

ties was being enacted. In the bosom of the Repeal Association two parties grew up. One was the party of Young Ireland, whose organ was the *Nation*, whose leaders were Meagher and Mitchel, Duffy and O'Brien. The other, the party of Old Ireland, rallied round the majestic figure of O'Connell. On the 28th of July, 1846, took place that famous secession which excited as much interest at the time as any of the scenes of the French Revolution. The "peace resolutions" were introduced, and at the close of a great debate, in which the Lord Mayor, O'Brien, John O'Connell, Devin Reilly, Tom Steele, and John Mitchel took part, Meagher rose to address the assembly, and delivered his celebrated sword speech—

"Abhor the sword (he said), stigmatise the sword? No, my lord, for in the passes of the Tyrol it cut to pieces the banner of the Bavarian, and through these cragged passes struck a path to fame for the peasant insurrectionists of Innsbruck! Abhor the sword, stigmatise the sword? No, my lord, for at its blow a giant nation started from the waters of the Atlantic, and by its redeeming magic and in the quivering of its crimsoned light the crippled colony sprang into the attitude of a proud Republic, prosperous, limitless, and invincible. Abhor the sword, stigmatise the sword? No, my lord, for it swept the Dutch marauders out of the fine old towns of Belgium, scourged them back to their own phlegmatic swamps, and knocked their flag and sceptre, their laws and bayonets into the sluggish waters of the Scheldt."

Meagher concluded, amidst a scene of wild excitement, by declaring that he had learned the right of a nation to govern itself on the ramparts of Antwerp. He was interrupted. A tumultuous discussion followed, and, in the result, he left the hall for ever, accompanied by Mitchel, O'Brien, Reilly, and Duffy.

Duffy now flung himself into the thick of "the party of action," and for two years maintained a wonderful contest with the Government, bursting over and over again through the legal toils with which its officials sought to surround him, and, by the ability of Sir Colman O'Loghlen and Mr. John O'Hagan, quashing indictment after indictment.

In 1846, he was again indicted for an article which had appeared in his paper, but, the jury, having disagreed, he was enlarged. Less ardent than Mr. Mitchel, who, regarding the Coercion and Poor Law Acts as so much hostile strategy, desired to preach resistance at the close of 1847, Mr. Duffy was more sanguine. This difference

led to a separation. Mitchel started the *United Irishman*, was tried for sedition, convicted, and sent to Bermuda. The arrest and banishment of John Mitchel, however, instead of intimidating others, aroused them to more vehement efforts. The illegality of his trial became a watch-word, and "Remember Mitchel," succeeded to the "Remember Orr," of a former period. It drew forth the sympathies of the old Irishmen, inspired the confederates, and called into vigorous being the Protestant Repeal Association. The Irish League was formed, with the hope of re-uniting Old and Young Ireland. New clubs sprung up in all the cities, and the *Nation* counselled arming and drilling, with a view to a defensive war. Duffy and his paper were the life and soul of the Nationalist movement. His articles were the key-notes of the Young Ireland. "Ireland's necessity," he wrote, "demands the desperate remedy of revolution;" and thousands will remember the excitement caused by the articles in which the questions, "What, if we fail?" and "What if we don't fail?" were put and answered. Two months after the trial of John Mitchel, on the same day as John Martin, Charles Gavan Duffy was arrested on a charge of "felony," or "treason-felony." The detectives, with about a dozen policemen, next proceeded to the *Nation* office, which they searched; they carried off some papers, and demanded possession, which was refused. They had no warrant, and the paper survived. As the prisoner was taken to Newgate, the people swelled and surged around, and would have rescued him, had not he and Mr. McGee dissuaded them. From Newgate Prison Mr. Duffy sent an article warning the clubs that their organization was the next point of attack, and that they should defend it by force of arms. "No fairer ground of national quarrel can ever arise," he wrote. The next number contained an article entitled *Cusius Belli*, in which he declared that "the long-pending war with England has already commenced. We have been formally summoned to surrender at discretion." The next and last number, which was seized, contained two articles, one "Jacta Alca," the production of a distinguished lady, who avowed it on his trial; the other, the "Tocsin of War," whose name proclaims its purport. As the party had been vituperated as "Communists," "Socialists," "Atheists," and so forth, it was thought right to meet these calumnies by an array of testimony, upon the trial of Mr. Duffy. A number of eminent witnesses did, in consequence, come