and what is more, I have more confidence in its realization."

NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT.

"There are two ways of capturing a stronghold; by an open and high-handed assault, or by the process of sapping. In the case I have been speaking of the defenders themselves had laid the saps and blown up their main bastion. What matters it, which of these methods they used, if they effected the capture? If I were asked for advice by an ardent Nationalist I would say my desire is to see the effective management of Irish affairs in a representative Irish Parliament. If I were a Nationalist, I would take it in any way I could get it, provided it was consistent with and led up to the larger policy. I think that would be good advice, but I lay stress on the proviso that it must be consistent with and lead up to the larger policy. Good government could never be a substitute for government by the people themselves."

"Whatever may be the result of the general election, the time of Parliament will probably be mainly occupied by certain great questions, social questions which for the most part call for treatment, and on which opinion among us is more than ripe. Undoubtedly it will take time. But I trust that the opportunity of making a great advance on this question of Irish government will not long be delayed, and when that opportunity comes my belief is that a greater measure of agreement than hitherto as to the ultimate solution will be found possible, and that a keener appreciation will be felt of the benefits that will flow to the Irish communities and British people throughout the world and that Ireland, from being disaffected, impoverished, and discouraged, will take its place as a strong, harmonious and contented portion of the Empire."

Such was the position of Campbell-Bannerman as Leader of the Opposition. The only question left open is the question of time. Before he spoke again he had become Prime Minister and had formed his Cabinet. In the process of its formation, notwithstanding Lord Rosebery's defection, he has told the public that he received "no requests for a compromise, or no suggestion of a compromise upon any political question at all." On Dec. 21 "the collective opinion of the Cabinet"

Challenged at Inverkeithing on the subject on Jan. 12, the Premier again said:

"I believe that the proper solution of the difficulty of Irish government lies in the reference to an Irish body of all Irish questions with which Scotland and England have no immediate concern; and I should propose to myself to support a scheme of that sort as time and opportunity may offer. But I do not think that in the immediate future there is any chance of such an opportunity."

On Jan. 18, when the Borough elections were practically over, and more than half the new House of Commons had been elected, the Prime Minister at Inverness dealt as follows with the story of the compact with the Irish Party:

"I stand here and say in reply that there is not an atom of foundation in the whole story. There is no mystery; there are no secrets; there are solid grounds of agreement between the Liberals and the Irish Nationalists. I can name three of them. The first is, or was, the earnest desire to get rid of Balfour and his government. The next is the equally earnest desire to improve the administration of Ireland; and the third is the belief that in Ireland, as in every other country throughout the King's dominions, self-government is the best and safest, and the healthiest basis on which a community can rest. Beyond these points of agreement we need not go."

These passages contain the Prime Minister's definition of his Irish policy. Their significance was emphasized by the Unionist leaders. In his address to his constituents, Balfour said:

"BALFOUR ON HOME RULE. "There are many things still obscure in the long catalogue of revolutionary changes advocated by the new Ministers, but some things are plain enough—Home Rule, disestablishment, the destruction of voluntary schools, and the spoliation of the license holder have lost none of their ancient charm in the eyes of Radical law-makers."

On the eve of the East Manchester poll, Balfour reiterated his declaration that Home Rule was an issue: "Home Rule was the great dividing line between the two parties in the State, in spite of assertions to the contrary. He failed to see who was going to limit the power of the new Parliament in this matter, or how the Government was going to exclude Home Rule, even in its largest form, from the consideration of the House."

CHAMBERLAIN AGAINST HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

Chamberlain was equally emphatic at Birmingham on Jan. 2. The Prime Minister, he said, has been a Home Ruler, and I cannot understand how any of my friends should ever have supposed that he could come into power without standing by the programme to which he has given so emphatic an assent on many previous occasions. I only say that because I want you to understand that Home Rule is raised in an effective manner."

The other leaders of the Unionist party helped to clinch the issue. General Balfour said at Leeds on the same date: "Supposing the Liberals did sweep the country what would happen?"

Fiscal Reform and its exaggerated dangers would retire to the background. Something else would take their place—namely, Home Rule."

And, in his election address, the author of the Local Government Act added: "Two main questions overshadow all others. These are the questions of Home Rule and Fiscal Reform."

Wyndham, speaking at Dover on Dec. 31, thus put the situation: LORD ROSEBERY'S DEFECTION.

"The Prime Minister, at Stirling, had raised the question of Home Rule. He made a speech in language he had not repudiated, saying he abided by his old convictions in that matter, and anything that was done by this Government was to be considered as consistent with, and leading up to, the larger policy desired by Mr. Redmond and the Nationalists. Lord Rosebery afterwards took exception to the Prime Minister's speech, and said he would not fight under that banner."

The Irish Unionists re-echoed the statements of their leaders. Speaking at Wimbledon, Lord Rathmore said: "In his deliberate opinion there had hardly ever been a time at which there was more danger of the carrying of what would practically be as bad as the Home Rule bills of Gladstone."

THE "THUNDERER" HOWLS.

The leading Unionist organ, the Times, which now shamefully asserts that the Liberals won on a negative programme, went even further than the Unionist leaders in interpreting the meaning of a Unionist defeat at the polls. On Jan. 3 it declared, in a leading article, that: "The Premier is bound to promote Home Rule if the general election gives him power."

And on Jan. 13, the day of Manchester, it added: "There can be no shadow of a question that Home Rule is an issue of the general election of 1906."

No doubt, as Mr. Morley foretold, the Unionists now, with characteristic mendacity, deny that the policy of self-government for Ireland was before the electors. They have, it is true, been facilitated in this manoeuvre by the statements of John Burns in his election address, to his constituents:

IEWS OF JOHN BURNS.

"I am in favor of such legislative independence for Ireland as will enable that country to revive her industries, maintain her population, and stimulate her social and agrarian prosperity in accordance with Irish ideas, the imperial supremacy of the Federal British Parliament in imperial matters to remain inviolate."

And the Unionists refused to accept the Liberal imperialist disclaimers. Balfour said at Leamington:

"They (the Cabinet) are all in favor of Home Rule. Is that denied? Does anybody deny that? I do not think anybody can deny it."

These extracts cover the ground. They show how the Home Rule question was dealt with in the election that has resulted in an anti-Unionist majority of 352. Chamberlain adopted the statement that "a vote given for Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman was a vote given for Home Rule;" 3,034,880 votes were given for the Home Rule Premier, not reckoning the 27 Liberals and 75 Nationalist seats uncontested; 2,415,395 were given for Balfour and Chamberlain. The latter will now endeavor to shuffle out of his declaration; but the facts cannot be displaced.

STRENGTH OF THE NEGRO RACE.

Unlike the Indians that are a dying race, the negro race is vigorous and growing. One must live in the heart of the south to realize this. They constitute in many parts of the south more than half of the population. This is especially true of country districts. There is little of what is termed race suicide among them. Their numbers are overflowing to the north. They are likely to become a tremendous power for good or evil. Of the ten millions of negroes in this country only some thousands are Catholics. It behooves the missionary forces of the Church to be alive to these facts. It is very well and praiseworthy to be zealous for the heathen in distant lands, but why neglect the millions at our door?—The Missionary.

VESTMENTS Chaffee Gibbons Statues. Alfar Furniture. DIRECT IMPORTERS WE BLAKE, 193 Church St. Toronto, Can.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRICES

February 21, 1906.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$4.60 to \$4.70; strong bakers, \$4.20 to \$4.30; winter wheat patents, \$4.25 to \$4.50, and straight rollers, \$4 to \$4.10 in wood; in bags, \$1.85 to \$1.90.

Rolls Oats—\$1.90 to \$1.95 per bag of 90 lbs. (nominal). Pearl Hominy—\$1.85 to \$1.90 in bags of 98 lbs.

Cornmeal—\$1.30 to \$1.40 for ordinary; \$1.50 for granulated.

Mill Feed—Ontario bran in bulk, \$18.50 to \$19; shorts, in bags, \$20 to \$20.50; Manitoba bran, in bags, \$19; shorts, \$20.

Hay—No. 1, \$8.50 to \$9 per ton on the track; No. 2, \$7.50 to \$8; clover, \$5.50 to \$6; clover mixed, \$6 to \$6.50.

Oats—No. 2, 41c per bushel; No. 3, 40c; No. 4, 39c.

Beans—Choice primes, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bushel; hand picked, \$1.80.

Peas—Boiling, in car load lots, 90c to \$1.05 per bushel.

Potatoes—In bags of 80 lbs., 65c to 70c.

Honey—White clover in combs, 18c to 14c per one pound section; extracted, 8c to 9c; buckwheat, 6c to 7c.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$21; light short cut, \$20; American short cut, \$20; American cut clear fat back, \$19 to \$20; compound lard, 6c to 7c; Canadian pure lard, 11c to 12c; Kettle rendered, 12c to 13c; hams, 12c to 13c, according to size; bacon, 14c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, \$10 to \$10.25 country dressed, \$8.75 to \$9.50; alive, \$7.25 to \$7.40, selects and mixed lots.

Eggs—New laid, 17c; selects (nominal), 15c; No. 1 candled, 12c to 13c per dozen.

Butter—Choice creamery, 22c undergrades, 21c to 21c; dairy, 19c to 20c.

Cheese—Ontario, 13c; Quebec, 12c.

Ashes—First pots, \$5.25; seconds, \$4.70; thirds, \$3.75; first pearls, \$7.

THE PROVISION MARKET.

There is a good demand reported by packers for dressed hogs, even at the comparatively high prices that are ruling. Abattoir dressed hogs are quoted at \$10, and frozen country dressed hogs at \$8.50 to \$9.50, according to weight and condition.

The market for barrel pork is firm, in sympathy with the high price of live stock, and with the American market.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Receipts of new laid eggs are coming in freely. Fresh eggs are offered freely to-day at 17c per dozen, and while retailers are not buying in large lots, there is a steady consumptive demand reported. Fall gathered selected eggs are quoted at 15c per dozen, and limed and cold storage at 12c to 13c.

There is a quiet and steady demand for poultry on the local market. Turkeys are bringing 12c to 14c per pound according to quality, and chickens from 11c to 12c; geese are worth 9c to 11c; ducks 11c to 13c; fowl, 7c to 9c per pound.

There was no change in the bean market, and business was quiet. Prices are steady at \$1.60 to \$1.65 per bushel for prime pea beans, and \$1.75 for hand picked.

The market for honey continues quiet, and prices are unchanged. White clover comb is quoted at 13c 1/2; white extracted at 8c to 9c, and buckwheat at 6c to 7c per lb.

DENMARK AND IRELAND

In an article commenting on the death recently of the King of Denmark, the Dublin Freeman makes a contrast between the condition of that country and Ireland, in which some significant and suggestive facts are set forth as follows:

"For Ireland the picture of modern Denmark is of the profoundest interest. In population Denmark is only about a third short of Ireland's. Denmark's prosperity is increasing; Ireland's is declining. The two kingdoms have this resemblance—both are largely made up of agricultural or pastoral holdings. Denmark has long enjoyed what Ireland is slowly achieving. In six cases out of seven the owner of the soil in Denmark is the tiller of the soil. It is the best tilled soil in the world. It keeps the people in comfort. Of Denmark it might almost be said with literal accuracy that every rood of ground maintains its man. There agriculture has been carried to an exact science. Denmark's agricultural produce, in quality and quantity, is of the best, and all the hungry nations

S. CARSLLEY CO. LADIES' COATS--Still Greater Bargains. NEWS OF MEN'S FURNISHINGS THAT WILL FIND A QUICK RESPONSE. BASEMENT BARGAINS--STILL THEY COME.

J. J. M. Landy To the Debtors of Israel Nantel, INSOLVENT. NOTICE is hereby given that the claims that Israel Nantel had against you have been sold and transferred to Joseph Godbout, junior, lumber merchant, of Montreal, thereat carrying on business under the name and style of Danville Lumber Co., in virtue of a sale sous seing prive, done and passed at Montreal aforesaid on the 22nd day of January, 1906, by the curators to the said insolvent, and hereto authorized by a judgment of the Superior Court on the 28th November, 1905.

Province of Quebec, District of Montreal, Superior Court, No. 2443. Dame Valerie Fortier, wife of Victor Berthiaume, of the city of Montreal, in the district of Montreal, has this day instituted an action in separation as to bed and also as to property against her said husband, Montreal, 15th February, 1906. BEAUDIN, LORANGER & ST. GERMAIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Province of Quebec, District of Montreal, Circuit Court of the District of Montreal, No. 14. Dame Jane O'Sullivan, of Montreal, widow of the late John P. Cuddy, in his lifetime of the same place, gentleman, Plaintiff, vs. Charles W. Lallibert et al., mis en cause. The defendant is ordered to appear within one month. Montreal, 17th February, 1906. (By order) J. CARTIER, Deputy Clerk of said Court.

"Cancer--Its Cause and Cure." Send 5c (stamps) for this little book that tells of the wonderful cure made by our painless home treatment. Stott & Jory, Bowmanville, Ont.